

# Deir Qaddis Village Profile



Prepared by



**The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem**

Funded by



**Spanish Cooperation**

2012

## *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 also thanks 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 Ramallah Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Ramallah Governorate, which aims at depicting the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment;" the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions and the needed programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current unsecure political, economic and social conditions in Ramallah 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 Ramallah Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

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

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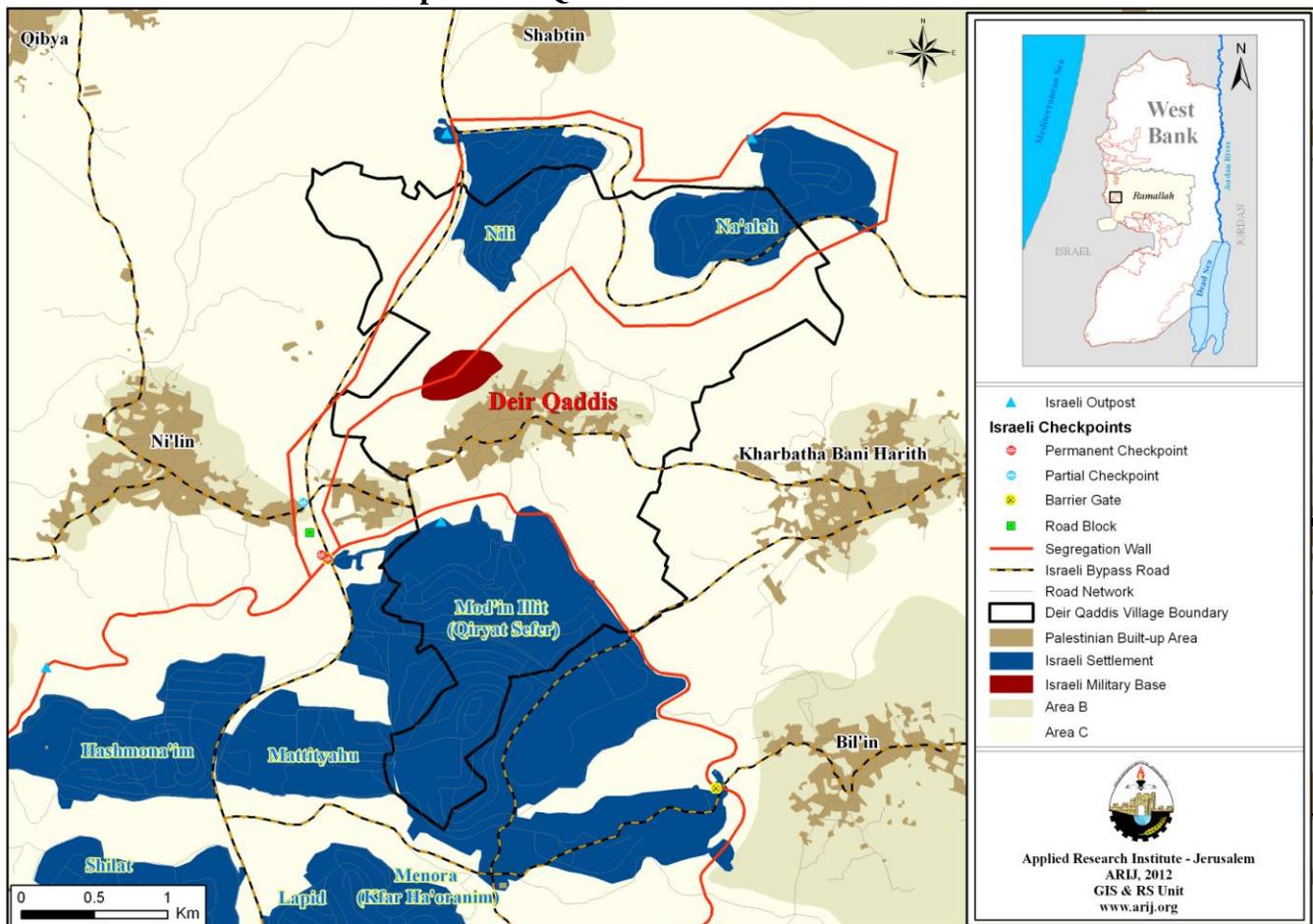
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# Deir Qaddis Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Deir Qaddis is a Palestinian village in the Ramallah Governorate located 15.7km north-west of Ramallah City. Deir Qaddis is bordered by Kharbatha Bani Harith village and Al-Itihad town lands to the east, Shibtin village to the north, Ni'lin village to the west, and Bil'in village lands to the south (ARIJ GIS, 2012) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Deir Qaddis location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Deir Qaddis is located at an altitude of 372m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 551.4mm. The average annual temperature is 19 °C and the average annual humidity is approximately 61% (ARIJ GIS, 2012).

