

# Az Za'ayyem Village Profile



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## ***Acknowledgments***

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## Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, village, and town in the Jerusalem Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all villages in Jerusalem Governorate, which aims at depicting the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment;" the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions and the needed programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current unsecure political, economic and social conditions in the Jerusalem Governorate.

The project's objectives are to survey, analyze, and document the available natural, human, socioeconomic and environmental resources, and the existing limitations and needs assessment for the development of the rural and marginalized areas in the Jerusalem Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

All village profiles in Arabic and English are available online at <http://vprofile.arij.org>.

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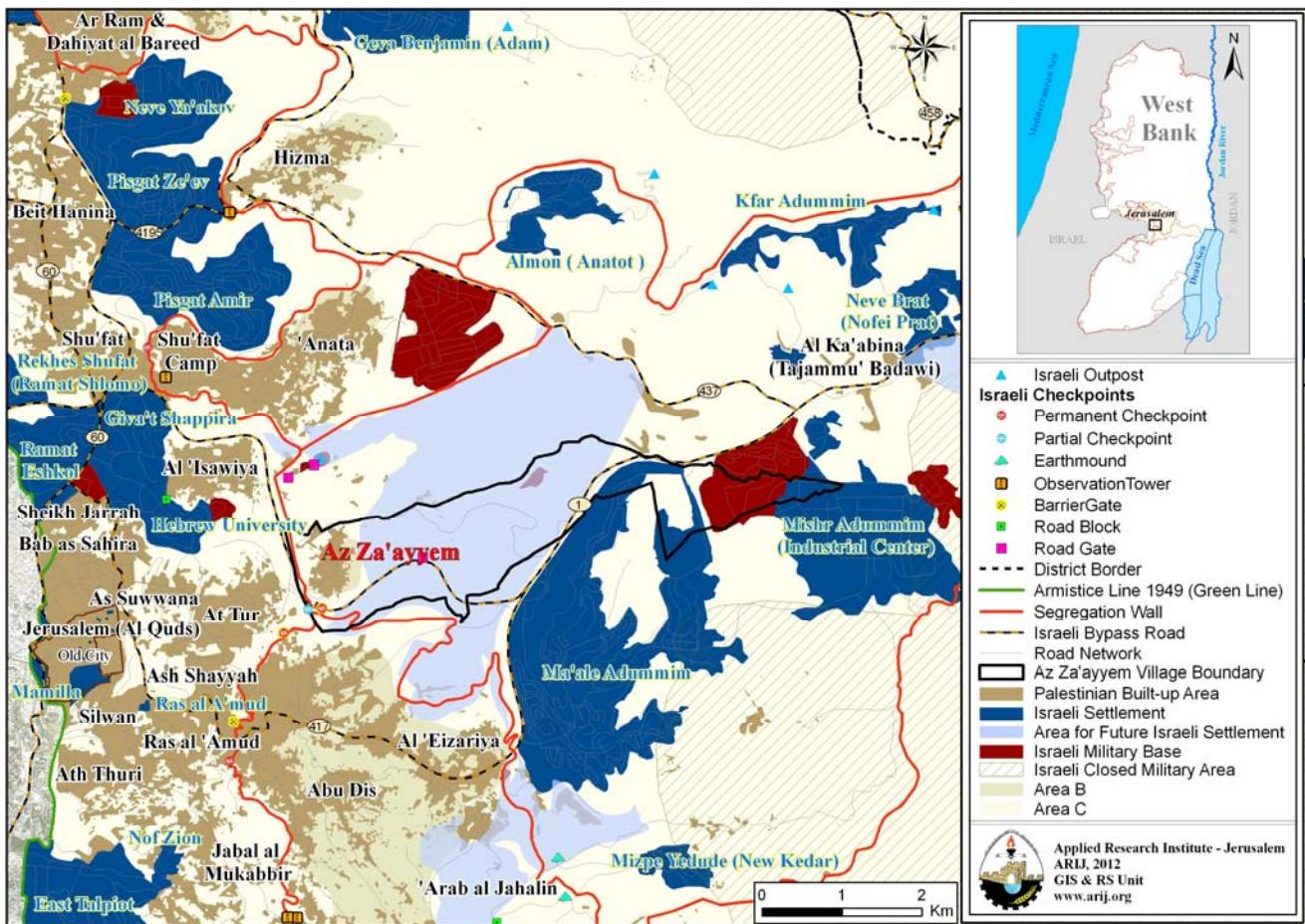
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# Az Za'ayyem Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Az Za'ayyem is a Palestinian village in Jerusalem Governorate located (horizontally) 3.3km east of Jerusalem City. It is bordered by El 'Eizariya and Al Ka'abina villages lands to the east, 'Isawiya to the north, Jerusalem city to the west, and El 'Eizariya to the south (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012) (See map 1).

**Map 1: Az Za'ayyem location and borders**



Az Za'ayyem is located at an altitude of 649m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 316.3mm. The average annual temperature is 18 °C and the average annual humidity is approximately 60% (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012).

