

Beit Ijza Village Profile



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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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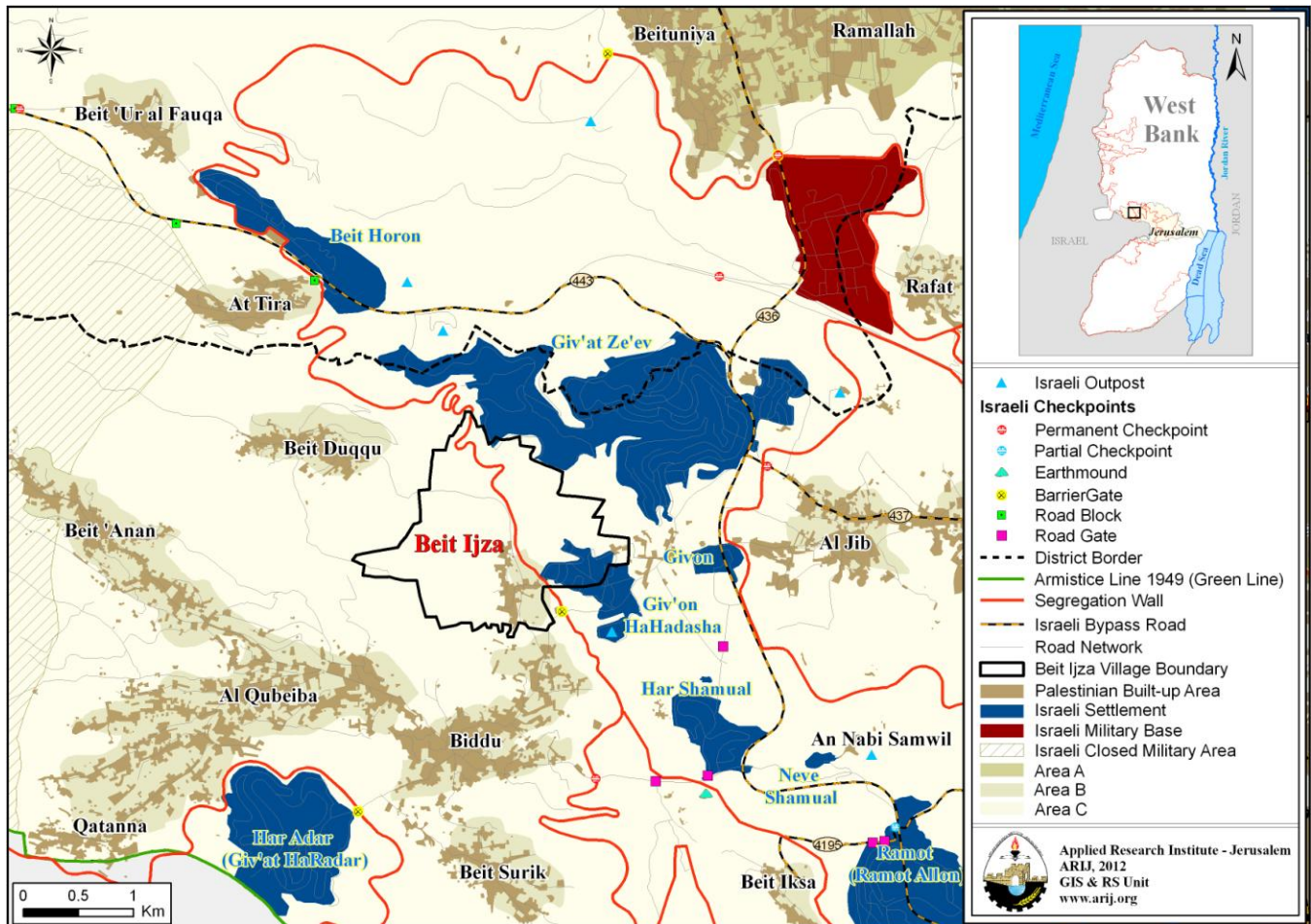
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Beit Ijza Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Beit Ijza is a Palestinian village in Jerusalem Governorate located (horizontally) 11km north-west of Jerusalem City. It is bordered by Al Jib to the east and Al Jib lands to the north, Beit Duqqu to the west, and Biddu town to the south (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012) (See map 1).

Map 1: Beit Ijza location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012

Beit Ijza is located at an altitude of 811m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 599mm. The average annual temperature is 16°C and the average annual humidity is approximately 60% (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012).

