

Sa'ir Village Profile



Prepared by



The Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem

Funded by



Spanish Cooperation



Azahar program

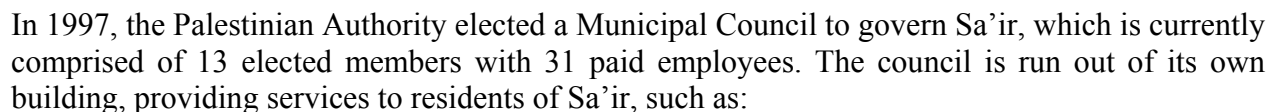
March 2008

Table of Contents

<i>Location and Physical Characteristics</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>History</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Demography and Population</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Economy</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Education</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Health Status</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Religious and Archaeological Sites</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Institutions and Services</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Infrastructure and Natural Resources</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Agricultural Sector</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Impact of the Israeli Occupation</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Development Plans and Projects</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Locality Development Priorities and Needs</i>	<i>15</i>

Location and Physical Characteristics

Map 1: Sa'ir village location and borders



1. Infrastructure services including water, electricity and solid waste disposal;
2. Issuing building licenses; and
3. Road construction and pavement.

History

Sa'ir is a very old village dating back to the Canaanite period; current residents are indigenous inhabitants of the area.

According to the Ministry of Local Authority, Sa'ir includes small villages like Al 'Uddeisa, Ras at Tawil, Ad Duwwara, Irqan Turad, Wadi ar Rim and Kuziba villages.

Photos of Sa'ir



Demography and Population

According to the first Census implemented in the Occupied Palestinian Territory by the Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in 1997, the total population of Sa'ir was 13,191, of which 6,722 were males and 6,469 were females. There were 1,969 households living in 2,349 housing units (see table 1).

Table 1: Sa'ir population by locality and sex			
Village	Male	Female	Total
Sa'ir	4,903	4,765	9,668
Ad Duwwara	615	597	1,212
Al 'Uddeisa	548	511	1,059
'Irqan Turad	200	166	366
Kuziba	176	166	342
Ras at Tawil	243	233	476
Wadi ar Rim	37	31	68
Total	6,722	6,469	13,191

Age groups and gender

The 1997 census data listed in Table 2 shows the population of Sa'ir village by age group and sex. Data showed that 50.8% of the population were less than 15 years old, 46.4% were in the age group of 15-64 years and 2.7% were 65 year and above. In 1997, males constituted 51% of the population and females 49%, with a ratio of 104 males for every 100 females;.

Table 2: Sa'ir village population by sex and age group					
Sex	Age				Percent (%)
	0 -14	15 -64	65 +	Total	
Male	3,433	3,096	193	6,722	51
Female	3,274	3,031	163	6,469	49
Total	6,707	6,127	357	13,191	100