Since 1965, Deir Qaddis has been governed by a village council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. The Council is included within the Joint Services Council for Ni'lin. Moreover, the village council owns a permanent headquarters where two employees work, but it does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

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

- Infrastructure services, such as provision of water.
- Solid waste collection, road construction and restoration, street cleaning, and social development services.
- Implementing projects and studies pertaining to village development.
- The provision of public markets.
- The provision of transportations.
- The provision of headquarters for governmental services and the protection of governmental and archeological properties.

## History

Deir Qaddis village was named after a mountain located northwest of the village called 'Deir', in which, during the Roman period, a priest ('Qaddis') lived. The village was established in the Roman era and its residents originated from Yemen (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010) (See Photo 1).

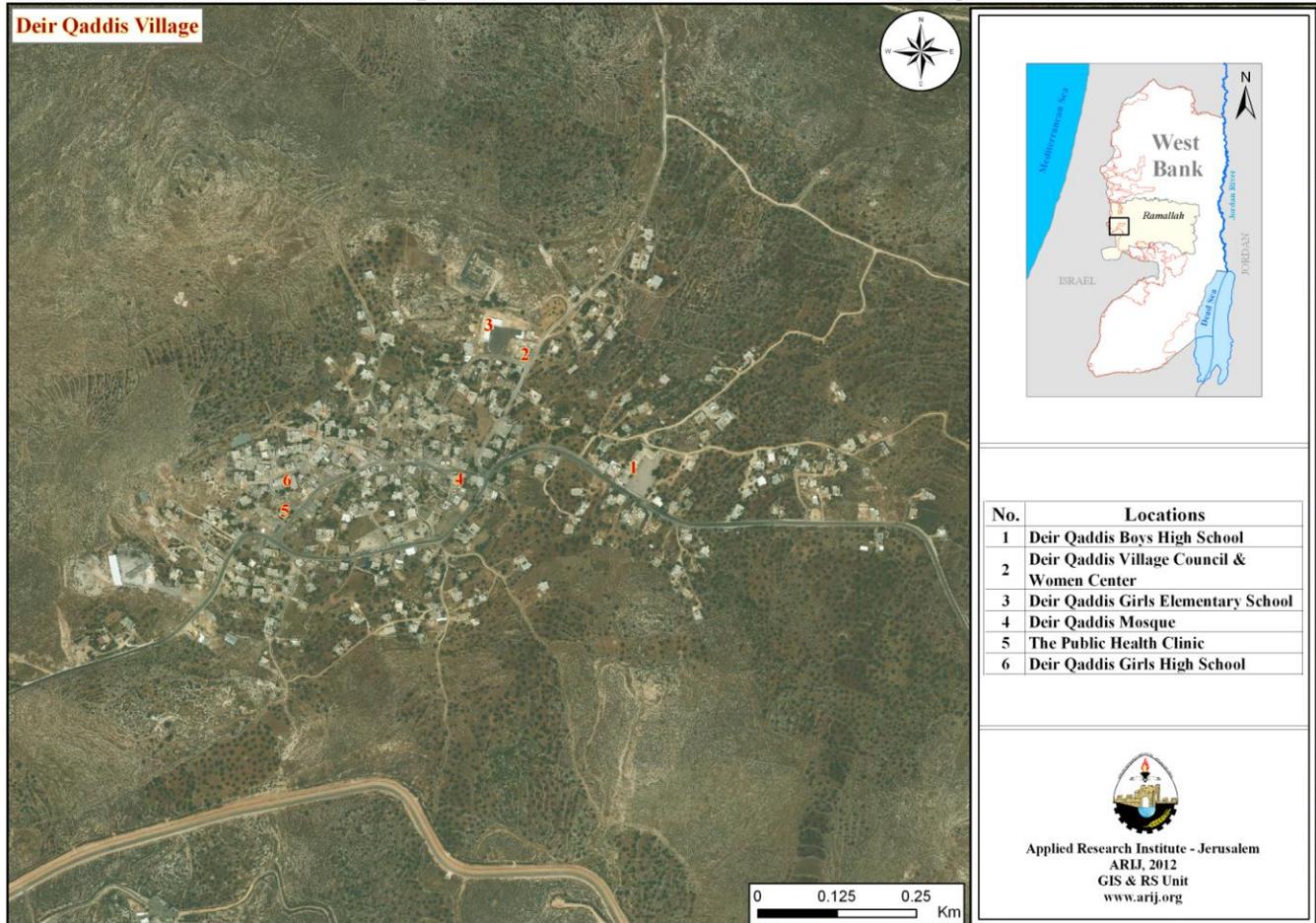
### Photos of Deir Qaddis



## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There is one mosque in the village, Deir Qaddis Mosque. There are a few sites of archaeological interest, including the ancient gate, the Khirbah and the village center, none of which are qualified for tourism (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010) (See Map 2).

**Map 2: Main locations in Deir Qaddis Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Deir Qaddis in 2007 was 1,826, of whom 946 were male and 880 were female. There were 345 households living in 397 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 Deir Qaddis is as follows: 39.1% are less than 15 years of age, 58.2% are between 15 and

64 years of age, and 2.6% are 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 107.5:100, meaning that males and females constitute 51.8% and 48.2% of the population respectively.

### Families

Deir Qaddis residents are from several families, primarily the Naser, Qattusa, ‘Awad, Sateeh, Hussein, Qadriyya, and ‘Ayyad families (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

### Immigration

The field survey conducted by the ARIJ team showed that around 15 people have left the village since the Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Deir Qaddis population is about 6.4%, of whom 89.4% are females. Of the literate population, 15.9% can only read and write, with no formal education, 23.8% had elementary education, 24.1% had preparatory education, 17.9% had secondary education, and 11.6% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Deir Qaddis, by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

