

Yatma 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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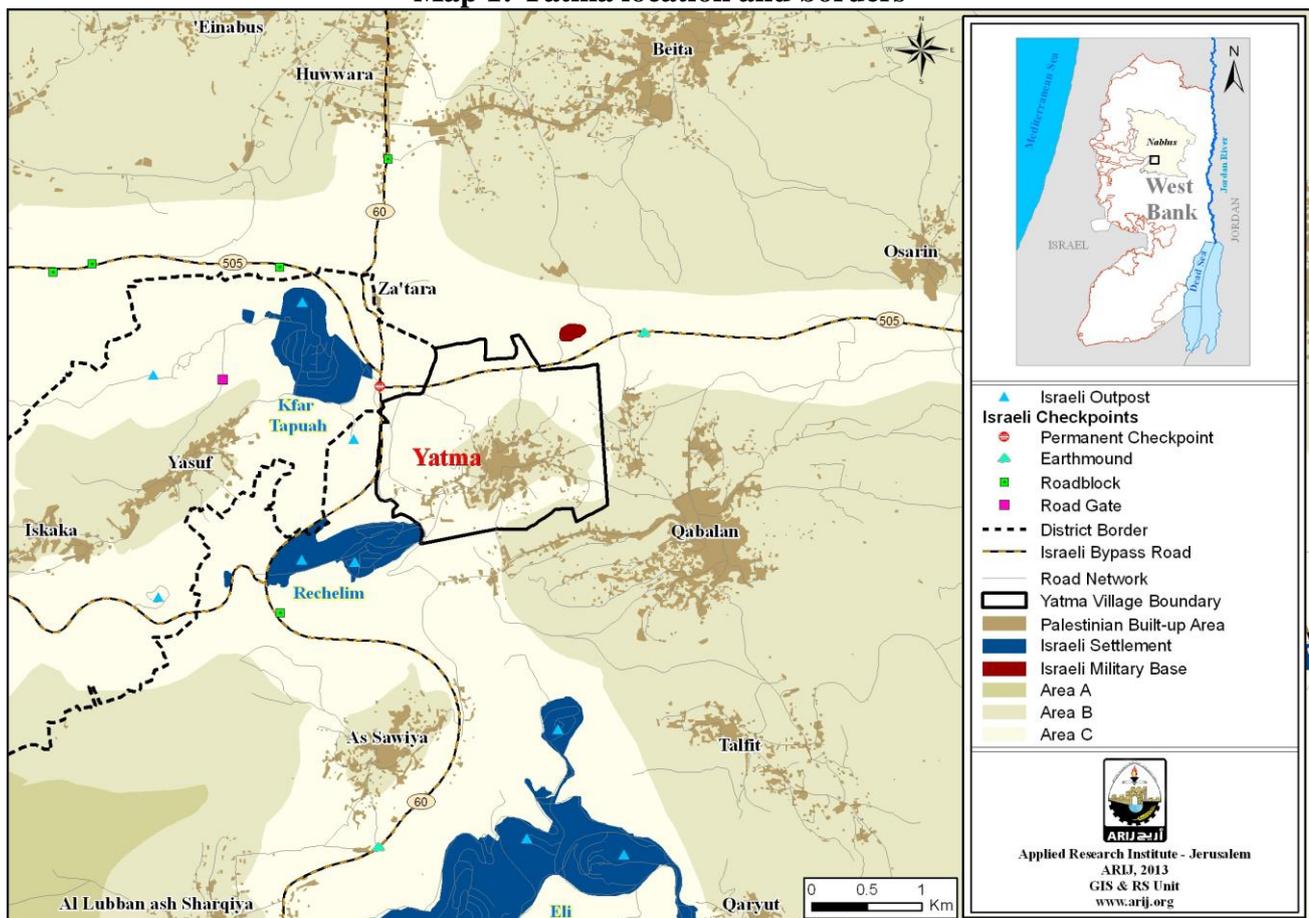
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Yatma Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Yatma is a Palestinian village in Nablus Governorate, located 12.4 km south of Nablus City. It is bordered by Qabalan to the east and south, Qabalan and Beita to the north, Yasuf and As Sawiya to the west (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Yatma location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Yatma is located at an altitude of 589m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 531.1mm. The average annual temperature is 18^w whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 60% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of Yatma village consists of approximately 2,951 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.