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

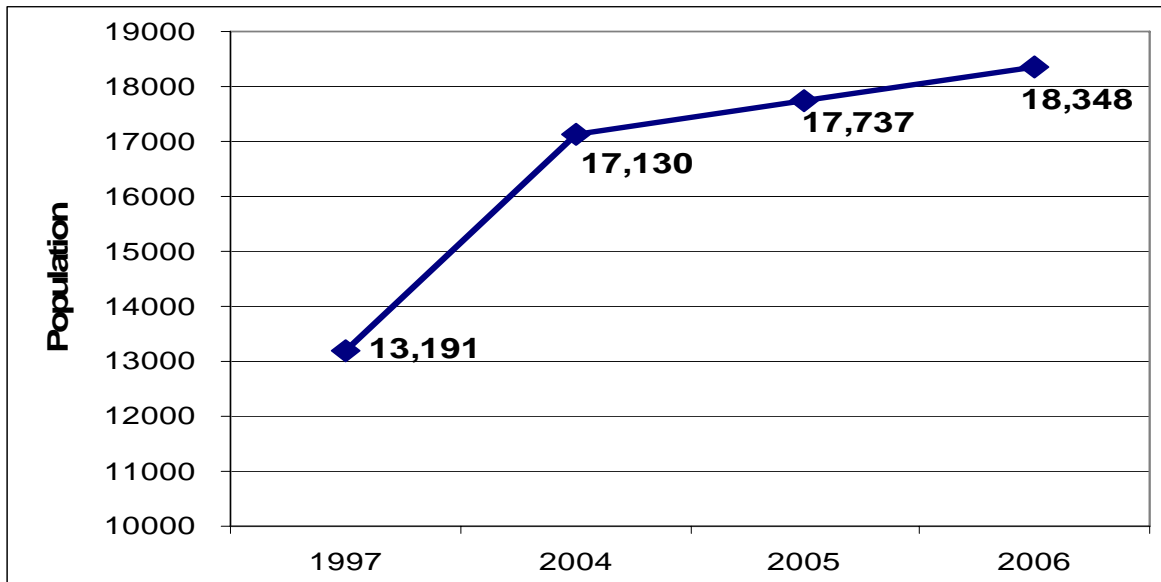
This data includes population figures from the villages of sa'ir, Al 'Uddeisa, Ras at Tawil, Ad Duwwara, 'Irqan Turad, Wadi ar Rim and Kuziba villages

Population Growth

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics estimated the population of Sa'ir in mid 2006 to be 18,348. Table 3 shows the population projection in Sa'ir village between 2004 and 2006.

Table 3: Projected population for Sa'ir village 2004 -2006				
	1997 Census	Mid-year population in		
		2004	2005	2006
Sa'ir	9,668	12,556	12,999	13,447
Ad Duwwara	1,212	1,573	1,629	1,685
Al 'Uddeisa	1,059	1,376	1,425	1,474
'Irqan Turad	366	475	492	509
Kuziba	342	444	460	475
Ras at Tawil	476	618	640	662
Wadi ar Rim	68	88	92	96
Sa'ir village	13,191	17,130	17,737	18,348

Source: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/populati/pop10.aspx>

Figure 1: Population growth in Sa'ir Village

Families

There are eight main families in Sa'ir village: Al Shlaldah الشلالدة (25%), Al Froukh الفروخ (18%), Al Jaradat الجرادات (17 %), Al Mtur المطور (10%), Al Jabareen الجبارين (8%), Al Kawazbeh الكوازيه (7%), Al Turweh الطروه (7%) and other smaller families (8%).

Economy

According to Hebron localities' surveys conducted by ARIJ in 2007, Sa'ir's residents' primary economic activity is within the Israeli labor market and the agricultural sector, with approximately 30% of the village labor force working within each sector.

The most important industrial institutions in the village include 100 groceries, 30 clothing shops, 7 butchers, 8 blacksmith workshops, 6 carpentries and 50 service shops, in addition to several stone cutters in the village.

Data indicates that the social groups in the village as a result of most affected by Israeli restrictions during the Second Intifada are:

- 1) Workers previously employed in the Israeli labor market,
- 2) Families maintaining six individuals or more,
- 3) Housewives and children,
- 4) Small-holder farmers,
- 5) Small-holder traders.

Labour Force

According to the 1997 PCBS, Population, Housing and Establishment Census, there were 2,738 economically active people in Sa'ir village, of whom 85.3% were employed, and 5,545 non economically active people, of whom 44.8% were students, 46.7% were housewives and 4.1% were unable to work (see Table 4).

