

Talluza Village Profile



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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 as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Nablus Governorate, which aims to depict the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting 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 insecure 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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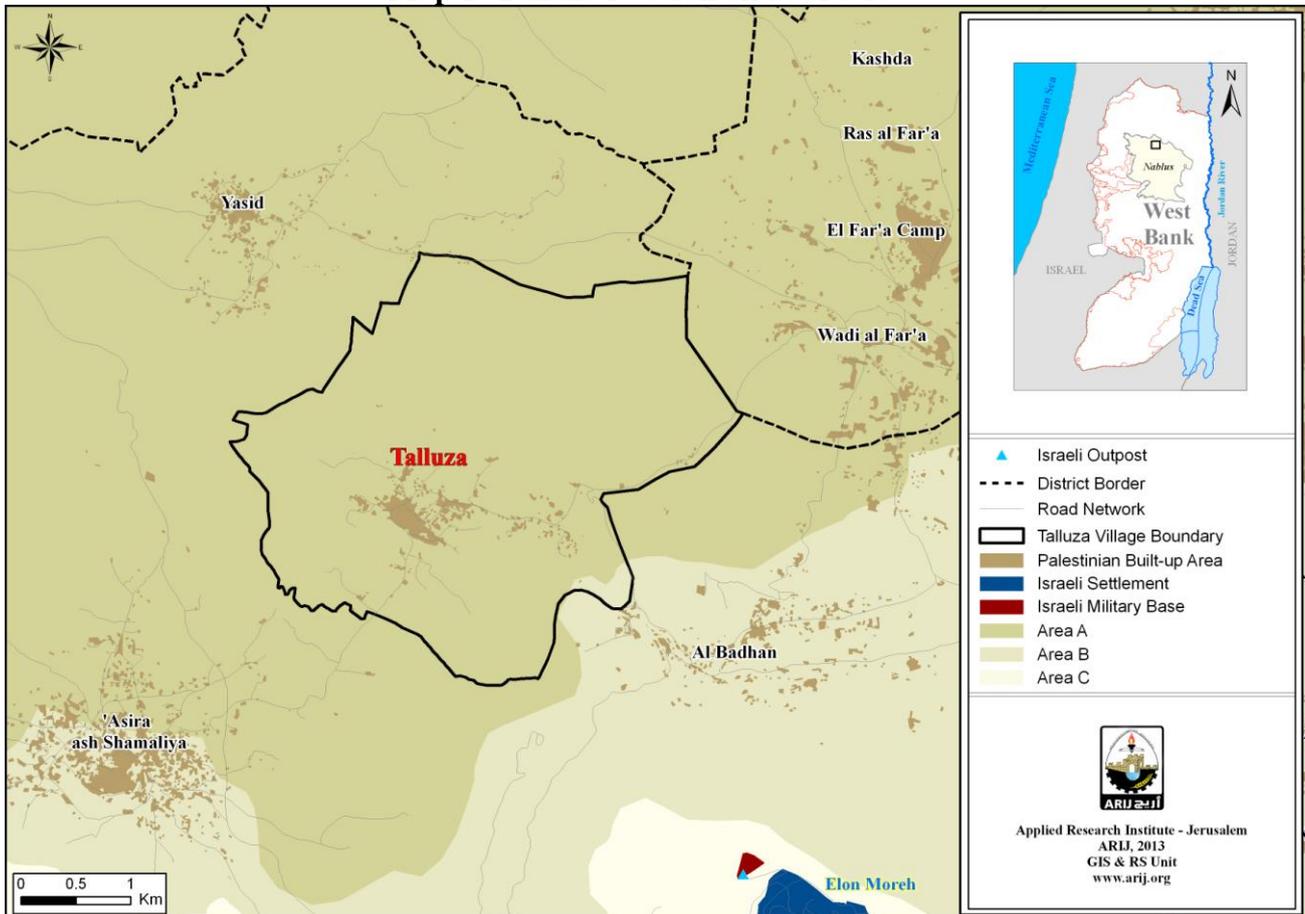
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Talluza Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Talluza is a Palestinian village in Nablus Governorate, located 6.51km north of Nablus City. It is bordered by Al Badhan and Wadi al Far'a to the east, Yasid to the north, 'Asira ash Shamaliya to the west and south (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Talluza location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Talluza is located at an altitude of 542 m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 458.4 mm. The average annual temperature is 16 C° whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 60% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of Talluza village consists of approximately 11,051 dunums. This is according to the new borders of the local bodies which was 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. It is also not included in the files of private land properties.

