

# Beit Iba 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 Nablus Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in the Nablus Governorate, which aims to depict the overall living conditions in the governorate and present developmental plans to assist in improving the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment;" the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

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

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

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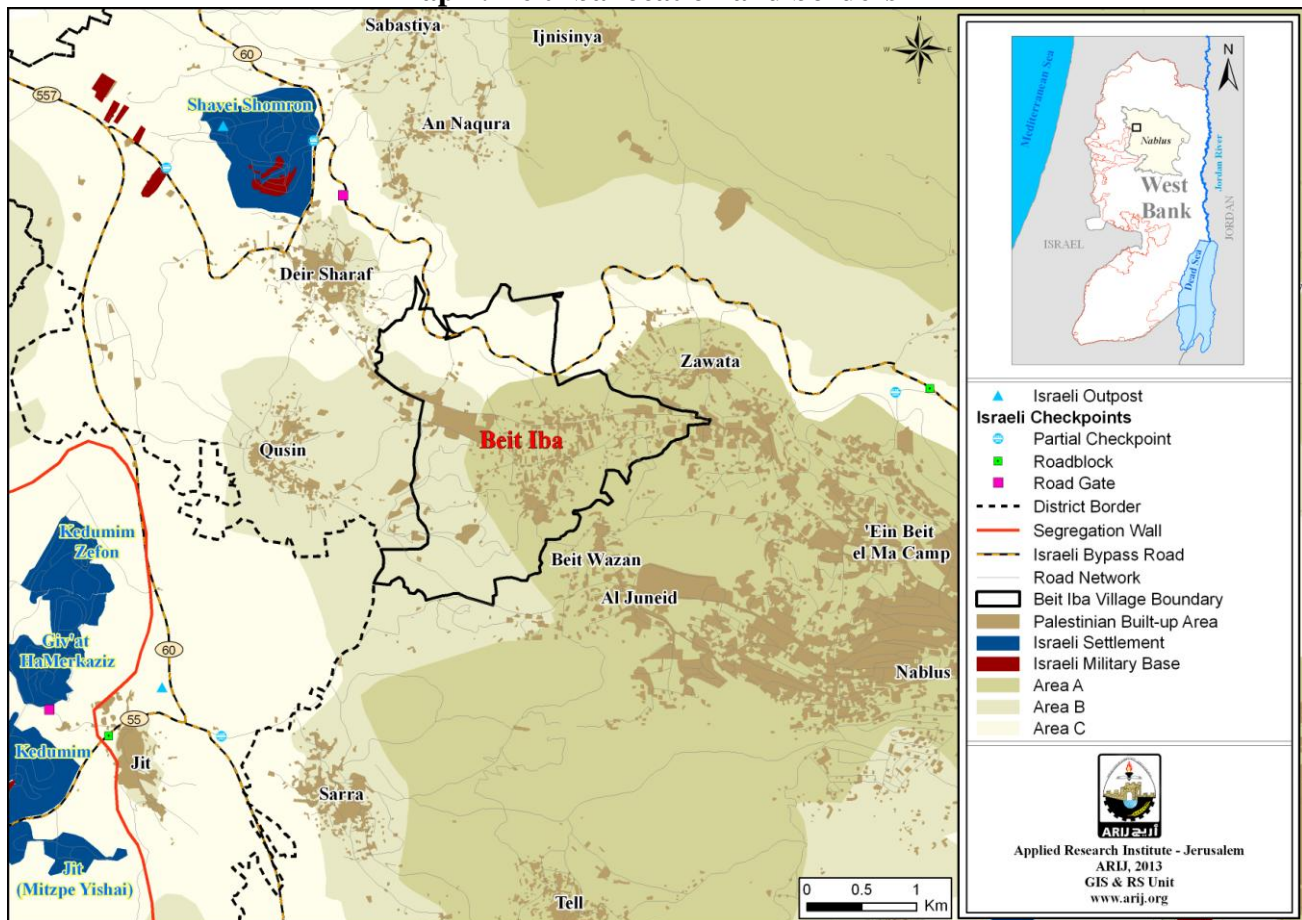
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# Beit Iba Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Beit Iba is a Palestinian village in Nablus Governorate, located 5.13 km west of Nablus City. It is bordered by Nablus city and Beit Wazan to the east, An Naqura and Zawata to the north, Deir Sharaf and Qusin to the west, and Sarra and Beit Wazan to the south (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (See Map 1).