Since 1998, Beit Ijza has been governed by a village council which is currently administrated by 8 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority in addition to 2 permanent employees. The

village council owns a permanent headquarters and a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Beit Ijza, including (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010):

- Managing and maintaining the drinking water network.
- Collecting solid waste, constructing and paving roads, cleaning streets and providing social development services.
- Implementing projects and case studies for the village.
- Protecting governmental properties.
- Protecting historical and archeological sites.
- Providing and managing kindergartens.

History

Beit Ijza ('the house of tribute') was named in relation to Jizya (taxes levied on non Muslim citizens) collected in the area (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010). It is thought that the village was established in the pre-Roman era, and its residents are native to the village (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010) (See photo below for Beit Ijza village).

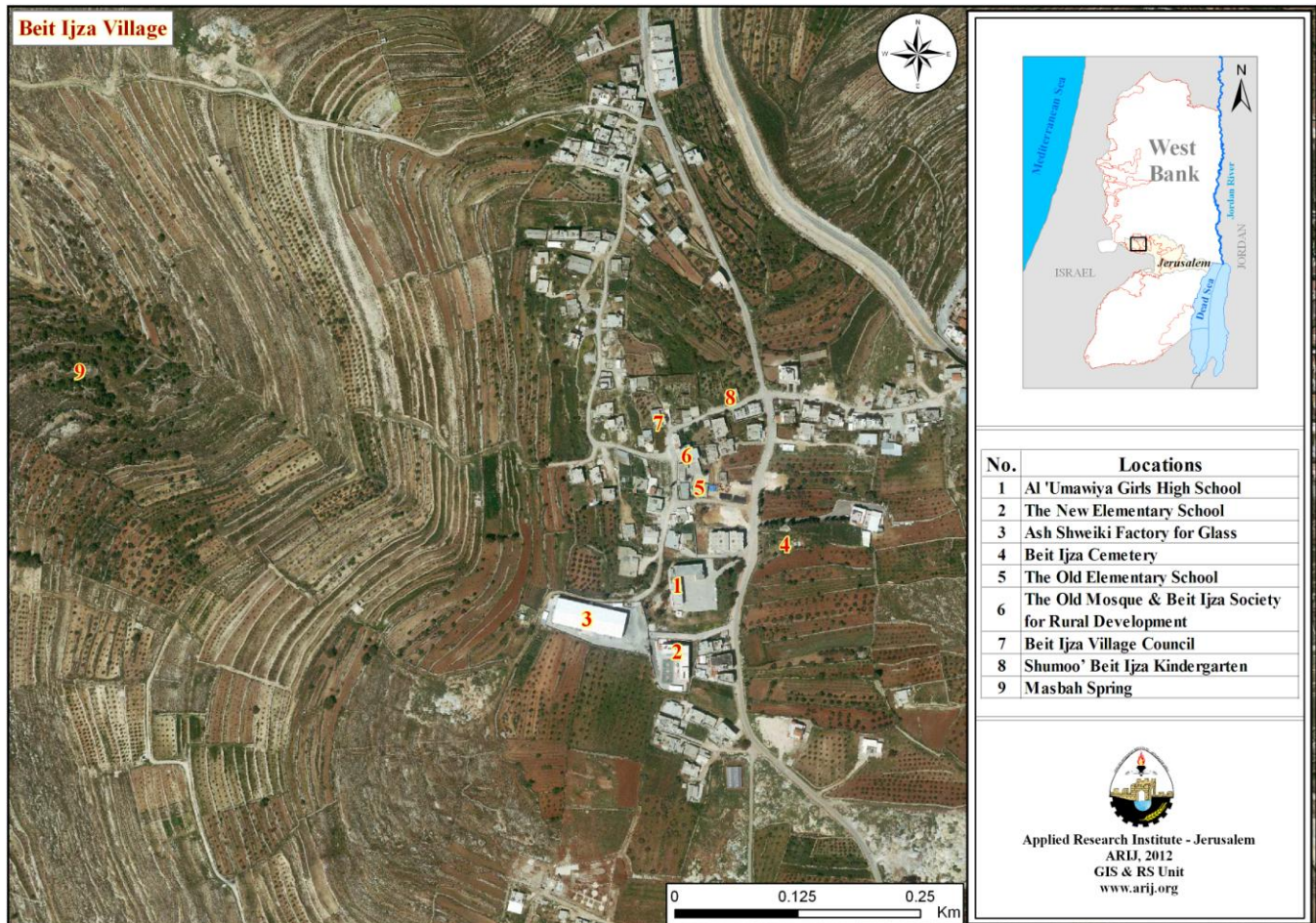
Photo 1: Beit Ijza village



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are two mosques in the village, Tariq ben Ziyad Mosque and an old 'Omari mosque. The old city of Beit Izja and an ancient olive oil-press are of some archaeological interest (Beit Izja Village Council, 2010) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Beit Ijza Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Beit Ijza in 2007 was 629, of whom 345 were male and 284 female. There were 120 households living in 146 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 Beit Ijza was as follows: 45% were less than 15 years old, 50.9% were 15 - 64 years old, and 1.4% were older than 65. Data additionally showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 121.5:100, meaning that males and females constituted 54.8% and 45.2% of the population respectively.

Families

Beit Ijza residents are from several families, mainly the Diwan, Salem, Gharib, Mar'i, Ash Sheikh and Abd al Halim families, in addition to many others (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census (2007), the illiteracy rate among Beit Ijza population was approximately 3%, of whom 84.6% were females. Of the literate population, 18.6% could only read and write with no formal education 28.5% had elementary education, 31.3% had preparatory education, 13.9% had secondary education, and 4.6% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Beit Ijza by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Beit Ijza population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment, 2007

