

'Arab Abu Farda 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 Qalqiliya Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Qalqiliya 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 Qalqiliya 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 Qalqiliya 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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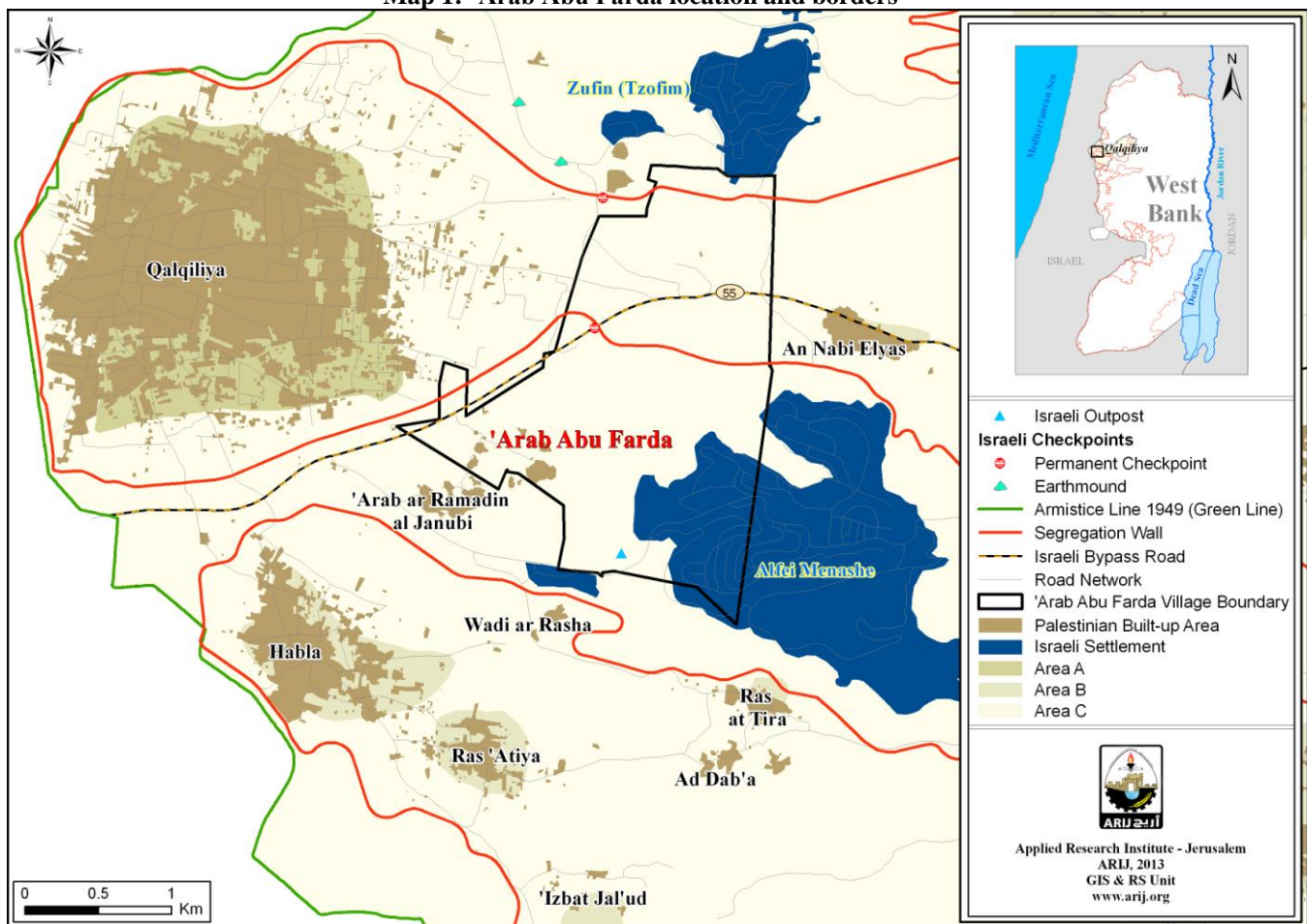
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'Arab Abu Farda Village Profile

Location and physical characteristics

'Arab Abu Farda is a Palestinian village in the Qalqiliya Governorate located 3.58km east of Qalqiliya City. It is bordered by An Nabi Elyas village to the east, Wadi ar Rasha and Ras at Tira to the south, Qalqiliya city and 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi village to the west, and 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali village and Jayyus lands to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2013) (see map 1).