Table 4: Sa'ir Population (10 years and above) by Sex and Employment Status

Sex	Economically Active				Non Economically Active						Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (Never Worked)	Total	Students	House-wives	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking For Work	Other	Total	
M	2215	198	174	2587	1299	—	143	157	31	1630	4217
F	121	—	30	151	1186	2592	82	22	33	3915	4066
T	2336	198	204	2738	2485	2592	225	179	64	5545	8283

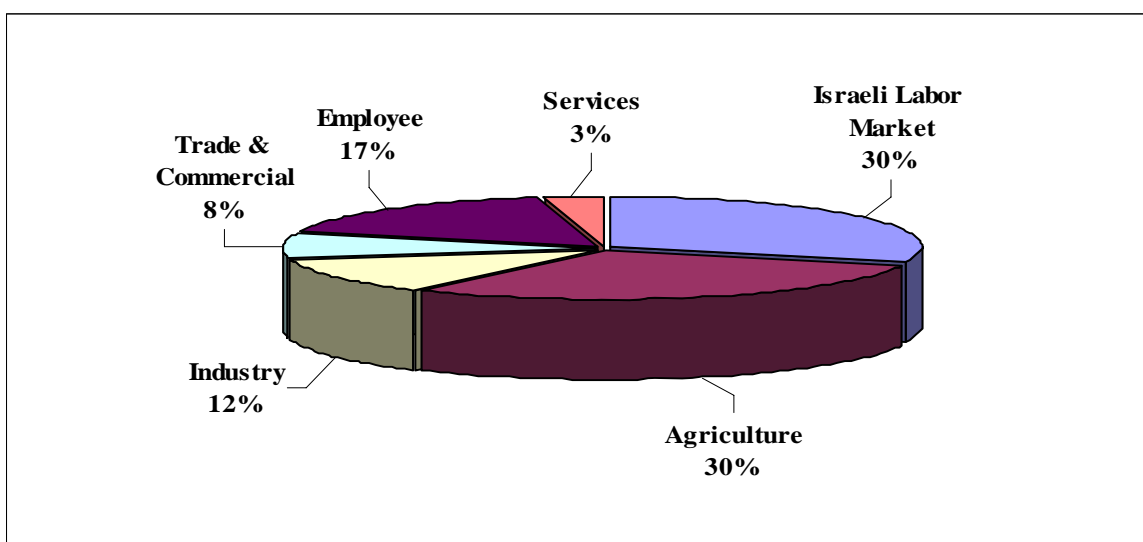
Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, results

This data includes population figures from the villages of Sa'ir, Al 'Uddeisa, Ras at Tawil, Ad Duwwara, Irqan Turad, Wadi ar Rim and Kuziba villages

ARIJ survey indicated that the share of the population working in the various sectors of Sa'ir economy is listed below by percentage:

- Israeli labour market 30 %.
- The agriculture sector 30 %.
- The industry sector 12%
- The trade sector 8 %.
- The employee sector 17%
- The service sector 3%.

Figure 2: Percentage of economic activity in Sa'ir city



Education

According to the 1997 Census, 16.9% of the residents were illiterate, with women comprising a higher percentage (68.7%) of the illiterate population than men. Of the literate population, 19.9% could read and write, 28.6% completed elementary education, 22.3% completed preparatory education and 8% completed their secondary education. Table 5 shows the educational status in Sa'ir by sex and educational attainment in 1997.

Table 5: Sa'ir population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment											
S e x	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Total
M	439	851	1285	939	436	84	173	2	8	-	4217
F	964	795	1085	906	224	57	35	-	-	-	4066
T	1403	1646	2370	1845	660	141	208	2	8	-	8283

Source: PCBS, May 1999. Population, Housing and Establishment Census-1997, Final Results

This data includes population figures from the villages of Sa'ir, Al 'Uddeisa, Ras at Tawil, Ad Duwwara, Irqan Turad, Wadi ar Rim and Kuziba villages

There are 17 governmental schools and one private school in Sa'ir, according to the field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2007, which provide elementary and secondary education. There are eight schools for males, eight schools for females and two co-educational schools. The number of schools by name, stage, sex and supervising authority is shown in table 6.

