

Shuqba Village Profile



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Background

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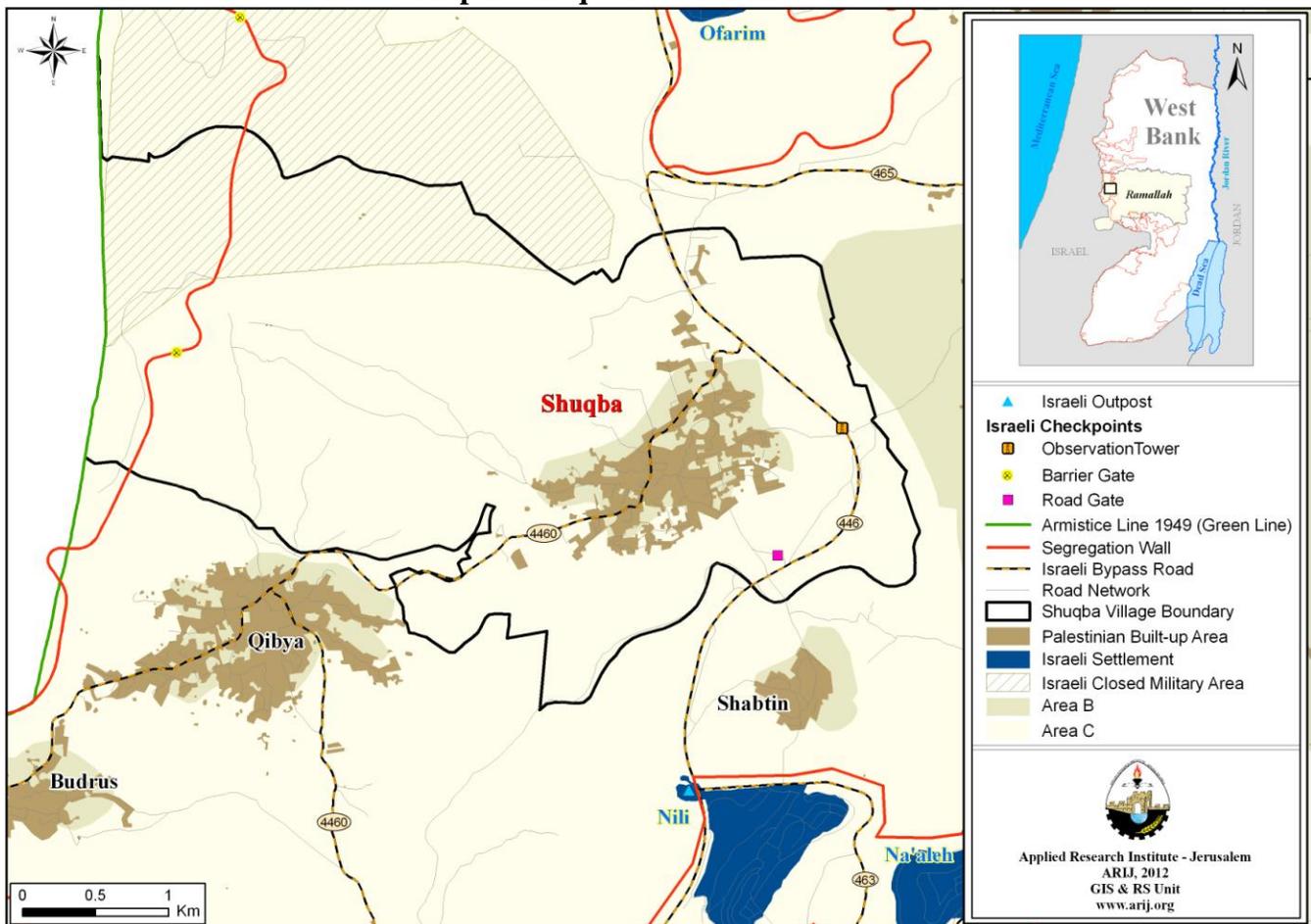
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Shuqba Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Shuqba is a Palestinian village in Ramallah Governorate, located (horizontally) 17.9km northwest of Ramallah City. Shuqba is bordered by Deir abu Mash'al village and Al-Itihad lands to the east, 'Abud lands and Rantis village to the north, the Green line (Armistice Line 1949) lands to the west, and Ni'lin lands and Qibya and Shabtin villages to the south (ARIJ GIS, 2012) (See map 1).