**Map 1: Beit Iba location and borders**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Beit Iba is located at an altitude of 376 m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 598.7 mm. The average annual temperature is 16 C° whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 61% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of Beit Iba village consists of approximately 4,565 dunums. This is according to the new borders of the local bodies which was stipulated by the Palestinian Ministry of local government, prepared by the Palestinian National Authority and represented by the Ministry of Local Government, the Central Elections Commission, the Ministry of Planning and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 2011. These governmental institutions redeveloped and altered the borders of the local bodies for the purpose of the elections. ARIJ adopted these new borders in this project for the purposes of research and study. The adopted borders, to a certain extent, suited the demographic



variables and the environmental and agricultural facts on the ground. These borders do not represent the space and the borders of private property in the district. It is also not included in the files of private land properties.

Since 1960, Beit Iba has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 7 employees working in the council. The council has permanent headquarters which are located within a Joint Committee that includes Beit Iba, Beit Wazan and Zawata (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Beit Iba, including (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water network.
- Street cleaning and public services.
- Road rehabilitation, construction and paving.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.
- Protection of historical and archeological sites.
- Protection of governmental properties.
- Provision of a sewerage network.
- Provision of an educational kindergarten.
- Provision of means of transportation.
- Organization of the construction and issuance of licenses processes.

## History

Beit Iba village was named after the God of Green called “Beit Iba” during the Roman time. The village was established more than 2000 years ago, with its residents descending from Egypt and Haifa (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