Table 6: The schools in Sa'ir village, stage, sex and supervising authority				
No.	School Name	Stage	Sex	Supervising Authority
1.	Al Shaheed Abd Alqader Jaradat Boys Elementary School / A	Elementary	Males	Governmental
2.	Al Shaheed Abd Alqader Jaradat Boys Elementary School / B	Elementary	Males	Governmental
3.	Sa'ir Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
4.	Sa'ir Boys Secondary School	Secondary	Males	Governmental
5.	Hamzah Bin Abd ElMutaleb Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
6.	Kuziba Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
7.	Ad Duwwara Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
8.	Al 'Uddeisa Boys Elementary School	Elementary	Males	Governmental
9.	Maria Al-Qubteyeh Girls Elementary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
10.	Sa'ir Girls Elementary School / A	Elementary	Females	Governmental
11.	Sa'ir Girls Elementary School / B	Elementary	Females	Governmental
12.	Sa'ir Girls Secondary School	Secondary	Females	Governmental
13.	Safiyeh Gils Elementary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
14.	Kuziba Girls Secondary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
15.	Ad Duwwara Girls Secondary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
16.	Al 'Uddeisa Girls Secondary School	Elementary	Females	Governmental
17.	Jeel Al-Ghad Co-education School	Elementary	Co-Education	Private
18.	Wadi ar Rim Co-education School	Elementary	Co-Education	Governmental

Ministry of Higher Education data shows that at the end of the 2006/2007 scholastic year there were 188 classes, 248 teachers and 5,461 Students in Sa'ir (See table 7).

Table 7: Total number of Schools, Classes and Students by Sex in Sa'ir village (2007)				
Gender	Schools	Class	Teachers	Students
Male	8	87	117	2,591
Female	8	92	120	2,760
Co-educational	2	9	11	110
Total	18	188	248	5,461

Source: Ministry of Higher Education –Hebron Directorate -2006/2007

In 2007, there were three kindergartens in Sa'ir village. Table 8 shows the number of kindergartens by name, number of children and supervising authority.

Table 8: The kindergartens in Sa'ir village by name, number of classes, children, teachers and supervising authority					
No.	Kindergarten Name	Number of Classes	Number of Children	Number of Teachers	Supervising Authority
1.	Jel Al Ghad Kindergarten	3	96	5	Charitable
2.	Sa'ir Charitable Society Kindergarten	3	65	3	Charitable
3.	Al Ashbal Al Duwara Kindergarten	4	115	5	Private

Education is underserved in Sa'ir, with a lack of a sufficient number of schools within the village boundaries to accommodate all students, forcing students to attend school in two shifts, morning and evening.

Health Status

Though the health sector in Sa'ir is considered well developed compared to surrounding villages and there are many private, governmental and charitable health facilities in the village (as shown in Table 9), there is only one ambulance to transport sick and injured people in emergency cases. Residents of Sa'ir have to travel to Hebron (10 km) or Bethlehem (25 km) to go to hospitals or other health centers, and this is considered one of the major problems facing the health sector in the area.

Table 9: Number of health institutions in Sa'ir village by supervising authority.					
Institution	Governmental	Private	Charitable	NGO	Total
Physician Clinic	-	1	-	-	1
Dental Clinic	-	1	-	-	1
Health Clinic (Al Ma'moun & Al Shifaa')	-	2	-	-	2
X-Ray Centre	-	-	-	-	-
Medical Lab	-	1	-	-	1

Maternity & Pediatric Centre	-	-	1	-	1
Physiotherapy Centre	-	1	-	-	1
Pharmacy	-	4	-	-	4
Total	-	10	1	-	11