Since 1994 Az Za'ayyem has been governed by a village council, which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority in addition to 7 permanent employees. The

village council rents a permanent headquarters and a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the village council to provide a number of services to the residents of Az Za'ayyem, including (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):

- Managing and maintaining the drinking water network.
- Collecting solid waste, rehabilitating, constructing, and paving roads, cleaning streets and providing social development services.
- Implementing projects and case studies for the village.
- Providing a sewage network.

## **History**

The village was established in 1952, and earlier it was named “Rafat”, near Ar Ramla, of which its residents emigrated to settle in this area after the war of 1948. Later, in 1978, the village name was changed into Az Za'ayyem (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012). Residents of the village are descendants from Ar Ramla, Hebron and Jerusalem (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012) (See photo below for Az Za'ayyem village).

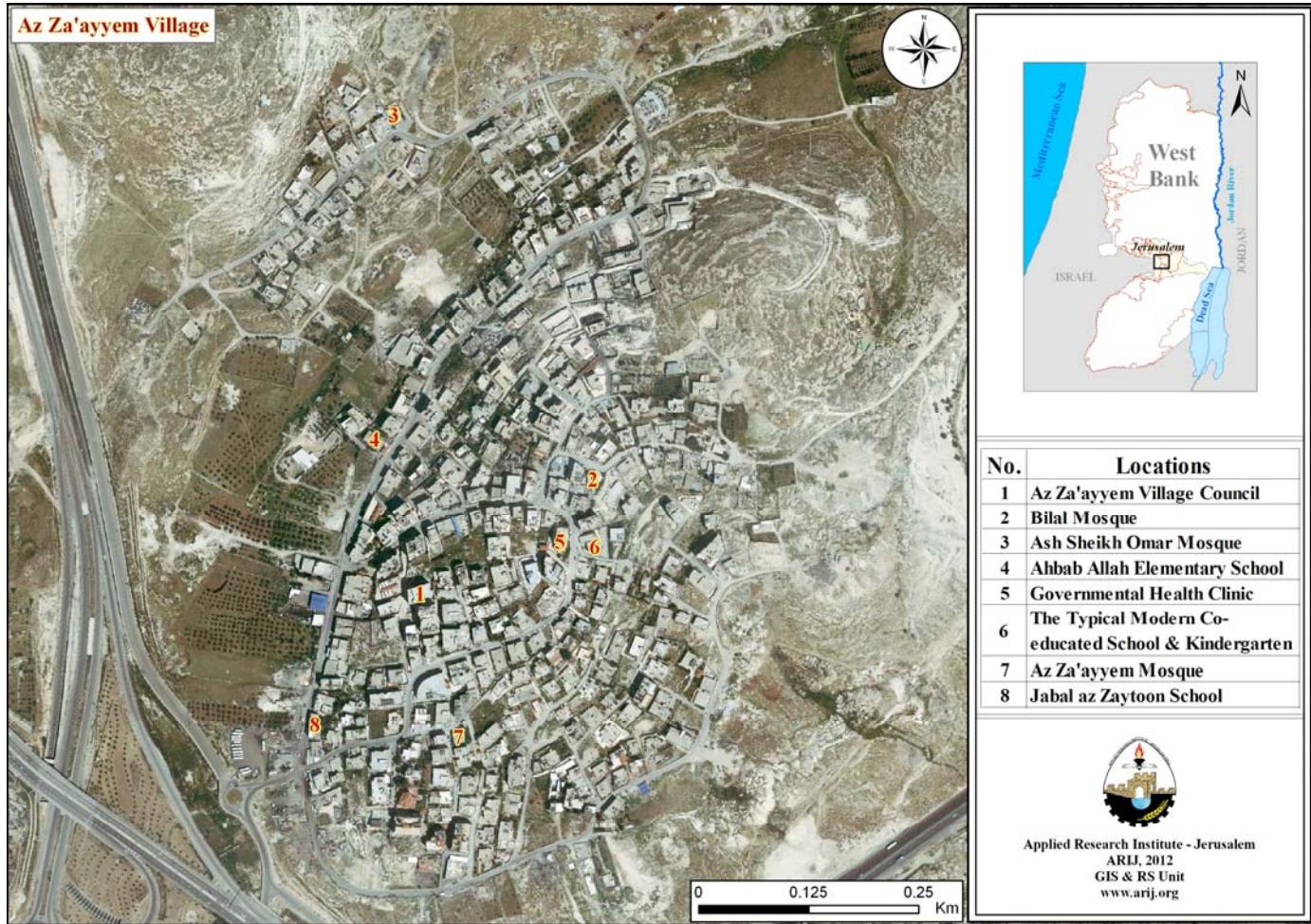
**Photo 1: General view of the landscape of Az Za'ayyem village**



## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are four mosques in the village, Ali ben Abi Talib, As Sabireen, Ash Sheikh 'Anbar and Al Farooq Mosques. Ash Sheikh 'Anbar Shrine is a site of archaeological interest, but is not qualified for tourism (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012) (See Map 2).

**Map 2: Main locations in Az Za'ayyem Village**



## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Az Za'ayyem in 2007 was 3,068, of whom 1,590 were male and 1,478 female. There were 695 households living in 1,061 housing units.

## Age Groups and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Az Za'ayyem was as follows: 29.7% were less than 15 years old, 41.7% between 15 - 64 years of age, and 1.2% aged 65 or older. Data additionally showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 107.6:100, meaning that males and females constituted 51.8% and 48.2% of the population respectively.