**Table 1: Deir Qaddis population (10 years of age 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	9	89	172	184	145	13	66	1	8	1	4	<b>692</b>
F	76	122	145	137	93	15	50	-	-	-	1	<b>639</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,331</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are three public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (see Table 2) (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011).

**Table 2: The Schools in Deir Qaddis by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Deir Qaddis Girls Secondary School	Government	female
Deir Qaddis Boys Secondary School	Government	male
Deir Qaddis Girls Elementary School	Government	female

Source: Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011

In the village there are 565 students, 42 teachers, and 24 classes (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 13, and the average number of students per class is approximately 24.

However, due to the lack of secondary schools for males in the village, students attend Kharbatha Bani Harith village schools, 3km from the village, in order to complete their secondary education (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

There is one private kindergarten in Deir Qaddis, Deir Qaddis kindergarten, which is run by a private body. The total number of children in this organization is 57 (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011).

However, the educational sector in Deir Qaddis village faces some obstacles, mainly (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010):

1. The lack of material resources.
2. Overcrowded classrooms.
3. The lack of specialized facilities in schools, such as scientific and computer laboratories, sports fields and gyms.

## Health Status

There are a number of health centers and services available in Deir Qaddis village, including: one governmental and one private physician's clinic, a governmental health center, a private dental clinic, and a governmental motherhood and childhood center. In the absence of any required health services or in emergencies, residents of Deir Qaddis use Ni'lin village's health centers and clinics, 3km from the locality, or Ramallah Governmental Hospital, 25km from the locality (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

The health sector in the village faces some obstacles and problems, including (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010):

1. The unavailability of some essential medicines.
2. The clinic does not open every day of the week.
3. The lack of specialized physicians.
4. The lack of an ambulance in the village.

