

# Beit Amin Village Profile



Prepared by



The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

Funded by



Spanish Cooperation  
2013

## *Acknowledgments*

*ARIJ hereby expresses its deep gratitude to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) for their funding of this project.*

*ARIJ is grateful to the Palestinian officials in the ministries, municipalities, joint services councils, village committees and councils, and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for their assistance and cooperation with the project team members during the data collection process.*

*ARIJ would also like to thank all the staff who worked throughout the past couple of years towards the accomplishment of this work.*

## Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in the Qalqiliya Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Qalqiliya Governorate, which aims at 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 unsecure political, economic and social conditions in Qalqiliya 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 Qalqiliya 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 the focus on the agricultural sector.

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

## Table of Contents

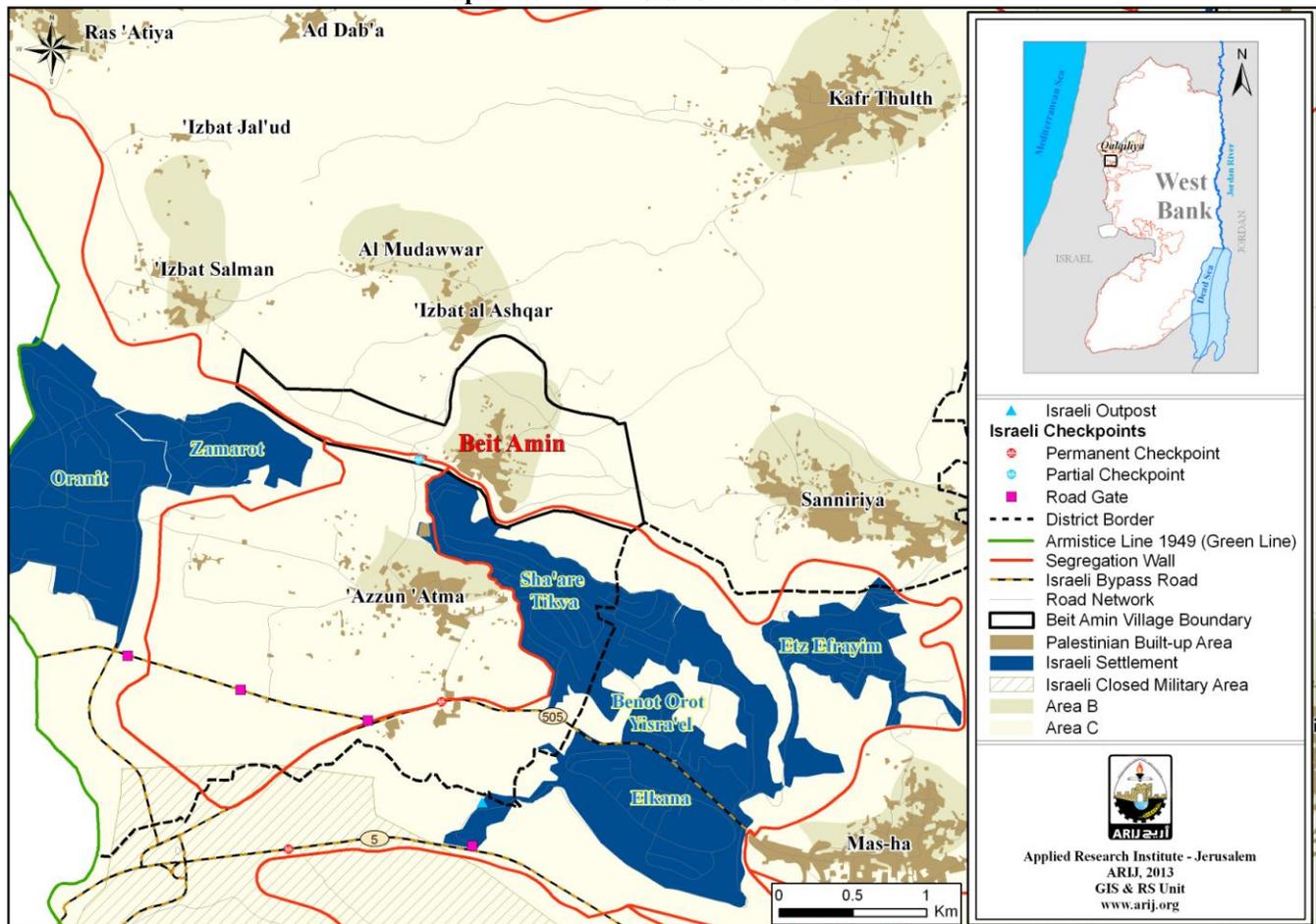
<i>Location and Physical Characteristics</i>	4
<i>History</i>	5
<i>Religious and Archaeological Sites</i>	6
<i>Population</i>	6
<i>Education</i>	7
<i>Health Status</i>	8
<i>Economic Activities</i>	8
<i>Agricultural Sector</i>	10
<i>Institutions and Services</i>	13
<i>Infrastructure and Natural Resources</i>	13
<i>Environmental Conditions</i>	15
<i>Impact of the Israeli Occupation</i>	15
<i>Development Plans and Projects</i>	18
<i>Implemented Projects</i>	18
<i>Proposed Projects</i>	18
<i>Locality Development Priorities and Needs</i>	19
<i>References</i>	20