Since 2006, Yatma has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 5 employees working in the council, which has a permanent headquarters that is included within the 'Joint Services Council South of Nablus' (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

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

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water network.
- The establishment of the electricity network.
- Waste collection, street cleaning and public services.
- Road rehabilitation, construction and paving.

History

Yatma village was named during the Roman era relative to a Roman man named "Batimos".

The current village was established in 1300 A.D., with its residents descending from the Arabian Peninsula in addition to other places (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

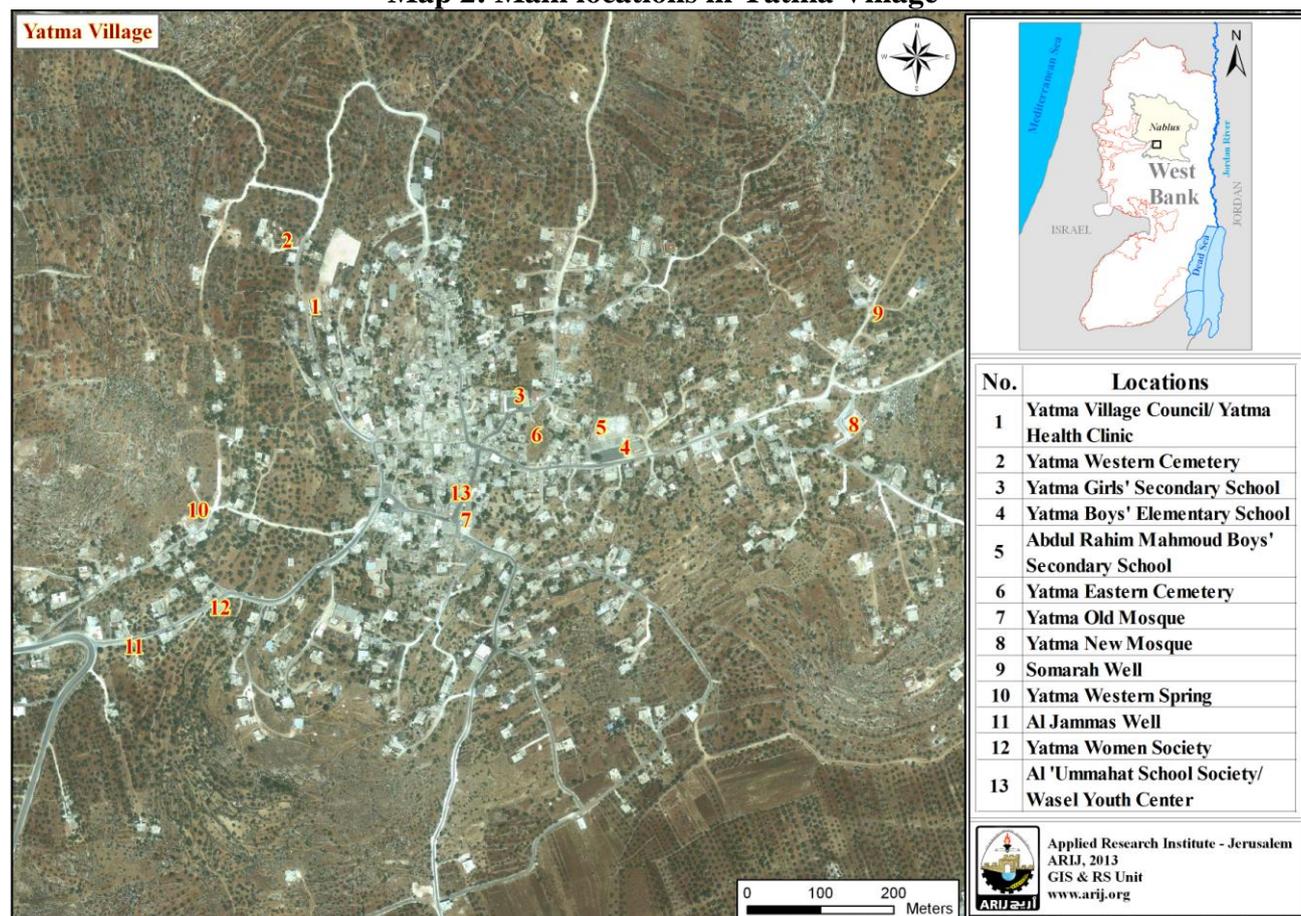
Photo of Yatma



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are two mosques in the village New Yatma Mosque and Old Yatma Mosque. The village has several sites of archaeological interest including: Al Khirbat area which contains ancient wells, such as As Somara Well. All of these are in need of restoration in order to qualify as a tourist location, as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (Yatma Village Council, 2013) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Yatma Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Yatma in 2007 was 2,809, of whom 1,403 were male and 1,406 female. There were additionally 517 households registered as living in 563 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 Yatma is as follows: 41.9% were less than 15 years of age, 54.3% 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 99.8:100, meaning that males and females constitute 49.9% and 50.1% of the population, respectively.

Families

Yatma residents are from several families, including Snobar and Najjar (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Yatma population is approximately 7.6%, of whom 75.1% are females. Of the literate population, 13.4% could only read and write, with no formal education, 29.9% had elementary education, 28.5% had preparatory education, 15.2% had secondary education, and 5.5% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Yatma by sex and educational achievement in 2007.

Table 1: Yatma 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	38	144	281	317	161	28	32	1	1	0	0	1,003
F	115	126	323	259	146	20	28	0	1	0	1	1,019
T	153	270	604	576	307	48	60	1	2	0	1	2,022

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 Yatma by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Yatma Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
Yatma Girls' Secondary School	Government	Female

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

In the village there are 809 students, 46 teachers, and 29 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 18, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 28 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There are two kindergartens in Yatma village, both of which are run by private organizations (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (See table 3 below).

Table 3: Kindergartens in Yatma village by name and supervising authority

Name of Kindergarten	No. of Classes	No. of Teachers	Supervising Authority
Al Huda Kindergarten	2	2	Private
Ash Shumu' Kindergarten	1	2	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

Due to the lack of variety of educational levels; students head to Ar Rashid Boys' Secondary School in Qabalan (3 km away), Qusra secondary schools in Qusra (10 km away) or to Huwwara secondary schools (10 km away) (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

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

- The lack of classrooms.
- The lack of awareness of the importance of education and the drop out of students from schools.
- The need for a secondary level of education at the village; for both scientific and literary branches.

Health Status

Yatma has Yatma Health Center and a governmental general physician clinic. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Qabalan Health Center (3 km away) or to Nablus governmental hospitals in Nablus city (14 km away) (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

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

- The lack of an ambulance service.
- The lack of medical equipment and devices.
- The lack of a pharmacy.
- The lack of specialized physicians.