## Economic Activities

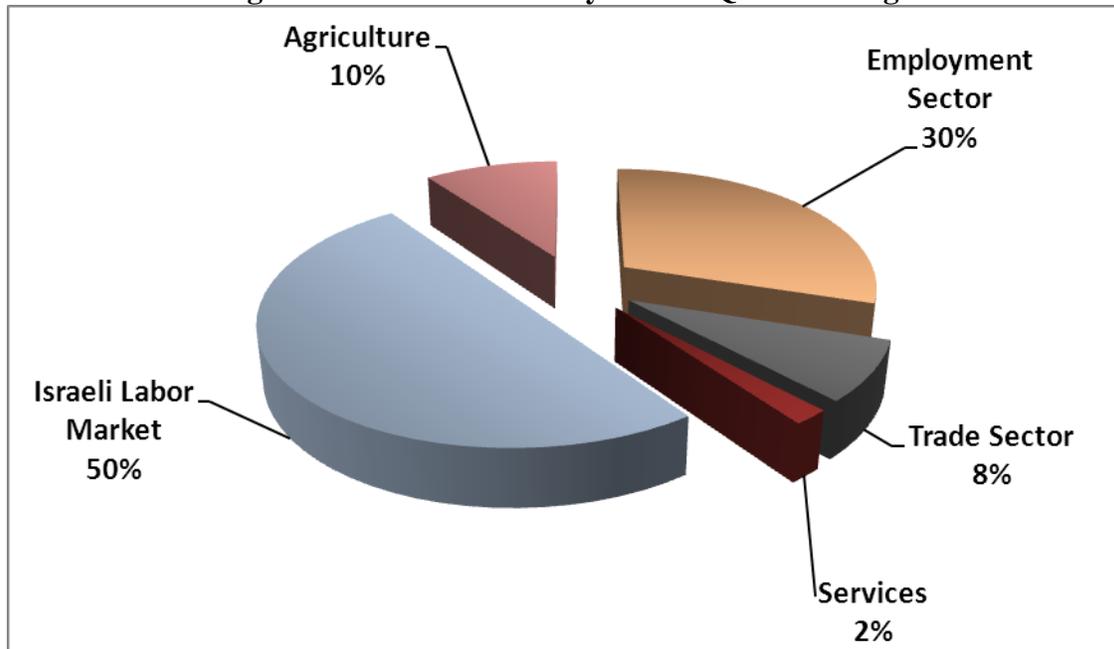
The economy in Deir Qaddis is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the Israeli labor market, which absorbs 50% of the village workforce (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010) (See Figure1).

The results of a field survey for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Deir Qaddis are as follows:

- Israeli Labor Market (50%)
- Government or Private Employees Sector (30%)

- Agricultural Sector (10%)
- Trade Sector (8%)
- Services Sector (2%)

**Figure 1: Economic Activity in Deir Qaddis Village**



Source: Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010

Deir Qaddis village has 10 grocery stores, one butchery, one vegetable and fruit shop, 7 different professional workshops, and 8 different services stores (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

The unemployment rate in Deir Qaddis reached around 30% in 2010, and the economic groups most affected by the Israeli restrictions have been (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010):

1. Workers in the agriculture sector.
2. Former workers in Israel.
3. Workers in the trade sector.

### Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 35.1% of the Deir Qaddis labor force was economically active, of whom 91.6% were employed, and 64.8% were not economically active, 54.9% were students, and 35.3% were housekeepers (See Table 3).

**Table 3: Deir Qaddis population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status-2007**

S E X	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Un- known	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (Never worked)	Total	Students	House- keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other	Total		
<b>M</b>	377	20	12	<b>409</b>	239	-	33	4	6	<b>282</b>	1	<b>692</b>
<b>F</b>	51	1	6	<b>58</b>	235	305	31	4	6	<b>581</b>	-	<b>639</b>
<b>T</b>	428	21	18	<b>467</b>	474	305	64	8	12	<b>863</b>	1	<b>1,331</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