## Families

Az Za'ayyem residents are from several families, mainly the Khalil, 'Allama, Ar Rajabi, 'Edkeik, Abu al Hawa, Az Zar'i, Al 'Ajluni, Abu Ghalyah, Sbeih and Ar Razim families (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census (2007), the illiteracy rate amongst the Az Za'ayyem population was approximately 6.1%, of whom 60% were females. Of the literate population, 15.7% could only read and write with no formal education, 24.3% had elementary education, 29.9% had preparatory education, 12.7% had secondary education, and 9.9% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Az Za'ayyem by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

**Table 1: Az Za'ayyem population (10 years of age and older) by sex and educational attainment, 2007**

S E X	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Elem- entary	Prepa- ratory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bach- elor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un- known	Total
M	38	144	198	250	104	24	36	4	4	1	9	812
F	57	103	184	220	96	52	33	-	1	-	12	758
T	95	247	382	470	200	76	69	4	5	1	21	1,570

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There is one public school in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), in addition to one school run by a private body (see Table 2) (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

**Table 2: The Schools in Az Za'ayyem by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority in the scholastic year 2010/2011**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
The Modern Kindegraten Co-educated School/ B	Government	Mixed
'Ahbab Allah Model School	Private	Mixed

**Source:** Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

In the village there are 390 students, 23 teachers, and 19 classes (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 17, and the average number of students per class is approximately 21 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

There is one local kindergarten in the village run by a private body, attended by 59 children in 2011 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

Due to the lack of some levels of education in the village, students also attend neighboring villages' schools, including El 'Eizariya/Masqat Oman Boys School and the Arab Institute School, both of which are located in El 'Eizariya, 15km and 20km from the village respectively (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

The educational sector in Az Za'ayyem village faces some obstacles, primarily (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):

1. The lack of preparatory and secondary education for males.
2. The lack of secondary levels of education for females.
3. The school's building is rented and is not eligible as an educational building.

## Health Status

There are very few health centers available in Az Za'ayyem village. There are a governmental physician's clinic, a private dental clinic, and a private pharmacy. In the absence of required health services and in emergencies, residents go to the Arab Health Center in El 'Eizariya, Princess Basma Institution in Jerusalem, Al Amal Specialized Center in El 'Eizariya/ Abu Dis or Al Ghanem Specialized Center in El 'Eizariya, 12km, 5km, 13km and 11km from the locality respectively (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

The health sector in the village struggles with many obstacles and problems, including (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):

1. The lack of an ambulance in the village.
2. The lack of a permanent headquarters for the health clinic.
3. The problem of paying the rent for the governmental clinic building.

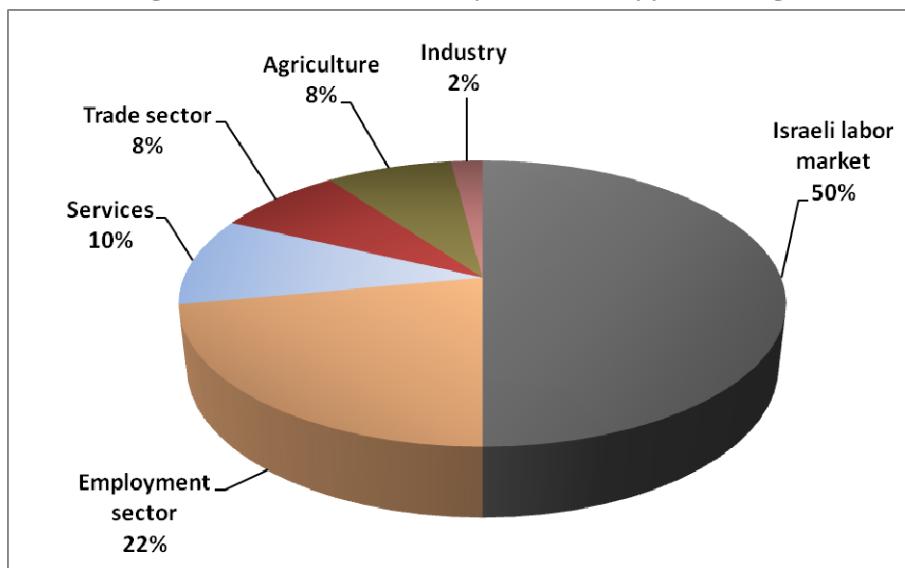
## Economic Activities

The economy in Az Za'ayyem is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the Israeli labor market, which absorbs 50% of the workforce (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012) (See Figure 1).

A field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2012 showed that the distribution of labor by economic activity in Az Za'ayyem is as follows:

- Israeli labor market (50%)
- Government or private employees sector (22%)
- Services sector (10%)
- Trade sector (8%)
- Agriculture sector (8%)
- Industry (2%)

**Figure 1: Economic activity in Az Za'ayyem village**



Source: Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012

In terms of commercial and industrial productions in Az Za'ayyem village, there are a steel factory and a cotton factory, 14 grocery stores, 3 bakeries, 1 butchery, one vegetable and fruit store, 5 different services stores and 8 different professional workshops (blacksmith, carpentry etc.) (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

The unemployment rate in Az Za'ayyem has reached around 10% in 2012, and it was found that the social groups most affected in the village as a result of Israeli restrictions and procedures, are (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):

1. Former workers in Israel.
2. Workers in the trade sector.

## Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census (2007), 37.4% of Az Za'ayyem's labor force was economically active, of whom 90.3% were employed, and 60.4% were not economically active, of whom 45.8% were students and 44.8% were housekeepers (See Table 3).