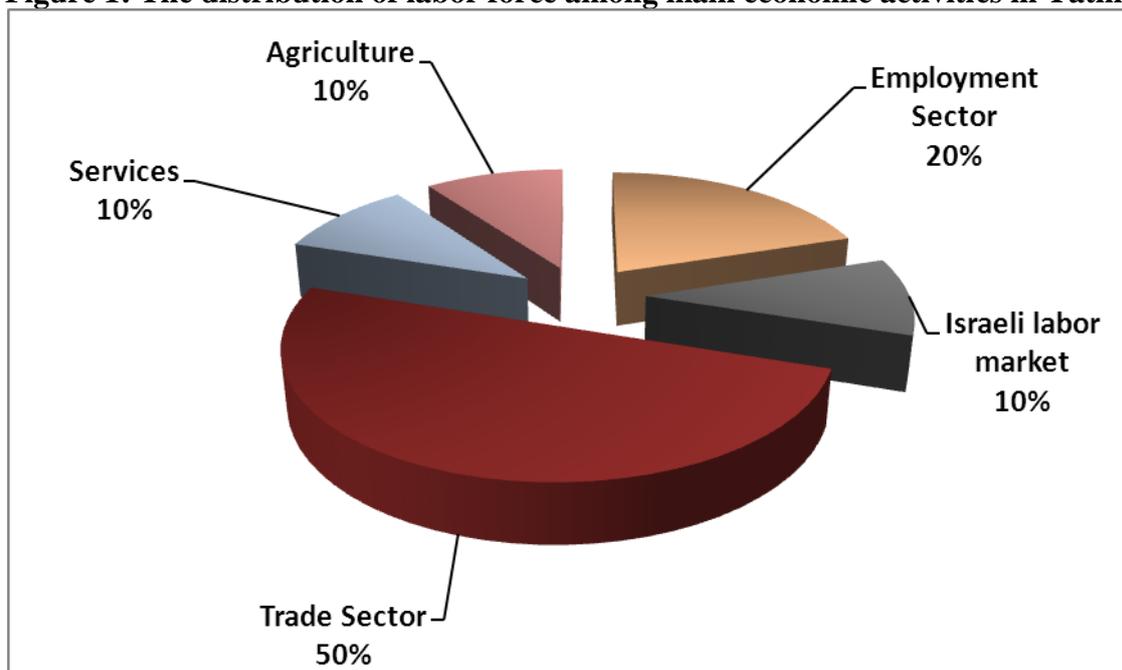
Economic Activities

The economy in Yatma is dependent mainly on the trade sector, which absorbs 50% of the village's workforce (Yatma 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 Yatma are as follows:

- Trade sector (50%)
- Government or other employees sector (20%)
- Agricultural sector (10%)
- Services sector (10%)
- Israeli labour market (10%)

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



Source: Yatma Village Council, 2013

Yatma has 20 grocery stores, 2 fruit and vegetable stores, 1 bakery, 5 service stores and 6 different professional workshops (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in Yatma reached 25% and the groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been (Yatma Village Council, 2013):

- Workers in the agricultural sector.
- Workers in the trade sector.
- Former workers in Israel.
- Workers in the services sector.