Sex	Illite-rate	Can read & write	Elem-entary	Prepa-ratory	Second-ary	Associate Diploma	Bach-elor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un-known	Total
M	2	41	68	80	36	2	5	-	3	-	-	237
F	11	39	55	55	24	6	4	-	-	-	-	194
T	13	80	123	135	60	8	9	-	3	-	-	431

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are two public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) (see Table 2) (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

Table 2: The Schools in Beit Ijza by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority in the scholastic year 2010/2011

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Al 'Umawiyah Girls High School	Government	Females
Beit Ijza Co-educated Elementary School		Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

In the village there are 594 students, 40 teachers, and 22 classes (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 15, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 27 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

There are two local kindergartens run by a private body, with the total number of children attending reaching 123 in 2011. Table 3 shows these kindergartens according to their names and supervising authority (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

Table 3: The Kindergartens in Beit Ijza by name and supervising authority

Kindergarten Name	No. of Children	Supervising Authority
Zuhoor Beit Ijza Kindergarten	26	Private
Sanabil al 'Eyman Islamic Kindergarten	97	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

Health Status

There are no health centers in Beit Ijza village; residents of Beit Ijza go to the Red Crescent Center or Carmel Center in Biddu town, each of which is 2km from the village, or to Az Zawiya Center (UNRWA) in Beit Surik, 4km from the village (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

The health sector in the village suffers serious problems, including (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010):

1. The lack of an ambulance in the village.
2. The lack of any health centers.
3. The lack of any buildings for the health centers.

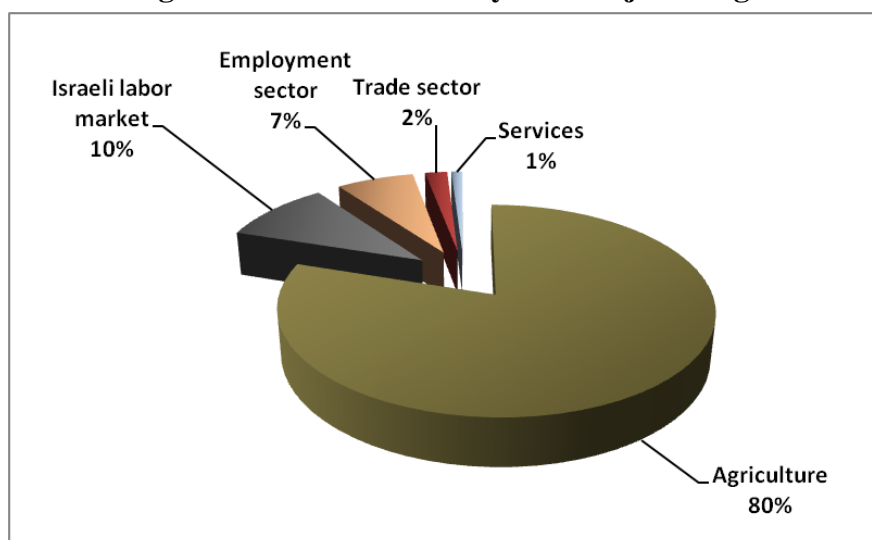
Economic Activities

The economy in Beit Ijza is dependent on several sectors, mainly the agriculture sector, which absorbs 80% of the workforce (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010) (See Figure1).

