

# **‘Azmut 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, town, and village in the Nablus Governorate. These booklets came about as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in the Nablus Governorate, which aims to depict the overall living conditions in the governorate and present developmental plans to assist in improving 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 Nablus 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 Nablus Governorate. In addition, the project aims to prepare strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with a focus on the agricultural sector.

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

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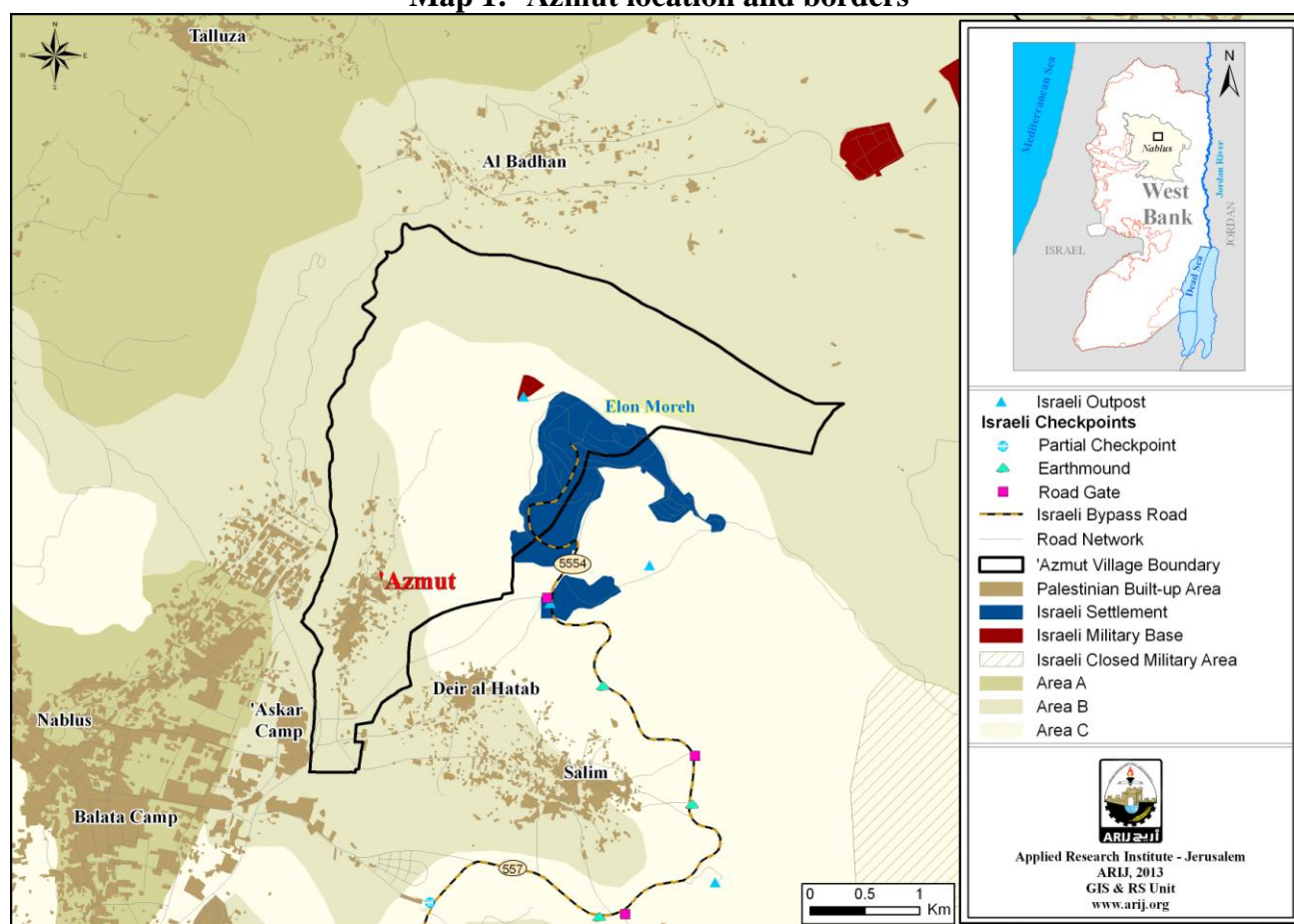
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# ‘Azmut Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

‘Azmut is a Palestinian village in the Nablus Governorate, located 4.6km east of Nablus City. It is bordered by Deir al Hatab and Al ‘Aqrabaniya to the east, Al Bahdan to the north, ‘Asira ash Shamaliya and Nablus City to the west, and Deir al Hatab to the south (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (See Map 1).