Labour Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 31.9% of Yatma’s labour force was economically active, of whom 86.6% were employed, 68.1% were not economically active, 49.5% were students, and 36.4% were housekeepers (See Table 4).

Table 4: Yatma 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	523	50	23	596	316	1	70	4	16	407	0	1,003
F	37	6	7	50	365	500	96	0	8	969	0	1,019
T	560	56	30	646	681	501	166	4	24	1,376	0	2,022

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

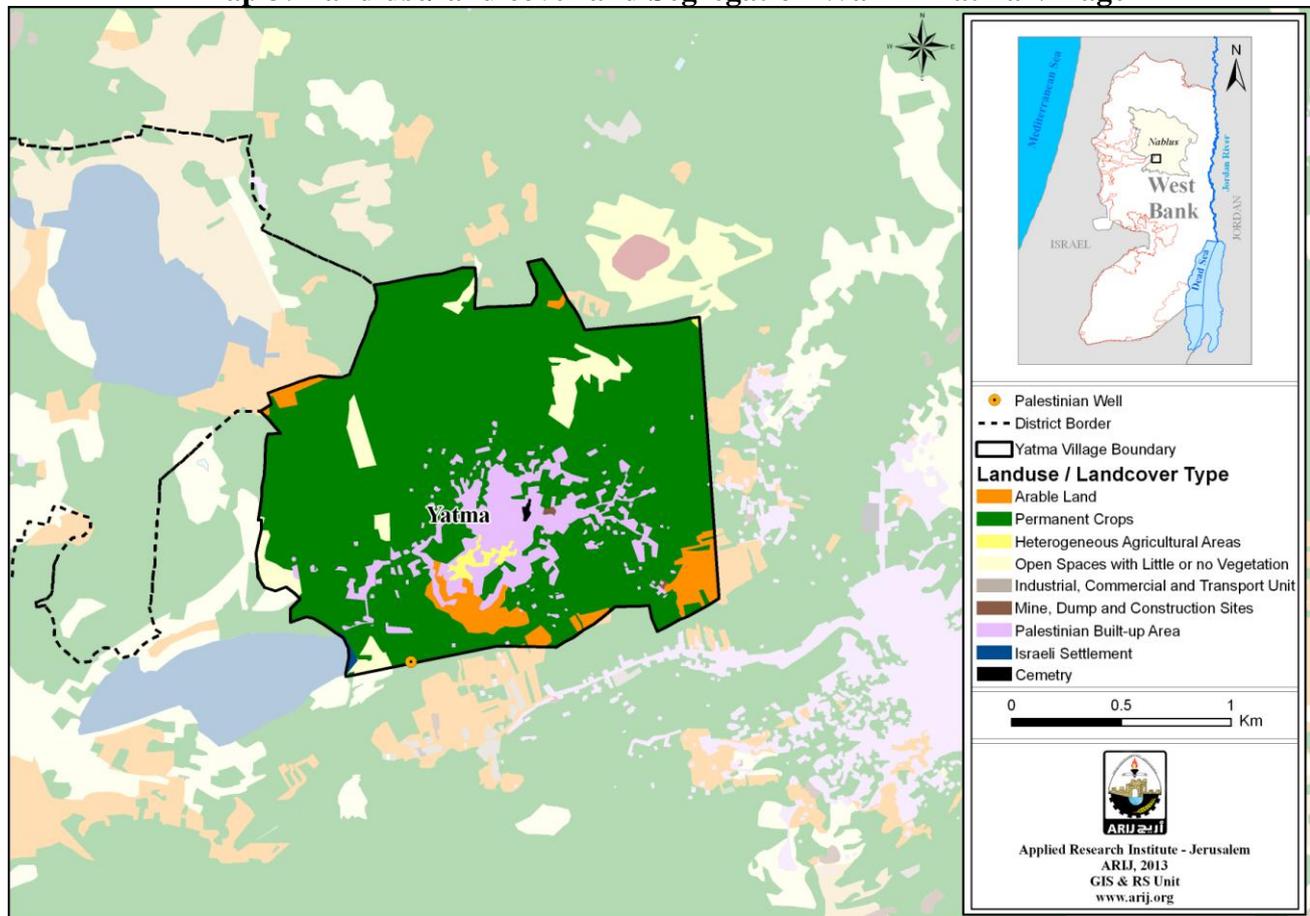
Yatma has a total area of approximately 2,951 dunums of which 2,499 are ‘arable’ land and 307 dunums are registered as ‘residential’ (See Table 5 and Map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Yatma village (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (2,499)				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						
2,951	307	2,355	0	0	144	0	0	135	3	4	3