A field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2010 showed that the distribution of labor by economic activity in Al Judeira is as follows:

- Agriculture sector (80%)
- Israeli labor market (10%)
- Government or private employees sector (7%)
- Trade sector (2%)
- Services sector (1%)

Figure 1: Economic activity in Beit Ijza village



Source: Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010

In terms of commercial and industrial productions in Beit Ijza village, there are 4 grocery stores (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

The unemployment rate in Beit Ijza has reached around 35% in 2010 (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010). The social group most affected in the village as a result of Israeli restrictions and procedures is agricultural workers (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census (2007), 32.9% of Beit Izja’s labor force was economically active, of whom 93.7% were employed, and 66.8% were not economically active, of whom 54.9% were students and 38.5% were housekeepers (See table 4).

Table 4: Beit Ijza population (10 years and above) by sex and employment status-2007

SEX	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Un-known	Total
	Employed	Currently Un-employed	Un-employed (Never worked)	Total	Students	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other	Total		
M	124	7	2	133	89	2	12	1	-	104	-	237
F	9	-	-	9	69	109	6	-	-	184	1	194
T	133	7	2	142	158	111	18	1	-	288	1	431

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

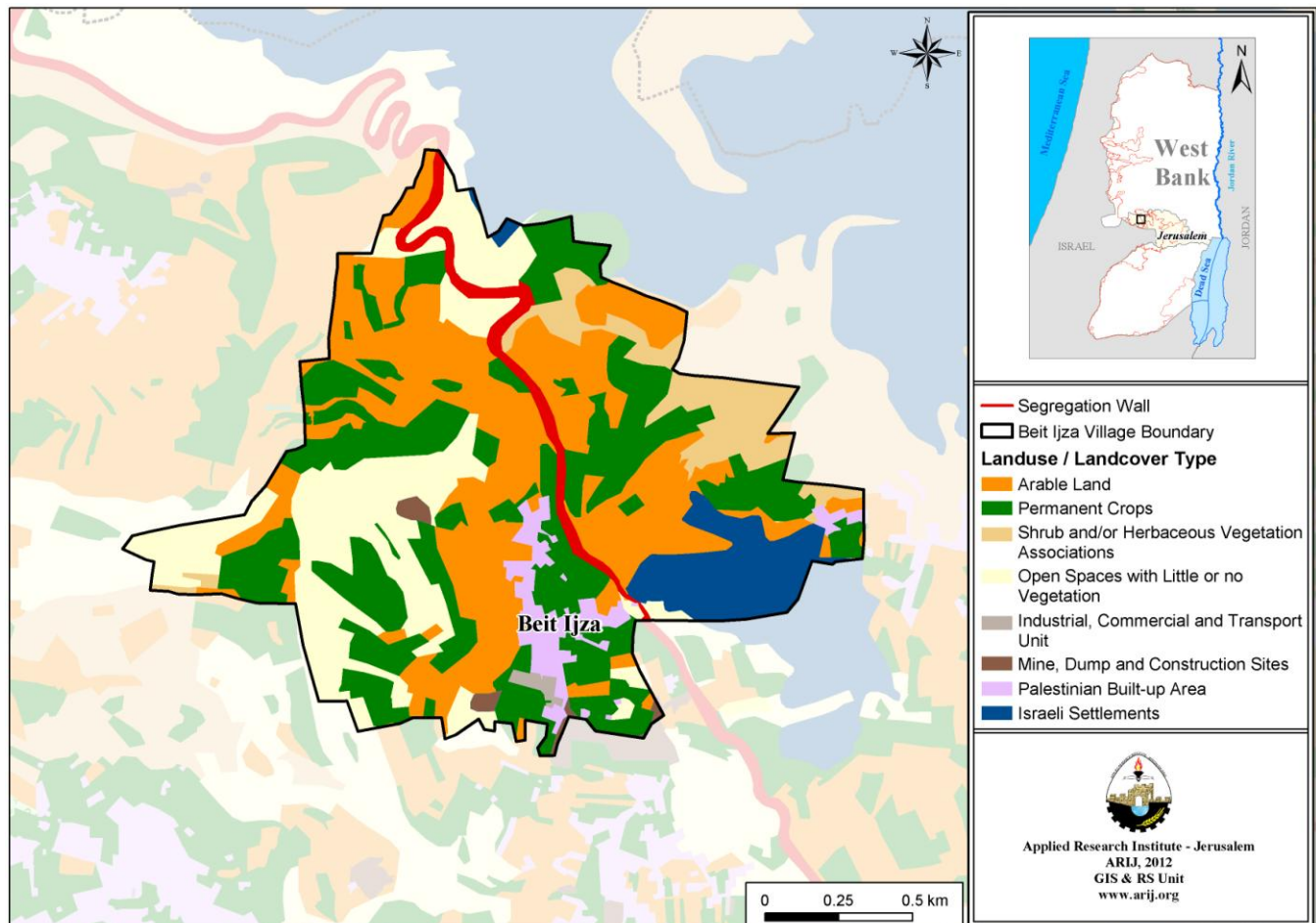
Beit Ijza has a total area of around 2,572 dunums of which 1,718 are considered ‘arable’ land, and 93 dunums are registered as ‘residential’ (See table 5 and map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Beit Ijza village in 2010 (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (1,718)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlements, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
2,572	93	749	0	171	798	0	0	490	28	244