Map 1: 'Arab Abu Farda location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

'Arab Abu Farda is located at an altitude of 131m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 584.4mm. The average annual temperature is 19°C and the average annual humidity is approximately 62.8% (ARIJ-GIS, 2013).

The classification of the residential areas borders has been adopted in this profile based on the administrative division of Palestinian communities, according to the Palestinian National Authority(PNA). This administrative division system has been developed by the Palestinian Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Local Government, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics(PCBS), and the Central Election Commission (CEC).

Since 2012, ‘Arab Abu Farda has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. The Council does not own but it rather rents a permanent headquarters, and it does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of ‘Arab Abu Farda, including:

- The establishment and maintenance of the electricity network or generators.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.

(‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

History

‘Arab Abu Farda village was named after the Abu Farda family who were the first to inhabit the village. The village was established in 1948 A.D, however its residents are descended from the Bassat al Faleq area; one of the territories which was confiscated in 1948 (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

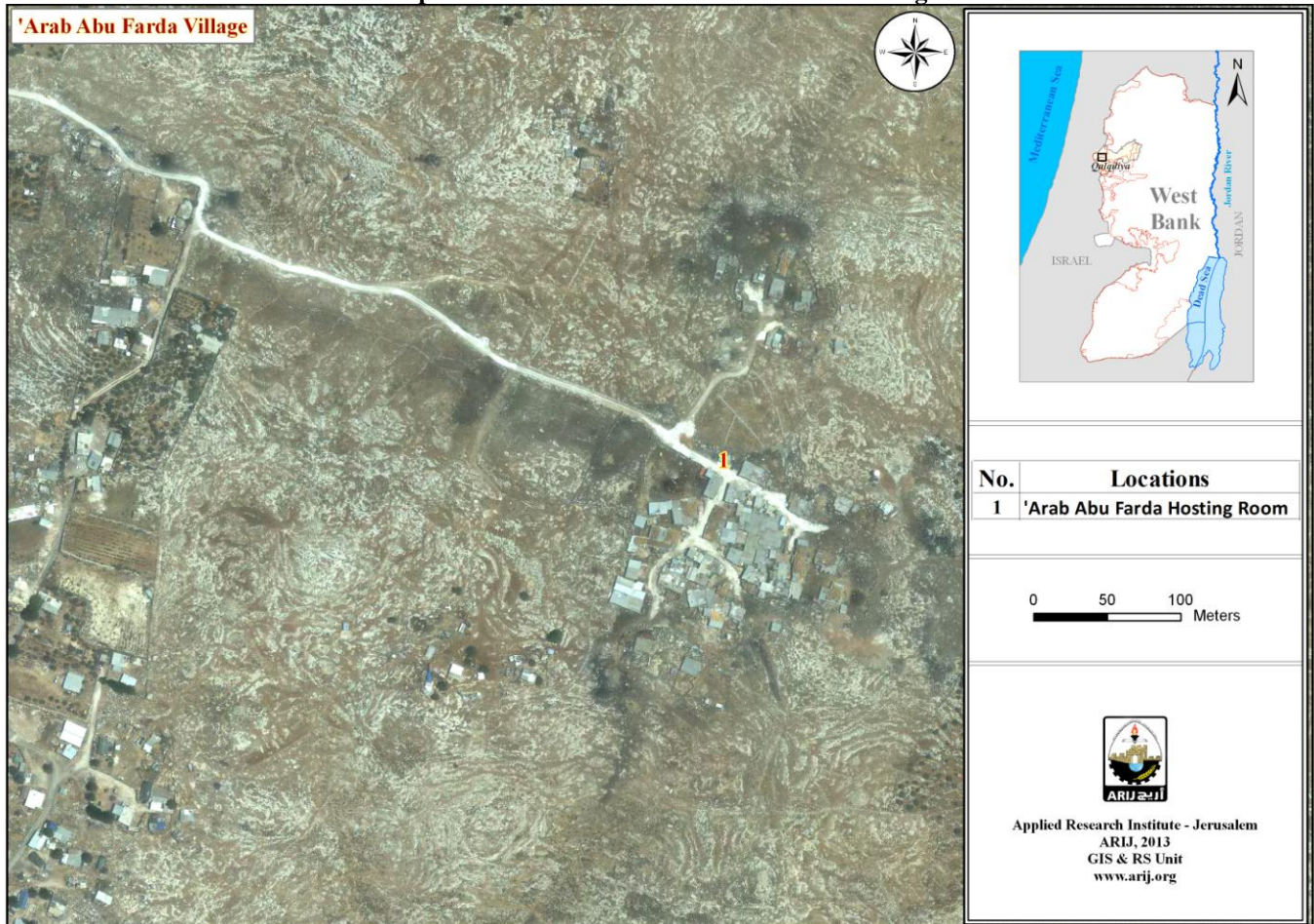
Photo of ‘Arab Abu Farda



Religious and archaeological sites

There are no religious, historical or archaeological sites in ‘Arab Abu Farda village (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012) (see map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in ‘Arab Abu Farda village



source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of ‘Arab Abu Farda in 2007 was 112, of whom 54 were male and 58 female. There were 24 households registered as living in 24 housing units.