## Agricultural Sector

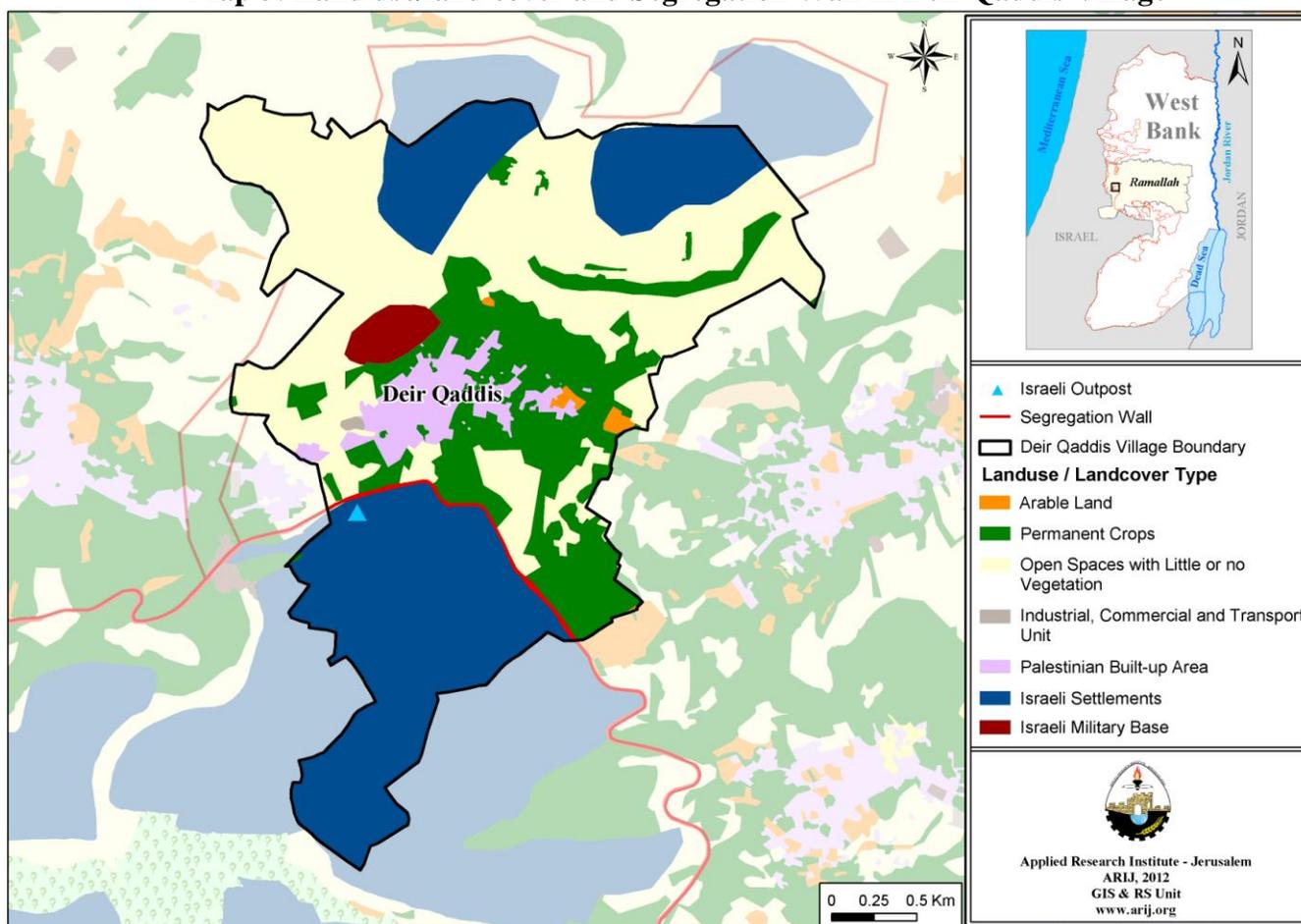
Deir Qaddis has a total area of around 8,053 dunums of which 1,603 are arable land and 388 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See Table 4 and Map 3).

**Table 4: Land use and land cover in Deir Qaddis village in 2010 (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (1,603)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlements, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green- houses	Range- lands	Arable lands					
8,053	388	1,566	0	0	37	0	0	3,138	9	2,916

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

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



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Table 5 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Deir Qaddis. The most commonly cultivated crop within this area is tomato.

Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Deir Qaddis village (dunum)

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetable		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total Area	
RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
31	0	0	0	10	0	6	0	0	0	47	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Deir Qaddis is famous for olive cultivation; there are 1,713.5 dunums of land planted with olive trees.

Table 6: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Deir Qaddis village (dunum)

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.
1713.5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	15	0	75	0	1,804.5	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

In terms of field crops and forage in Deir Qaddis, cereals (particularly wheat and barley) are the most cultivated, covering an area of about 70 dunums, in addition to the cultivation of large areas of forage crops (See Table 7).

**Table 7: Total area of field crops in Deir Qaddis village (dunum)**

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
70	0	22	0	48	0	0	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	195	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and by ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2010) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas instead of seasonal ones. The survey did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, thus accounting for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey shows that 20% of the residents in Deir Qaddis rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep, goats, and chickens (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010) (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Livestock in Deir Qaddis village**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
4	237	240	0	0	0	0	64,400	800	38

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

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

There are approximately 10 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010), divided as follows:

**Table 9: Agricultural Roads in Deir Qaddis Village and their Lengths**

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	2
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	1
For animals only	5
Unsuitable	2

Source: Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010

The agricultural sector in Deir Qaddis faces some obstacles and problems, primarily (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010):

- The high wages of working in the livestock sector.
- The lack of agricultural lands due to the Israeli occupation.