Map 1: Shuqba location and borders



Source: ARIJ GIS, 2012

Shuqba is located at an altitude of 320m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 552.6mm. The average annual temperature is 19 °C, whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 62% (ARIJ GIS, 2012).

Since 1996, Shuqba has been governed by a Village Council, which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. It is included within the Joint Services Council for Ni'lin, and owns a permanent headquarters where four employees work. The council does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

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

- Infrastructure services, such as the provision and management of water supply.
- Solid waste collection, road construction and restoration, street cleaning, and social development services.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.

History

Shuqba's name has two derivations. Some claim that "Shuqba" was converted from the Aramaic word "Shuqha" meaning 'a beautiful view', whilst others say it is a roman village located on a big grotto, which was named by the village people as "Shuq," which was later converted into Shuqba (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

The establishment of Shuqba village dates back approximately ten thousand years ago (Shuqba Village Council, 2010) (See photo below for Shuqba village).

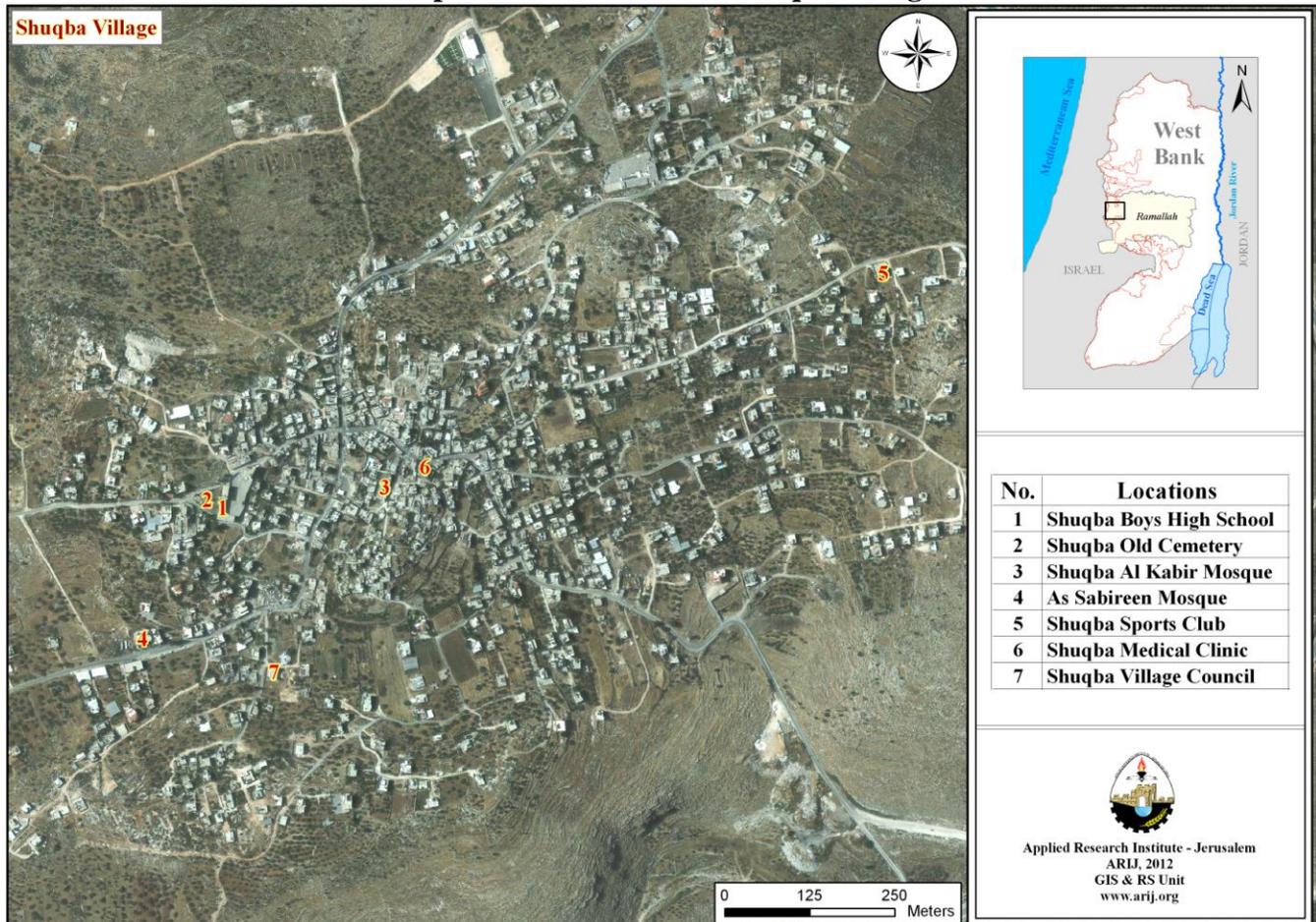
Photos of Shuqba



Religious and Archaeological Sites

In terms of religious establishments, there are two mosques in the village; Shuqba al Kabir Mosque and As Sabireen Mosque. As for the archaeological sites, there are a few, mainly: the Shuqba Grotto (Shuqba Village Council, 2010) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Shuqba Village



Source: ARIJ GIS, 2012

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Shuqba in 2007 was 4,227; of whom 2,164 are males and 2,063 are females. There were also recorded to be 793 registered households living in 883 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 Shuqba is as follows: 44.2% were less than 15 years, 53.9% were between 15 - 64 years,

whilst 1.7% were 65 years and older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 105:100, meaning that males and females constitute 51.2% and 48.8% of the population, respectively.

Families

Shuqba residents are composed of several families, mainly: Shalash, Farah and Al Masri (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Shuqba population is about 6.2%, of whom 86.8% are females. Of the literate population, 16.6% can only read and write, with no formal education 27% had elementary education, 29.3% had preparatory education, 15.3% had secondary education, and 5.6% completed higher education. Table 1, shows the educational level in the village of Shuqba, by sex, and educational attainment in 2007.