Age groups and gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by the PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in ‘Arab Abu Farda was as follows: 48.2% were less than 15 years of age, 47.3% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 4.5% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the

gender ratio of males to females in the village was 93.1:100, meaning that males and females constituted 48.2% and 51.8% of the population, respectively.

Families

‘Arab Abu Farda residents are from several families, including the Abu Farda, Ad Dabbas and Malalha families (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among ‘Arab Abu Farda’s population is approximately 37.1%, of whom 69% are females. Of the total population, 32.9% could only read and write with no formal education, 18.6% had elementary education, 5.7% had preparatory education, 2.9% had secondary education, and 2.9% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of ‘Arab Abu Farda by gender and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: ‘Arab Abu Farda population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Masters	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	8	13	6	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	32
F	18	10	7	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	38
T	26	23	13	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	70

Source: PCBS, 2009

There are no public schools nor kindergartens in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012). This is considered a major problem, but students head to the neighboring village schools to receive primary and secondary education in ‘Azzun Secondary School (6km away) and An Nabi Elyas village schools (3.5km away) (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012). The educational sector in ‘Arab Abu Farda village faces a number of obstacles, in particular the daily harassment on students from the occupation forces during their journeys to schools and the existence of an Israeli checkpoint that separates their village from the schools in neighboring villages.

(‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

Health status

‘Arab Abu Farda has no health facilities, which is a major problem for the residents. Due to this absence of required health services, and in emergencies, patients are transferred to Darweesh Nazzal Hospital or

the maternity hospital in Qalqiliya city, both of which are 5km away from the village (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

The health sector in the village faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally

- The lack of medical clinics in the village for the examination and treatment of citizens, in particular the elderly.

The lack of an ambulance.(‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

Economic activities

The economy in ‘Arab Abu Farda is completely dependent on the agricultural sector, which absorbs 100% of the village’s workforce (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

‘Arab Abu Farda has only one grocery (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012). In 2012, the unemployment rate in ‘Arab Abu Farda reached 25%. The groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been:

- Workers in the agriculture sector.
- Workers in the services sector.

(‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 34.3% of ‘Arab Abu Farda’s labor force was economically active, of whom 66.6% were employed, 65.7% were not economically active, 30.4% were students, and 56.5% were housekeepers (see table 4).

Table 4: ‘Arab Abu Farda 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	15	0	7	22	8	0	2	0	0	10	0	32
F	1	0	1	2	6	26	4	0	0	36	0	38
T	16	0	8	24	14	26	6	0	0	46	0	70