# Beit Amin Village Profile

## Location and physical characteristics

Beit Amin is a Palestinian village in the Qalqiliya Governorate located 8.35km south-east- of Qalqiliya City. It is bordered by Sanniriya village to the east, Al Mudawwar and 'Izbat al Ashqar to the south, 'Izbat Salman to the west, and 'Azzun 'Atma to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2013) (see map 1).

Map 1: Beit Amin location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Beit Amin is located at an altitude of 99m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 590.7mm. The average annual temperature is 19°C and the average annual humidity is approximately 62% (ARIJ-GIS, 2013).

The classification of the residential areas borders has been adopted in this profile based on the administrative division of Palestinian communities, according to the Palestinian National Authority(PNA). This administrative division system has been developed by the Palestinian Ministry of

Planning, the Ministry of Local Government, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics(PCBS), and the Central Election Commission (CEC).

Since 1999, Beit Amin has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 7 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. There are also 3 employees working in the council within a permanent headquarters (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Beit Amin, including:

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water and electricity networks.
- Waste collection and street cleaning.
- Road paving, construction and restoration.

(Beit Amin Village Council, 2012)

## History

Beit Amin village's was named after Benjamin, the brother of Prophet Yusuf (Joseph). Benjamin lived in the village and was buried in Qalqiliya city. Over time the village's name was converted into Beit Amin.

The village was established in 1935 A.D. However the ancestors of its residents originally came from the neighboring village of Sanniriya (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