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

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	24	242	431	464	237	28	60	1	6	1	-	1,494
F	158	244	360	395	210	23	45	-	-	-	-	1,435
T	182	486	791	859	447	51	105	1	6	1	-	2,929

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

With regards to the basic and secondary education institutions and schools in Shuqba, for the academic year 2010/2011, there was documented two public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (MoEHE). There were no recorded kindergartens in the village. (see Table 2) (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2012).

Table 2: The Schools in Shuqba by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Shuqba Boys Elementary School	Government	Male
Shuqba Girls School	Government	Female

Source: Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011

In the village there were recorded to be 1,247 students, 67 teachers, and 46 classes (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011). It should be noted here that the average number of students per teacher in the school was nearly 19, whilst the average number of students per class was approximately 27.

However, due to the lack of some educational levels in schools for males and females in the village, students of Shuqba village head to Ni'lin village schools, located 8km from the village, in order to complete their secondary education (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

Moreover, the educational sector in Shuqba village suffers some obstacles, mainly (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

1. The absence of a scientific branch of study for both males and females.
2. The lack of playgrounds adequate for students in schools.

Health Status

There are a number of health centers and services available in Shuqba village, including: one governmental and two private physician clinics, a governmental motherhood and childhood care center, a governmental medical analysis laboratory, two private dentist clinics, a private cardiologist clinic, in addition to a private pharmacy. However, in case of the absence of any required health service, residents of Shuqba head to Ni'lin health center, the Caritas center in 'Abud village or Qibya health center; 8km, 5km and 4km in distance from the locality, respectively (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

Furthermore, the health sector in the village suffers some obstacles and problems, including (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

1. The lack of a radiology center inside the village.
2. The lack of specialized physicians.
3. The lack of a medical laboratory.
4. The lack of health services throughout the week; the clinics operate only for 3 days a week.