- The problem of overgrazing.
- The lack of agricultural roads.
- Lands are surrounded by settlements.
- The lack of water sources.

## Institutions and Services

Deir Qaddis village has only one governmental institution, a post office division, but has a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010):

- **Deir Qaddis Village Council:** Founded in 1965 with the goal of taking care of issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Deir Qaddis Sports Club:** Founded in 1994 with an interest in all sports and cultural activities for young people.
- **Deir Qaddis Women Society:** Founded in 2010 and is interested in women's social and cultural issues and affairs in the village, in addition to defending lands and opposing the Segregation Wall.
- **Al Jidar (The Wall) Committee:** Founded in 2004.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Deir Qaddis has been connected to a public electricity network since 1985. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village, and approximately 90% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network. However, the village residents face some problems concerning electricity, mainly (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010):

- Some neighborhoods within the locality are not connected to the network due to urban expansion.
- The weak electric current.
- The high costs, mainly of installing new electric pylons.
- The slow service of the Jerusalem Electricity Company.

Deir Qaddis is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 70% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

### Transportation Services:

There are 7 taxis and 30 illegal/unlicensed cars providing transportation in Deir Qaddis village. In addition to the lack of vehicles in the village, travelers suffer from the unqualified main roads, and the existence of the Segregation Wall, earth mounds and military checkpoints on roads (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010). There are 2km of main roads and 5km of secondary roads in the village (See Table 10) (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

**Table 10: Roads in Deir Qaddis village**

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

Source: Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010

### Water Resources:

Deir Qaddis is provided with water by the West Bank Water Department through the public water network established in 1975. Approximately 90% of the housing units are connected to the water network, (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

The quantity of water supplied to Deir Qaddis in 2010 was about 72,000 cubic meters (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010). The average rate of water supply per capita in Deir Qaddis is 108 liters per day. However, no Deir Qaddis citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 15%. These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level. Therefore the rate of water consumption per capita in Deir Qaddis is 92 liters per day (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010). The rate experienced by Deir Qaddis residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters proposed by the World Health Organization

Deir Qaddis also has 12 household rainwater harvesting cisterns. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 4 NIS (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

### Sanitation:

Deir Qaddis lacks a public sewerage network; most of the village residents use cesspits for the disposal of wastewater (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 134 cubic meters or 49,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village it is estimated that per capita wastewater generation is 64 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. The wastewater collected by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with no regard for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

### **Solid Waste Management:**

Deir Qaddis Village Council is responsible for managing 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 of 10 NIS is charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, the collected fees are not sufficient for good management of solid waste; only 60% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010).

Most of the population in Deir Qaddis benefit from the solid waste services, where waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to certain locations. The Village Council collects the solid waste from the containers twice a week and transports it using a waste vehicle to Ni'lin random dumping site, 7km from the locality, where it is burnt.

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Deir Qaddis is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Deir Qaddis residents is nearly 1.3 tons, or 467 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

## **Environmental Conditions**

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

### **Water Crisis**

- Water is cut off by the West Bank Water Department for long periods of time in several neighborhoods of the village for several reasons:
  - (1) Israeli control over Palestinian water resources.
  - (2) High rate of water losses, because the water network is old and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.
- The lack of a public reservoir in the village.

### **Wastewater Management**

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Deir Qaddis residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or to discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. Moreover, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas without concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

### Solid Waste Management:

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Deir Qaddis and the other neighboring communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions in granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C and under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary landfill is a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape.

## Impact of the Israeli Occupation

### Deir Qaddis Village under Oslo Accord

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Deir Qaddis village was divided into areas 'B' and 'C'. Approximately 621 dunams (7.7% of the total village area) were assigned as Area B, where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. Area B constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, villages, and some camps. Most of the village's population resides in Area B. Approximately 7,432 dunams (92.3% of the total village area) is classified as Area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration. In Area C Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through a permit given by the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within the Area C are lands confiscated for settlement purposes while part of it is isolated behind the Segregation Wall in addition to land classified as agricultural and open spaces (Table 11).

