

# Kafr 'Ein Village Profile



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## *Acknowledgments*

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## Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in the 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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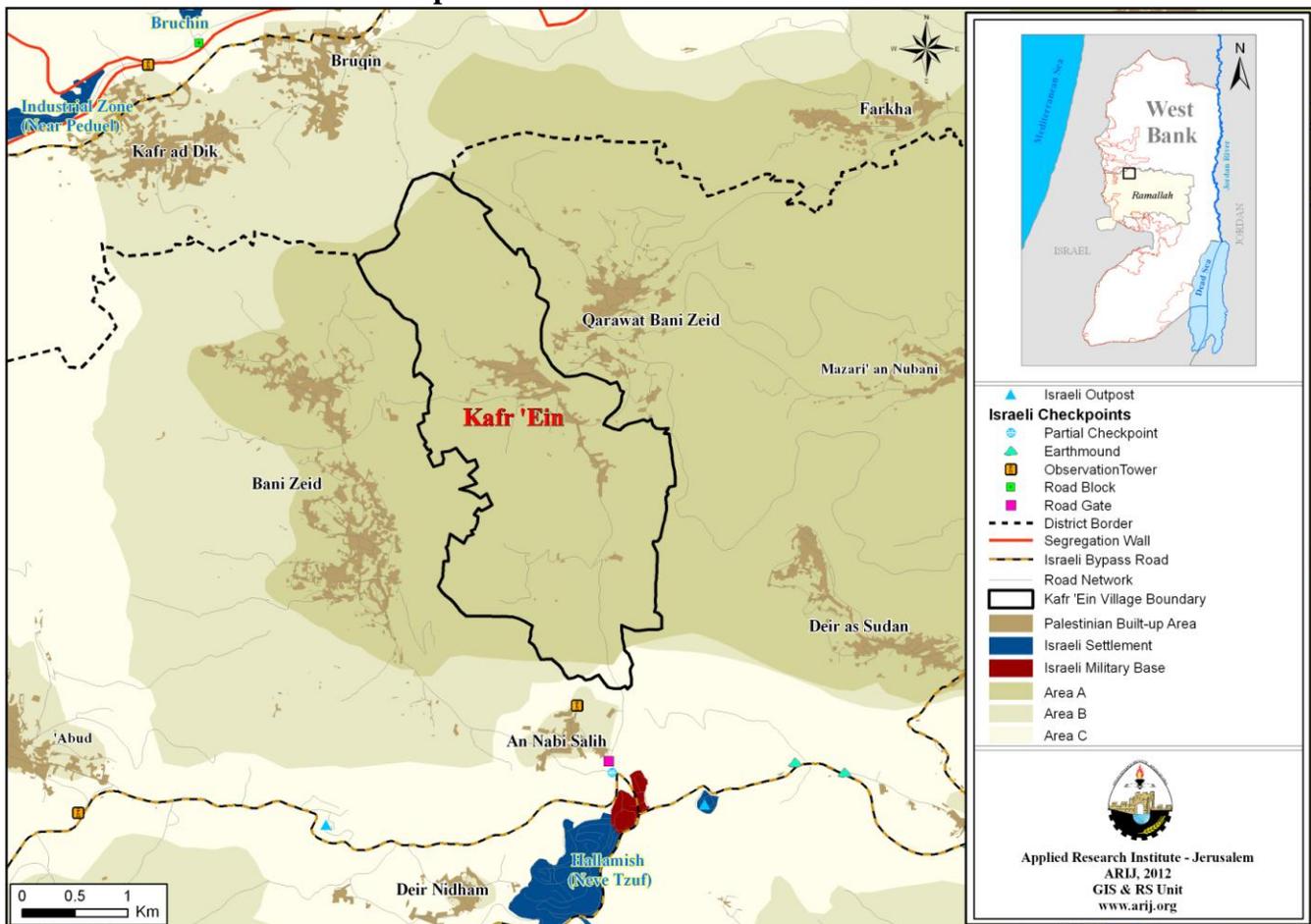
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# Kafr 'Ein Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Kafr 'Ein is a Palestinian village in the Ramallah Governorate located 17.7km northwest of Ramallah City. Kafr 'Ein is bordered by Qarawat Bani Zeid, Bani Zeid ash Sharqiya and Deir as Sudan villages to the east, Bruqin village, in Salfit Governorate, to the north, Bani Zeid village to the west, and An Nabi Salih village to the south (ARIJ GIS Unit, 2012) (See Map 1).