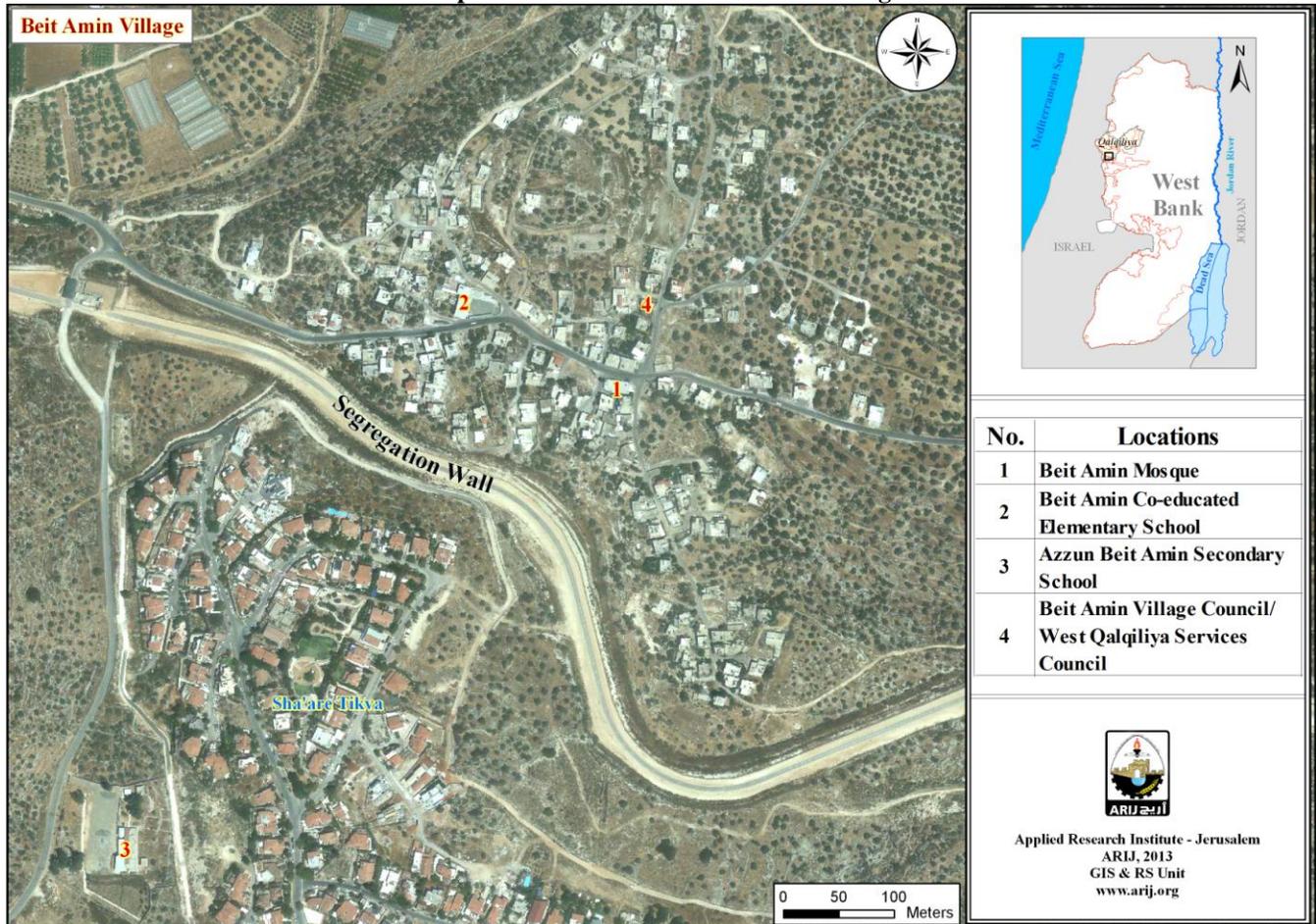
**Photo of Beit Amin**



## Religious and archaeological sites

There is only one mosque in the village, Beit Amin Mosque. The village has several sites of archaeological interest including an ancient Roman Khirba (ruins) and the Al Khan wells. These wells were previously used for a place of rest for traders, as Beit Amin lies on an old commercial route. Almost mostly destroyed, the remains of the wells can still be seen today. However none of these sites are suitable for tourism as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiques (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012) (see ,ap 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Beit Amin Village



source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013.

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Beit Amin in 2007 was 981, of whom 519 were male and 462 female. There were 168 households registered as living in 174 housing units.

## Age groups and gender

The General Census of Population and Housing, carried out by the PCBS in 2007, showed that the distribution of age groups in Beit Amin was as follows: 42% were less than 15 years of age, 55% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 2.3% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the gender ratio of males to females in the village is 112.3:100, meaning that males and females constituted 52.9% and 47.1% of the population, respectively.

## Families

Beit Amin residents are from several families, including the Ash Sheikh, Ahmad and Omar families (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among Beit Amin's population is approximately 7.6%, of whom 81% are females. 18.5% could only read and write with no formal education, 31% had elementary education, 25.8% had preparatory education, 12.9% had secondary education, and 4.3% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Beit Amin by gender and educational attainment in 2007.

**Table 1: Beit Amin population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment**

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Masters	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	10	73	124	106	37	5	13	0	1	0	0	<b>369</b>
F	43	56	93	74	53	2	9	0	0	0	0	<b>330</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>699</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There is only one public school in the village (Beit Amin Co-educational Elementary School) run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education, but there are no kindergartens (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012).

There are 245 students, 17 teachers and 10 classes in the village. The average number of students per teacher in the school is 14, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 25 (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012).