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

Agricultural sector

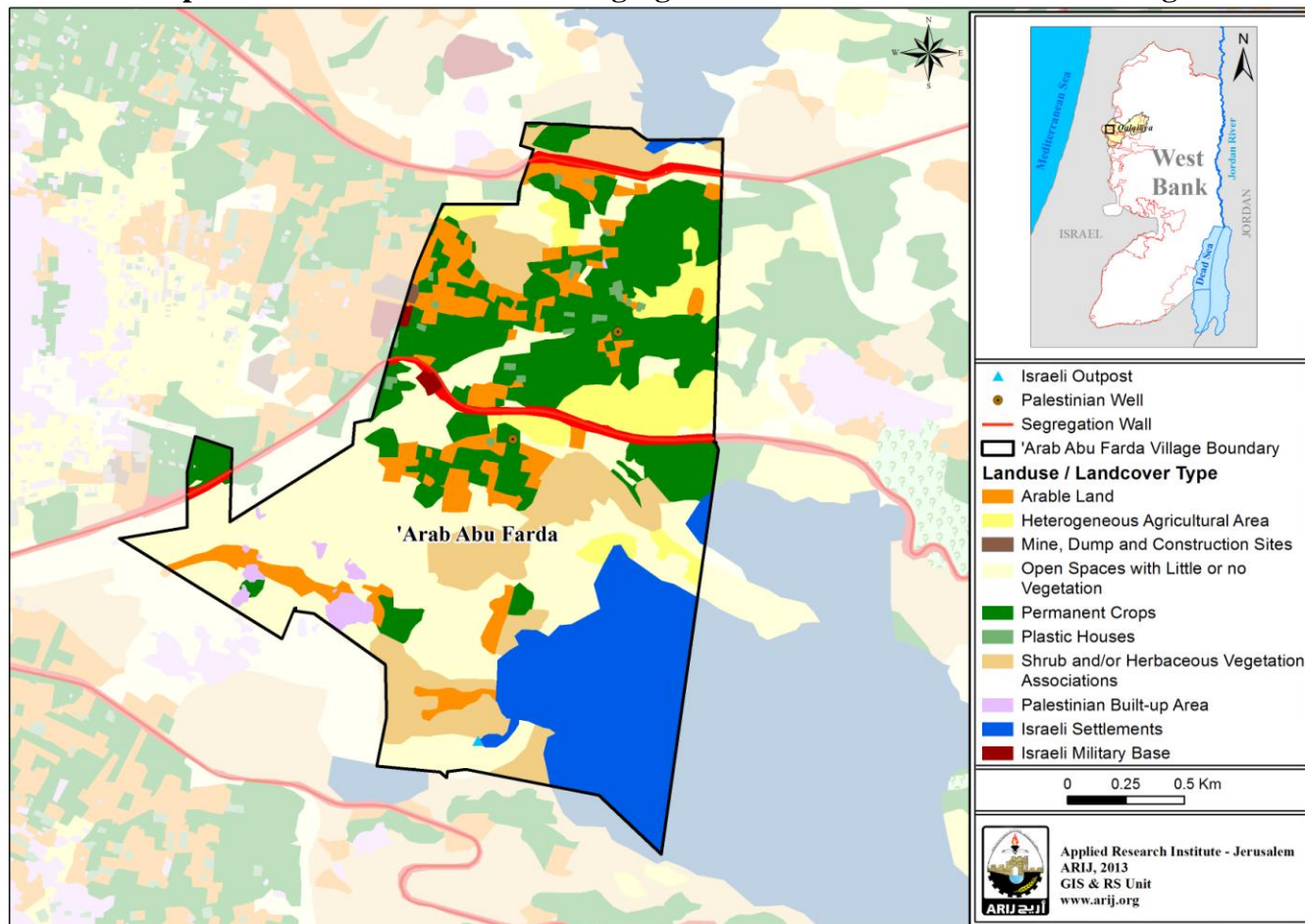
‘Arab Abu Farda has a total area of approximately 4,223 dunums of which 2,163 are arable land and 44 dunums are registered as residential (see table 5 and map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in ‘Arab Abu Farda village (area in dunums)

Total area	Built up area	Agricultural area (2,163)				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					
4,223	44	1,217	26	533	387	0	0	1,249	3	765

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2013

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in ‘Arab Abu Farda Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013.

‘Arab Abu Farda is famous for citrus cultivation and there are approximately 2 dunums of land planted with citrus trees in the village (Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010).

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ’s GIS Unit in size 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 they 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. This therefore accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ team shows that all of the residents in ‘Arab Abu Farda rear and keeps domestic animals such as sheep and goats (see table 4).

Table 4: Livestock in ‘Arab Abu Farda

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee hives
149	850	460	0	0	0	0	0	13,000	0

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

There are approximately 27km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows:

Table 5: Agricultural roads in ‘Arab Abu Farda village and their lengths

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	-
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	7
For animals only	20
Unsuitable	-

Source: ‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012

The agricultural sector in the village faces some problems, including:

- The lack of pastures due to the Wall.
- The difficulty of accessing animal feed in the village due to the Israeli checkpoint.
- The high costs of feed.
- The lack of agricultural machinery.
- The lack of water resources.

(‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

Institutions and services

‘Arab Abu Farda village has no governmental institution and only one local association that provides services to various sectors of society. This is

- **‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council:** Founded in 2012 by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of addressing different issues concerning the village and providing various services and infrastructure to its residents. (‘Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

Infrastructure and natural resources

Electricity and telecommunication services:

‘Arab Abu Farda has been connected to a public electricity network since 1996. It is served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village, and 100% of

the housing units in the village are connected to the network. The village residents face some problems concerning electricity, primarily the aged electrical network and the need for rehabilitation and maintenance, as well as the need for a high power electric transformer ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

'Arab Abu Farda is not connected to a telecommunication network ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

Transportation services:

There is no public transport in 'Arab Abu Farda and residents also suffer from the existence of earth mounds and military checkpoints on roads, as well as the Segregation Wall. The residents therefore use private cars in addition to taxis from the Qalqiliya office ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012). There are 2km of main roads and 2km of secondary roads in 'Arab Abu Farda, all of which are unpaved ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012)

Water resources:

In 2010, a plastic water pipes network was established in 'Arab Abu Farda. However to date, the village is still not served with water, thus residents are forced to buy expensive water tanks ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

The village has a public water reservoir with a capacity of 75 cubic meters, as well as 4 individual household rainwater harvesting cisterns ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

Sanitation:

'Arab Abu Farda lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits as the main means of wastewater disposal ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

As the village is not connected to a water network and receives no water services, there is no data available on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, or the approximate quantity of wastewater generated per day. However, the wastewater collected by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. 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 as well as to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid waste management:

'Arab Abu Farda lacks a solid waste management service; each citizen collects the solid waste from his household and burns it nearby ('Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in 'Arab Abu Farda is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per year from the 'Arab Abu Farda residents is nearly 33.5 tons (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental conditions

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

Water crisis

The lack of a water service, thus the residents are forced to buy water tanks.

Wastewater management

The absence of a public sewage network in the village means that 'Arab Abu Farda residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or to discharge wastewater into 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, to avoid the need to use sewage tankers and 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:

'Arab Abu Farda village experiences many problems concerning the management of solid waste, as the village lacks a solid waste management system,. Therefore the citizens collect solid waste and burn it next to their houses, causing damage to their health and leading to the proliferation of harmful flies, insects and mice, as well as the bad odors, toxic gases and black smoke emitted when burned. All of this has harmful effects on human health as well as to the environment.

The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve 'Arab Abu Farda village, like the rest of the villages and towns in Qalqiliya Governorate, which dispose their waste of in Zahrat al Finjan landfill located in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is considered the central sanitary landfill serving most of the localities in Qalqiliya Governorate.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in 'Arab Abu Farda

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995, by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, all the village lands of 'Arab Abu Farda is classified as area C and consisting of 4,223Dunums,where Israel retains full Israeli control over security and administration related issues within the territory. Any land management within this area is prohibited without the prior consent or authorization of the Israeli Civil Administration. It is worth mentioning that, in addition to the built-up urban areas in the village, there are also agricultural areas and open spaces that the residence depends on them as a source of livelihood in Agriculture and raising sheep (see table 6).

Table 6: The geopolitical divisions of 'Arab Abu Farda village according to Oslo Agreement 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	0	0
Area C	4,223	100
Natural reserves	0	0
Total	4,223	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

Israeli occupation practices on 'Arab Abu Farda village

Areas of land in 'Arab Abu Farda have been subjected to numerous Israeli confiscations in order to forward various Israeli objectives such as the construction of Israeli settlements and bypass roads on the village territories. This was done in addition to the building of the Segregation Wall, and the isolation of agricultural lands and open areas. The following is a breakdown of the Israeli confiscations of 'Arab Abu Farda village:

The Israeli settlements that are established on the lands of 'Arab Abu Farda village

Israel confiscated 659 dunums of land (15.6% of the total village lands) in 'Arab Abu Farda to establish the 'Alfei Menashe' settlement and Zufin settlement. Only part of these two settlements were established on the land of 'Arab Abu Farda village, while the other parts of the settlements were established on the lands of other villages, including the villages of Ras at Tira, Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali, Wadi ar Rasha, An Nabi Elyas, 'Isla, and Jayyus. The settlement of 'Alfei Menashe' is considered one of the most important settlements for Israel because of its geographic and strategic location as well as the large area it occupies, making it the largest Israeli settlement in Qalqiliya Governorate in terms of the area it covers and population numbers. In addition, the settlement of 'Alfei Menashe' also forms a key component of the large 'Ariel Kedumim' settlement bloc, which Israel is seeking to include within its borders by constructing the Separation Wall on land located in the West Bank. As for the Israeli settlement Zufin, despite that it is considered a residential area for almost 1,100 settlers. However, the structural plan of this settlement, as provided in the early nineties by the Israeli civil administration, showed that the space which is set for future expansion in this settlement is approximately 2493 dunums, which means that it is almost four times the area of the current space it covers, consisting of 642 Dunums [Israeli Plans No. (149/2) and (149/4) and (149/5)]. It includes an expansion of the urban area of the settlement and the establishment of an industrial zone nearby (B'TSELEM, 2011).