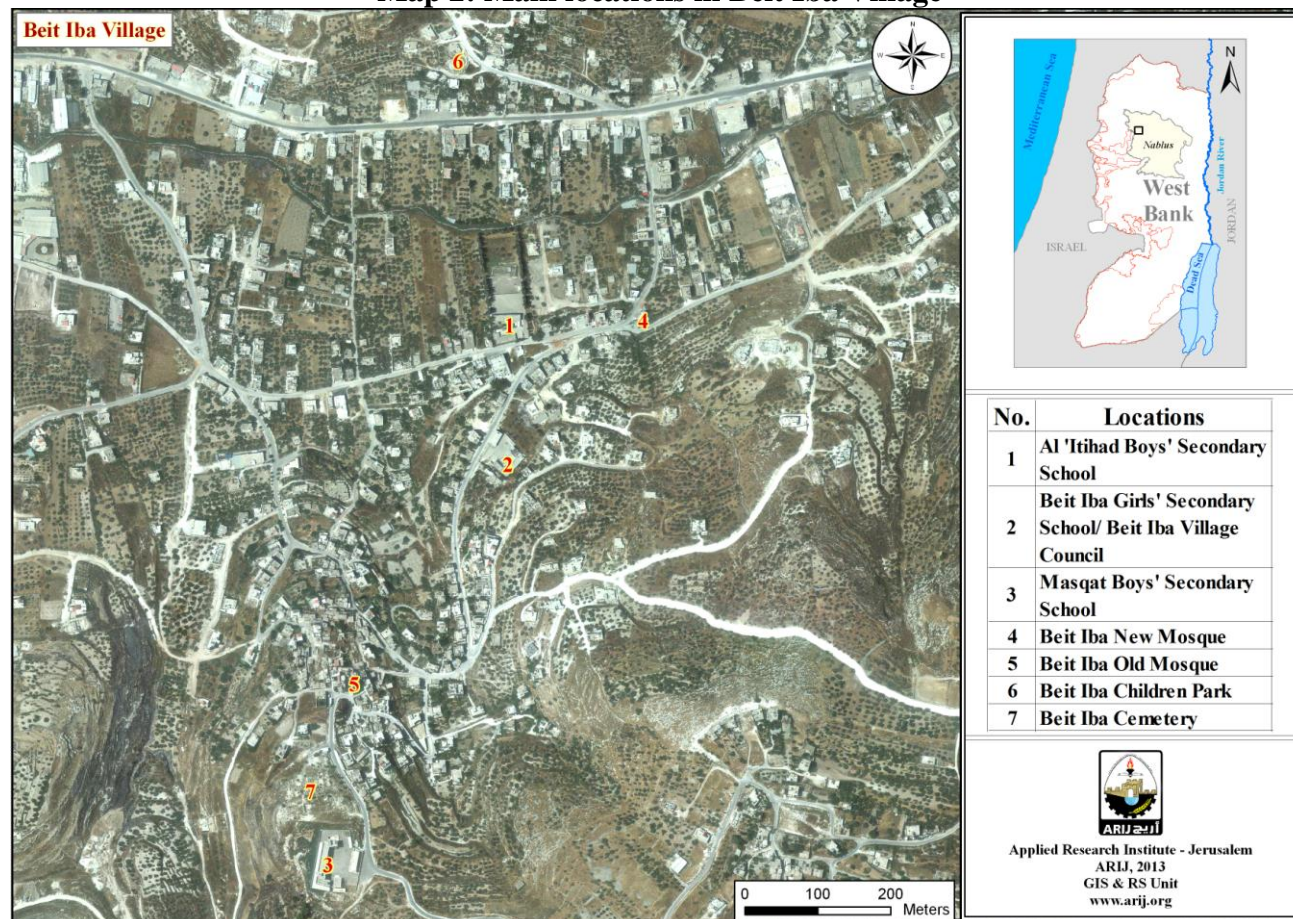
**Photo of Beit Iba**



## Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are two mosques in the village (The old and Al 'Ez Ben Abd as Salam Mosques). The village has several sites of archaeological interest including the Koma area and Khirbet al Maseer (ruins). All of these sites are in need of restoration in order to qualify as a tourist location, as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013) (See Map 2).

**Map 2: Main locations in Beit Iba Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Beit Iba in 2007 was 3,102, of whom 1,566 were male and 1,536 female. There were 628 households registered as living in 847 housing units.

### Age Groups and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed that the distribution of age groups in Beit Iba is as follows: 36.2% were less than 15 years of age, 58.5% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 4.8% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 102:100, meaning that males and females constitute 50.5% and 49.5% of the population, respectively.

## Families

Beit Iba residents are from several families, including As Sama'na, Al Qabalah, Ismael and Ishteivi (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Beit Iba population is approximately 5.2%, of whom 86.6% are females. Of the literate population, 9.6% could only read and write, with no formal education, 20.6% had elementary education, 39.4% had preparatory education, 17.5% had secondary education, and 20.6% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Beit Iba by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

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

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Element- ary	Preparat- ory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un- known	Total
M	16	121	251	338	200	97	140	4	18	1	0	<b>1,186</b>
F	104	102	228	279	208	80	132	1	7	0	0	<b>1,141</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,327</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are three public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (see Table 2).

**Table 2: Schools in Beit Iba by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2011/2012)**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Beit Iba Girls' Secondary School	Government	Females
Al Ittihad Boys' Elementary School	Government	Males
Masqat Co-educated Secondary School	Government	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

In the village there are 810 students, 46 teachers, and 27 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 18, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 30 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There are two kindergartens in Beit Iba village, both of which are run by private organizations (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (See table 3 below).

**Table 3: Kindergartens in Beit Iba village by name and supervising authority**

Name of Kindergarten	No. of Classes	No. of Teachers	Supervising Authority
Zahrat al Mada'en Kindergarten	3	4	Private
The Smart Kid Kindergarten	3	4	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012



Due to the lack of variety when it comes to education, such as more practical learning for the commercial sector, students head to Nablus City schools (5 km from the village) (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

The educational sector in Beit Iba village faces a number of obstacles; mainly (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

- The girls' secondary school is old and its building are subject to fall, thus a new school needs to be constructed.