Talluza Village Council was established long ago in Jordan in 1952, and was re-founded in 1994, 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 a rented permanent headquarters (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

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

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

History

During the Roman era, Talluza village's name was used to be "Tal al Luz" (meaning the hill of almonds) due to it being famous for the cultivation and production of almonds, however, it was later converted into Talluza.

The village was established more than 3000 years ago, with its residents descending from the Arabian Peninsula, in addition to some families being originally from Abu Dis, Burin and Al 'Ubeidiya (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

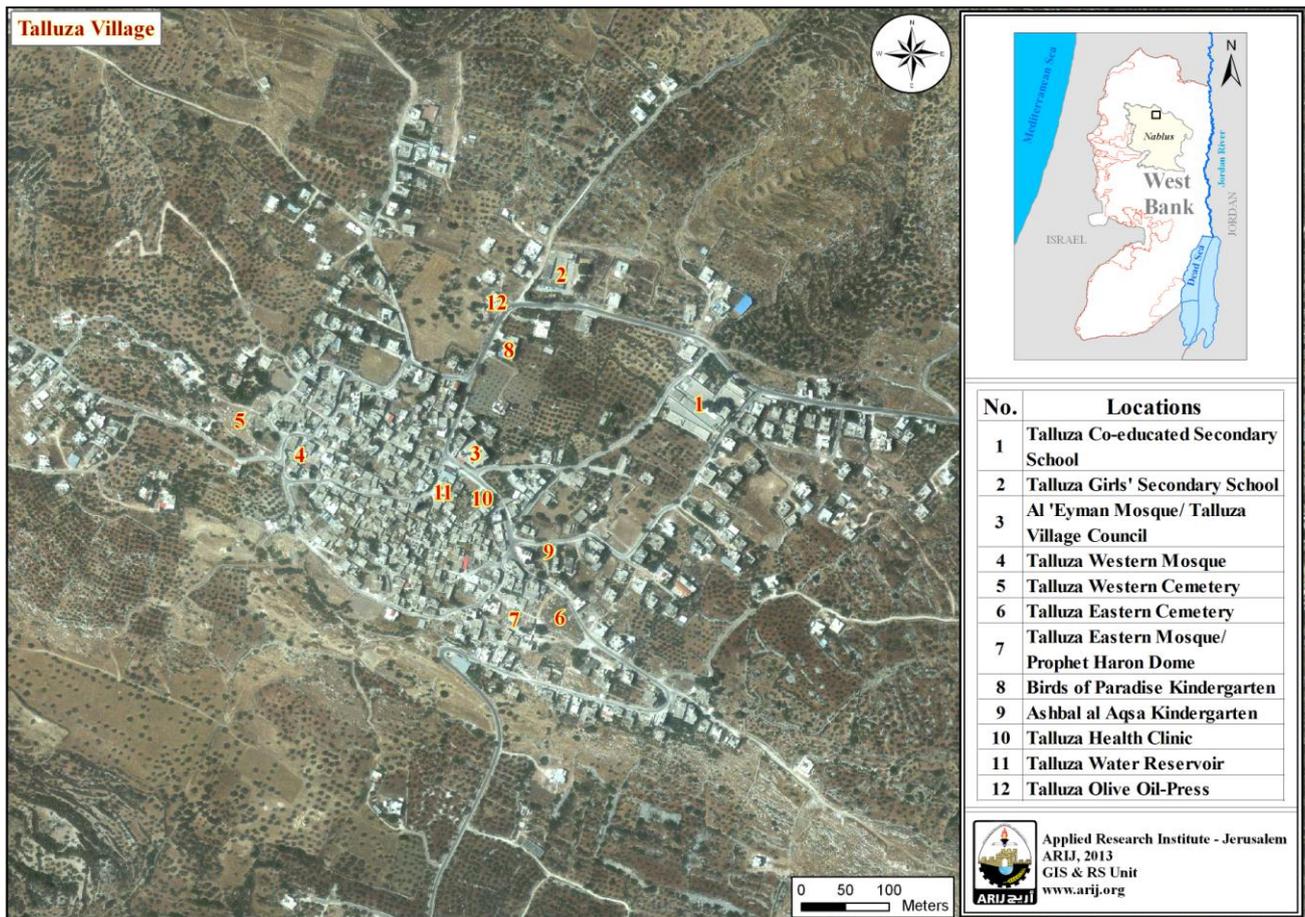
Photo of Talluza



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are three mosques in the village (Al ‘Eyman (the Grand), Old Eastern and the Old Western Mosques). The village has several sites of archaeological interest including Farwah area, At Tall (the Hill) area, an ancient tower, ancient Roman excavations and ancient oil-presses. All of these sites are in need of restoration in order to qualify as tourist locations, as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (Talluza Village Council, 2013) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Talluza Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Talluza in 2007 was 2,339, of whom 1,188 were male and 1,151 female. There were additionally 429 households registered as living in 507 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 Talluza is as follows: 39.1% were less than 15 years of age, 56.7% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 3.5% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 103.2:100, meaning that males and females constitute 50.8% and 49.2% of the population, respectively.