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014.

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



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

There are different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Yatma. The most commonly cultivated crop within this area is green beans. There is a total area of 3 dunums cultivated with rain-fed green beans (Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010).

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Yatma is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 1,614 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

Table 6: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Yatma (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.
1,614	0	0	0	9	0	1	0	27	0	47	0	1,698	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Yatma, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 140 dunums (See Table 7).

Table 7: Total area of forage and field crops in Yatma (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.
140	0	6	0	50	0	5	0	60	0	0	0	12	0	273	0

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

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 small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas were not considered. 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 the ARIJ team shows that 25% of the residents in Yatma rear and keep domestic animals such as cows and sheep (See Table 8).

Table 8: Livestock in Yatma

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
10	150	190	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	20

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 10 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Yatma Village Council, 2013):

Table 9: Agricultural Roads in Yatma Village and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	3
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	5
For animals only	2
Unsuitable	-

Source: Yatma Village Council, 2013

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

- The confiscation of land by Israelis.
- The occupation preventing the access of farmers to their lands,

- The lack of capital for agricultural investment.
- The lack of water resources.
- The lack of agricultural tools, fertilizers and pesticides.
- The lack of agricultural guidance and awareness.
- The existence of Israeli occupation forces.
- The high prices of feed.
- The lack of pasture lands.

Institutions and Services

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

- **Yatma Village Council:** Founded in 2006 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.
- **Yatma Women Club:** Founded in 2006 by the Women Union. The Society is interested in providing women with awareness services.
- **The Mothers School Society:** Founded in 2006 by NGOs with the aim of supporting women and providing them with various services.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunications Services:

Yatma has been connected to a public electricity network since 1983. 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 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 aged network and its need for renovation, the lack of sufficient transformers to cover the whole village and the lack of experiences and capacities related to the electricity sector (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

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

Transportation Services:

There are 12 taxis in addition to 20 private cars in Yatma, however, the residents use Ramallah and Nablus transportation lines' vehicles, due to the lack of vehicles, which is a main problem faced by the residents, in addition to the existence of earth mounds and military checkpoints and the poor infrastructure of roads (Yatma Village Council, 2013). There are 9km of main roads and 11km of secondary roads in Yatma (Yatma Village Council, 2013) (See Table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Yatma Village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Secondary
1. Paved & in good condition	1	3
2. Paved & in poor condition	5	2
3. Unpaved	3	6

Source: Yatma Village Council, 2013

Water Resources:

Yatma is provided with water by the 'Mekorot' through the public water network established in 1996. All housing units are connected to the network (Yatma Village Council, 2013)

The quantity of water supplied to Yatma village in 2012 was recorded at approximately 84,000 cubic metres per year (Yatma Village Council, 2013). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 73 liters/day. However, no Yatma citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 25% (Yatma Village Council, 2013). These losses occur 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 Yatma is 55 liters per day (Yatma Village Council, 2013). The average water consumption of Yatma residents is low compared to the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 4.5 NIS (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

In addition, the village has 150 individual household rainwater harvesting cisterns and two groundwater wells (Yatma Village Council, 2013).