## Health Status

Beit Iba has a few health facilities, including Beit Iba Health Center, a private general physician clinic and a private pharmacy. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Rafidiya or the National Hospitals, or to Ar Rahma Clinic in Nablus city (5 km away) (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

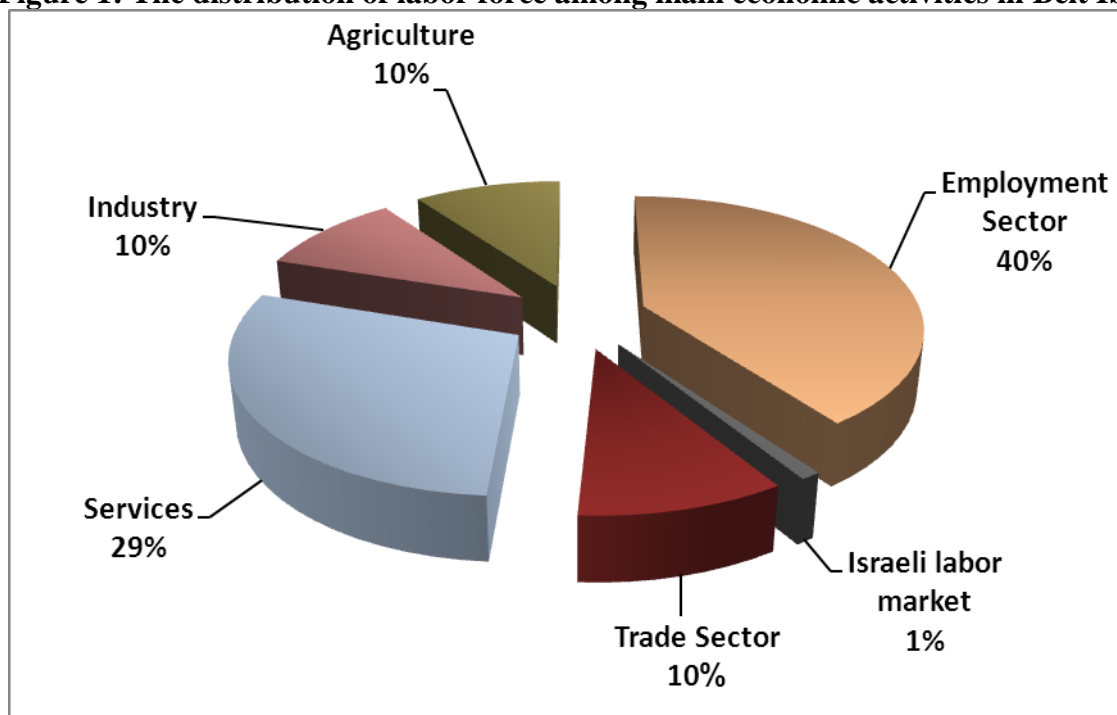
- The lack of an ambulance service.
- The health center's building is in need of restoration and expansion.
- The lack of a resident physician working on a daily basis in the health center.

## Economic Activities

The economy in Beit Iba is dependent mainly on the employees sector, which absorbs 40% of the village's workforce (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013) (See Figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2013 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Beit Iba are as follows:

- Government or other employees sector (40%)
- Services sector (29%)
- Agriculture sector (10%)
- Trade sector (10%)
- Industry (10%)
- Israeli labor market (1%)

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

Source: Beit Iba Village Council, 2013

Beit Iba has 14 grocery stores, 2 fruits and vegetable stores, 1 bakery, 1 butchery, 9 service stores, 16 different professional workshops, 30 stone cutters, 1 olive oil-press, 1 store for agricultural tools and 2 agricultural nurseries (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in Beit Iba reached 10% and the groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

- Workers in the agriculture sector.
- Industrial workers.

## Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census of 2007, 35.2% of Beit Iba's labor force was economically active, of whom 93.1% were employed, 64.5% were not economically active, 53.3% were students, and 34.4% were housekeepers (See Table 4).