The educational sector in Beit Amin village faces a number of obstacles, including:

- The lack of female-only schools; the only available school is mixed.
- The lack of secondary schools.
- The lack of playgrounds and yards for the school.

- The existence of the Segregation Wall making it difficult to access secondary schools in neighboring villages.
- The lack of a scientific lab in the school.

The wastewater flowing from the Sha'are Tikva settlement on to the secondary schools of the neighboring village, causing health problems.(Beit Amin Village Council, 2012)

## Health status

Beit Amin has no health facilities of any kind. The Medical Relief organizes a medical day once every two weeks which includes the services of a general physician, a gynecologist and a mobile medical laboratory. However, due to the absence of many required health services and/or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Darweesh Nazzal Hospital, to the Health Care Committees in Qalqiliya city (12km away) or to 'Azzun 'Atma Health Clinic in 'Azzun 'Atma (1km away) (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

- The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally: The lack of any governmental or private health clinics
- The lack of pharmacies in the village
- The lack of mother and child care centers

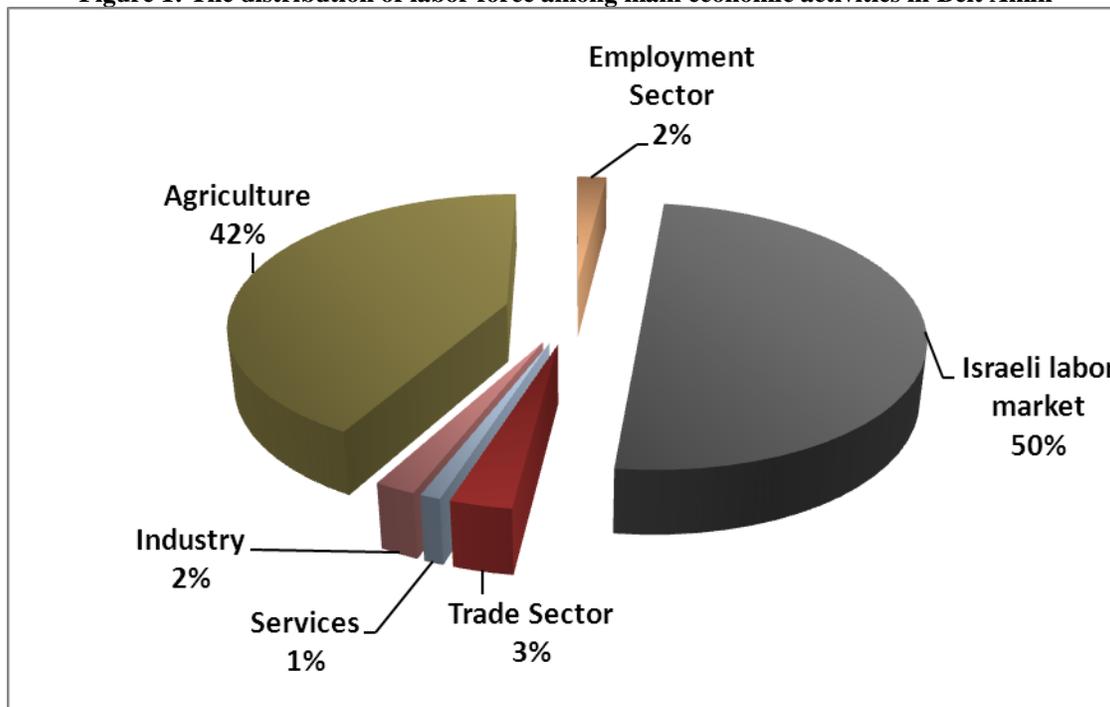
The lack of medical and health awareness and campaigns for citizens(Beit Amin Village Council, 2012)

## Economic activities

The economy in Beit Amin is heavily dependent on the Israeli labor market sector which absorbs 50% of the village's workforce (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012) (see figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2012 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Beit Amin are as follows:

- Israeli labor market (50%)
- Agriculture sector (42%)
- Trade sector (3%)
- Government or other employees sector (2%)
- Industry (2%)
- Services sector (2%)

**Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in Beit Amin**

Source: Beit Amin Village Council, 2012

Beit Amin has 12 groceries, 2 service stores, 1 professional workshop and 1 store for agricultural tools (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

In 2012, the unemployment rate in Beit Amin reached 20% and the groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been:

- Workers in the agriculture sector
- Former workers in Israel
- Workers in the trade sector
- Government or other civil employees
- Workers in the services sector

(Beit Amin Village Council, 2012)

### Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 38.8% of Beit Amin labor force was economically active, of whom 89.6% were employed, 61.2% were not economically active, 51.2% were students, and 40.4% were housekeepers (see table 4).