Sanitation:

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

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day, is 138 cubic meters, or 50,400 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 44 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 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. All of these fees are collected from the citizens (Yatma Village Council, 2013)

Most of the population in Yatma benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags, and placed in 25 containers (of 1m³ capacity), located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste twice weekly and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, where it is subsequently buried in an environmentally-friendly way (Yatma Village Council, 2013)

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Yatma is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Yatma residents is nearly 2.2 tons, or 809 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental Conditions

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

Water Crisis

- The public water network is old, where there is a waste rate of up to 25%
- Interruption of water for long periods, especially in the summer

Wastewater Management

The absence of a public sewage network in the village means that Yatma 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

Yatma village does not suffer any problems concerning the management of solid waste, as 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 Yatma village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, Yatma was divided into Area B and Area C. Approximately 864 dunums (29% of the village's total 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 refugee camps. The rest of the village's area, constituting 2,087 dunums (71% of the total), is 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 without the prior consent or authorization of the Israeli Civil Administration. It is worth mentioning that most of the population of Yatma resides in area B. Most of the village lands lying within Area C are agricultural. (See Table 11).

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

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	864	29
Area C	2,087	71
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	2,951	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

Israeli occupation practices in Yatma village

Despite the fact that there are no current settlements and camps established on Yatma village lands, the village still suffers from Israeli occupation practices; settlements, camps and Israeli military checkpoints still exist not far from the village. "Rechelim settlement" is located to the south-west of the village, built on lands belonging to the neighboring village of As Sawiya. "Kfar Tapuah settlement" bloc is located to the north-west of Yatma village, which encompasses the settlement of "Kfar Tapuah", an Israeli military base, and "Tapuah" military checkpoint. Tapuah military checkpoint is known to Palestinians as "Za'tara" checkpoint; it is an important site which links the northern and southern governorates. This outpost has been in place since the Second Intifada, and has continued to be a central point for Israeli human rights violations against Palestinian civilians, such as killings, arrests, torture ,denial of access and traffic.

Conversion of evacuated military base into settler outpost

The evacuated military base on the territory of Qabalan town is being converted into an Israeli settlement outpost. This military base consisted approximately 36 dunums and it is located in the northern side of the town , where the occupation forces established during the previous years, a military base on the territory of the "Qabalan" near to the Israeli bypass road No.505 in the area of Mount Sabih , but the occupation forces evacuated the camp in the mid-nineties of the last century , according to information from the land Research Center in 2013 ,the information also mentions that

in May, 2013 a group of Israeli settlers had put a fence on these lands and posted banners which contains the word " Tfouham " which is related to the settlement " Tapuah "which is near the site from the west side , and the settlers conducted buses to the site as to impose control and convert it to a new outpost .¹

The Israeli military checkpoints in Yatma village

During the Second Intifada, the occupation forces established several checkpoints on the north side of Yatma. They established an observation tower, so as to boost their control on the bypass road, in addition to the concrete blocks, in order to shut down all major and agricultural roads which connect the village and bypass road No. 505.

Yatma village in particular and Nablus city in general effected from the establishment of the "Za'tara" checkpoint. It still separates the West Bank, until this day, through the search procedures, but to a lesser extent than in the previous years.

These checkpoints have had a significant negative impact on the lives of Palestinians in the last decade, as they have obstructed the freedom of movement and prevented communication between the city of Nablus and the neighboring villages, as well as between these villages and their agricultural lands. It has inflicted huge material losses and increased the economic burden on these villages, as residents have been forced to travel longer distances to reach to their destinations due to the closure of these barriers.