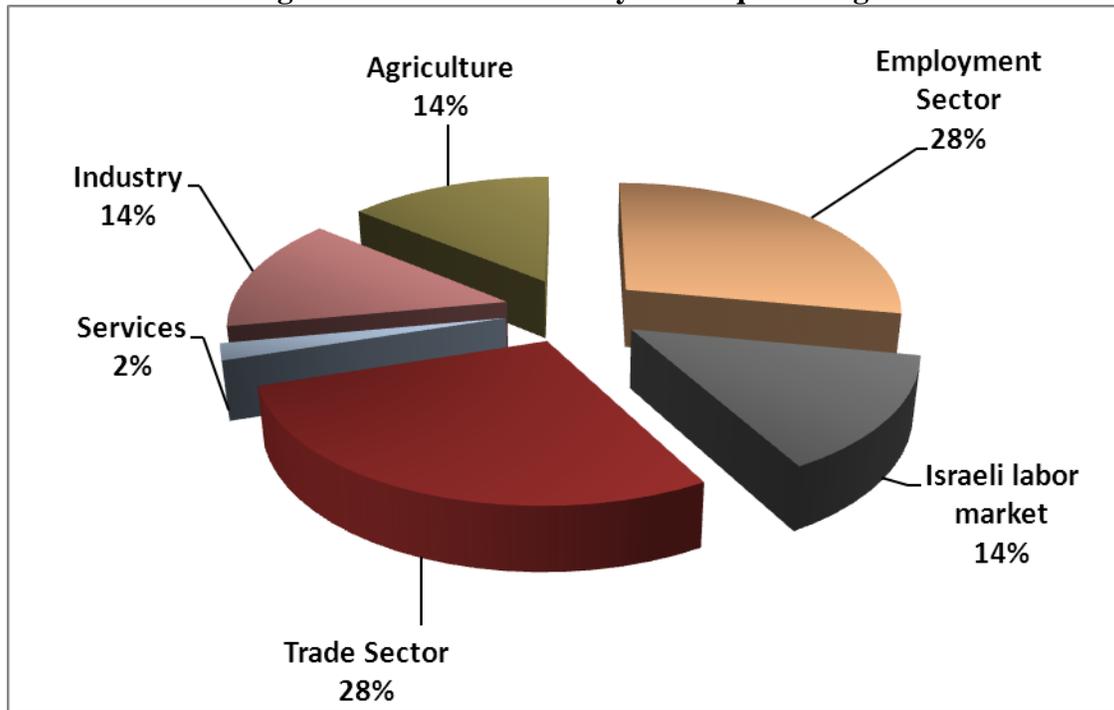
Economic Activities

The economy in Shuqba is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly: the employees and the trade sectors; each of which absorbs 28% of the village workforce (Shuqba Village Council, 2010) (See Figure1).

The results of a field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2010 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Shuqba are as follows:

- Government or Private Employees Sector (28%)
- Trade Sector (28%)
- Israeli Labor Market (14%)
- Agriculture Sector (14%)
- Industry (14%)
- Services Sector (2%)

Figure 1: Economic Activity in Shuqba Village



Source: Shuqba Village Council, 2010

In term of industrial productions in Shuqba village, there are 6 fruit and vegetable stores, 2 butcheries, 2 bakeries, 15 different service stores, 20 different professional workshops (carpentry, blacksmith,.. etc.), a stone quarry and 4 stores for selling haberdashery (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

In 2010, the unemployment rate in Shuqba reached approximately 28%. The economic groups most affected by the Israeli restrictions have been (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

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

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 34.6% of Shuqba labor force was economically active, of whom 85.1% were employed, 65% were economically inactive, 54.8% were students, and 36.1% were housekeepers (See table 3).

Table 3: Shuqba population (10 years 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	782	88	52	922	477	1	57	10	23	568	4	1,494
F	81	1	10	92	567	686	56	-	28	1,337	6	1,435
T	863	89	62	1,014	1,044	687	113	10	51	1,905	10	2,929