**Table 4: Beit Iba population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status**

Sex	Economically active				Non-economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	630	15	24	669	394	2	53	37	27	513	4	1,186
F	132	3	14	149	406	514	61	4	2	987	5	1,141
T	762	18	38	818	800	516	114	41	29	1,500	9	2,327

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

## Agricultural Sector

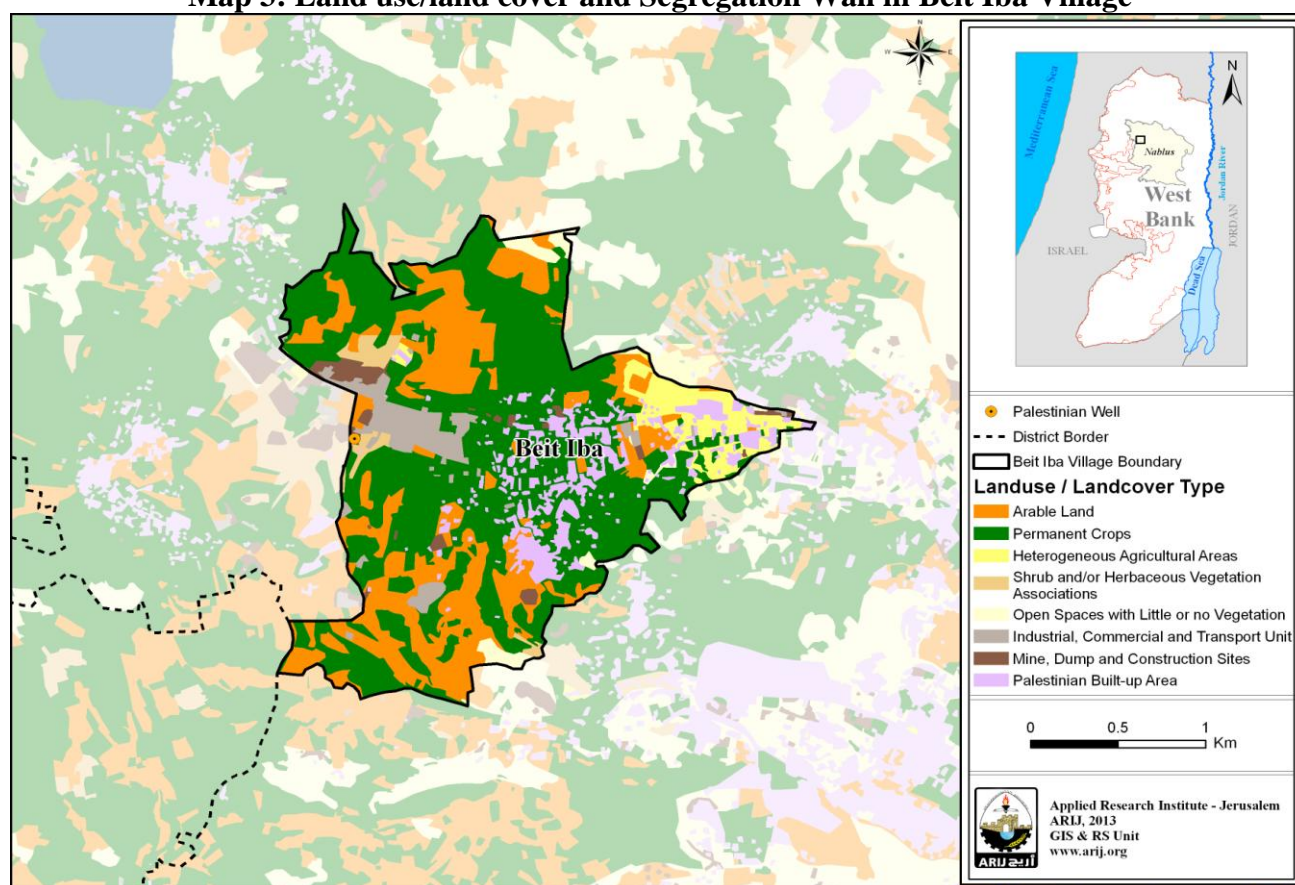
Beit Iba has a total area of approximately 4,565 dunums of which 3,780 are 'arable' land and 389 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See Table 5 and Map 3).