**Table 4: Beit Amin 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	207	15	11	<b>233</b>	113	1	17	1	4	<b>136</b>	0	<b>369</b>
F	36	0	2	<b>38</b>	106	172	13	0	1	<b>292</b>	0	<b>330</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>699</b>

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

## Agricultural sector

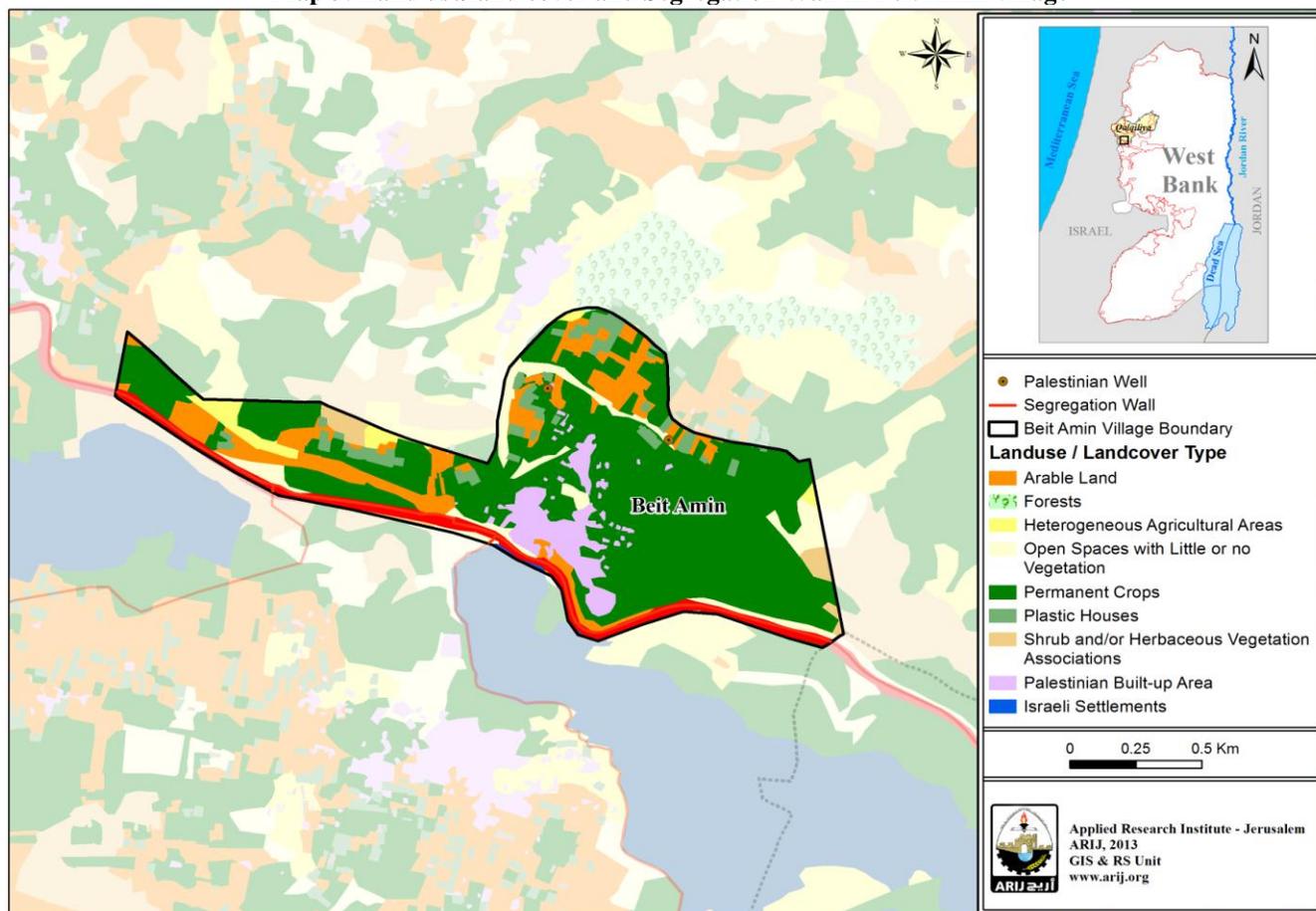
Beit Amin has a total area of approximately 1,566 dunums of which 1,252 are arable land and 102 dunums are registered as residential (see table 5 and map 3).