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

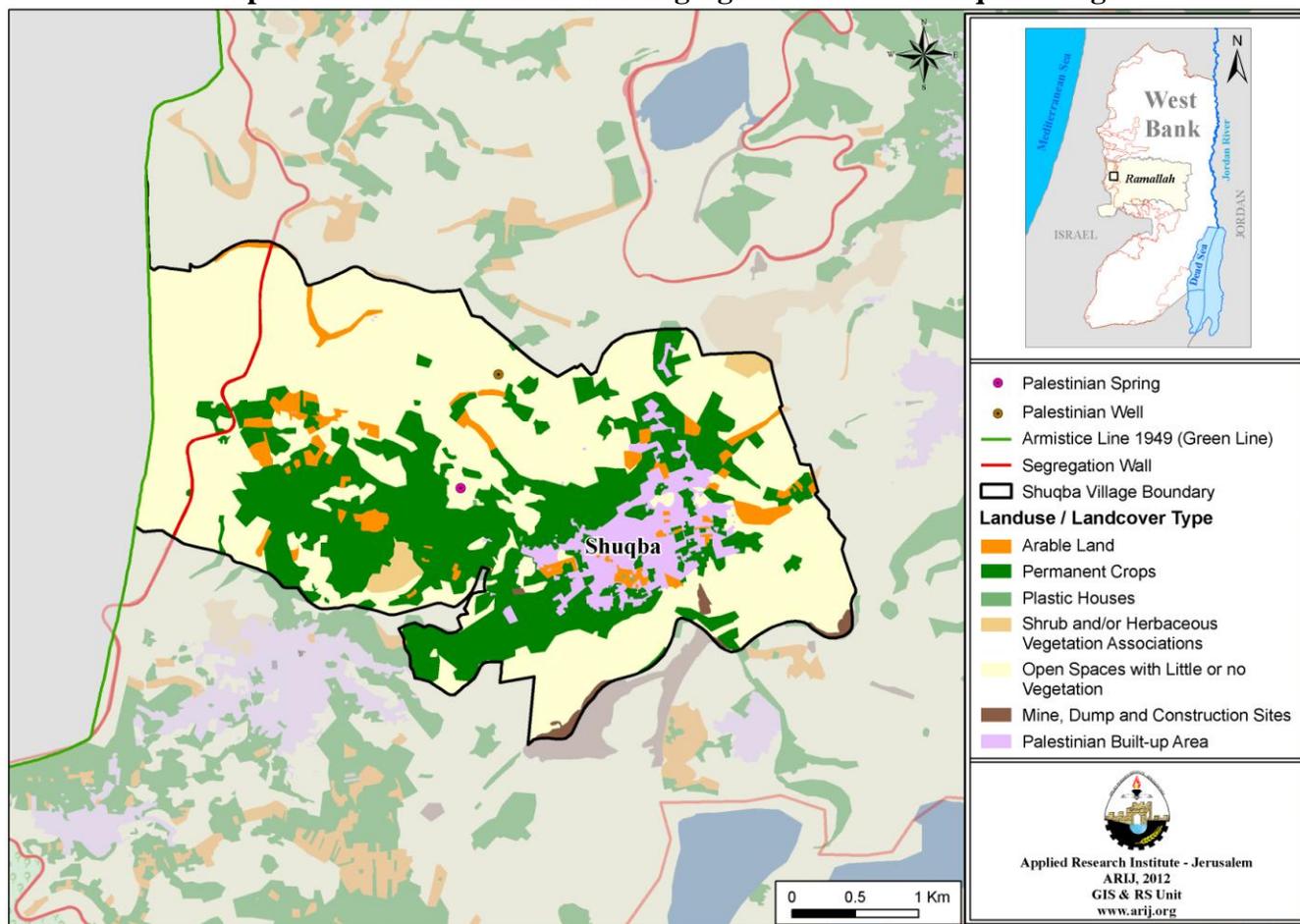
Shuqba village lies on an area of 13,491 dunums, of which 4,667 dunums are considered arable lands, and 808 dunums are dedicated to residential services (see table 4 and map 3).

Table 4: Land use and land cover in Abu Qash village in 2010 (area in dunum)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (4,667)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlement, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
13,491	808	3,939	4	150	574	0	0	7,848	98	70

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

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



Source: ARIJ GIS, 2012

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

Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Shuqba 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.
32	5	0	6	15	0	5	0	0	0	52	11

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Shuqba is famous for olives; there being a total of 1,054 dunums planted with olive trees.

Table 6: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Shuqba 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.
1,054	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	60	0	1,129	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

As for the field crops and forage in Shuqba, cereals (in particular wheat) are the most cultivated covering an area of about 225 dunums, in addition to the cultivation of dry legumes, such as beans (See table 7).