**Map 1: ‘Azmut location and borders**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

‘Azmut is located at an altitude of 446m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 442.3mm. The average annual temperature is 18°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 59% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of ‘Azmut village consists of approximately 9,836 dunums. This is according to the new borders of the local bodies which were stipulated by the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government, prepared by the Palestinian National Authority and represented by the Ministry of Local Government, the Central Elections Commission, the Ministry of Planning and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 2011. These governmental institutions redeveloped and altered the borders of the local bodies for the purpose of the elections. ARIJ adopted these new borders in this

project for the purposes of research and study. The adopted borders, to a certain extent, suited the demographic variables and the environmental and agricultural facts on the ground. These borders do not represent the space and the borders of private property in the district and are not included in the files of private land properties.

Since 1995, ‘Azmut has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 2 employees working in the council, which has no permanent headquarters. It is located within the Joint Services Council east of Nablus. The Council does not have a vehicle to collect solid waste (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of ‘Azmut, including (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013):

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water network.
- Road rehabilitation, construction, paving, and provision of social services.
- Protection of governmental properties.
- Protection of historical and archeological sites.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.
- Provision of sewage network.

## History

The word ‘Azmut comes from the Canaanite language meaning “strength till death”, signifying intensity, strength, and composure as mentioned in “*The History and Residing of Nablus*” by Ihsan Al Nimer. The village was established about 600 years ago, with its residents descending from the Taif in the Saudi Arabia (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013) (See Photo 1).