**Table 5: Land use and land cover in Beit Amin village (area in dunums)**

Total Area	Built up area	Agricultural area (1,252)				Inland water	Forests	Open spaces	Area of industrial, commercial & transport unit	Area of settlements, military bases & Wall zone
		Permanent crops	Greenhouses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
1,566	102	945	74	35	198	0	1	103	0	110

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2013

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Beit Amin village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Beit Amin. The most commonly cultivated crops in this area are squash and cauliflowers, there are a total area of 65 dunums of greenhouses in the village and the most commonly cultivated crops within this cucumber

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Beit Amin (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.
0	13	0	0	10	6	5	0	0	10	15	29

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Beit Amin is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 280 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Beit Amin (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.
280	0	0	127	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	10	289	137

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Beit Amin, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of around 18 dunums (see table 8).

**Table 8: Total area of forage and field crops in Beit Amin (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.
18	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	2	0	31	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ's GIS Unit for the size 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 they did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories. This therefore accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by the ARIJ team shows that just 3.8% of the residents in Beit Amin rear and keeps domestic animals such as sheep and goats (see table 9).

**Table 9: Livestock in Beit Amin**

Cows *	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee hives
12	106	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	218

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

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

There are approximately 24km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows:

**Table 10: Agricultural roads in Beit Amin village and their lengths**

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	7
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	4
For animals only	8
Unsuitable	5

Source: Beit Amin Village Council, 2012

The agricultural sector in the village faces some problems, including:

- The construction of the Segregation Wall and the confiscation of lands by the occupation forces.
- The restrictions imposed by the occupation on the use of artesian wells.
- The lack of agricultural roads and the poor infrastructure of the existing roads
- The lack of agricultural equipment.
- The high prices of agricultural inputs, such as seeds and pesticides.

- The lack of experience of farmers.
- The lack of water resources.

(Beit Amin Village Council, 2012)

## Institutions and services

Beit Amin village has no governmental institutions and only one local organization that provides services to various sectors of society, Beit Amin Village Council. Founded in 1999 by the Ministry of Local Government, the aim of the Village Council is to address different issues concerning the village and provide various services and infrastructure for its residents.

## Infrastructure and natural resources

### Electricity and telecommunication services:

Beit Amin has been connected to a public electricity network since 2008. It is served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village, and 100% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network. The village residents face multiples problems concerning electricity, primarily the high cost of electricity and the need to expand the network to include new housing (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

Beit Amin is also connected to a telecommunications network and approximately 45% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

### Transportation services:

There are 7 taxis and 8 private cars in Beit Amin. However, residents suffer from earth mounds or military checkpoints on roads, the Segregation Wall and the poor infrastructure of roads when travelling. When there is a lack of transportation vehicles, the residents use their private cars or the Sanniriya taxi office (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012). There are 2.5km of main roads and 6.5km of secondary roads in Beit Amin (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012) (see table 10).

**Table 10: Roads in Beit Amin village**

Status of internal roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved and in good condition	2.5	3.5
2. Paved and in poor condition	-	-
3. Unpaved	-	3

Source: Beit Amin Village Council, 2012

### Water resources:

Beit Amin is provided with water by Beit Amin Village Council through the public water network established in 2003. All housing units are connected to the network (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

The quantity of water supplied to Beit Amin village in 2012 was recorded as approximately 42,000 cubic meters/year (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012). Therefore the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 101 liters/day. However, no Beit Amin citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses which are estimated at 5% (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012). These losses happen at the main source, along major transport lines, within the distribution network and at the household level. Therefore the rate of water consumption per capita in Beit Amin is more likely to be around 96 liters per day (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012). The average water consumption of Beit Amin residents is low compared with 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 3.5 NIS (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