**Table 3: Az Za'ayyem population (10 years of age and older) by sex and employment status-2007**

S E X	Economically Active				Not Economically Active					Un-known	Total	
	Emp- loyed	Currently Un- employed	Un- employed (Never worked)	Total	Stud- ents	House- keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other			
M	471	32	15	518	213	-	37	10	16	276	18	812
F	59	4	6	69	221	425	13	6	7	672	17	758
T	530	36	21	587	434	425	50	16	23	948	35	1,570

Source: PCBS, 2009.

## Agricultural Sector

Az Za'ayyem has a total area of around 6,132 dunums of which 1,130 are considered 'arable' land and 317 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See table 4 and map 3).

**Table 4: Land use and land cover in Az Za'ayyem village in 2010 (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (1,130)				Inland water	Forests	Open Space	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Israeli artifacts
		Permane- nt Crops	Green- houses	Range -lands	Arable lands					
6,132	317	76	0	915	139	3	802	2,692	54	1,134

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

Table 5 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Az Za'ayyem is known for the cultivation of olives; there are 46 dunums in the village cultivated with olive trees.

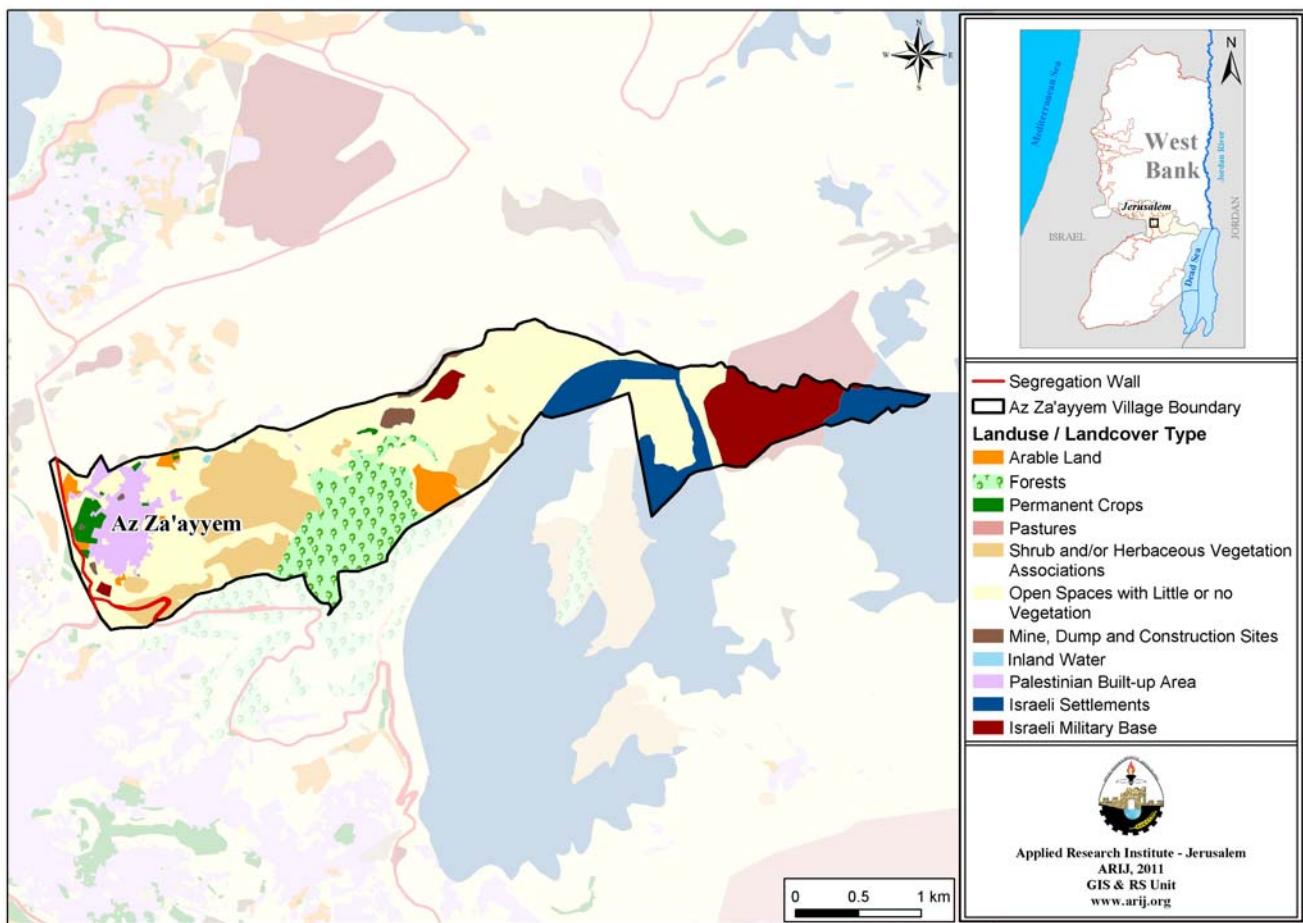
**Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated cultivated fruits Az Za'ayyem village (dunum)**