Table 7: Total area of field crops in Shuqba 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
225	0	20	0	53	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	338	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 in the different agricultural areas considered and included in calculations by both institutes,. 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.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2010 shows that 10% of the residents in Shuqba rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep and goats (See Table 8).

Table 8: Livestock in Shuqba village

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
119	508	199	0	0	0	0	170,000	300	92

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

There are also approximately 18 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

Table 9: Agricultural Roads in Shuqba village and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	3
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	5
For animals only	10
Unsuitable	-

Source: Shuqba Village Council, 2010

The agricultural sector in the village suffers some obstacles and problems, including (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

- The lack of water sources.
- The lack of economic feasibility in agricultural activities.
- The lack of agricultural roads suitable for vehicles.

Institutions and Services

Shuqba village has only one governmental institution; a post office division, in addition to a couple of local institutions and associations that provide services to various segments of society (i.e. children, youth, and women). These services are in the areas of culture, sports and others, including (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

- **Shuqba Village Council:** Founded in 1996 by the Palestinian National Authority with the goal of taking care of all the issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Shuqba Sports Club:** Founded in 1994 by the village's youth and is currently registered in the Ministry of Youth & Sports, with an interest in all sports and cultural activities for young persons.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Shuqba has been connected to a public electricity network since 1984, served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. Approximately 80% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network. However, the village residents suffer some problems concerning electricity, mainly: the weak electricity current, power outages (especially during the winter period) and the lack of cooperation by the electricity company in connecting the new households with the electricity network (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

Furthermore, Shuqba is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 30% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

Transportation Services:

There are only 9 taxis in Shuqba which, in addition to private cars and private transport vehicles, are considered to be the main means of transportation in the village. However, in addition to the lack of vehicles in the village, residents suffer from the existence of earth mounds and military checkpoints on roads, thus causing delays in journey times (Shuqba Village Council, 2010). As for the road network in the

village; there are a total of 6km of main roads and 11km of secondary roads (Shuqba Village Council, 2010) (See table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Shuqba village

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

Source: Shuqba Village Council, 2010

Water Resources:

Shuqba is provided with water by the West Bank Water Department, through the public water network established in 1974. Approximately, 100% of the housing units are connected to the water network (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

The quantity of water supplied to Shuqba village in 2008 was approximately 126,360 cubic meters/ year (PWA, 2009) and the estimated rate of water supply per capita is around 82 liters/day. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 4 NIS. Here it should be noted that no Shuqba citizen in fact consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 20%. The losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, distribution network, and at the household level, thus the rate of water consumption per capita in Shuqba is 66 liters per day (Shuqba Village Council, 2010). This is a low rate compared with the minimum quantity proposed by the World Health Organization, which is 100 liters per capita per day.

Also, located in Shuqba are 40 household rainwater harvesting cisterns. (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

Sanitation:

Shuqba further lacks a public sewerage network, with most of the village residents using cesspits, septic tank and open channels for the disposal of waste water (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 222 cubic meters, or 81 thousand cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 46 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits, are discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys without any regard for the environment. Here it should be noted that there is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites which poses a serious threat to both the environment and public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2012).

Solid Waste Management:

Shuqba Village Council is considered the official body responsible for managing solid waste, i.e. solid waste collection and disposal, generated from the citizens and establishments in the village, which is currently represented by solid waste collection and disposal. Due to the fact that the process of solid

waste management is costly, a monthly fee has been charged on the population serviced by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services which is about 5 NIS/month. However, the collected fees are not considered sufficient for a good management of solid waste as only 60% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

The majority of Shuqba's population benefit from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 15 containers spread throughout the locality. The Village Council collects the solid waste from the containers three times a week and transports it through a waste vehicle to Jammala dumping site; located 2km in distance from the village. The common method for solid waste treatment in this dumping site is setting waste on fire (Shuqba Village Council, 2010).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Shuqba is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Shuqba residents is nearly 3 tons, or 1,080 tons per year (ARIJ - WERU, 2012).