**Photo of ‘Azmut**

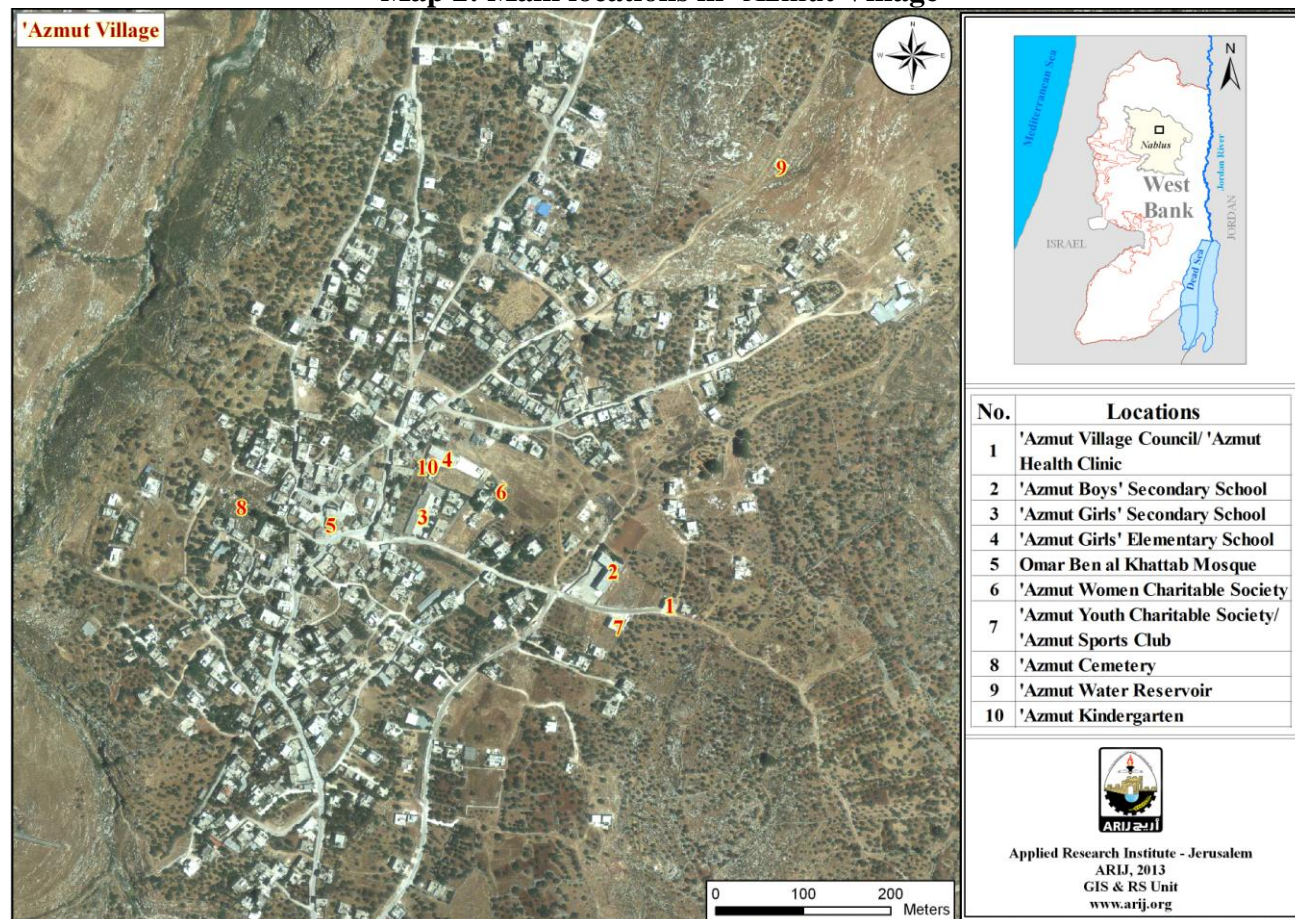




## Religious and Archaeological Sites

Umar ibn Al-Khattab Mosque is the only mosque in the village. The village has several sites of archaeological interest including: As Sheikh Bilal Mountain and some historical shrines from Al Qadariya. All of these sites are in need of restoration in order to qualify as a tourist location, as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities ('Azmut Village Council, 2013) (See Map 2).

**Map 2: Main locations in 'Azmut Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of 'Azmut in 2007 was 2,610, of whom 1,298 were male and 1,312 female. There were additionally 449 households registered as living in 553 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 'Azmut is as follows: 38.5% were less than 15 years of age, 57.8% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 3.8% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of

males to females in the village is 100:98.9, meaning that males and females constitute 49.7% and 50.3% of the population, respectively.

## Families

‘Azmut residents are from several families, including Sawalha, ‘Alawaneh, and Hawamada families (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, the illiteracy rate amongst ‘Azmut’s population is approximately 7.4%, of which 82% are females. Of the literate population, 19.2% could only read and write, with no formal education, 24.3% had elementary education, 21.2% had preparatory education, 15.5% had secondary education, and 11.8% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of ‘Azmut by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

**Table 1: ‘Azmut population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment**

S E x	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Element- ary	Preparat- ory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un- known	Total
M	26	147	224	235	148	35	101	2	13	11	0	<b>942</b>
F	117	223	244	173	151	21	55	0	0	0	0	<b>984</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,926</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are three public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (See Table 2).

**Table 2: Schools in ‘Azmut by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
‘Azmut Girls Elementary School	Government	Female
‘Azmut Girls Secondary School	Government	Female
‘Azmut Boys Secondary School	Government	Male

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

In the village there are 743 students, 41 teachers, and 25 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 18, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 30 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There is also one kindergarten in ‘Azmut village (Ideal ‘Azmut Kindergarten) which is run by a private organization. The kindergarten consists of 2 classrooms supervised by 2 teachers (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

Due to the lack of education options, for example, more practical learning for the industrial sector, students head to Nablus city schools 5km away from the village (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).



The educational sector in ‘Azmut village faces a number of obstacles; mainly (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013):

- The schools’ need for additional classrooms.
- The lack of school equipment and teaching aids in the schools.
- The lack of sport stadiums in the schools.