Families

Talluza residents are from several families, including Salahat, Mashaika, Barahma, Dababsah and Darawshah (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff showed that approximately 1000 persons from different families have left the village since Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Talluza population is approximately 5.3%, of whom 82.4% are females. Of the literate population, 11.1% could only read and write, with no formal education, 24.3% had elementary education, 29.2% had preparatory education, 17.6% had secondary education, and 12.4% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Talluza by sex and educational achievement in 2007.

Table 1: Talluza population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	16	95	205	252	170	49	79	-	6	1	-	873
F	75	95	210	247	131	20	54	-	3		1	836
T	91	190	415	499	301	69	133	-	9	1	1	1,709

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are two 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 Talluza by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Talluza Girls' Secondary School	Government	Females
Talluza Co- educated Secondary School	Government	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

In the village there are 659 students, 43 teachers, and 26 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 15, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 25 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There is also one kindergarten in Talluza village (Tuyoor al Jannah Kindergarten) which is run by a private organization. The kindergarten consists of 3 classrooms that are supervised by 3 teachers (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

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

- The lack of classrooms.
- The lack of health facilities at the school.
- The lack of yards and playgrounds that suits the students numbers.
- The old school buildings and their need for restoration.

Health Status

Talluza has few health facilities, including Talluza Governmental Health Clinic, a private dental clinic and a governmental mother and child care center. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to 'Asira ash Shamaliya Health Center (7 km away) or Nablus city hospitals (12 km away) (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

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

- The lack of an ambulance service.
- The lack of a center for the treatment of chronic diseases.
- The lack of an emergency center.
- The lack of a pharmacy.

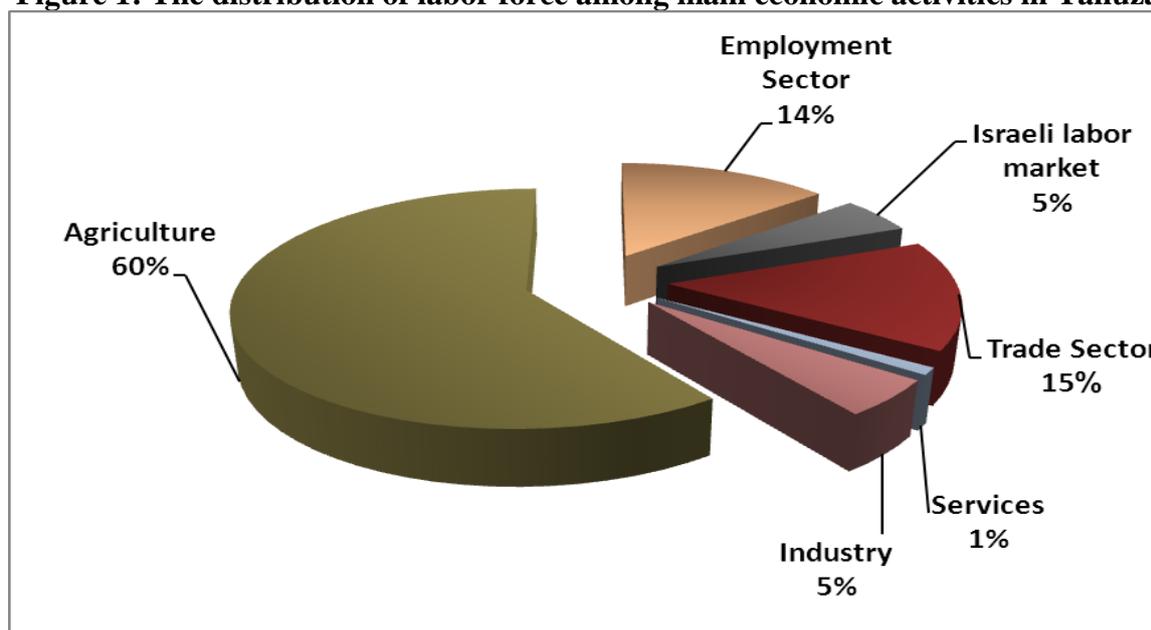
Economic Activities

The economy in Talluza is dependent mainly on the agricultural sector, which absorbs 60% of the village's workforce (Talluza Village Council, 2013) (See Figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2013 for the distribution of labour by economic activity in Talluza are as follows:

- Agricultural sector (60%)
- Trade sector (15%)
- Government or other employees sector (14%)
- Israeli labour market (5%)
- Industry (5%)
- Services sector (1%)

Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in Talluza



Source: Talluza Village Council, 2013

Talluza has 15 grocery stores, 4 service stores, 5 different professional workshops and an olive oil-press (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

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

Labour Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 31.7% of Talluza's labour force was economically active, of whom 87.2% were employed, 67.9% were not economically active, 55.9% were students, and 34.7% were housekeepers (See Table 3).

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

Sex	Economically active				Non-economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Un-employed (never worked)	Total	Student	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	427	23	22	472	331		50	8	9	398	3	873
F	46	5	19	70	318	402	37	1	4	762	4	836
T	473	28	41	542	649	402	87	9	13	1,160	7	1,709

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

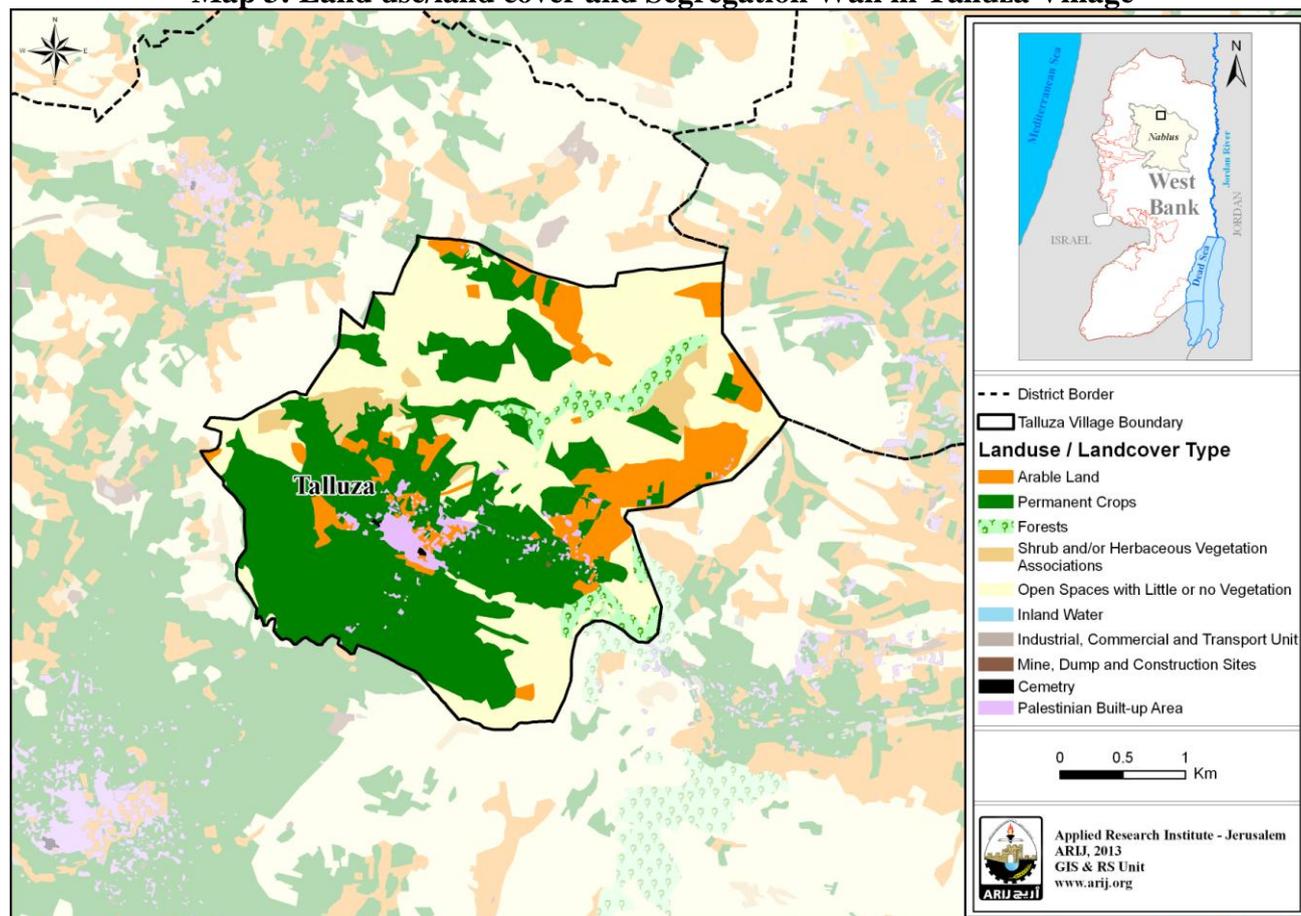
Talluza has a total area of approximately 11,051 dunums of which 6,243 are 'arable' land and 259 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See Table 4 and Map 3).