**Map 1: Kafr 'Ein location and borders**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Kafr 'Ein is located at an altitude of 381m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 600.7mm. The average annual temperature is 17 °C and the average annual humidity is approximately 61.4% (ARIJ GIS Unit, 2012).

Since 1996, Kafr 'Ein has been governed by a village council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. The village council has a permanent (rented) headquarters, but does not own any substantial equipment such as vehicles, waste disposal equipment, or street cleaning machinery (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

It is the responsibility of the village council to provide a number of services to the residents of Kafr 'Ein, including:

- Infrastructure services such as electricity management.
- Solid waste collection, road construction and restoration, and social development services.
- Implementation of projects and case studies for the village.
- Provision of means of transportation.

## History

Kafr 'Ein village's name is composed of 'Kafr', meaning 'agricultural land', and 'Ein', meaning 'spring.' There are 7 springs in the area, which also has many agricultural lands.

The village was established in the Roman era and its residents are descendants of immigrants from the Arabian peninsula, Yemen, and Iraq (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011) (See photo below for Kafr 'Ein village).

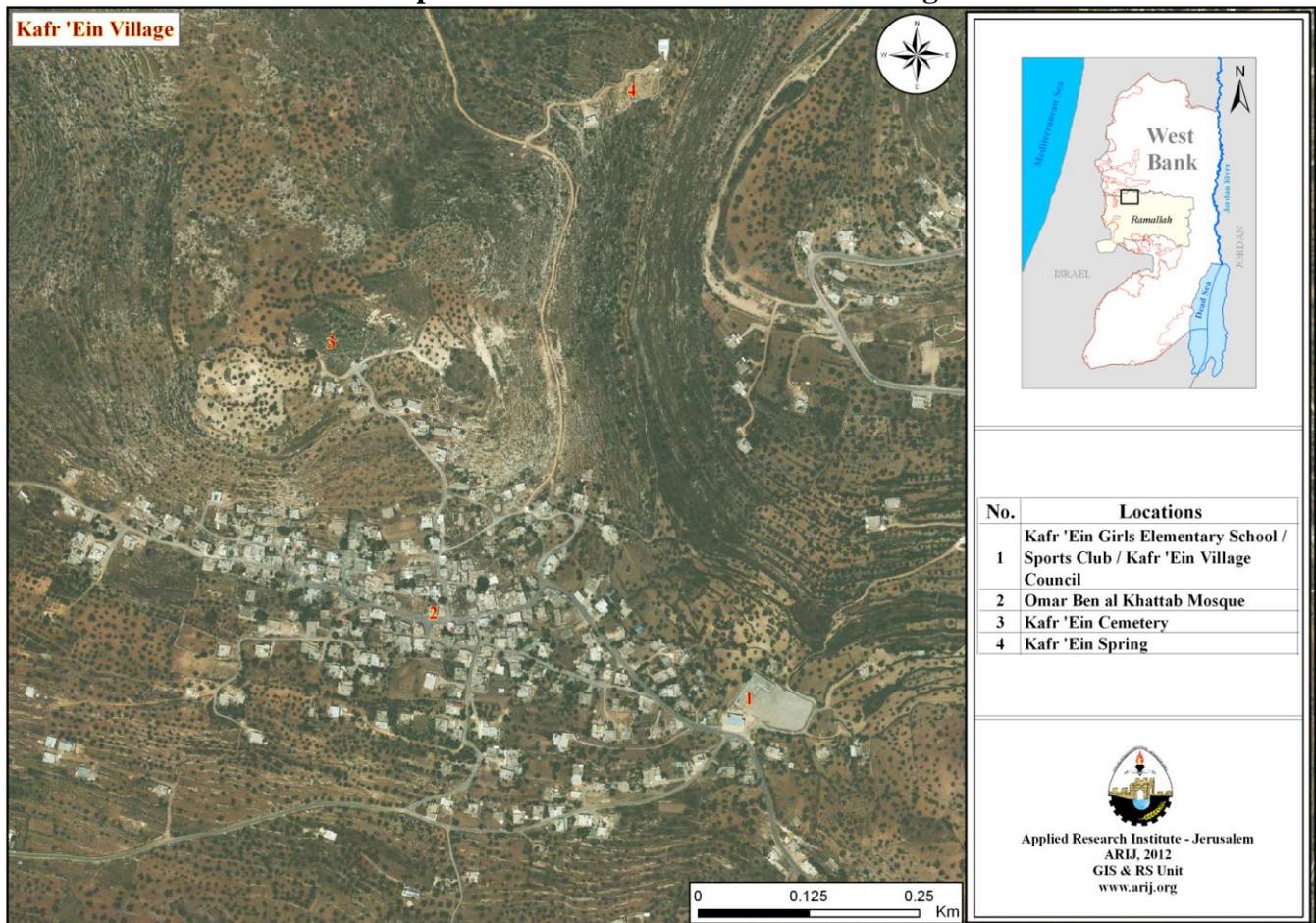
### Photos of Kafr 'Ein



## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There is one mosque in the village, Kafr 'Ein Mosque (also known as Omar ben al Khattab Mosque). The village has a few sites of archaeological interest, including Ash Shaikh Uthman shrine, Ash Shaikh Mas'ood shrine, Khirbet Kafr Tut which contains Roman wells, Khirbet Fassah which contains Roman graves, and Khirbet Ar Ras Mountain (See Map 2) (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