**Table 11: The geopolitical divisions of Deir Qaddis village according to the Oslo II interim agreement in 1995**

Area	Area in dunams	Percent of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	621	7.7
Area C	7,432	92.3
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,054</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2011

### Israeli Occupation Practices in Deir Qaddis

Thousands of dunams of land have been confiscated from Deir Qaddis for different Israeli purposes, including the building of Israeli settlements on the village's lands, and the construction of Israeli bypass roads in order to connect settlements with their neighboring ones, and the implementation of the Segregation Wall plan and isolating Palestinian lands. Below are details on Israeli land confiscations in Deir Qaddis.

During the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory, the Israeli government has confiscated 2735 dunams of land from Deir Qaddis village (34% of the village's total area) to establish three Israeli settlements; Mod'in Illit south of the village, and Nili and Na'aleh settlements to the north. These settlements are currently inhabited by more than 48,000 Israeli settlers. It should be noted that only part of these settlements was constructed on land of Deir Qaddis, while the rest of these was constructed on land of neighboring Palestinian villages of Shabtin, Al-Itihad, Ni'lin, Bil'in and Kharbatha Bani Harith (Table 12).

**Table 12: Israeli Settlements constructed over Deir Qaddis lands**

<b>Settlement Name</b>	<b>Establishment Date</b>	<b>Lands confiscated from Deir Qaddis village</b>	<b>Population 2009</b>
<b>Modi'in Illit</b>	1991	1818	46245
<b>Nili</b>	1981	446	846
<b>Na'aleh</b>	1982	471	935
<b>Total</b>		<b>2735</b>	<b>48026</b>
<b>Source:</b> The Geo-informatics Department – ARIJ 2011			

Israeli settlers living in settlements established on Deir Qaddis lands have had a significant impact on Palestinians and their properties in Deir Qaddis village. These attacks have contributed to the loss of Palestinian lands adjacent to settlements as landowners are prevented from accessing their lands, which have been fenced them with barbed wire and planted with trees. Israeli settlers have also carried out a series of attacks against Palestinian landowners in an attempt to intimidate them and deter them from returning to their lands adjacent to the aforementioned settlements.

### **The Israeli Segregation Wall Plan in Deir Qaddis Village**

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan had a negative and destructive impact on Deir Qaddis residents. The latest route of the Israeli Segregation Wall Plan, published on the Israeli Ministry of Defense's website on April 30 2007, shows that the wall surrounds and isolates the Deir Qaddis village from three sides except for the eastern. Deir Qaddis is bordered by the Wall to the south which includes Mod'in Illit (Qiryat Sefer) settlement and by a planned Wall to the north and west which includes Nili and Na'aleh Israeli settlements. Upon the completion of construction of the Wall, it will confiscate and isolate 4272 dunams (53%) of the village total area; meaning, the Wall will confiscate more than half of the village lands for Israeli settlement activities. The majority of the isolated lands includes Israeli settlements constructed on the village land in addition to open spaces, agricultural areas and route of the Segregation Wall (See Table 13).

**Table 13: Land Classification of the Isolated lands in Deir Qaddis Village – Ramallah Governorate**

No.	Land Classification	Area (in dunams)
1	Israeli Settlements	2735
2	Open Spaces	1437
3	Agricultural Lands	70
4	Wall Zone	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>4272</b>
<b>Source:</b> The Geo-informatics Department – ARIJ 2011		

Upon the completion of the Segregation Wall plan, Deir Qaddis will become isolated from neighboring villages to the west, including Ni'lin, Al Midya, Qibya and Budrus. In addition to the confiscation of thousands of agricultural and non-agricultural lands for the settlement expansion, which would increase the suffering of the Palestinians in Deir Qaddis village and the surrounding villages, as the settlement scheme will prevent urban expansion in all directions except to the east.

It should be noted that the Israeli Segregation Wall scheme in the West Bank has undergone several modifications since its announcement in June 2002, all of which served the Israeli colonial interests in the occupied West Bank and did not respond to the objections submitted to the Israeli courts by Palestinians concerning the economic loss and suffering it imposes on human beings. Nili and Na'aleh settlements are two of the main examples; according to the Segregation Wall plan issued on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2006, it shows that the Nili and Na'aleh Israeli settlements are located outside the western isolation area which is outside the area Israel intends to annex to its borders upon the completion of construction of the Wall. However, the recent amendments made on the Segregation Wall scheme; which were issued in 2007, showed that these settlements were included in the western isolation area which Israel intends to annex.