## Health Status

‘Azmut has a few health facilities, including one governmental health center, a health center run by the Red Crescent, and a private pharmacy. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Rafidiya or the national hospital in Nablus city (4km away) (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013):

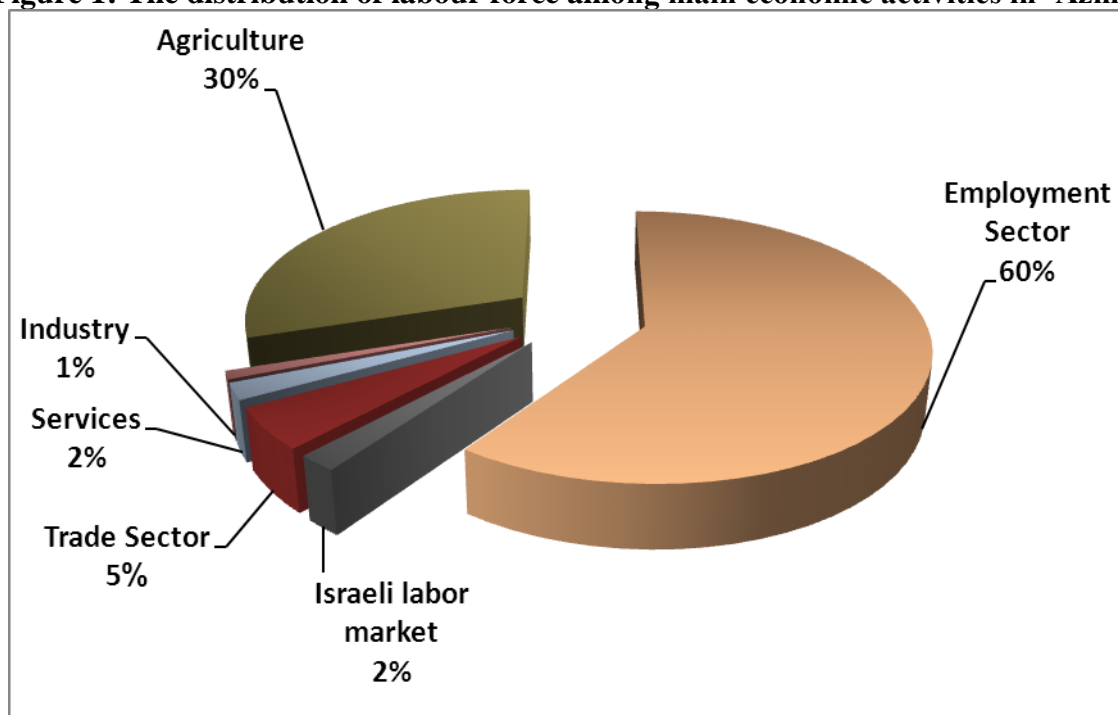
- Lack of medicines in the health clinic.
- Lack of ambulance.

## Economic Activities

The economy in ‘Azmut is dependent mainly on the employee sector, which absorbs 60% of the village’s workforce (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013) (See Figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2013 looking at the distribution of labor according to economic activity in ‘Azmut are as follows:

- Employees sector (60%)
- Agricultural sector (30%)
- Trade sector (5%)
- Israeli labor market (2%)
- Services sector (2%)
- Industry (1%)

**Figure 1: The distribution of labour force among main economic activities in ‘Azmut**

Source: ‘Azmut Village Council, 2013

‘Azmut has 14 supermarkets, 4 fruits and vegetable stores, a bakery, a butcher shop, 3 different professional workshops, 8 service stores (blacksmith, carpentry, etc...), a stone mill, and an olive press (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in ‘Azmut reached 20% and the group most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions is workers in the agricultural sector (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

### Labour Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, 29.6% of ‘Azmut’s labor force was economically active, of whom 88.4% were employed, 70.4% were not economically active, 51% were students, and 38.9% were housekeepers (See Table 3).

**Table 3: ‘Azmut population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status**

Sex	Economically active				Non-economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	474	13	44	531	321	2	65	17	6	411	0	942
F	30	0	9	39	370	526	48	0	1	945	0	984
T	504	13	53	570	691	528	113	17	7	1,356	0	1,926

M: Male; F: Female; T: Total.

Source: PCBS, 2009.