Table 4: Land use and land cover in Talluza village (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (6,243)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlements, Military Bases & Wall Zone	Tombs
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands						
11,051	259	4,599	0	368	1,276	1	465	4,071	6	0	6

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014.

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Talluza Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Table 5 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Talluza. The most commonly cultivated crops within this area are squash and snake cucumber.

Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Talluza (area in dunums)

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetables		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total Area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
73	88	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	73	98

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Talluza is famous for olives cultivation and there are approximately 9,034 dunums of land planted with olives trees in the village.

Table 6: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Talluza (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.
8,919	115	0	214	64	0	2	0	930	0	41	0	9,956	329

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Talluza, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 105 dunums (See Table 7).

Table 7: Total area of forage and field crops in Talluza (area in dunums)

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Oil crops		Forage crops		Stimulating crops		Other crops		Total Area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
105	0	6	0	25	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	5	0	163	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

The field survey conducted by ARIJ team shows that 2% of the residents in Talluza rear and keep domestic animals such as cows and sheep (See Table 8).

Table 8: Livestock in Talluza

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
24	970	445	0	0	0	0	45,000	0	120

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 51 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Talluza Village Council, 2013):

Table 9: Agricultural Roads in Talluza Village and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	6
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	25
For animals only	20
Unsuitable	-

Source: Talluza Village Council, 2013

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

- The lack of agricultural roads.
- The high costs of cultivation.
- The lack of water resources.
- The lack of labourers.
- The lack of capital for agricultural investment.
- The high prices of the agricultural and production inputs.

Institutions and Services

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

- **Talluza Village Council:** Founded in 1994 and was later registered 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.
- **Talluza Women Charitable Society:** Founded in 2009 by the Ministry of Interior. The Society organizes educational courses for women as well as food processing workshops, handicrafts and embroidery courses, in addition to providing them with awareness on the management of houses.

- **Talluza Women Committee:** Founded in 2003 by the Ministry of Interior, with an interest in organizing food processing workshops, handicrafts and embroidery courses, amongst others.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Talluza has been connected to a public electricity network since 1979. It is served by the ‘Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company,’ which is the main source of electricity in the village, through the North Electricity Company, and approximately 95% 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 electrical power which also does not cover all housing units in the village, in addition to the high costs of electricity (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

Talluza is also connected to a telecommunications network and approximately 20% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

Transportation Services:

There are 9 taxis in Talluza, however, the residents face the problem of the high costs of taxis (Talluza Village Council, 2013). There are 12.5km of main roads and 8km of secondary roads in Talluza (Talluza Village Council, 2013) (See Table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Talluza Village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Secondary
1. Paved & in good condition	4.5	-
2. Paved & in poor condition	4	3
3. Unpaved	4	5

Source: Talluza Village Council, 2013

Water Resources:

Talluza is provided with water by the ‘Nablus Municipality ’ through the public water network established in 1976. The percentage of housing units connected to the public water reaches up to 95% (Talluza Village Council, 2013)

The quantity of water supplied to Talluza village in 2012 was recorded at approximately 84,000 cubic metres per year (Talluza Village Council, 2013). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 87 liters/day. However, no Talluza citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 33% (Talluza Village Council, 2013). These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, along the distribution network, and at the household level. Therefore, the rate of water consumption per capita in Talluza is 58 liters per day (Talluza Village Council, 2013). The average water consumption of Talluza residents is low compared with the minimum

quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization. Each cubic metre of water from the public network costs 5 NIS (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

In addition, the village has 7 springs, but the water is unusable, in addition, the village has 23 well ownerships, its water used for agriculture and irrigation of crops and the village has a water tank with 200 cubic metre capacity (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

Sanitation:

Talluza lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks, as a main means for wastewater disposal (Talluza Village Council, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day, is 123 cubic metres, or 45,000 cubic metres annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 47 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to 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 threat to the environment in addition to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid Waste Management:

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste in Nablus is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to 15 NIS/ month per household is charged to the population and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. Where the proportion of collection of fees reaches approximately 80% (Talluza Village Council, 2013)

Most of the population in Talluza benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags. The Joint Council collects the solid waste three times weekly and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 25 km from the village, where it is subsequently buried in an environmentally-friendly way (Talluza Village Council, 2013)

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Talluza is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Talluza residents is nearly 1.8 tons, or 673.5 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental Conditions

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

Water Crisis

- An increase in the proportion of waste water network up to 33%.
- Contamination of water springs in the village because of the waste water from leaking cesspits of the houses in the village.
- An increase in the price of water.
- Interruption of water continuously from the village as well as the weakness of the water pump.

Wastewater Management

The absence of a public sewerage network in the village means that Talluza residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or to discharge wastewater into the streets, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers. This is particularly common in winter. 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, to avoid the need to use sewage tankers and allow wastewater to enter into the ground. 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

Talluza village suffer from absence of containers in the village to collect solid waste, where the citizens collect waste and leave it in front of homes, while the waste is then collected by a waste car three times a week, causing accumulation in the streets and in the front of homes which attracts insects and stray animals. The 'Joint Council for the Management of Solid Waste' is responsible for the process of collecting waste resulting 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.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Talluza village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed in 28th September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Talluza was divided into areas “A”, and “B” . Approximately 10,932 dunums (99% of the village’s total area) were assigned as area “A” where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) holds all responsibilities for internal security and Public order, while 119 dunums (1 % of the village’s total area) were classified as area “B”, where the PNA has a complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. The majority of Talluza s’ population resides in area A. (table 11).

Table 11: The Geopolitical Divisions of Talluza village according to Oslo Agreement 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of Total village area %
Area A	10,932	99
Area B	119	1
Area C	0	0
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	11,051	100

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

The Israeli Occupation practices in Talluza village

There are no Israeli settlements and camps on Talluza lands, although some settlement blocs are very close to the village and located on neighboring villages' lands. Therefore, the residents of the village were subjected to several arrests procedures. They were also affected during the second intifada and the years and the following years, from the establishment of military checkpoints that have worked to cut the geographical connections between the Palestinian areas, especially the temporary checkpoint “Al Badhan”, which was established on the road that connects Talluza village with Nablus City. In addition to Al-Hamra permanent checkpoint which is established on the road that is linking Nablus with its surrounding villages and also links the northern provinces with the Jordan Valley area, so these checkpoints were an important sites for torturing the Palestinians.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Talluza Village Council has implemented only one development project in Talluza during the past five years (See Table 12).

Table 12: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Talluza during the Last Five Years

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Reclamation and rehabilitation of lands	Infrastructure	2007	Union of Agricultural Work Committees

Source: Talluza Village Council, 2013

Proposed Projects

Talluza 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. Establishing agricultural roads and rehabilitating the roads that were damaged by floods (25 km long).
2. Expanding the water network and rehabilitating the existing network to suit the expansion.
3. Paving secondary roads in the village and paving Talluza- Al Far'a Road.
4. Providing productive projects for poor families in the village.
5. Providing an ambulance as well as providing a full-time doctor to work twice a week, along with providing a medical complex.
6. Forming agricultural institutions to supervise the marketing and follow-up the phases of oil production.
7. Coordination between the Council and the health department to get rid of stray dogs and pigs
8. Providing a firefighter vehicle.
9. Spreading awareness and education among the locals for the public interest
10. Imposing penalties on livestock owners whose animals are left among the olive trees.
11. Building trust between citizens and officials.
12. Providing an employee for the filling and charging of electricity cards.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Talluza suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 13 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's perspective:

Table 13: Development Priorities and Needs in Talluza

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			61 km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			5 km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			3 km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			500 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network		*		12 km
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			*	
Health Needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres	*			1 health center
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building new schools	*			a girls' school
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			Rehabilitation village schools
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			100 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			150 cisterns
3	Construction of livestock barracks	*			20 barracks
4	Provision of Veterinary Services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			200 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	*			
Other Needs					
1	Establishing a public park	*			
2	Constructing a sports club	*			
3	Establishing a headquarters for a services complex	*			

[^] 8 km main roads, 8 km secondary roads and 45 km agricultural roads.

Source: Talluza Village Council, 2013

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