Fruit trees	Rainfed	Irrigated
Olives	46	0
Stone-fruits	6	0
Nuts	4	0
Other fruits	4	0
<b>Total Area</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and by ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2010) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas instead of seasonal ones. The survey did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, thus accounting for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

**Map 3: Land use/land cover in Az Za'ayyem village**



The field survey conducted by ARIJ team shows that 10% of the residents in Az Za'ayyem are rearing and keeping domestic animals such as cows, sheep, and goats (See Table 6).

**Table 6: Livestock in Az Za'ayyem village**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
47	1,295	415	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	22

\*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

There are around 50 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012), divided as follows:

**Table 7: Agricultural roads in Az Za'ayyem village and their lengths**

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	20
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	20
For animals only	10
Unsuitable	-

Source: Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012

The village faces some obstacles concerning the agricultural sector, mainly:

- The lack of support for farmers.
- The high prices of animal feed.
- The lack of economic feasibility.
- The lack of capital.

## Institutions and Services

Az Za'ayyem village has no governmental institutions, but has a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):

- **Az Za'ayyem Village Council:** Founded in 1994 by the Ministry of Local Government with the goal of solving issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Az Za'ayyem Youth Club:** Founded in 1996 by the Ministry of Sports & Youth, with an interest in all sports, cultural, and social activities for young people.
- **The Karate Center:** Founded in 1996 by the Ministry of Sports & Youth, the Center provides sports and self-defense classes.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services

Az Za'ayyem has been connected to a public electricity network since 1982. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. Approximately 100% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network. The village residents face some problems concerning electricity, mainly (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):

- The weak electric current, particularly in winter.
- The lack of street lighting.

Az Za'ayyem is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 90% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

### Transportation Services

2 public buses are the main means of transportation in Az Za'ayyem village (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012). There are 4km of designated 'main' roads and 11km of 'secondary' roads (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012) (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Roads in Az Za'ayyem Village**

<b>Status of Internal Roads</b>	<b>Road Length (km)</b>	
	<b>Main</b>	<b>Sub</b>
Paved & in good condition	-	-
Paved but in poor condition	3	8
Unpaved	1	3

Source: Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012

### Water Resources

The West Bank Water Department provides Az Za'ayyem with water purchased from an Israeli company (Mekorot), supplied through the public water network established in 1996. Approximately 100% of the housing units are connected to this network (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012). Approximately 192,000 cubic meters of water were supplied to Az Za'ayyem in 2009, giving an average rate of water supply per capita of 155 liters per day. However, no Az Za'ayyem citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 25%. These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level. Therefore, the actual rate of water consumption per capita in Az Za'ayyem is 116 liters per day (ARIJ & CENTA, 2010).

## Sanitation

Az Za'ayyem has a public sewerage network established in 2004 (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012). According to the results of the community survey conducted by the Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ) in 2010 as part of the project ‘A Proposed Environmentally Sound Wastewater Management System for the West Bank’, the majority of Az Za'ayyem housing units (80%) use the sewage network as a major means for wastewater disposal, while the rest of housing units (20%) use cesspits (ARIJ & CENTA, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 316 cubic meters, or 115,200 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is 93 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. The wastewater collected through the sewerage network and by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with no regard for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

## Solid Waste Management

Az Za'ayyem Village Council is the official body responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by the citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee (around 30 NIS/month) has been charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, the collected fees are not considered sufficient for good management of solid waste, especially as only 45% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

Most of the population in Az Za'ayyem benefit from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 25 containers<sup>1</sup> distributed throughout the village. The village council collects the solid waste four times per week, and then transports it using a waste vehicle to El 'Eizariya dumping site, 7km from the village, where it is usually buried and sometimes burnt (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Az Za'ayyem is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from Az Za'ayyem residents is nearly 2.4 tons, or 869 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

## Environmental Conditions

Like other villages and camps in the Governorate, Az Za'ayyem experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved. These problems can be identified as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Each with a capacity of 1m<sup>3</sup>

**Water Crisis (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012):**

- Water is cut off by the West Bank Water Department for long periods of time in several neighborhoods of the village for several reasons:
  1. Israeli control over Palestinian water resources causes obstacles in the organization of water pumping and distribution. The West Bank Water Department distributes water to various areas on an interval-basis because the amount of water available is not sufficient to fulfill everyone's needs at the same time.
  2. High rate of water losses, because the water network is old and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.

**Wastewater Management**

- The absence of a public sewage network in some neighborhoods (20%) forces the residents to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. Additionally, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas with no concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.
- The untreated wastewater collected by the public sewage network is disposed of in open areas without taking into account the damage it causes to both the environment and to residents' health.

**Solid Waste Management**

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Az Za'ayyem and the other neighboring communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions in granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C and under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary landfill is hazardous to human health, a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape.
- There is no system in the village and the governorate to separate hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste, so hazardous and industrial solid waste are collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to Ramallah Municipality and El 'Eizariya landfills for disposal by burning and burial.