Environmental Conditions

Like other villages and towns in the Governorate, Shuqba 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 village for several reasons:
 - (1) Israeli control over Palestinian water resources.
 - (2) High rate of water losses, due to the water network's old condition in need of rehabilitation and renovation.

Wastewater Management

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Shuqba residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or 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 and water collected in household cisterns (rainwater harvesting cisterns). This is because most cesspits are built without lining which avoids the need to use sewage tankers which allows wastewater to enter into the ground. This in turn mixes with the waste water, thus making it unsuitable for drinking. 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 Shuqba and the other neighboring communities in the Governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities. These authorities do not grant licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C, and therefore under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries which is a limited source of income. 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

Shuqba Village under Oslo Accord

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, Shuqba village was divided into areas 'B' and 'C'. Approximately 1,138 dunums (8.4% of the total village area) are 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 currently constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, villages, and some refugee camps. Most of the village's population resides in Area B. Approximately 12,352 dunums (91.6% of the total village area) is classified as Area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration (Table 11). 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 agricultural lands and open spaces in addition to lands isolated behind the Segregation Wall.

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

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	1,138	8.4
Area C	12,352	91.6
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	13,491	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2011

The Israeli Segregation Wall Plan in Shuqba Village

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan has had a negative and destructive impact on Shuqba 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 constructed west of Shuqba extends for 2.8km on its land. This

has resulted in the isolation of 1,352 dunums (10%) of the village total area. The majority of the isolated lands include open spaces and agricultural areas (See Table 12).

Table 12: Land Classification of the Isolated lands in Shuqba Village – Ramallah Governorate

No.	Land Classification	Area (in dunums)
1	Open Spaces	1248
2	Agricultural Lands	55
3	Wall Zone	49
Total		1352
Source: The Geo-informatics Department – ARIJ 2011		

Israeli Occupation Practices in Shuqba

Thousands of dunums of land have been confiscated from Shuqba for different Israeli purposes. In addition to the building of the Segregation Wall and isolating Palestinian lands, the Israeli occupation forces confiscated more lands for the establishment of Israeli military checkpoints and bypass roads on the village lands in order to connect settlements with each others. That which follows details Israeli land confiscations in Shuqba.

The Israeli Government confiscated thousands of agricultural and non-agricultural lands to open several bypass roads that stretch thousands of kilometers from the north to the south of the West Bank. The purpose of these bypass roads is to link Israeli settlements with one another, dismembering Palestinian lands, and enhancing security control over them. Israel has confiscated more lands of Shuqba and lands to its east, for the construction of the Israeli bypass road no. 446 which extends for 3.3km within Shuqba lands. The real threat of bypass roads lies in the buffer zone formed by the IOF along these roads, extending to approximately 75 m on each side of the road. These buffer zones dramatically increase the total area of land affected by the construction of the bypass roads.

Following the outbreak of the second Intifada in 2000, the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) have established a military checkpoint between Shuqba and Shabtin villages. This checkpoint represents an iron gate established on the villages' main entrance on the bypass road 446, aimed at preventing Palestinians from approaching this road. However, it is noteworthy that recently, after many years of suffering and pressures put on Israeli forces by residents of the two villages, IOF removed this checkpoint. During the period of the checkpoint, Palestinians were forced to use alternative long roads. However, to this day Shabtin residents must use a one way route through Shuqba village through the use of a tunnel connecting the two villages, which passes under bypass road 446. In addition the Israeli occupation authorities set up a military watchtower east of the village near the bypass road to consolidate their control over the region, in addition to a walled gate on the route of the Segregation Wall in the western region of the village. These military barriers aim to restrict the movement of Palestinians of this village in particular and of neighboring villages, as well as the occupation's allegations to protect settlers close to the village and passing through the bypass road.

There are no Israeli settlements on Shuqba lands, although there are a number of settlements close to the village and located on neighboring villages' lands. These include Nili and Na'aleh settlements southeast of the village which are established on Shabtin, AL-Itihad and Deir Qaddis villages, and Ofarim settlement north of the village which is established on 'Abud and Al Lubban al Gharbi; both neighboring villages lands. These settlements impose a threat to surrounding Palestinian villages.