Religious and Archaeological Sites

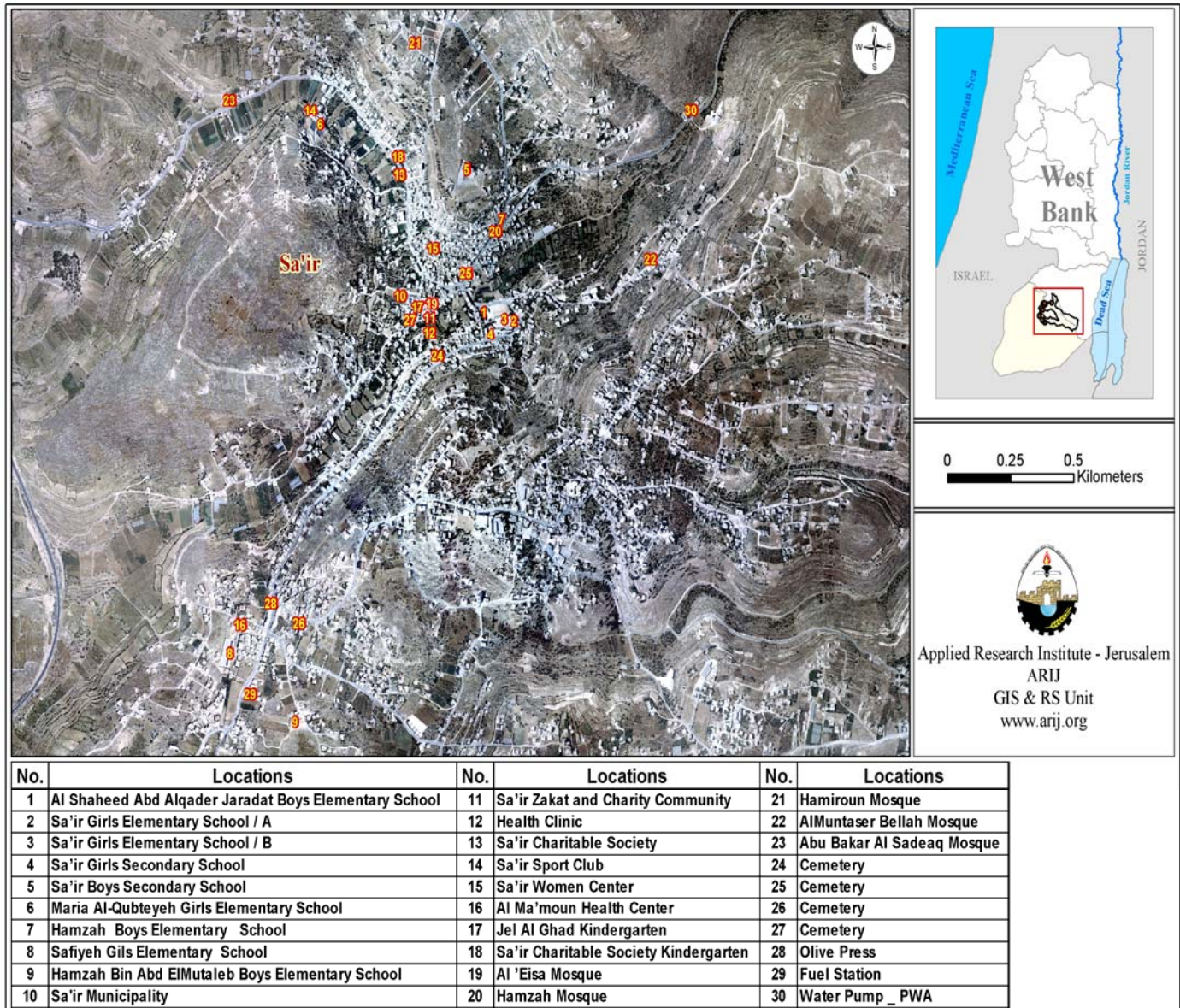
There are four mosques in Sa'ir village: "Al'Eisa", "Hamzah", "AlMuntaser Bellah" and "Hamiroun", as well as archaeological and historical sites, including the ruins of the ancient villages of "Ein Sa'ir", "Khirbet Kuziba", "Khirbet Beit Einun" and "Khirbet Abu Alduwayy". Unfortunately, these sites are not well rehabilitated and are not used for touristic purposes.