Israeli bypass roads in Yatma village

The Israeli authorities have constructed a number of bypass roads that stretch thousands of kilometers from the north to the south. These roads have involved the confiscation of hundreds of agricultural and non-agricultural lands in order to link Israeli settlements with each other. It also impedes Palestinian territorial continuity, enabling further Israeli control over Palestinian territory.

Israel has confiscated lands from the north and west sides of Yatma village in order to establish Israeli bypass road No. 505. And to construct the Israeli bypass road No. 60, which runs 1.5 km in length on the territory of the village from the northern and western sides, isolating agricultural lands from the village. It should be noted that the real danger of the bypass roads lies in the confiscated lands what is known as the buffer zone. The buffer zone is imposed by the Israeli army and usually occupies 75 meters on both sides of the road.

On October 3rd 2013, the Israeli authorities issued Military Order 6/57 / T regarding the confiscation of 3.8 dunums of land from the villages of Yatma and Qabalan on the north side and on the side of the bypass road number No.505 for the stated purpose of military and security control. This order facilitates the building of a security fence next to the bypass road.

¹ http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=6256

Israeli occupation authorities have also amended a section of road No. 60, a 4.5km main road which passes near the villages of Yatma and Qabalan on the west side. The road wraps around these villages at the expense of the territory of the neighboring village As Sawiya.

The attacks of the Israeli settlers on Yatma village

Attacks and violence perpetrated by settlers living in the settlements near Yatma village 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.

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, damaged trees and attacked homes, places of worship, cars and other private property.

Israeli military orders issued in the village of Yatma

The Israeli occupation authorities have issued a series of military orders in order to confiscate land and stop construction work in the village of Yatma. For example, on 24th May 2010, the Israeli authorities delivered a number of orders to halt construction in the village under the pretext of building without a license in Area C. These notifications carried the following numbers: 146508; 146,509; 146510; 146,511; 146513; 146,514; 146515; 146,516; 146517². The homes which were notified are owned by the citizens of the village of Yatma , as some of these homes are uninhabited and some are still under construction.

² http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=2516

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Yatma Village Council has implemented several development projects in Yatma during the past five years (See Table 12).

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

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Paving some secondary roads	Infrastructure	2009	Yatma citizens
Constructing a services center for the village	Public Services	2011	The Islamic Development Bank
Constructing 'Ebad ar Rahman Mosque	Public Services	2011	A citizen of the village
Constructing a secondary school	Educational	2012	A citizen of the village
Paving secondary roads for the threatened houses	Infrastructure	2012	The Ministry of Local Government

Source: Yatma Village Council, 2013

Proposed Projects

Yatma 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. Rehabilitating the public water network, and constructing a water reservoir with a capacity of approximately 500 cups.
2. Rehabilitating the public electricity network, and providing the village with adapters of more than 800 amperes.
3. Paving approximately 10 km of the main and secondary roads.
4. Establishing a youth cultural club to serve young people of the village.
5. Constructing a school for girls.
6. Furnishing Yatma Village Council, and an active institution in the village.
7. Constructing an integrated health center to contain all of the needed equipment.
8. Expanding and rehabilitating agricultural roads (5 km long) and constructing new agricultural roads (5 km), in order to provide access to citizens to their lands.
9. Empowering women and providing them with training and educational courses in order to be able to implement and manage projects.
10. Providing the village with around 50 waste collection containers, in addition to a waste vehicle.
11. Providing the village council with a pumping vehicle, in order to organize the processes of pumping and disposing waste water.
12. Establishing a public park or a recreational place to serve the village children.
13. Providing the village schools with advanced educational laboratories.
14. Providing a literacy project.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Yatma 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 Yatma

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			10 km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			5 km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas		*		2 km
4	Construction of new water networks	*			5 km
5	Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs		*		1 well & 1 spring
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			1,000 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			5 km
8	Construction of a new electricity network		*		2 km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection		*		30 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste	*			1 vehicle
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		*		1 health center
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building new schools	*			secondary level
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			
3	Purchasing new school equipment		*		
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			1,500 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			200 cisterns
3	Construction of livestock barracks			*	
4	Provision of Veterinary Services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			730 ton yearly
6	Construction of new greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds		*		
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies		*		

[^] 4 km main roads, 4 km secondary roads and 2 km agricultural roads.

Source: Yatma Village Council, 2013

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