The village has 2 private artesian wells with a pumping rate of 160 cubic meters per hour used for agricultural purposes (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012). A public water reservoir with a capacity of 200 cubic meters is located in the village, as well as 60 individual household rainwater harvesting cisterns (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

### **Sanitation:**

Beit Amin lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks as the main means of wastewater disposal (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximate quantity of wastewater generated per day is 87.5 cubic meters, or 32,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 77 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. 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, 2012).

### **Solid waste management:**

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste 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 20 NIS 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 (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

Most of the population in Beit Amin benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags and placed in 17 containers (of 1m<sup>3</sup> capacity), located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste three times a week and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 70km from the village, where it is subsequently burnt in an environmentally friendly way (Beit Amin Village Council, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Beit Amin is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day by the Beit Amin residents is nearly 0.8 tons, or 290.5 tons per year (ARIJ - WERU, 2012).

## **Environmental conditions**

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

### **Water crisis**

Water is cut off for long periods of time during the summer in several village neighborhoods, as the quantity of water available does not meet the citizens' water needs. The network is in poor condition and desperately needs restoration, as well as expansion in order to connect new households which are currently not served.

### **Wastewater management**

The absence of a public sewage network in the village means that Beit Amin residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or to discharge wastewater into the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining 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 the residents' health.

### **Solid waste management:**

Beit Amin village adequately manages the 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 environmentally friendly landfill serves the village as well as most of the localities in the Qalqiliya Governorate.

## **Impact of the Israeli Occupation**

### **Geopolitical status in Beit Amin**

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995, Beit Amin was divided into areas "B" and "C". Approximately 457 dunums (29.2% 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. It is worth noting that most of the population of Beit Amin resides in area B. The rest of the village's area, constituting 1,109 dunums (70.8% 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 prior consent or

authorization from the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within area C are agricultural areas, open spaces and Israeli settlements built on the village's territory (see table 11).

**Table 11: The geopolitical divisions of Beit Amin village**

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	457	29.2
Area C	1,109	70.8
Nature reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

### Israeli Occupation practices in Beit Amin village

Beit Amin has been subjected to numerous Israeli confiscations for the benefit of the various Israeli objectives, demonstrated by the construction of Israeli settlements on the village's land. This is in addition to the Segregation Plan realized through the Segregation Wall, which isolated a part of the village within the western isolation area. The following is a breakdown of the Israeli confiscations which have had a negative impact on Beit Amin village:

Israel confiscated 3 dunums of land in Beit Amin to establish the 'Shi'ar Tikvah' settlement, which is now inhabited by more than 5,000 Israeli settlers. It is worth mentioning that part of this settlement was built on Beit Amin village lands, as well as the land of neighboring villages including 'Azzun 'Atma and Mas-ha (see table 12).

**Table 12: Israeli settlements established on Beit Amin land**

Name of settlement	Year of establishment	Area of land confiscated from Jit village (dunums)	Total area of the settlement (dunums)	No. of settlers living in the settlement
Sha'are Tikva	1982	3	1063	5001
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1063</b>	<b>5001</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

### The Israeli Segregation Wall plan in Beit Amin village

The plan of the Israeli Segregation Wall has had a negative impact on Beit Amin village. According to the most recent amendments to the Segregation Wall plan that was published on the website of the Israeli Defense Ministry on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2007, the Wall is to be built on the south side of the village, isolating 88 dunums of land. This isolated area includes the Israeli settlement, open spaces and agricultural lands. In addition, approximately 18 dunums in the Beit Amin area will be destroyed due to the route of the Segregation Wall (see table 13).