Table 7: The Israeli settlements that are established on the lands of 'Arab Abu Farda village

Settlement Name	Total area for the settlement (Dunums)	The total area of the village lands which the settlement occupies
AlfeiMenashe	2825	651
Zufin	642	8
Total Area	3467	659

Source: ARIJ- 2013

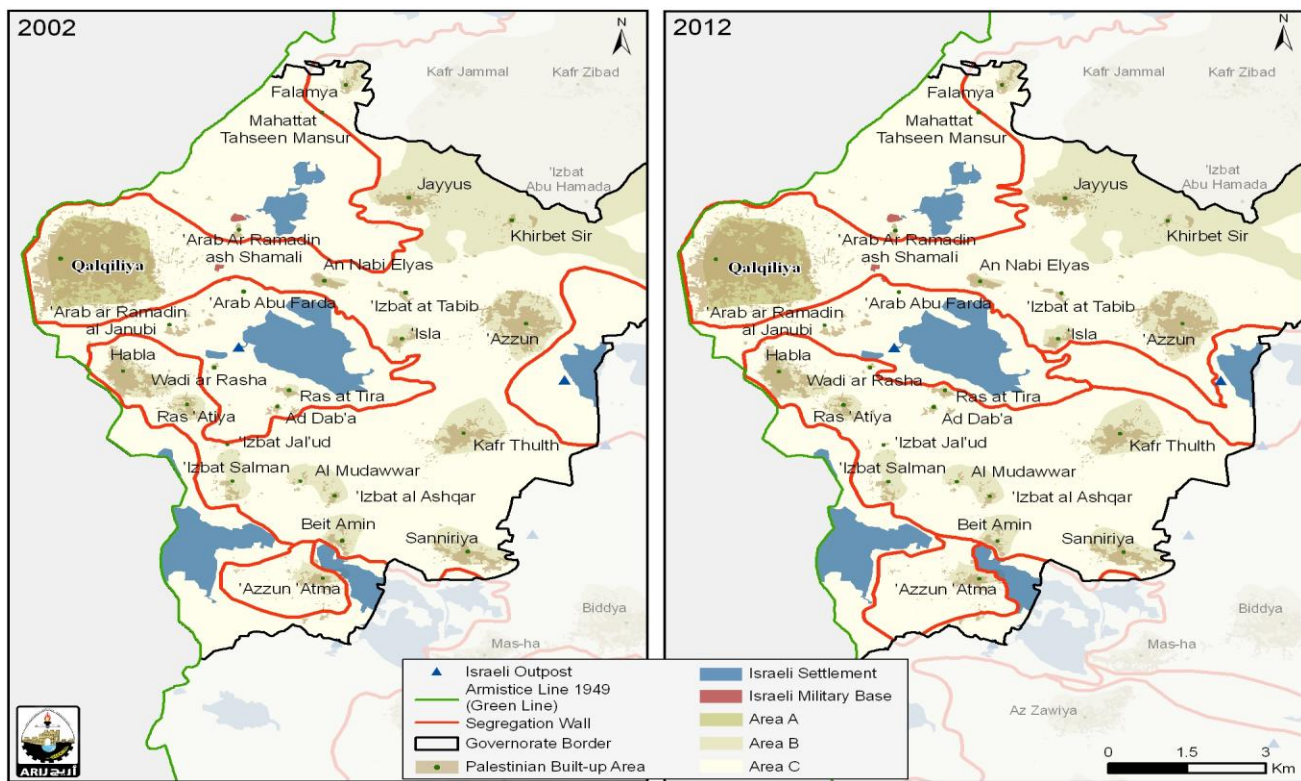
During the past two decades, Israel illegally established 232 colonial locations in the occupied West Bank which became known today as “Israeli Outposts”. The Israeli Outposts phenomena, differ from settlements because they are generally much smaller, and the population is generally more fundamentalist in their religious beliefs. however, outposts allow for the possibility of expansion into larger settlements and for the growth of areas for existing settlements. The start of the outpost acceleration began with the late Israeli Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, when he called on Israeli settlers to take control of hilltops and mountains in the West Bank Territory, before handing them over to Palestinians in final status negotiations. Despite the fact that the outposts weren't granted the direct legal cover by the successive Israeli Governments, their existence was granted security and logistical cover. Specifically, when Ariel Sharon came to power in 2001, he gave the outposts more free rein, This in turn, has increased the number of Israeli settlements' outposts in the Occupied West Bank. It is important to note the role of the Israeli Occupation forces in helping Israeli settlers relocate to, and live in such locations by providing them with the infrastructure needed for building such outposts and providing security to encourage them to stay. The village of ‘Arab Abu Farda witnessed various land confiscation for the purpose of establishing these outposts. Where an outpost were established to the west of the settlement of Alfei Menashe early 2004 , which became related . Today, this outpost contains six residential barracks and a number of other barracks .