## Agricultural Sector

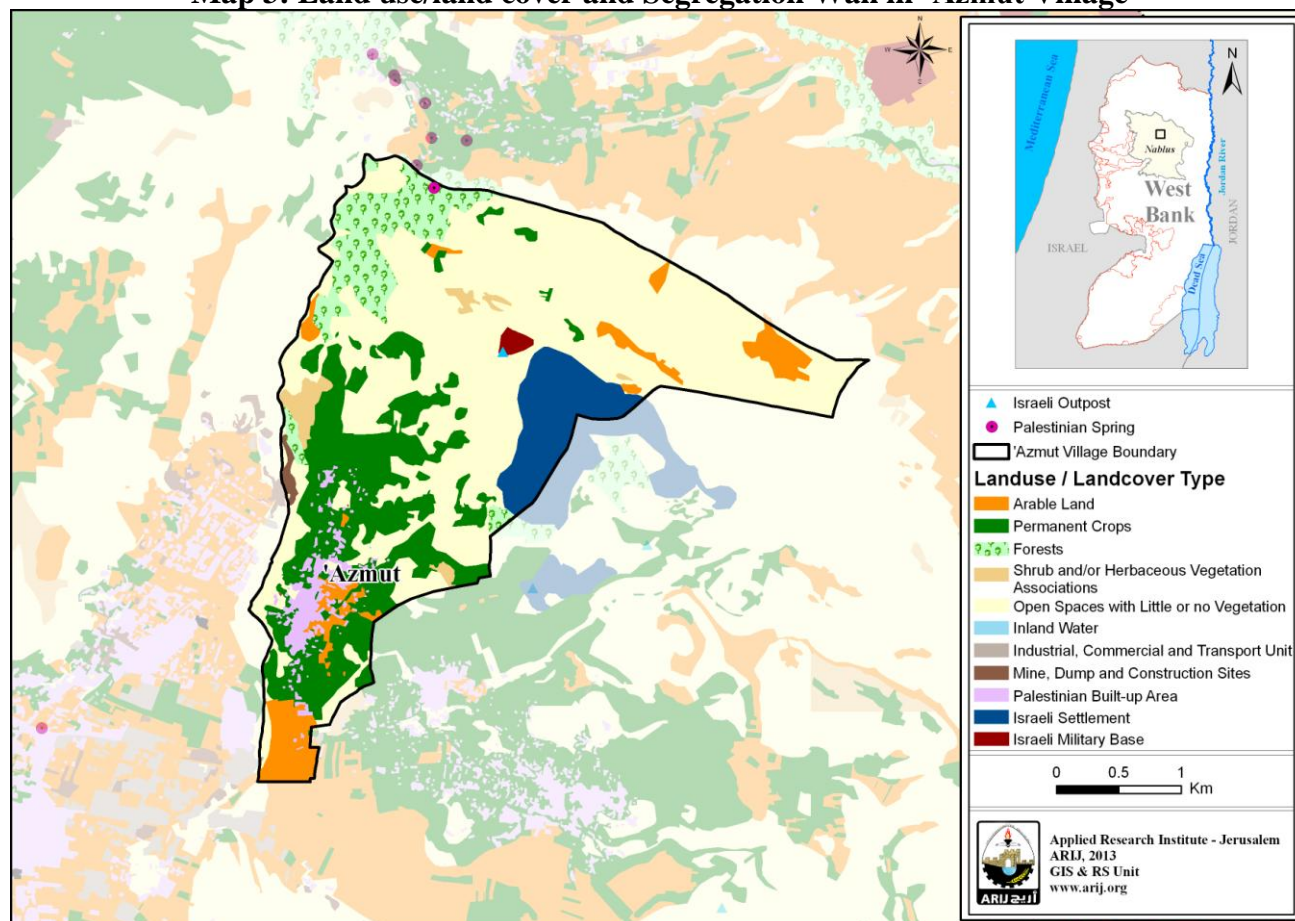
‘Azmut has a total area of approximately 9,836 dunums of which 2,703 are ‘arable’ land and 268 dunums are registered as ‘residential’ (See Table 4 and Map 3).

**Table 4: Land use and land cover in ‘Azmut village (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (2,703)				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					
9,836	268	1,948	0	167	588	0	774	5,373	37	681

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014.

**Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in ‘Azmut Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

There are different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in ‘Azmut. The most commonly cultivated crop is green beans, covering around 2 dunums of land (Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010).