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

Map 3: Land use/land cover in Beit Ijza village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Table 6 shows the different types of irrigated and rain-fed crops planted in the area. The most common crop cultivated within this area is snake-cucumber.

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Beit Ijza village

Cultivated vegetables	Rainfed (dunums)	Irrigated (dunums)
Fruity vegetables	9	2
Leafy vegetables	0	0
Green legumes	5	1
Bulbs	0	0
Other vegetables	1	2
Total Area	15	5

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Beit Ijza is known for the cultivation of grape; there are 238 dunums of land cultivated with grape vines.

Table 7: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Beit Ijza village (dunum)

Fruit trees	Rainfed	Irrigated
Olives	237	0
Citrus	0	0
Stone-fruits	34	0
Pome fruits	4	0
Nuts	16	0
Other fruits	238	0
Total Area	529	0

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Beit Ijza, cereals, in particular wheat, are the most cultivated, covering an area of about 30 dunums (See table 8).

Table 8: Total area of field crops in Beit Ijza village (dunum)

Fruit trees	Rainfed	Irrigated
Cereals	30	0
Bulbs	0	0
Dry legumes	4	0
Oil crops	0	0
Forage crops	2	0
Stimulating crops	0	0
Other crops	0	0
Total Area	36	0

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.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ shows that 2% of the residents in Beit Ijza are rearing and keeping domestic animals such as sheep, goats, and broiler chicken (See Table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Beit Ijza village

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
0	155	105	0	0	0	0	1000	0	0

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

There are also around 6 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village suitable for animals only (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

The village suffers some serious obstacles concerning the agricultural sector, primarily:

- The lack of capital and the lack of any assistance.
- Villagers' inability to access agricultural lands due to Beit Ijza's location behind the Wall.
- The lack of water sources.
- The lack of agricultural roads.

Institutions and Services

Beit Ijza village has no governmental institutions, but has a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various segments of society. These include (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010):

- **Beit Ijza Village Council:** Founded in 1998 by the Ministry of Local Government with the goal of solving issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Beit Ijza Rural Society:** Founded in 2010 by the village's young people and concerned with the agricultural field.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services

Beit Ijza has been connected to a public electricity network since 1983. 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. However, the village residents experience problems concerning electricity, mainly the weak electric current and the many power outages in summer (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Beit Ijza is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 95% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Transportation Services

10 illegal/unlicensed cars are the main means of transportation in Beit Ijza village (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010). There are 5km of designated 'main' roads and 11km of 'secondary' roads (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010) (See Table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Beit Ijza Village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
Paved & in good condition	2	5
Paved but in poor condition	-	-
Unpaved	3	6

Source: Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010

Water Resources

The West Bank Water Department provides Beit Ijza with water purchased from an Israeli company (Mekerot), supplied through the public water network established in 1991. Approximately 100% of the housing units are connected to this network (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010). The quantity of water supplied to Beit Ijza in 2009 was approximately 12,000 cubic meters/ year; therefore, the average rate of water supply per capita in Beit Ijza is 71 liters per day. However, no Beit Ijza citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 45%. 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 Beit Ijza is 26 liters per day (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010). Water consumption by Beit Ijza residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters a day proposed by the World Health Organization (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Since the quantity of water supplied to the village is low and does not meet the residents' need of water, residents use alternative sources of water, primarily water tanks which cost 20 NIS per cubic meter. The

village also has 35 rainwater harvesting cisterns (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010). According to the village council, there is a water spring in the village which has been isolated behind the Segregation Wall.