**Table 13: Land classification of the isolated area behind the Segregation Wall in Beit Amin village – Qalqiliya Governorate**

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Israeli settlements	3
2	Open spaces	9
3	Agricultural lands	2
4	Segregation Wall	74
5	Total	88

*Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013*

### **Israeli violations against Beit Amin’s land and people**

Beit Amin, which located to the south east of Qalqiliya city, lacks secondary schools and students therefore have to travel to other nearby villages such as ‘Azzun Atma to get secondary education. Around 60 male and female students travel daily to a school in ‘Azzun ‘Atma, a nearby village, for which they must pass through the only open gate in the Segregation Wall which completely separates ‘Azzun ‘Atma from the surrounding Palestinian villages. From the beginning of the academic year, the Israeli Army Command announced new measures and procedures regarding students from Beit Amin studying at ‘Azzun ‘Atma Boys School. They state that students should undergo intense security inspection which they impose by forcing them to enter an inspection room 20m from the gate of the Segregation Wall. The students undergo daily humiliation, as they have to take their belongings out of their bags in order to be examined by the Israeli soldiers. They often arrive late to their classes due to the delays they face when being checked. The Israeli Occupation Authority also demands that all of the teachers from ‘Azzun ‘Atma Boys’ and Girls’ schools must have a pre-coordination with the Israeli Civil Administration in order to cross the Wall to get to work. It is worth mentioning that the school is adjacent to the Sha'are Tikva settlement which increases the stress and fear suffered by the students due to frequent attacks by settlers on the school.

On the morning of 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010, settlers of Sha'are Tikva discharged waste water on the playground of ‘Azzun ‘Atma Boys Secondary School, and fled into the classrooms causing a health hazard. A similar attack occurred on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2012, increasing the damage to the school.

## Development plans and projects

### Implemented projects

Beit Amin Village Council has implemented several development projects in Beit Amin during the past five years (see table 14).

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

Name of the project	Type	Year	Donor
Establishing Al Qatariya electricity network	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Finance & the Village Council
Constructing secondary roads (3km)	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Finance
Installing prepaid electricity meters	Public Services	2008	The Village Council
Purchasing land for a school and a mosque	Public Services	2011	The Village Council
Installing water transmission pumps	Infrastructure	2010	The Village Council

Source: Beit Amin Village Council, 2012

### Proposed projects

Beit Amin Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the Participatory Rapid Appraisal 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 a sewerage network (approx. 3km)
2. Building a secondary school (3 dunums of land is available for this purpose)
3. Establishing a health clinic in the village (land is available for this purpose)
4. Constructing and paving secondary roads (approx. 3km)
5. Constructing and rehabilitating agricultural roads (approx. km)
6. Creating agricultural projects serving the village lands, namely:
  - Reclaiming 1,000 dunums of the village land to be used for agriculture
  - Restoring approximately 100 dunums of greenhouses
  - Adding transmission water lines (2km in length and 4 inches in width) to serve the agricultural lands and greenhouses in the village

## Locality development priorities and needs

Beit Amin suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council.

**Table 15: Development priorities and needs in Beit Amin**

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural needs</b>					
1	Construction and paving of roads	*			16km <sup>^</sup>
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			8km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			1km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs			*	
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			8km
8	Construction of a new electricity network	*			2km
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	*			5 health centers
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools			*	
<b>Educational needs</b>					
1	Building new schools	*			Secondary level for boys and girls
2	Rehabilitation of old schools		*		Beit Amin Co-educational Elementary School
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			All schools
<b>Agriculture needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			50 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns			*	
3	Construction of livestock barracks		*		10 barracks
4	Provision of veterinary services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals		*		40 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			40 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses	*			20 greenhouse
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			

<sup>^</sup> 3km secondary roads and 13km agricultural roads

Source: Beit Amin Village Council, 2012

## References:

- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)*, 2013. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit Database. Bethlehem - Palestine.
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)*, 2013. *Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit; Land Use Analysis (2012) – Half Meter High Accuracy*. Bethlehem - Palestine.
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)*, 2013. Water & Environment Research Unit Database (WERU). Bethlehem - Palestine.
- *Beit Amin Village Council*, 2012.
- Ministry of Education & Higher Education (MOHE) - Qalqiliya, 2012. Directorate of Education; A database of schools (2011/2012). Qalqiliya – Palestine.
- *Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics*. 2009. Ramallah, Palestine: General Census of Population and Housing Censuses, 2007.
- Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), 2010. Directorate of Agriculture data (2009/2010). Qalqiliya – Palestine.