Institutions and Services

Sa'ir has many public institutions:

1. Sa'ir charitable society
2. Palestinian Red Crescent
3. Sa'ir Sport Club
4. Sa'ir Women Club
5. Sa'ir Zakat and Charity Community
6. Environmental Health Centre
7. The Extracts of Grapes and Peaches Society (جمعية عصير العنب و البرقوق)

Map 2: Main locations in Sa'ir village



Infrastructure and Natural Resources

- **Telecommunication Services:** Approximately 60% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to a telecommunication network.
- **Water Services:** In 1976, Sa'ir connected to the water network and currently, nearly 90% of housing units are connected to this Sa'ir Municipality administered network. Residents use springs and cisterns as alternative water resources, though the two springs in the village need rehabilitation to be used domestically. Furthermore, there is one water reservoir in Sa'ir with a 1000 cubic meter capacity. The main problems that face the water sector in the village include the existing old water network, which needs rehabilitation, and the continuous cutting and shortage of water especially in summertime.

- **Electricity Services:** Sa'ir village has been connected to the electricity network since 2000, and approximately 95% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network. The Municipality of Sa'ir manages the distribution of electricity, which is supplied by the Israeli Electric Company (Al Qutriya). However, electricity services in the village are insufficient due to the old and deteriorated network, lack of enough generators, and the weak electrical current.
- **Sewage Disposal Facilities:** There is no sewage network in Sa'ir village. All households must dispose of their wastewater in cesspits.
- **Solid Waste Collection:** Sa'ir Municipality manages the collection of solid waste in the village, owning garbage trucks that collect the solid waste from the residential areas and transport it to a special dumping site (Beer Abu Khurzah), located about 10 kilometers from the village. The solid wastes are usually burnt or buried in that site. According to municipal data, the amount of the solid waste generated daily in Sa'ir is estimated at 2 tons. Sa'ir also suffers from many environmental problems because of the sewage flow to the village's land from the surrounding settlements.
- **Transportation Services:** The village lacks a well-regulated public transportation system; all public transportation vehicles used are unauthorized to carry passengers, and passengers primarily use private cars and taxis to reach their own destinations. Besides the informal transportation system, the village suffers from many other obstacles including checkpoints at the village entrances and poor roads conditions. There are about 193 km of roads in Sa'ir village; 28 km are paved and in a good condition, 43 km are paved yet not in a good condition and 122 km are not paved at all (See Table 10).

Table 10: The condition of roads and their length in Sa'ir village				
Road Condition	Road length (KM)			
	Main roads	Internal roads	Agricultural roads	Total
Paved roads in good condition	16	12	-	28
Paved roads in bad condition	23	20	-	43
Unpaved roads	80	19	23	122
Total	119	51	23	193

Agricultural Sector

Sa'ir village lies on a total area of 117,000 dunums; 45,000 dunums are considered arable land, however, only 11,715 dunums are cultivated, of which 4,500 dunums are agriculture lands but are unutilized due to shortage of water, economic infeasibility and lack of investment capital. There are also 3,600 dunums of land in need of rehabilitation.

Table 11: Land Use in Sa'ir village (dunum)						
Locality	Total Area	Arable Land		Build up Area	Forests Area	Open Spaces and Rangelands
		Cultivated Area	Uncultivated Area			
Sa'ir	117,000	11,715	33,285	6,000	150	65,850

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agricultural (MoA), 2006

As shown in Table 12, there are about 20 dunums of greenhouses but no tunnels in Sa'ir village. Of these, five dunums are used for growing tomatoes and fifteen dunums are used for growing cucumber.

Table 12: Total Irrigated protected vegetables in Sa'ir village (dunum)				
Locality	Greenhouses	High Tunnels	Low Tunnels	Total
Sa'ir	20	0	0	20

Table 13 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Sa'ir. The irrigated fruity vegetables are the most cultivated covering an area of about 174 dunums.