**Map 2: Main locations in Kafr 'Ein Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Kafr 'Ein in 2007 was 1,638, of whom 822 are male and 816 are female. There are 341 households living in 379 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 Kafr 'Ein is as follows: 37.1% are less than 15 years of age, 57.9% are between 15 and 64

years of age, and 5% are 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 100.7:100, meaning that males and females constitute 50.2% and 49.8% of the population respectively.

## Families

Kafr 'Ein residents are from several families, mainly the Ad Daghrah, Ar Rifa'ie, Hizmah and Al 'Eis families (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate amongst the Kafr 'Ein population was approximately 7.3%, of whom 80.2% were females. Of the literate population, 12.2% could only read and write with no formal education, 21.6% had elementary education, 29% had preparatory education, 17.5% had secondary education, and 12.4% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village (in 2007) of Kafr 'Ein by sex and educational attainment.

**Table 1: Kafr 'Ein 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	18	73	132	192	118	34	52	3	3	-	-	625
F	73	79	136	168	100	24	36	-	2	-	-	618
T	91	152	268	360	218	58	88	3	5	-	-	1,243

Source: PCBS, 2009. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results

There are two schools in the village, both run by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoHE), and there are no kindergartens (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2010/2011) (See Table 2).

**Table 2: The Schools in Kafr 'Ein by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Qarawat and Kafr 'Ein Boys Seconodary School	Government	Mixed
Kafr 'Ein Co-educated Secondary School	Government	Mixed

**Source:** Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011

The village has 737 students, 49 teachers, and 29 classes (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2010/2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 15, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 25.