Sanitation

Beit Ijza lacks a public sewerage network with most of the village residents using cesspits and endocrines as their main means of wastewater disposal (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 14 cubic meters, or 5,280 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is 21 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. The wastewater collected by cesspits and endocrines 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

Beit Ijza Village Council is the official body responsible for 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 13 NIS/month) has been charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, none of these fees are collected from the citizens (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Most of the population in Beit Ijza benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 35 containers¹ distributed throughout the village. The Village Council collects the solid waste once a week, then transports it using a waste vehicle to Khirbet Jifna dumping site, 4km outside the village. Solid waste in this dumping site is either burnt or buried (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Beit Ijza is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from Beit Ijza residents is nearly 0.5 tons, or 178 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

Environmental Conditions

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

Water Crisis (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010):

- For the last five years, water has been cut off by Mekerot for long periods of time in summer.

¹ Each with a capacity of 1 liter

- There is no public reservoir in the village to cover the residents' water needs during water cut offs.

Wastewater Management

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Beit Izja residents are forced 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. Moreover, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas without concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

Solid Waste Management:

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Beit Izja and other neighboring communities 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 causes pollution in 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 Khirbet Jifna landfill for disposal.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical Status of Beit Ijza Village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Beit Ijza village was divided into areas 'B' and 'C'. Approximately 172 dunums (6.7% 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 2,400 dunums (93.3% 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 11).

Table 11: The geopolitical divisions of Beit Ijza 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	172	6.7
Area C	2,400	93.3
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	2,572	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Beit Ijza Village and Israeli Occupation Practices

Thousands of dunums of land have been confiscated from the village by the Israeli authorities for different purposes. These include the construction and expansion of Israeli military bases, settlements and outposts, and the construction of the Segregation Wall, through which Israel is aiming at controlling the northwest of Jerusalem governorate because it includes the Israeli settlements constituting part of Giv'at Ze'ev bloc. This plan is part of Israel's plan to annex all settlements in the West Bank into Israel, considering them an essential part of the State of Israel because "[annexation] contributes to security, to political standing, to the economy and to the demographics of the Jewish people in the land of Israel" as stated by former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to former American president George Bush (11th April 2005). The following is a detailed description of land confiscations in Beit Ijza.

During the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory, the Israeli government confiscated 168 dunums in Beit Ijza village (6.5% of the total village area) to establish the Israeli settlements of Giv'at Ze'ev and Giv'on Ha'hadasha. These settlements are currently inhabited by around 12,000 Israeli settlers and are considered part of the Giv'at Ze'ev settlement bloc, which includes 5 Israeli settlements (Table 12).

Table 12: Israeli Settlements constructed over Beit Ijza lands

Settlement Name	Year of construction	Area confiscated from Beitj Ijza (dunums)	Population of settlers
Giv'at Ze'ev	1982	9	10,779
Giv'on Ha'hadasha	1980	159	1,113
Total		168	11892

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Beit Ijza Village and the Israeli Segregation Wall Plan

The Israeli plan for the Segregation Wall has had a negative and destructive impact on Beit Ijza village. According to the last amendment, published on the webpage of the Israeli Defense Ministry (30th April 2007), the Wall extends 2km over Beit Ijza's lands and isolates 980 dunums of the eastern part of the village, which comprises 38.1% of the total village's area. The isolated lands include open and

agricultural areas, constituting an important source of capital for many families in the village, in addition to the Israeli settlements and part of the Palestinian residential area (Table 13).

Table 13: the land classification of lands to be isolated in Beit Ijza Village - Jerusalem Governorate

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Agricultural areas	522
2	Open space	237
3	Palestinian residential area	9
5	Israeli settlements	168
7	Wall zone	44
Total		980

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012

Problems Caused for Palestinians in Beit Ijza by the Construction of the Segregation Wall

Palestinian families in Beit Ijza have encountered many obstacles and problems due to the construction of the Wall. For example, the land of el Hajj Sabri Gharib was confiscated and isolated behind the Wall. He has been left with only his house, surrounded on three sides by the Wall and with a single passage out to the village center or to neighboring Palestinian villages.