Table 13: Rain Fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Sa’ir village (dunum)												
Locality	Total fruity vegetables		Total leafy vegetable		Total green legumes		Total bulbs		Total other vegetables		Total rain fed and irrigated open vegetables	
Sa’ir	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
	25	66	22	46	9	12	0	30	8	20	64	174

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

There are two types of aromatic medical plants in the village of Sa'ir, thyme and sage, which spread over a total area of four dunums.

In the village of Sa'ir, there is a total area of 3,954 dunums planted with olive trees. Other trees planted in the area are mostly grape vines, apple and almond trees, fig trees and other stone fruits.

Table 14: Total area of horticulture and olive tree in Sa'ir village															
Locality	Total area of olives		Total area of citrus		Total area of stone-fruits		Total area of pome fruits		Total area of nuts		Total area of the other fruit		Total area of horticulture and olive tree		
Sa'ir	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	
	3,954	0	0	0	1930	0	89	0	154	0	3810	0	9,937	0	

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

Table 15 shows the total field crops cultivated in the city of Sa'ir.

Table 15: Total Field crops in Sa'ir village														
Locality	Total Cereals		Total bulbs		Dry legumes		Total forage crops		Total stimulating crops		Total other crops		Total Field crops	
Sa'ir	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr	RF	Irr
	1,180	0	21	0	75	0	110	0	5	0	0	0	1391	0

RF: Rain-fed, IRR: Irrigated

The survey conducted by ARIJ indicated that about 10% of Sa'ir residents are also dependent upon rearing and keeping livestock, such as sheep, goats and chickens.

Table 16: Livestock in Sa'ir village								
Locality	Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Horses	Donkeys	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
Sa'ir	-	5,000	3,200	-	75	200,000	7,000	270

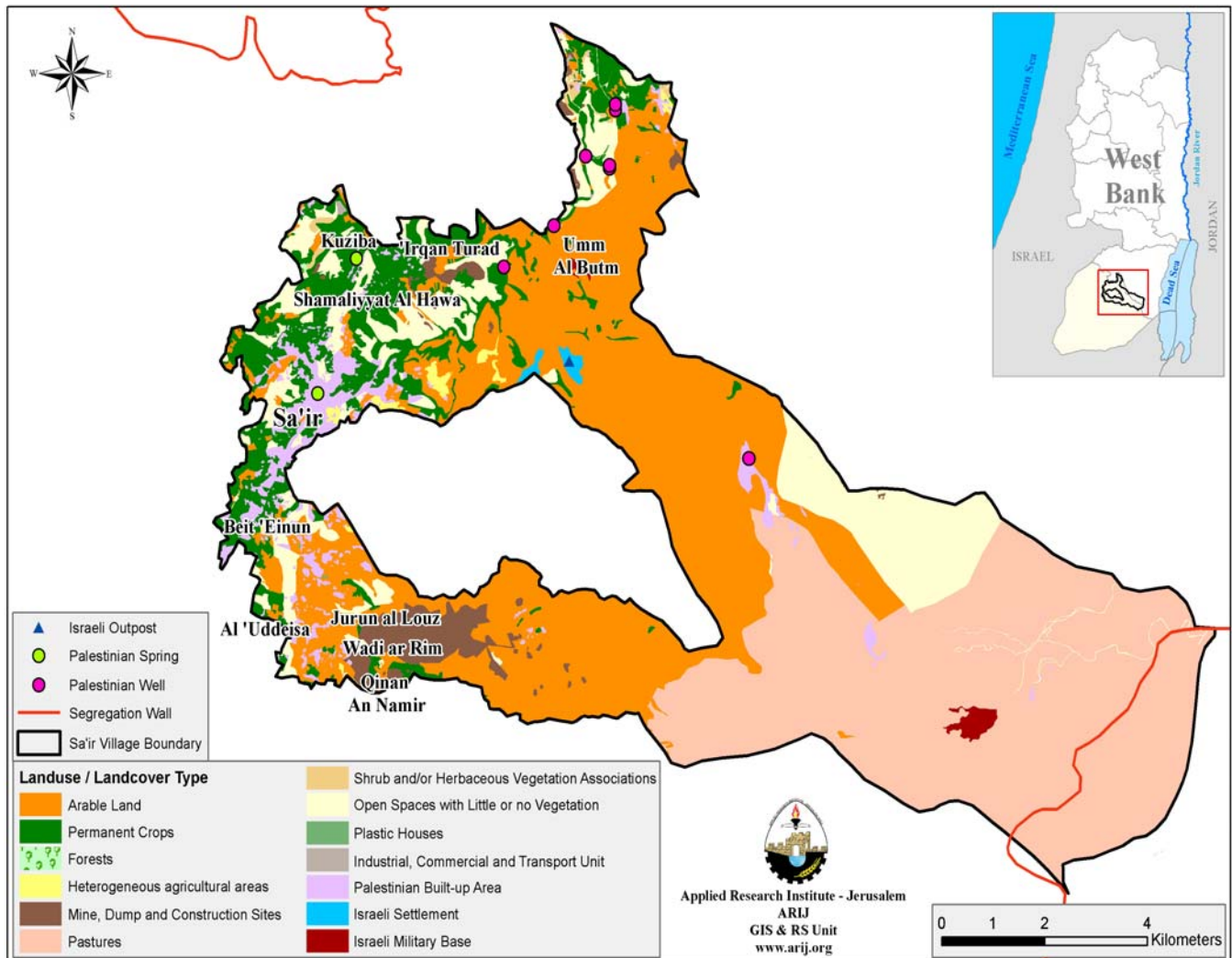
*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Farmers of Sa'ir village are active, participating in agricultural societies and unions. There is one agricultural society in the village, the 'Extract of Grapes and Peaches Society' (جمعية عصير العنب و (البرقوق).