The educational sector in Kafr 'Ein village faces some obstacles, primarily (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011):

1. The lack of a secondary level school for males.
2. The lack of transportation for students.

## Health Status

Kafr 'Ein village has two healthcare centers: Kafr 'Ein Governmental Health Center and a mother and childcare center. In the absence of required services or in emergencies, residents of Kafr 'Ein visit hospitals in Ramallah city, Salfit city or Beit Rima, 32km, 8km and 5km from the village respectively (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

The health sector in the village faces many obstacles and problems, including:

1. The lack of medical laboratories.
2. The lack of a resident physician.
3. The lack of a dentist.
4. The lack of X-ray machines in the health center.
5. The lack of a village pharmacy.

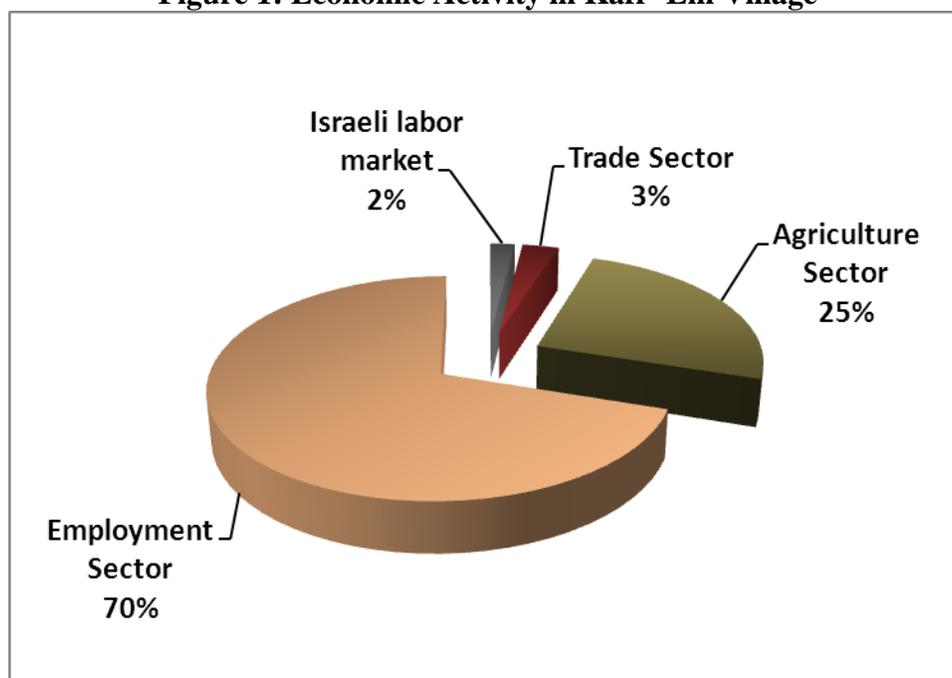
## Economic Activities

The economy in Kafr 'Ein is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the employees sector, which absorbs 70% of the village workforce (See Figure 1).

The results of a field survey for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Kafr 'Ein are as follows:

- Government or Private Employees Sector (70%)
- Agriculture Sector (25%)
- Trade Sector (3%)
- Israeli Labor Market (2%)

**Figure 1: Economic Activity in Kafr 'Ein Village**



Source:Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011

Kafr 'Ein village has 17 grocery stores, one vegetable and fruit store, one bakery, one professional workshop, one store for electrical tools and equipment, and 3 different services stores (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

The unemployment rate in Kafr 'Ein reached around 5% in 2011 (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011). It was found that the most vulnerable economic groups in the village as a result of Israeli actions are those who formerly worked in Israel (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

### Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 37.2% of the Kafr 'Ein labor force was economically active, of whom 86.6% were employed, and 62.7% were not economically active, of whom 55.1% were students and 28.4% were housekeepers (See Table 3).