Additionally, Palestinian farmers in Beit Ijza village are denied access to their lands isolated behind the Wall by Israeli occupation authorities. They cannot access their lands without a permit issued by the Israeli Liaison Office enabling them to pass through special gates built within the Wall. Access to isolated agricultural lands is limited to those farmers who are able to prove their land ownership to the Israeli Civil Administration. Permits² are issued only to those people, who are usually elderly, whose names are included in the property ownership instruments. The Israeli Civil Administration renews these permits seasonally, which makes it difficult for farmers to cultivate their lands, particularly given that those permits do not allow the necessary labor force or equipment to appropriately and productively cultivate the land.

Ramallah City as a Substitute for Jerusalem City

Since the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, Palestinians living in Beit Ijza and other villages have lost their link to Jerusalem City, previously the primary source of employment, educational, and health services. Residents of Beit Ijza have therefore started to use Ramallah City to fulfill these needs. Until 2002, Palestinians living in Beit Ijza were able to use Israeli bypass 443 to access Ramallah; they have now been prohibited from using the road by Israeli authorities and must travel using indirect roads with poor infrastructure to Ramallah and to other villages. This has caused many people from Beit Ijza to move to Ramallah to avoid delays and disruptions caused by Israeli obstacles to travel and routine mistreatment at Israeli checkpoints.

² Obtaining a permit is not an easy process, and it is usually denied for the owners of the isolated lands.

Israeli Military Orders Issued in Beit Ijza Village

The Israeli occupation authorities have issued military orders to confiscate lands in Beit Ijza village for different military purposes. These include:

1. Israeli military order 109/03/T: issued on 31st December 2003 to confiscate 334 dunums in Beit Ijza, Biddu, Beit Iksa, and Beit Duqqu for construction of the Segregation Wall.
2. Israeli military order 22/04/T: issued on 8th December 2004 to use lands confiscated from Beit Ijza and Beit Duqqu for military purposes.
3. Israeli military order 95/04/T: issued on 5th March 2004 to confiscate 144.2 dunums from Beit Ijza for construction of the Segregation Wall.
4. Amendment to Israeli military order 95/04/T: issued on 5th March 2004 to confiscate 119.8 dunums of lands in Beit Ijza and Biddu for construction of the Segregation Wall. The amendment included the completion of unfinished segments of the Wall, and extending the validity of the order until 2014 to allow the Israeli Ministry of Defense to complete construction of the Wall.
5. Israeli military order 51/05/T: issued on 21st March 2005 to confiscate 91 dunums from Beit Ijza and Beit Duqqu for construction of the Segregation Wall.
6. Amendment to military order 22/06/T: issued on 8th December 2011 to confiscate 2.4 dunums of Beit Ijza's land for security reasons. The amendment includes extending the validity of the military order until 2014.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Beit Ijza village council has implemented few development projects in Beit Ijza, during the past five years (See Table 15).

Table 14: Implemented development plans and projects in Beit Ijza during the last five years

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Pavement of the main road	Infrastructure	2005	UNDP
Construction of the Village Council's headquarters	Public Services	2009	Prime Minister
Construction of a preparatory school	Educational	2010	ANERA

Source: Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010

Proposed Projects

Beit Ijza 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. Establishing a sewage network.
2. Establishing water cisterns.
3. Establishing a health center.
4. Paving and rehabilitating streets and providing lightings.
5. Solving the transportation problem.
6. Establishing a women's center.
7. Providing job opportunities to solve the unemployment problem.
8. Establishing a sports club for the youth.
9. Establishing a rehabilitation center for people with special needs.
10. Establishing playgrounds, parks and children's gardens.

Village Development Priorities and Needs

Beit Ijza suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the village council's feedback (Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010).

Table 15: Development priorities and needs in Beit Ijza

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			19km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			3km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas	*			3km
4	Construction of New Water Networks	*			12km
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs	*			2 wells
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*			200 cups
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			13km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network			*	
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			25 containers
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			1 vehicle
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill	*			
Health Needs					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			one health center
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools			*	
Educational Needs					
1	Building of New Schools		*		
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			secondary level
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			500 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			60 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*			30 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			700 tons per year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds			*	
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies			*	

*3km are main roads, 6km are sub roads and 10km are agricultural.

Source: Beit Ijza Village Council, 2010

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