Table 5 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. ‘Azmut is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 1,376 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

**Table 5: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in ‘Azmut (area in dunums)**

Olives		Citrus		Stone-fruits		Pome fruits		Nuts		Other fruits		Total Area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
1,376	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	26	0	19	0	1,423	0

Rf.: Rain-fed; Irr.: Irrigated.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

Table 6 shows the field and forage crops in ‘Azmut. There are approximately 260 dunums of grain area, mostly wheat.

**Table 6: Total area of field and forage crops in ‘Azmut (area in dunums)**

Nuts		Bulbs, Tubers, and Roots		Dry Legumes		Oily Crops		Forage Crops		Telltale Crops		Other Crops		Total	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
260	0	2	0	40	0	0	0	65	0	0	0	4	0	371	0

Source: Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the difference in each organization's definition of land coverage and ownership. The MoA and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011) 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 and not considered 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. This therefore, accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ team shows that 1.5% of the residents in ‘Azmut rear and keep domestic animals such as cows and sheep (See Table 7).

**Table 7: Livestock in ‘Azmut**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
117	260	330	0	0	0	0	50,000	0	10

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

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 17km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013):

**Table 8: Agricultural Roads in ‘Azmut Village and their Lengths**

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	2
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	10
For animals only	5
Unsuitable	0

Source: ‘Azmut Village Council, 2013

The agricultural sector in the village faces some problems, including (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013):

- Agricultural land in the northern part of Elon Moreh settlement.
- The lack of water sources.
- Farmers lack financial resources.
- The lack of economic feasibility for agricultural investment.
- The lack of agricultural roads.

## Institutions and Services

‘Azmut village has a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013):

- **‘Azmut Village Council:** Founded in 1995, and registered later by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of taking care of different issues concerning the village and providing various services to its population, in addition to infrastructural services.
- **‘Azmut Women Charitable Society:** Founded in 1995 and registered later by the Ministry of Interior. The Society’s aim is to support women by running workshops and seminars on sewing, food processing etc.
- **Yalo Association:** Founded in 2003, to the Association organizes English courses and teaching, as well training women on sewing and food processing.
- **‘Azmut Youth Society:** Founded in 2011 by the Ministry of Interior. The Society organizes a popular dabke group and provides assistance to needy families.
- **‘Azmut Youth Club:** Founded in 2001, and registered later by the Ministry of Interior, ‘Azmut Youth Club organizes computer courses, and training courses for women in sewing, embroidery, and food processing.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

‘Azmut has been connected to a public electricity network since 1985. It is served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, through the North Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. 100% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network. The village residents face a number of problems concerning electricity, primarily the weak electric current (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

‘Azmut is also connected to a telecommunications network. Approximately 50% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

### Transportation Services:

There is one a public bus and 5 taxis in ‘Azmut. There are 5km of main roads and 4km of secondary roads (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013) (See Table 9).



**Table 9: Roads in ‘Azmut Village**

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Secondary
<b>1. Paved &amp; in good condition</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2. Paved &amp; in poor condition</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Unpaved</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

Source: ‘Azmut Village Council, 2013

### **Water Resources:**

The residents of ‘Azmut are supplied with water by Israeli company Mekorot through a public water network, which was established in 1985. 95% of housing units are connected to this public water network. The quantity of water supply in ‘Azmut in 2012 is about 84,000 cubic meters/year (‘Azmut Village Council, 2012). Thus, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is about 78 liters/day. However it should be noted that no ‘Azmut citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses. About 28% of the water is lost at the main source, at the major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level. Thus, the rate of water consumption per capita in 'Azmut is 56 liters per day (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013). This is a low rate compared to the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization. In addition to the public water network, there are over 400 domestic wells in the village that collect rainwater and public water reservoirs with a capacity of 200 cubic meters. The price of one cubic meter of water from the public network is 4 NIS (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

### **Wastewater Status:**

‘Azmut village has a public sewerage network, which was created in 2010 and is connected to 90% to the housing units. The rest of the residents use cesspits and endocrine drilling for wastewater disposal (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day is 133 cubic meters, or 48,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 45 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly into open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. Here it is noted that there is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious environmental threat in addition to a public health risk (ARIJ - WERD, 2013).