**Table 3: Kafr 'Ein population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status-2007**

SEX	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		
M	301	35	13	<b>349</b>	197	-	41	14	23	<b>275</b>	1	<b>625</b>
F	100	2	12	<b>114</b>	232	221	43	3	5	<b>504</b>	-	<b>618</b>
T	401	37	25	<b>463</b>	429	221	84	17	28	<b>779</b>	1	<b>1,243</b>

Source: PCBS, March 2009. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, Final Results

## Agricultural Sector

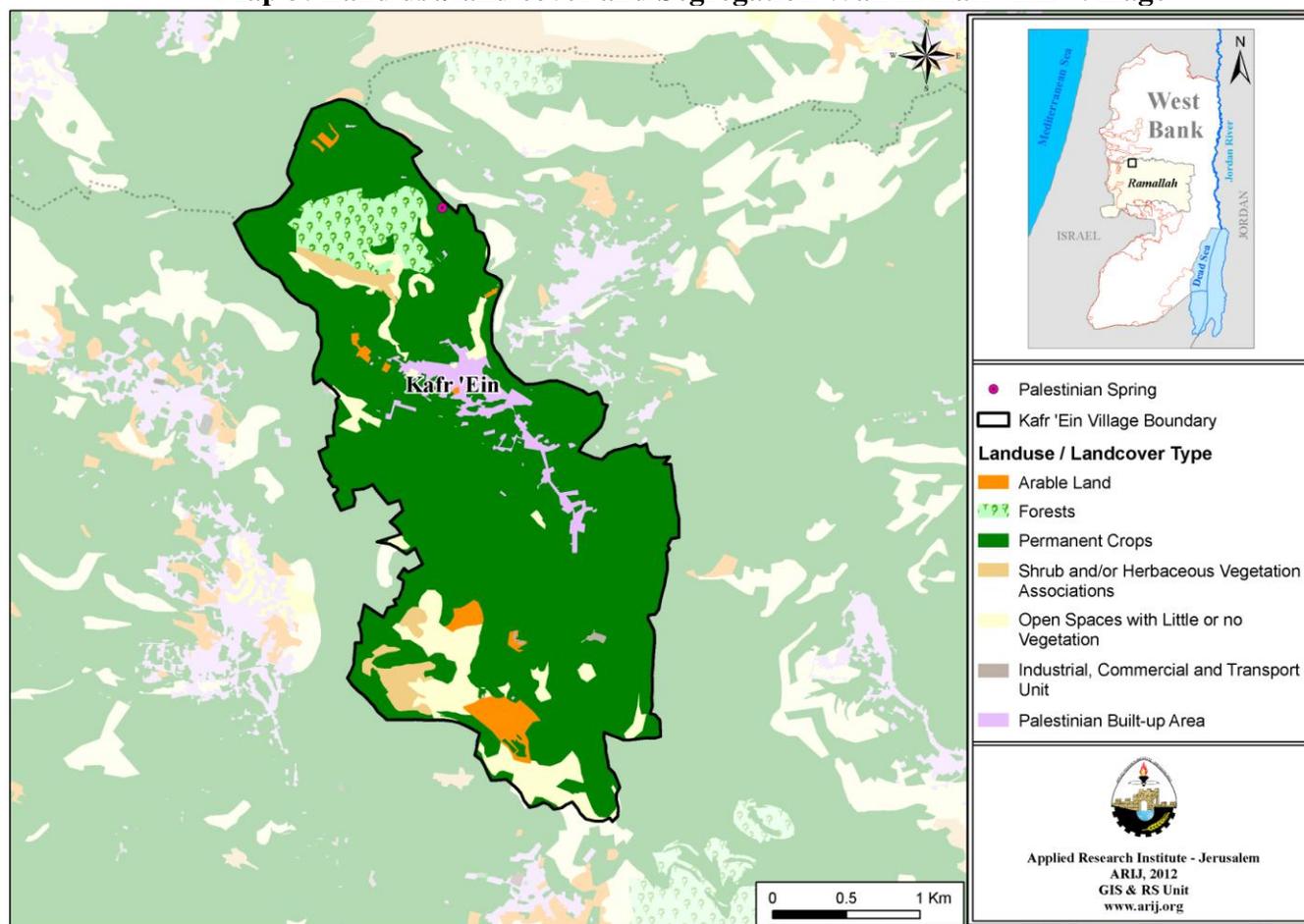
Kafr 'Ein has a total area of around 7,185 dunums of which 5,929 are arable land and 259 dunums are registered as ‘residential’ (See Table 4 and Map 3).