It should also be noted that the settlement of Mod'in Illit is part of the Mod'in Illit (Qiryat Sefer) Israeli settlement bloc west of Ramallah city. This bloc includes eight Israeli settlements. Israel is seeking to keep the major settlement blocs in the West Bank, including Mod'in Illit settlement bloc, in order to ensure the strategic depth of its future borders with the Palestinians in the event of any peace agreement.

The Israeli Government confiscated thousands of agricultural and non-agricultural dunams to open several bypass roads that stretch thousands of kilometers from the north to south in the West Bank in order to link Israeli settlements thereby dismembering Palestinian lands and enhancing security control over it. Israel has also confiscated more land from Deir Qaddis along with land to its north and west, for the construction of the Israeli bypass roads no. 463 and 446 which extend for 3km within Deir Qaddis lands. The real threat of the bypass roads lies in the buffer zone formed by the IOF along these roads extending approximately 75 m on each side. These buffer zones dramatically increase the total area of land affected by the construction of the bypass roads.

Also, on May 31<sup>st</sup> of 2011, without any previous warning, the Israeli bulldozers under the protection of the occupation forces swept land belonging to Palestinians in Deir Qaddis village southwest of Ramallah for the construction of a new settlement road in the region. The targeted land is just few kilometers from the nearby settlements of Nili and Na'aleh, This was done in attempt to establish a new settlement street

in order to facilitate the movement of settlers and result in the stealing of more than one thousand dunams of the village land which the road will enclose to reach the 'Na'aleh' settlement border. It is also to be reserved for future expansion of the settlement at the expense of the territory of Palestinian population.

## Military Orders Issued in Deir Qaddis Village

The Israeli Occupation Forces have issued a series of military orders in Deir Qaddis village in order to confiscate large areas of land. These military orders include:

- Israeli Military Order 106/03/T: Issued on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 to confiscate 381 dunams of land from Deir Qaddis, Ni'lin and Kharbatha Bani Harith villages for the construction of the Segregation Wall.
- Israeli Military Order 16/01/T: Issued on the second of May 2001 to confiscate a total of 8.6 dunams of land of Bil'in and Deir Qaddis for security purposes.
- Israeli Military Order 39/04/T: Issued on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2004 and confiscates a total land area of 159.2 dunams of the lands of Deir Qaddis and Kharbatha Bani Harith villages for the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall.
- Israeli Military Order 60/04/T: Issued on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2004 to confiscate 221.6 dunams of land from Deir Qaddis village for the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall.
- Israeli Military Order 84/04/T: Issued on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2004 to confiscate 103.3 dunams of land from Deir Qaddis village for the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall.
- Amendment on the Israeli Military Order 84/04/T: Issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2011 to confiscate 53.17 dunams of land from Deir Qaddis village for the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall.

## Development Plans and Projects

### Implemented Projects

Deir Qaddis village council has implemented several development projects in Deir Qaddis during the past five years (See Table 14).

**Table 14: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Deir Qaddis During the Last Five Years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Construction of a women's center	Infrastructure	2010	CHF
Construction of an elementary school	Educational	2007	KFW
Rehabilitation of the water network	Infrastructure	2005	Islamic Development Bank
<b>Source: Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010</b>			

## Proposed Projects

Deir Qaddis Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoint of the participants in the workshop:

1. Paving sub-roads.
2. Establishing a football field.
3. Providing a vehicle for waste collection.
4. Providing support for farmers.
5. Providing projects for the reclamation and reconstruction of agricultural lands and wells, and constructing agricultural roads.
6. Establishing a women's club.
7. Providing productive and operational projects for residents of the village.
8. Providing job opportunities.
9. Establishing an entertainment center for children
10. Providing awareness programs and activities for the youth.
11. Constructing a water reservoir in the village.
12. Developing the health centers.
13. Establishing a public library.
14. Eliminating stray animals.

## Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Deir Qaddis suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the village according to the village council's point of view.

**Table 15: Development Priorities and Needs in Deir Qaddis**

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			12.5km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks			*	
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	*			500m <sup>3</sup>
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network			*	
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network	*			1km
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			50 containers
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			1
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill	*			
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			a health center
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools			*	
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Schools	*			secondary level
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			elementary level
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			100 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			20 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*			20 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			100 tons by year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses	*			3 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds	*			
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*			

\*2km are main roads, 1.5km are sub roads and 9km are agricultural roads

Source: Deir Qaddis Village Council, 2010

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