**Table 5: Land use and land cover in Beit Iba village (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (3,780)				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					
4,565	389	2,545	0	74	1,161	0	0	86	310	0

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014.

**Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Beit Iba Village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Beit Iba. The most commonly cultivated crop within this area is okra. Moreover, there is a total area of 51 dunums of greenhouses in the village (Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010).

**Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Beit Iba (area in dunums)**

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetables		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total Area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
4	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	7	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Beit Iba is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 1,601 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

**Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Beit Iba (area in dunums)**

Olives		Citrus		Stone-fruits		Pome fruits		Nuts		Other fruits		Total Area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
1,601	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	140	0	17	0	1,763	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Beit Iba, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 120 dunums (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Total area of forage and field crops in Beit Iba (area in dunums)**

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Oil crops		Forage crops		Stimulating crops		Other crops		Total Area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
120	0	2	0	17	0	2	0	10	0	0	0	3	0	154	0

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

Source: Ministry of agriculture-Nablus, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the difference in each organization's definition of land coverage and ownership. The MoA and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas and not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories. This therefore accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ team shows that only 0.1% of the residents in Beit Iba rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep and goats (See Table 9).

**Table 9: Livestock in Beit Iba**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
7	380	70	0	0	0	0	80,000	0	125

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

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 17 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

**Table 10: Agricultural Roads in Beit Iba Village and their Lengths**

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	2
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	10
For animals only	5
Unsuitable	-

Source: Beit Iba Village Council, 2013



The agricultural sector in the village faces some problems, including (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

- The lack of capital for agricultural investment.
- The confiscation of agricultural lands by the Israelis.
- Most of the agricultural lands were turned into residential areas.
- The lack of irrigation water.
- The lack of interest of the village residents for the agricultural sector.

## Institutions and Services

Beit Iba village has a post office division in addition to a few local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013):

- **Beit Iba Village Council:** Founded in 1960 and later registered by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of taking care of different issues concerning the village and providing various services to its population, in addition to infrastructure services.
- **Beit Iba Women Society:** Founded in 2002 by the Ministry of Interior. The Society's aim is to support women by conducting different courses in the fields of food processing, embroidery and cosmetology.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Beit Iba has been connected to a public electricity network since 1975. It is served by the 'Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company,' which is the main source of electricity in the village, through the North Electricity Company, and approximately 100% of the housing units in the village are connected to the network (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

Beit Iba is also connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 95% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

### Transportation Services:

There are 14 taxis in Beit Iba, however the residents use the Nablus city taxi offices in case of a lack of vehicles. Nevertheless, the residents suffer some obstacles concerning transportation in the village, mainly the poor infrastructure of roads and the need for new road pavement and restoration (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013). There are 8 km of main roads and 15 km of secondary roads in Beit Iba (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013) (See Table 11).

**Table 11: Roads in Beit Iba Village**

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Secondary
1. Paved & in good condition	3	7
2. Paved & in poor condition	2	5
3. Unpaved	3	3

Source: Beit Iba Village Council, 2013

**Water Resources:**

Beit Iba is provided with water by the 'West Bank Water Department' through the public water network established in 1975. All housing units are connected to the network (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

The quantity of water supplied to Beit Iba village in 2012 was recorded at approximately 288,000 cubic meters/year (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 226 liters/day. However, no Beit Iba citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 25% (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013). 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 Beit Iba is 169 liters per day (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013). The average water consumption of Beit Iba residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization. Also located in Beit Iba village are two springs but these are polluted and not in use. In addition to the Beit Iba Artesian wells which provided water to the village, the village has a water tank with a capacity of 200 cubic meters. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 3.5 NIS (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

**Sanitation:**

Beit Iba has a public sewerage network established in 2010. The percentage of housing units which are connected to sanitation in the village is up to 50%, and the rest of the population uses cesspits and septic tanks for wastewater disposal (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day is 473 cubic meters, or 172,800 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 135 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. Here it is noted that there is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to the environment in addition to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