**Table 4: Land use and land cover in Kafr 'Ein village in 2010 (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (5,929)				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					
7,185	259	5,568	0	185	176	0	377	612	9	0

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

**Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Kafr 'Ein Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Table 5 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Kafr 'Ein. The most commonly cultivated crop within this area is squash.

**Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Kafr 'Ein 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.
27	7	0	0	14	0	10	0	0	0.5	51	7.5

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Kafr 'Ein is famous for olive trees; there are 5,728 dunums of land planted with olive crops.

**Table 6: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Kafr 'Ein 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.
5,728	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105	0	70	0	5,903	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

In terms of field crops and forage in Kafr 'Ein, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated covering an area of about 80 dunums, in addition to the cultivation of dry legumes such as beans (See table 7).

**Table 7: Total area of field crops in Kafr 'Ein 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
80	0	8	0	12	0	5	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	145	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff shows that 3% of the residents in Kafr 'Ein rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep, goats, and chickens (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011) (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Livestock in Kafr 'Ein village**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
0	46	238	0	0	0	0	4,400	0	40

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

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

There are approximately 5 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village suitable for use by animals only (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

The agricultural sector in the village faces many obstacles and problems, including (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011):

- The lack of access to agricultural lands.

- The lack of water recourses.
- The lack of capital for agricultural ventures.
- The lack of indicative financial and guidance support for farmers.
- The lack of areas in the village for breeding sheep, as this is not permitted near residential areas.
- The preference amongst employees to work in the private and governmental sectors rather than the agricultural sector.

## Institutions and Services

Kafr 'Ein village has no governmental institutions. It has two local institutions and associations (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011):

- **Kafr 'Ein Village Council:** Founded in 1996 by the Ministry of Local Government with the goal of taking care of issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Kafr 'Ein Sports Club:** Founded in 1977 by the village youth and currently registered in the Ministry of Youth & Sports with an interest in providing sports and cultural services.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Kafr 'Ein has been connected to a public electricity network since 1980. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village, and approximately 98% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network. However, the village residents face some problems concerning electricity, mainly (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011):

- The weak electric current.
- The high prices of electricity.
- The lack of maintenance for main and sub networks.
- The lack of street lighting.

Kafr 'Ein is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 30% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

### Transportation Services:

There are 5 public taxis and one bus in the village which are the only means of transportation in Kafr 'Ein (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011). There are 12km of main roads and 6km of secondary roads in the village (See Table 9) (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

**Table 9: Roads in Kafr 'Ein village**

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
<b>1. Paved &amp; in good condition</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2. Paved but in poor condition</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>3. Unpaved</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>

Source:Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011

### **Water Resources:**

Kafr 'Ein is provided with water by the West Bank Water Department through the Department's own sources and water bought from Mekerot (an Israeli company), via the public water network established in 1977. Approximately 90% of the housing units are connected to this network (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011). The quantity of water supplied to Kafr 'Ein in 2010 was approximately 12,000 cubic meters; therefore, the average rate of water supply per capita in Kafr 'Ein is 20 liters per day (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011). However, no Kafr 'Ein citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 3%. 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 Kafr 'Ein is 19.5 liters per day (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011). The rate experienced by Kafr 'Ein residents is extremely low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters/capita/day proposed by the World Health Organization.