Israeli quarries and crushers on Shuqba and Shabtin land confiscate further land and damage the environment

Few years ago Israel established on the territory of Shabtin and Shuqba villages, a crusher and a factory for stone industry specifically in Wadi an Natoof area, causing devastating environmental impact, through air and soil pollution, to the village and its surroundings,. In addition, there has been a loss of a total area of 257 dunums from both villages for the establishment of the crusher, which lies approximately 500 meters from the urban areas in each of the two villages. Shuqba and Shabtin are considered the most affected villages of this crusher.

The land on which the Israeli stone crusher was established is owned by Palestinians from the two villages who possess documented proof of ownership. However, according to Israeli authorities claims; this land is not presently being exploited by Palestinian citizens which gives the occupation authorities the right to confiscate it. It is worth noting that at the end of 2011, the Israeli Supreme Court issued a decision that allows Israeli quarries to continue working within the occupied West Bank. This decision means that Israeli bodies can continue to extract raw materials from existing quarries within the West Bank, however are unable to establish new quarries in this region This decision came after two years of submitting an objection by a number of human rights and humanitarian organizations against such quarries in the West Bank. A report undertaken by the Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ), shows that Israel transfers and sells 94% of extracted raw materials from the occupied Palestinian territories to Israel, which, in turn constitutes approximately 25% of raw materials that Israel consumes. Israel exploits other natural resources such as water, for the purpose of quarrying and the extraction of raw materials, at the expense of Palestinians within the West Bank whom need this water as a vital life source. This is a clear breach of international law which emphasizes that an occupying power should not exploit natural resources existing in the occupied Palestinian territories for its economic favor as natural resources should be used only for the benefit of those who are under occupation or temporarily used for military purposes.

Military Orders Issued in Shuqba Village

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

- Israeli Military Order 26/04/T: Issued on the 7th March 2004 and confiscates a total of 121.4 dunums of Shuqba village lands for the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall.
- Israeli Military Order 69/03/T: Issued on 20th November 2003 to confiscate 862 dunums of land from Shuqba, Rantis, Qibya and Budrus villages for the construction of the Segregation Wall.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Shuqba Village Council has implemented several development projects in Shuqba, during the last five years (See Table 13).

Table 13: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Shuqba During the Last Five Years

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Pavement of internal roads	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Finance
Construction of a wall for the Village Council headquarters	Infrastructure	2008	French Institution
Construction of agricultural roads	Agricultural	2008	Ministry of Agriculture
Construction and plowing of agricultural roads	Agricultural	2006	Ministry of Agriculture
Construction of a retaining wall & the rehabilitation of toilets in the girls school	Educational	2009	French Institution
Source: Shuqba Village Council, 2010			

Proposed Projects

Shuqba Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, looks forward to the implementation of several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop that was 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 (Shuqba Village Council, 2010):

1. Completing the establishment of the village's water network.
2. Constructing a co-educational primary school.
3. Providing health services through the construction of fully-equipped health centers.
4. Constructing a public water reservoir for drinking.
5. Establishing wastewater treatment units.
6. Providing job opportunities for workers, educated people and graduate students.
7. Constructing agricultural roads (7 km).
8. Establishing public facilities such as a garden and a sports stadium.
9. Establishing educational and cultural centers to serve village residents.
10. Rehabilitating the joined landfill located in Qibya.
11. Constructing artesian wells or harvesting cisterns (40 wells).
12. Providing street lightings in the village.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Shuqba suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 14 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's perspective.

Table 14: Development Priorities and Needs in Shuqba

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			18km*
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks			*	
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas			*	
4	Construction of new water networks	*			4km
5	Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			120m ³
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			12km
8	Construction of a new electricity network		*		8km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection		*		30 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste		*		1
11	Providing a sanitary landfill site	*			
Health Needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres	*			1 health clinic
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres		*		1 health clinic
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational Needs					
1	Building new schools	*			co-educated elementary school
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			boys secondary school
3	Purchasing new equipment for schools	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands			*	
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			50 cistern
3	Construction of livestock barracks.	*			20 barracks
4	Provision of veterinary services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			300 tons/ year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			10 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crop seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			

*5km are main roads, 5km are sub roads and 8km are agricultural roads

Source: Shuqba Village Council, 2010

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