**Solid Waste Management:**

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste for Nablus is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to 13 NIS/ month per household is charged to the population and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. The proportion of fees collected is approximately 50% (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

Most of the population in Beit Iba benefits from the solid waste services where waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags, and placed in 40 containers (of 1m<sup>3</sup> capacity), located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste three times weekly and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 50 km from the village, where it is subsequently buried in an environment-considering way (Beit Iba Village Council, 2013).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Beit Iba is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Beit Iba residents is nearly 2.4 tons, or 394 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

## **Environmental Conditions**

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

### **Water Crisis**

- An increase in the proportion of waste water network reaching to 25%

### **Wastewater Management**

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

### **Solid Waste Management**

Beit Iba village does not suffer any problems concerning the management of solid waste, as the 'Joint Council for the Management of Solid Waste' is responsible for the process of collecting waste resulting from the village and disposing it in Zahret al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is the main environment-considering landfill serving the village in addition to most of the localities in the Nablus Governorate.

## **Impact of the Israeli Occupation**

### **Geopolitical status in Beit Iba village**

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Beit Iba was divided into Area A, B and C. Approximately 2,084 dunums (45% 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 1,537 dunums (34% of the village's total area) were classified as Area B, where the PNA has a complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. The rest of the village's area, constituting of 944 dunums (21% of the total area), were classified as Area C, where Israel retains full control over the security and administration of the territory. In Area

C, Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through the consent or authorization of the Israeli Civil Administration. The majority of Beit Iba's population resides in Area A, while most of the land lying within Area C are agricultural areas (See Table 12).

**Table 12: The Geopolitical Divisions of Beit Iba village according to the Oslo Agreement 1995**

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of Total village area %
Area A	2,084	45
Area B	1,537	34
Area C	944	21
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,565</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

### **Israeli occupation practices in Beit Iba village**

Despite the fact that there are no current settlements and camps established on Beit Iba village lands, the village still suffers from Israeli occupation practices; settlements, camps and Israeli military checkpoints exist not far from the village. After the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, the Israeli authorities established a number of military checkpoints on the territory of the village. These checkpoints carve up the territorial contiguity of the West Bank. Beit Iba village has been negatively impacted by Beit Iba permanent checkpoint, which was considered the western entrance to Nablus City. This checkpoint was situated at the entrance of Beit Iba village for 9 years, on the road which connects Nablus governorate and the northern governorates. This checkpoint was a source of abuse and human rights violations against Palestinians for many years. The gate was removed in April 2009, Israeli forces replaced it with "Al Tunaib" flying checkpoint located 3km away to the west of the village, near "Shavei Shomron" settlement. Flying checkpoints are set up regularly in this area and prevent the free movement of Palestinians.

### **Security zone around Nablus City and 15 Palestinian villages, including Beit Iba**

During the Second Intifada in 2000, Nablus City and the surrounding villages were designated as an Israeli military zone. This area was under siege and surrounded by checkpoints from all sides. This had a negative impact on the freedom of movement for the residents as well as economic and social life in the city. Israeli military forces issued military order No. 37 (1970-5730) on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007 under the pretext of "protecting the areas of "Judea" and "Samaria"". This order included an official announcement about the security zone enforced on Nablus city and the surrounding 15 Palestinian villages. It marked out 6 external military checkpoints, which control the movement of Palestinians entering and exiting the security zone. Within the security zone which is under full Israeli control there are 20 military checkpoints. "Huwwara" main military checkpoint is one of the 20 internal checkpoints. The military order prevents any vehicle entry to or exit from the security zone without the permission of the Israeli military leadership.



The Israeli military order also prevents any person from entering this zone; they can only exit by passing through certain checkpoints designated on the map included in the military order. they are 6 checkpoint.

The zone area includes Nablus City and the following villages: Zawata, Qusin, Beit Iba, Beit Wazan, ‘Azmout, Al Junied, Deir Al Hatab, Salim, Sarra, ‘Askar refugee camp, Balata refugee camp, Tell, Iraq Burin, Rujeib and Kafr Qallil. According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, these villages comprise a total population of more than 220,000 citizens.<sup>1</sup>

Since 2009, Israeli occupation forces have decreased their intensive isolation procedures on Nablus City after evacuating most of the military checkpoints due to more calm conditions in the area.