Kafr 'Ein has 100 rainwater harvesting cisterns forming an alternative water source to the public network; however, these are not sufficient to meet the residents' water needs. There are also 7 public springs in the village: Ein al Balad (which has a pumping rate of 5 cups per day), Qarood, Al Judeidah, Al Naqoom, Nitha, Al Gharbiya and Al Wahrah springs, each of which has a pumping rate of 1 cup per day (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

### **Sanitation:**

Kafr 'Ein lacks a public sewerage network with most of the village residents using cesspits as the main means of wastewater disposal (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 25.5 cubic meters or 9,312 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is 13.6 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:**

Kafr 'Ein 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 50% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

Most of the population in Kafr 'Ein benefit from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags and transferred to containers throughout the locality. The Village Council collects the solid waste from the containers twice a week and transports it using a tractor to Wadi Al Qateel dumping site which belongs to the village council, located 3km from the village, where it is burnt and buried (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Kafr 'Ein is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day by Kafr 'Ein residents is nearly 0.7 tons, or 247.8 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

## **Environmental Conditions**

Like other towns and villages in the governorate, Kafr 'Ein 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 during summer in several neighborhoods of the town 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 town to cover the residents' water needs during water cut-offs.
- The lack of a water tank to transfer water from springs to houses.

### **Wastewater Management**

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Kafr 'Ein 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 Kafr 'Ein 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

### Geopolitical status in Kafr ‘Ein

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Kafr ‘Ein was divided into areas A, B and C. Approximately 6,998 dunums (97.4% of the village’s total area) were assigned as Area A where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) holds all responsibilities for internal security and public order, while 100 dunums (1.4% of the village’s total area) were classified as Area B, where the PNA has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. The rest of the village’s area, constituting 87 dunums (1.2% of the total area), was classified as Area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory. In Area C Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless with the consent and authorization by the Israeli Civil Administration (with the exception of Jerusalem city which is subject to the laws and regulations of the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem) (Table 10).

**Table 10: The Geopolitical Divisions of Kafr ‘Ein – Ramallah Governorate**

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of Total village area
Area A	6,998	97.4
Area B	100	1.4
Area C	87	1.2
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,185</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2011*

## Development Plans and Projects

### Implemented Projects

Kafr 'Ein village council has implemented several development projects in Kafr 'Ein during the past five years (See Table 11).

**Table 11: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Kafr 'Ein During the Past Five Years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Pavement of the road network	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Local Government
Construction of retaining walls	Public Services	2008	French Organization
Restoration of old houses	Public Services	2009	French Organization
Construction of a headquarters for Kafr 'Ein Village Council	Public Services	2009	Ministry of Local Government
Expansion of the electricity network	Infrastructure	2010	Japan
Establishment of a kindergarten	Educational	2010	C.H.F
Construction of a floor for Kafr 'Ein girls high school	Educational	2011	Brazilian Government via MoHE
<b>Source: Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011</b>			

### Proposed Projects

Kafr 'Ein 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 perspectives of the participants in the workshop:

1. Rehabilitating and reclaiming agricultural lands located away from the village, constructing agricultural wells and surrounding them with fencing to protect them from wild pigs.
2. Implementing a project to help the village residents register their lands in the Land Registry Department and preparing an organizational chart to sort these lands.
3. Establishing a large complex for the various institutions in the village that will include places for sports, social and cultural activities for males and females.
4. Establishing a sewage network to be connected to all houses in the village.
5. Holding awareness and educational workshops and sessions for various groups of males and females in the village.
6. Constructing an elementary school for male students in the village.

## Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Kafr 'Ein suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 11 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the village council's feedback to ARIJ surveying (Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011).

**Table 11: Development Priorities and Needs in Kafr 'Ein**

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			24km
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			9km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas	*			9km
4	Construction of New Water Networks	*			9km
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs		*		
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*			1000 cubic meters
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			10km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network	*			10km
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			100 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	*			One health clinic
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	*			One school
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			3000 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			20 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock			*	
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			5 tons per year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses	*			10 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds	*			
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*			

<sup>^</sup> 8km are main roads, 7km are sub roads and 9km are agricultural roads

Source: Kafr 'Ein Village Council, 2011.

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