### **Solid Waste Status:**

The Joint Services Council is responsible for managing solid waste collection and disposal of the waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village. Due to the fact that solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee of 10 NIS per house per month is charged to the population for the service of domestic solid waste collection and transportation. However, the collected fees are 100% (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

Most of the population in ‘Azmut benefits from the solid waste services, where waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and placed in 30 containers with a capacity of 1 cubic meter, located at various points in the village. The service council collects the solid waste twice a week and transports it using a dedicated waste vehicle to the waste landfill 20km from the village center. Here the waste is subsequently buried in an environmentally sound way (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in ‘Azmut is 0.7 kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the ‘Azmut residents is nearly 2.1 tons, or 752 tons per year (ARIJ - WERD, 2013).

## **Environmental Conditions:**

The village of ‘Azmut and other towns in the district of Nablus suffer environmental problems, which should be addressed with solutions, for instance:

### **Water Sector:**

- 28% of the residential units are served by the public water network.
- No water during the summer time in the village.

### **Wastewater Management:**

Wastewater in the village of ‘Azmut is collected by the drainage network without treatment in any open area. In addition, the use of cesspits is another way of disposing wastewater in the village. The disposal of wastewater, especially during winter, causes environmental problems because the villagers cannot cover the high costs needed for flushing. This can lead to problems in the environment and regarding public health, as diseases may be spread throughout the village. The use of cesspits threatens to contaminate the groundwater and water collected by rainwater harvesting cisterns, which leaves it unfit for consumption. As well, avoiding the use of cars to unload seepage pits, thus the untreated wastewater must be disposed in open areas without harming the environment and people’s health (‘Azmut Village Council, 2013).

### **Solid Waste Management in ‘Azmut**

The village of ‘Azmut does not have any problems with solid waste management, as the Joint Council for the Management of Solid Waste is responsible for the process of collecting waste from the village and disposing it in Zahret al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is the main environmentally-friendly landfill serving the village, in addition to most of the localities in the Nablus Governorate.

## Geopolitical status in 'Azmout village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, 'Azmout was divided into Area B and Area C. Approximately 5,803 dunums (59% of the village's total area) were classified as Area B, where the PNA has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to retain overriding responsibility for security. The rest of the village's area, constituting 4,033 dunums (41% of the total area), was classified as Area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory. In Area C, Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through consent or authorization by the Israeli Civil Administration. The majority of 'Azmout's population resides in Area B while most of the land lying within Area C is agricultural land or has been taken for Israeli settlements. (See Table 10).

**Table 10: The Geopolitical Divisions of 'Azmout village according to the Oslo Agreement 1995**

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of Total village area %
Area A	0	0
Area B	5,803	59
Area C	4,033	41
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,836</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

### The Israeli Occupation practices in 'Azmout village

Hundreds of dunums of land belonging to 'Azmout village have been confiscated by Israel, primarily for the purpose of establishing settlements, military bases and the construction of Israeli settlement roads. The following is a breakdown of the Israeli confiscations of land of the village of 'Azmout: -

#### Israeli settlement on the territory of 'Azmout village

Israel has confiscated 639 dunums from 'Azmout village to establish "Elon Moreh" settlement, located on the north-east side of the village. Founded in 1979, it is partially built on the land territory of 'Azmout and Deir Al Hatab, and contains approximately 1,595 Israeli settlers.

#### Settler attacks on 'Azmout village

Attacks and violence perpetrated by settlers living in the settlements on 'Azmout land has had a profoundly negative impact on village residents and their property. Palestinian land owners are unable to access their lands, as they have been fenced off with barbed wire. Settlers have planted

trees in these areas to reinforce their control over the area. The settlers have damaged and burned a number of Palestinian owned trees and plants. Settlers have also attacked the land owners in an attempt to intimidate and deter them from returning to their land.

Israel has confiscated some lands from 'Azmout and the neighboring villages in order to establish illegal settlements in the area for the purpose of the establishment of Israeli settlements, but also these settlements pose a real threat for the Palestinians on their own land. Where according to the Land Research Center, "Elon Moreh" settlement poses a daily threat to residents living in the neighboring Palestinian villages. Since the establishment of "Elon Moreh" in 1979, Palestinian residents have been subjected to several violent attacks, for example farmers have been attacked in order to prevent them from reaching their agricultural land. Settlers have also stolen crops and damaged trees. The destruction of the electricity network has resulted in a lack of electricity supply in the village. Other private property has also been deliberately damaged.