**Impact of the Israeli Occupation****Geopolitical Status of Az Za'ayyem Village**

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Az Za'ayyem village was divided into areas 'B' and 'C'. Approximately 236 dunums (3.8% of the total village area) were assigned as area 'B', where the

Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. Area 'B' constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, villages, and some camps. Most of the village's population resides in area 'B' which constitutes a very small area in comparison to the total area of the village. Approximately 5,896 dunums (96.2% of the total village area) is classified as area 'C', where Israel retains full control over security and administration. In area 'C' Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through a permit given by the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within the area 'C' are agricultural and open spaces (Table 9).

**Table 9: The geopolitical divisions of Az Za'ayyem village according to the Oslo II interim agreement in 1995**

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of Total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	236	3.8
Area C	5,896	96.2
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,132</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

## Az Za'ayyem Village and Practices of the Israeli Occupation

Many dunums of land have been confiscated in the village by the Israeli authorities for different purposes, including the construction of Israeli settlements and bypass roads and the establishment of Israeli military bases and checkpoints.

During the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory, the Israeli government confiscated 543 dunums of land from Az Za'ayyem to establish the settlements of Ma'ale Adumim and Mishor Adumim. Ma'ale Adumim is the largest Israeli settlement in the West Bank by area, and forms an important Israeli center in East Jerusalem. The Israeli government retains Ma'ale Adumim because it is an integral part of the Ma'ale Adumim settlement bloc, which includes 8 settlements: Allon, Neve Pirat, Kfar Adumim, Allmon (Anatot), Mitzpe Yedude, Kedar, Ma'ale Adumim and Mishor Adumim (the industrial area of the bloc). Within the Ma'ale Adumim bloc there are Bedouin communities who have lived in the area since before 1967, but currently face forced displacement. Table 10 gives details regarding the Israeli settlements established on Az Za'ayyem land.

**Table 10: Israeli Settlements constructed over Az Za'ayyem lands**

Settlement Name	Year of construction	Area confiscated (dunums)	Population of settlers
Ma'ale Adumim	1975	406	39,000
Mishor Adumim (industrial zone)	1974	138	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>543</b>	39,000

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Israeli occupation authorities have also confiscated 568 dunums (9.3% of the total village area) to build an Israeli military base to the eastern side of the village.

In 2006 Israeli bulldozers demolished some facilities in Az Za'ayyem, including livestock sheds owned by the Da'na family, under the pretext of building without a construction permit. The bulldozers also demolished a poultry farm owned by Mahmoud Isbeih, allegedly because the farm was in Area 'C' and under complete Israeli control. They have also demolished a warehouse owned by Zeid Zeidan Jaber, a cattle farm owned by Issa Abu el Hawa, and livestock sheds owned by Naim Abu Sbeitan, through allegations of unlicensed building.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012, the Israeli court passed an order to demolish residential tents and shacks in Arab Al Jahalin (Arab As Sa'idy) in Az Za'ayyem village, which cover an area of 34 dunums. Families affected by the demolition order petitioned the Israeli court to issue a restraining order against the demolition; they are awaiting the court's decision regarding the legality of the demolition order against their properties.

#### ***Forced Displacement of Bedouin Communities to the East of Jerusalem City***

In September 2011, the Israeli occupation authorities threatened to evacuate and displace Palestinian Bedouin communities to the east of Jerusalem City (communities lying between the Ma'ale Adumim bloc and the An Nabi Musa area). The plan is scheduled for implementation in 2012 and will displace 2,500 Palestinians in the area. Israel claims that the decision was taken to guarantee the security of Israeli settlements around Jerusalem City. However, some state that the real motivation for such decisions is the confiscation and annexation of the largest possible area of Palestinian lands to Jerusalem to secure plans for future Israeli settlement development and to ensure a Jewish majority in Jerusalem City.

#### **The Israeli E1 Plan Concerning Az Za'ayyem's Lands**

The Israeli settlement bloc Ma'ale Adumim is considered one of the most threatening settlement blocs in the West Bank, as it lies within Jerusalem governorate borders and presents a danger to links between northern and southern areas of the West Bank. Additionally, it isolates East Jerusalem from other Palestinian governorates, complicating proposals for an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and threatening the territorial continuity of such a state.

The Israeli administration has created the E1 Plan which entails building a new settlement bloc in the West Bank to create a physical link between Ma'ale Adumim and central Jerusalem. The E1 Plan affects several Palestinian towns and villages, including Abu Deis, Al Izariya, At Tour, Al Isawiya, Az Za'ayyem and 'Anata, preventing them from opportunities to development and expansion (map 4). In addition, the E1 plan creates an urbanized belt that will geographically separate the northern from the southern West Bank. The E1 Plan includes the construction of 3,900 housing units to the west of Ma'ale Adumim on an area of 13,213 dunums, included in the settlement's master plan developed by the Israeli civil administration. It is expected that this plan will increase the population of the settlement dramatically.