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan in 'Arab Abu Farda village

The Implementation of the Israeli Segregation Wall plan on the ground has been ongoing since June, 2002. This began after the decision was taken by the Israeli Authorities to implement the separation policy between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories by establishing an isolation zone in the western part of the West Bank. This isolation zone stretches from the north to the south of the West Bank, thereby confiscating the most agriculturally fertile land, and isolating Palestinian societies (into Ghettos) and separating communities from one another. By controlling natural resources and connecting most of the Israeli settlements to one another in an attempt to legitimize the route of the Separation Wall inside the West Bank, the isolation area also undermines the regional interaction between Palestinian towns and villages. and controls the natural resources. The construction of the wall has therefore ignored the ruling of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) made on July 9th 2004, in which they recommended that the route of the Wall should be changed and Palestinians affected by the

Wall in this area should be offered compensation. However, on 30th April 2007, new amendments were made, which concentrated on the new route of the Separation Wall, in the areas which faced geographical obstacles in the West Bank. These amendments were based on solving the problems which are considered a challenge in light of the continuous building process of the Separation Wall. 'Arab Abu Farda village was one of the villages that was affected by the amendments to the original route (published in July, 2002) of the Separation Wall. This map showed that the Wall would completely isolate 'Arab Abu Farda village and the neighboring villages of Ras 'Atiya, 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi, and An Nabi Elyas and Qalqiliya city, in an isolation zone called Qalqiliya isolation zone. The isolation of these villages is achieved through surrounding these villages by the Wall from three sides; the west, north, and south, leaving the eastern side partly open in order for the villagers to interact with their neighboring villages from the eastern side. The map showed that there is another isolation zone, located to the east of Qalqiliya isolation zone, called Ad Dab'a isolation zone, which includes the villages of Ad Dab'a, Wadi ar Rasha, Ras 'Atiya (see map 4).

Map 4: Comparison between the path of Israeli Segregation Wall plan in 2002 and 2012



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

In March 2003, the Israeli military website published a new map for the route of the Separation Wall in the occupied West Bank, illustrating the amendments that included isolation zones that have Qalqiliya city and the villages of 'Arab Abu Farda, Habla, Ras 'Atiya, An Nabi Elyas. As a result, three isolation zones were created; the first being the isolation of Qalqiliya city through the construction of the

Separation Wall around the city from the northern, southern, and western sides. The only side which stayed half open was the eastern side of the city, in order for the residents of the aforementioned villages to remain connected to their neighboring villages, with the exception of An Nabi Elyas village which remained between two walls from the north and the south. The second isolation zone affects the villages of Ras 'Atiya and Habla, while the third isolation zone included the villages of Ad Dab'a ,Ras at Tira, Wadi ar Rasha, 'Arab Abu Farda and 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi. Where, the map showed that the Wall will surround the village of Habla and 'Ras 'Atiya from its 3 sides the North, East, and western side, while the south-eastern side remained partly open in order for the villagers of this village to connect with their surrounding villages from the east-northern side. While, 'Arab Abu Farda, were completely separated from Qalqiliya city which is located to the north side from the village. Where , they used to share economic benefits in common, and the village used to depend on this city as their life center, Moreover, Ad Dab'a isolation zone where also included which includes the villages of Wadi ar Rasha , Ras at Tira .It also worth mentioning that in order to connect the settlement of "Alfei Menashe' which Israel is trying to include within its borders through the construction of the separation, Ad Dab'a isolation zone resulted from this plan. It is worth mentioning, that the Israeli authorities did not worry about what may result from these adjustments and have negative effects and disastrous consequences for the Palestinian communities and it's residents from including the settlement 'Alfei Menashe' to its new borders. Where this process, resulted an isolation for 4 Palestinian villages that were completely in a geographical isolation from its surroundings and the residents where deprived to live in dignity in their own lands which always were considered as their source of living for them.