### **Israeli military base on the territory of 'Azmout lands**

Israeli has also confiscated 42 dunums from 'Azmout to set up a military base to the north-eastern side of the village, near to "Elon Moreh" settlement. This military site is located on top of a mountain overlooking 'Azmout, Nablus City, and the Al Badhan area.

### **Israeli checkpoints around 'Azmout village**

After the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, the Israeli occupation authorities established checkpoints and iron gates at the entrance of 'Azmout, as well as Salim, and Deir Al Hatab. Flying checkpoints have also been established.

Over the last decade, military checkpoints in the area have continued to have a negative impact on the daily lives of residents. Checkpoints continue to hinder freedom of movement and sever the links between Nablus city and the surrounding villages, as well as the connection between the villages and their agricultural lands. This has resulted in heavy economic losses for residents of 'Azmout as they are forced to travel further distances in order to reach their agricultural land, especially when checkpoints are closed. These checkpoints were partly removed after 2009., after years of suffering in this area.

### **Israeli bypass Roads on 'Azmout village**

Israeli authorities have established multiple bypass roads across the West Bank, confiscating thousands of dunums of agricultural and non-agricultural lands in order to link Israeli settlements to each other and to separate the Palestinian community. These roads also serve to enhance Israeli security control on these roads. Israel has confiscated 'Azmout village territory for the construction of Israeli bypass road No.555, which links "Elon Moreh" settlement with "Huwwara" checkpoint

and “Itamar” settlement. This road extends 15 km, with 1 km established on ‘Azmout land. This road starts from Huwwara area to connect “Itamar” settlement with “Elon Moreh” settlement. Usually the Israeli occupation authorities placed iron gates at the entrances of these roads, in order to prevent Palestinians from using them.

According to the Land Research Center, this settlement road was established in 1996 with a width of 20 meters, on the village territory of ‘Azmout, Salim and Deir Al Hatab. This road surrounds the residential area from the east side and isolates these villages from their agricultural lands; the Land Research Center estimates the isolated area is approximately 6000 dunums.

## Development Plans and Projects

### Implemented Projects

‘Azmout Village Council has implemented several development projects over the past five years (See Table 11).

**Table 11: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in ‘Azmout during the Last Five Years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Installing water tanker lines in the village	Infrastructure	2009	ANERA Organization
Sewage network project	Infrastructure	2010	Ministry of Local Government
Building elementary schools in the village	Educational	2011	Palestinian Investment Bank

Source: ‘Azmout Village Council, 2013

### Proposed Projects

‘Azmout Village Council, in cooperation with the village’s civil society organizations and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoints of the participants’ in the workshop:

1. Renewing 6km of the public water network and domestic wells.
2. Building boys’ elementary schools.
3. Completing 3km of drainage network.
4. Rehabilitating 6km of internal streets.
5. Building a health care center.
6. Building an athletic gym.
7. Building a women’s training center.
8. Building roads to protect agricultural land and reclaiming land threatened by settlements.
9. Building a Council headquarters.
10. Providing a public library and computer lab.
11. Providing first aid courses.
12. Building a park in the forest near the village.



## Locality Development Priorities and Needs

‘Azmut suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 12 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council’s perspective:

**Table 12: Development Priorities and Needs in ‘Azmut**

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			22km <sup>^</sup>
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			5km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas			*	
4	Construction of new water networks	*			3km
5	Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs			*	
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			1km
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*	
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			30 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*	
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*	
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building new schools	*			Building extra classrooms in the girls elementary and boys secondary school
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			Establishing elementary schools
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			60 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns		*		20 wells
3	Construction of livestock barracks			*	
4	Provision of veterinary services			*	
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			100 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			
<b>Other Needs</b>					
1	Establishing a sewing workshop				

<sup>^</sup> 3km main roads, 4km secondary roads and 15km agricultural roads.

Source: ‘Azmut Village Council, 2013

## References:

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