With the completion of the E1 Plan, the Israeli urban belt will be closed around Jerusalem City, and as a consequence Az Za'ayyem village will lose 3,154 dunums of its lands. The confiscated agricultural lands and open spaces in the village will be used for settlements, military bases and the E1 plan. The village will be left only with its urban area, which will be restricted from the west by an Israeli checkpoint and the Segregation Wall. This will undermine the future development of the village and split its lands into small areas blockaded from all directions.

### **Israeli Bypass Roads in Az Za'ayyem Village**

The Israeli government has confiscated lands in Az Za'ayyem village to construct one of the main Israeli bypass roads in East Jerusalem. Road 1 connects established Israeli settlements in Ma'ale Adumim bloc with settlements in Jerusalem City, Al Aghwar, and Israeli cities in 1948 lands. Road 1 extends from the Palestinian Jordanian borders in Al Aghwar to Tel Aviv, passing through Jerusalem. Buffer zones created by the Israeli Occupation Forces, extending to 75m on either side of the bypass road, are more problematic and threatening than the road itself.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006 Israel built the Judea and Samaria Police Station within the zone of the E1 Plan, at a cost of \$10 million. The police station was transferred from Ras Al Amoud (Jerusalem City) to a hilltop in front of Ma'ale Adumim settlement to the north-west, occupying an area of 30 dunums. The police station and the settlement are separated by Road 1; a 2km access road branches out of Road 1 to the top of the hill to provide access to the Israeli police station. Approximately 100 dunums were confiscated from Az Za'ayyem village to create this road.

### **Az Za'ayyem Checkpoint**

The Israeli occupation authorities established the Az Za'ayyem checkpoint at the entrance of Az Za'ayyem village and on bypass Road 1. The checkpoint is a crossing point to Jerusalem City from the eastern side. Only Israelis, Palestinian holding Jerusalem IDs, and international residents can access Jerusalem City through this checkpoint. It therefore severely impedes Palestinians' mobility in Az Za'ayyem village. Combined with the Segregation Wall, this will cause Palestinians living in the village to lose their connection with Jerusalem City, the main source of employment, health, and education services.

*Yerushalayim* weekly newspaper (27<sup>th</sup> September 2008) stated that due to the heavy traffic between Ma'ale Adumim and Jerusalem City, the Israeli police had adopted a series of policies to ease traffic congestion. These included dedicating a special lane for Israelis passing through Az Za'ayyem checkpoint, and labeling Israeli cars so that they could be easily distinguished from Palestinian vehicles. Such actions aim to dissuade Israelis who wish to move out of Ma'ale Adumim because of heavy rush hour traffic. The policies also included closing the heavy vehicle route from the industrial settlement of Mishor Adumim from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m, forcing Palestinians travelling between East Jerusalem, Al Izariya and Abu Dis to use Az Zaitoun checkpoint, and an end to the inspection of Israeli Eged Buses travelling from Ma'ale Adumim.

## Az Za'ayyem Village and the Israeli Segregation Wall Plan

The Israeli Segregation Wall Plan has had a negative and destructive impact on Az Za'ayyem. According to the last amendment, published on the webpage of the Israeli Defense Ministry (30<sup>th</sup> April 2007), the Wall extends 2 km over Az Za'ayyem's lands and isolates 6,046 dunums, which comprises 98.6% of the village's total area. The isolated lands include agricultural areas, forests, open space, Israeli settlements, and military bases. The village is situated between part of the Wall constructed on the western side, and an area to the east where the plan proposes the construction of another section of the Wall. Table 11 shows the land use and land cover of isolated lands in Az Za'ayyem village.

**Table 11: The land classification of the isolated lands to the west side of the Segregation Wall in Az Za'ayyem Village - Jerusalem Governorate**