### Israeli military orders issued in the village of Beit Iba

Israeli occupation authorities have issued a series of military orders in order to confiscate land in Beit Iba village and in the neighboring villages. The following is one of these commands:

1. Israeli Military Order No. 95/11 / T (extension of the validity of borders amendment) issued on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011 confiscated an area of 92.334 dunums from the villages of Beit Iba, An Naqura, Sabestiya ( Ijinistiya ) and Zawata for military purposes (construction of a military road).

Analysis conducted by the Geographic Information Systems Department at the Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ) shows that the 9km long military road which connects the Israeli military base to the east of Zawata and Ijinistiya with “Shavei Shomron” settlement is illegally situated on the territory of the two villages.<sup>2</sup> This military road separates Nablus City and its northern villages as well as isolating hundreds of dunums of agricultural land. It extends 1.5km onto the territory of Beit Iba village on the north side, separating Beit Iba from the neighboring village of An Naqura.

## Development Plans and Projects

### Implemented Projects

Beit Iba Village Council has implemented several development projects in Beit Iba during the past five years (See Table 12).

**Table 12: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Beit Iba during the Last Five Years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Constructing Masqat Secondary School	Educational	2010	Government of Oman
Establishing a sewerage line on the Main Road	Infrastructure	2012	Arab Bank for Economic Development
Paving secondary roads (4.5 km)	Infrastructure	2012	Arab Bank for Economic Development

Source: Beit Iba Village Council, 2013

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.poica.org/editor/case\\_studies/view.php?recordID=1423](http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=1423)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.poica.org/editor/case\\_studies/view.php?recordID=5355](http://www.poica.org/editor/case_studies/view.php?recordID=5355)

## Proposed Projects

Beit Iba Village Council, in cooperation with the village's civil society organizations and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoints of the participants' in the workshop:

1. Establishing a water reservoir of a capacity of 300 cups.
2. Establishing a school for girls.
3. Constructing a departments complex (Public Services Complex).
4. Establishing a sports stadium and a sports club.
5. Constructing retaining walls (5 km long).
6. Establishing a parallel sewer line (# 2).
7. Constructing agricultural roads (approx. 6 km long).
8. Rehabilitating the bridges at the village entrances.
9. Paving the opened streets (5 km).
10. Creating operational programs and providing job opportunities.
11. Rehabilitating the electricity network.
12. Rehabilitating the water network (3 km).
13. Rehabilitating and developing the village springs.
14. Establishing domestic water cisterns.
15. Rehabilitating and furnishing Beit Iba childrens garden.
16. Regulating the water discharge lines, especially in winter.
17. Providing the Village Council with heavy equipment.
18. Developing the health center.
19. Completing the sewerage network (3 km long).
20. Re-examining the new structural plan.
21. Creating research projects for the conduction of environmental studies in order to confirm the seriousness of the impact of the industrial areas on the population, in particular the aluminum factory.

## Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Beit Iba suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 13 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's perspective:

Table 13: Development Priorities and Needs in Beit Iba

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and pavement of roads	*			10 km <sup>^</sup>
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks		*		3 km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			2 km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			500 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			3 km
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*	
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			50 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*	
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*	
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres	*			Rehabilitating the health center's second floor
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building new schools	*			secondary school for girls
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			Al Ittihad Boys' Elementary School
3	Purchasing new school equipment		*		
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			500 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			100 cisterns
3	Construction of livestock barracks			*	
4	Provision of Veterinary Services			*	
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals		*		40 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses	*			100 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			
<b>Other Needs</b>					
1	Need new building for Beit Iba village council				
2	Need new building for sport club				
3	Need to publish new waste water network (3 km)				
4	Need to build a new Retaining wall to support main roads				
5	Need to establish stadium				

<sup>^</sup> 3 km main roads, 3 km secondary roads and 4 km agricultural roads.

Source: Beit Iba Village Council, 2013

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