Rainwater is the main source of irrigation in Sa'ir village, but field survey data indicated that farmers also depend on water networks for irrigation. A six km road that is only suitable for driving vehicles is used in Sa'ir for agriculture purposes.

The agricultural sector in the city needs to be developed, but the lack of water, poverty and the lack of experience in the agricultural field stand in the way of necessary development.

Map 3: Land use/land cover and segregation wall in Sa'ir village



Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Sa'ir village is surrounded by two Israeli settlements, Asfar settlement (أسفر), built on 1,500 dunums to the east, and Qiryat Arba' settlement, built on 300 dunums to the west. In addition, one gate, several flying checkpoints and earth mound roadblocks restrict village residents.

Israeli forces have also bulldozed and destroyed 500 dunums of village land, uprooting 300 olive trees, 200 grape vines and 300 almond trees.

Development Plans and Projects

Since 2004, Sa'ir Municipality has implemented ten projects funded by various donors that serve the village's development plans.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

According to the municipality, the village is in need of many projects and plans for village development. Table 17 shows the development priorities and needs in the village.

Table 17: Development Priorities and Needs in Sa'ir village						
No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Moderately Needed	Not Needed	Notes
Infrastructural Needs						
1.	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*				70 km [^]
2.	Construction of New Water Networks	*				20 km
3.	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*				13km
4.	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*				2000 m ³
5.	Extending the Water Network to cover New Built up Areas	*				8 km
6.	Construction of Sewage Disposal Network		*			
Health Needs						
1.	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centre	*				
2.	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres		*			
3.	Purchasing of Medical Equipments and Tools				*	
Educational Needs						
1.	Building of New Schools	*				Secondary
2.	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*				Elementary
3.	Purchasing of New Equipments for Schools		*			
Agricultural Needs						
1.	Rehabilitation of Agricultural lands	*				3,000 dunums
2.	Building Cisterns	*				150 cisterns
3.	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*				25 barracks
4.	Veterinary Services	*				
5.	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*				
6.	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses		*			15 greenhouses
7.	Field Crops Seeds	*				
8.	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*				

[^] 25 km main roads, 20 km link roads and 25 km agriculture roads