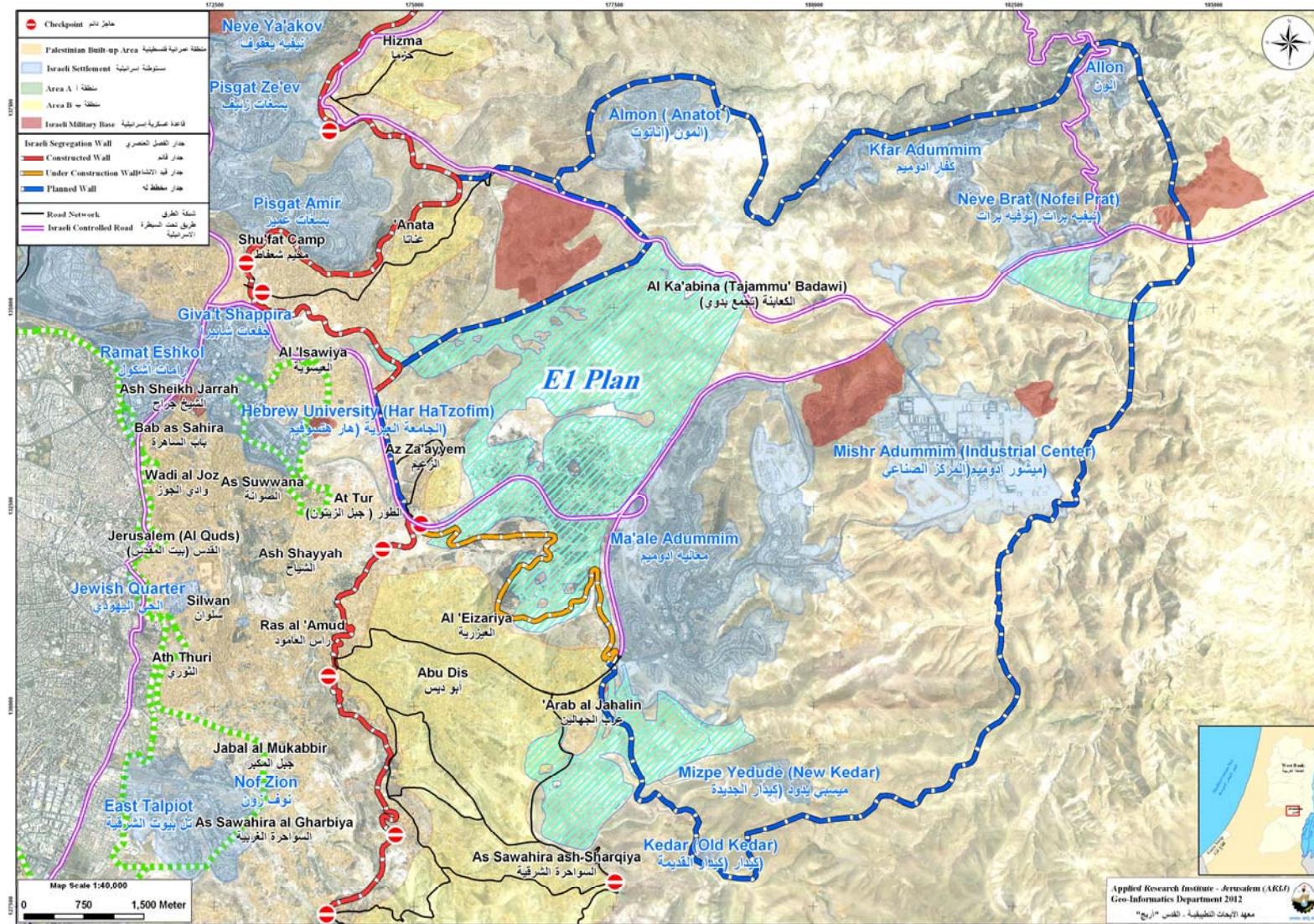
No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Agricultural areas	218
2	Open space (including rangelands)	3,532
3	Forest	802
4	Palestinian residential area	317
5	Israeli settlements	543
6	Israeli military base	568
7	Artificial surface	54
8	Wall zone	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>6,046</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

The Segregation Wall isolates the urbanized area of Az Za'ayyem from neighboring Palestinian villages and from important services in Jerusalem City. Israeli occupation authorities have constructed a large section of the Wall close to the urbanized areas of the village, increasing the area confiscated from the village and minimizing the area available for future urban expansion. The route of the Segregation Wall to the eastern side of the village annexes the Ma'ale Adumim settlement bloc to the east of Jerusalem City as part of the 'Greater Jerusalem Plan'.

Planned construction in Az Za'ayyem will segregate Palestinians who do not possess Jerusalem IDs from Jerusalem City, cutting them off from educational, health, social, and economic services such as schools, clinics, hospitals, and workplaces. Residents of Az Za'ayyem who hold Jerusalem IDs will be able to access Jerusalem City only through Az Za'ayyem checkpoint, where they will be required to undergo inspection and to show Jerusalem IDs. Creating further difficulties in mobility and communication, this situation will generate significant physical and psychological stress. This policy aims to re-delineate Jerusalem City borders to support Israeli plans to alter the city's demographics in favor of the Israelis, excluding neighborhoods of high Palestinian population density from Jerusalem City.

**Map 4: Israeli E1 Plan**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

## **Development Plans and Projects**

### **Implemented Projects**

Az Za'ayyem Village Council has not implemented any development projects in Az Za'ayyem during the past five years (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

### **Proposed Projects**

Az Za'ayyem Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the perspectives of the participants in the workshop:

1. Renovating the water network.
2. Connecting all housing units to the sewage network.
3. Establishing a wastewater treatment unit.
4. Paving and restoring main and sub roads.
5. Providing street lighting.
6. Providing waste vehicles.
7. Establishing a health center and an emergency care center.
8. Establishing schools.
9. Establishing a maternity center and a club.
10. Establishing recreational centers and playgrounds.
11. Expanding the structural footprint of the village.

## Village Development Priorities and Needs

Az Za'ayyem suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 9 shows the development priorities and needs in the village according to the village council's feedback (Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012).

**Table 9: Development priorities and needs in Az Za'ayyem**

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			4km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			10km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas	*			3km
4	Construction of New Water Networks	*			10km
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs			*	
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs			*	
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network			*	
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network			*	
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			50 containers
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			1 vehicle
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill			*	
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			a health center
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			a health center
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools	*			
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Schools	*			secondary level
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			preparatory & secondary levels
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools			*	
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands			*	
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns			*	
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock		*		5 barracks
4	Veterinary Services			*	
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			1000 tons per year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds		*		
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies		*		

\*1km are main roads and 3km are sub roads.

**Source:** Az Za'ayyem Village Council, 2012

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