During the following years in 2005, 2006 and 2007, the Israeli army announced several amendments to the path of the wall in the occupied West Bank. In particular on February,20th,2005 and on and on June,30th, 2006 and also on April,30th,2007 , However, none of these amendments included the village of 'Arab Abu Farda, and the village still suffer until this day from the construction of the Segregation Wall on its territory. On the one hand , the urban area of the village remained isolated from its surrounding villages, such as the Palestinian city of Qalqiliya from the north-west side and the villages of Habla and Ras 'Atiya from the south-west side. And in order for the people in 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi to communicate with their surrounding Palestinian communities such as the city of Qalqiliya ,a gate was put by the Israeli army at the main entrance of the village, and on the Israeli bypass road No. 55. This gate was established after the completion and construction of the Segregation Wall in the area, where only the villagers of 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi and 'Arab Abu Farda were allowed to enter and exit through this iron gate, in order for these villagers to be connected with the city of Qalqiliya and the neighboring Palestinian villages from the eastern side. Moreover, the Israeli army controls the movement of the Palestinians who are passing through this gate and by allowing them to enter and exit to and from the village at certain times during the day and only for limited hours. It also uses people gathered 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi assembly next to him, 'Arab ar Ramadin al Janubi gate based on the territory of the village Wadi ar Rasha to communicate with the Palestinian villages in the south and south-east of Qalqiliya governorate such as the village of Habla and Ras Atiya and 'Izbat Jal'ud and 'Izbat Salman and Beit Amin and Sanniriya and Kafr Thulth.

Further changes to the route of the Separation Wall were announced on 20th February 2005, but these amendments did not affect 'Arab Abu Farda village. However, on 30th April 2006, the Israeli military published a further change to the route of the Separation Wall. This time the amendments included a modification to the route of the wall in the Palestinian village of 'Arab Abu Farda and neighboring villages. This latest amendment was made in order to benefit Israeli settlements near the village of 'Arab Abu Farda from the eastern side, namely the Ariel settlement bloc that is located to the east of the village. This settlement bloc is considered to be one of Israel's main priorities, hence they decided to separate this bloc into two parts; the first being Ariel and the second, Kedumim. It is important to note that after these changes, the Ariel settlement bloc will include another five settlements. These settlements are Revava, Kiryat Netafim, Barqan, Barqan Industrial Zone and Ariel industrial settlement. Upon completion of the amendments to the Wall's route, the Kedumim bloc will include 12 settlements: Kedumim, Kedumim Zefon, Jit (MitzpeYishai), Giv'at HaMerkaziz, Emmanuel, Yakir, Nofim., Neve Oramin, Karne Shomron, Shavei Shomron, Ma'ale Shomron and Ginnot Shomron. It is also worth mentioning here that as well as remapping the Wall around the Ariel bloc, the Wall has also been made longer with these amendments, extending from 120km to 133km long to surround both the Ariel and Kedumim settlement blocs. These changes also increase the area of land to be confiscated by the Wall in the Palestinian villages surrounding these two settlement blocs. Furthermore, Israel will connect the Ariel settlement bloc with the rest of Israel by constructing bypass road no. 5, whilst the Kedumim settlement bloc will be connected to the "Alfei Menashe" settlement by bypass road no.55, which also connects to Israel. Moreover, this change of the route of the Separation Wall increased the amount of land to be taken, from the neighboring Palestinian villages.

Going back to the recent amendment on the Wall route in the West Bank that were issued on the thirtieth of April 2007, 2.6 km of the wall of has been built on the territory of 'Arab Abu Farda from the north and west sides. Moreover, an area of 2873 dunums of lands were confiscated (68% of the total area) which includes Israeli settlements in addition to agricultural lands and open areas and the urban area of the village. (See Table 8).

Table 8: Land classification of the isolated area inside the Segregation Wall in 'Arab Abu Farda village

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Agricultural lands	530
2	Open spaces	1569
3	Israeli Settlements	659
4	Segregation Wall	64
5	Israeli Military Base	8
6	Palestinian built up-Area	43
	Total	2873

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

The Israeli occupation claims that the goal behind the construction of the Separation Wall in the occupied Palestinian territories is to ensure security and continues to be built under the pretext of

protecting Israeli citizens. However, in reality, but on the real ground, the area of Palestinian territory which will be isolated between the Separation Wall and the Armistice Line of 1949 (Green Line) is 733 square kilometers, representing 13% of the total area of the West Bank. In addition to the annexation of 107 Israeli settlements where more than 85% of the number of Israeli settlers live in the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories of the West Bank. It seems that Israel has begun the second phase of what it aims to achieve by building the Segregation Wall, after the isolation of the Palestinian territories from the main communities in the West Bank took place. Israel is taking advantage of the uninhabited spaces and linking them to Israel, through following the same pattern that was used in the building process of the settlements. In this case however, Israel is seeking to link the Israeli settlements in the West Bank to the cities and Israeli communities which are adjacent to the Green Line (the armistice line of 1949) in an effort to undermine the development of the Green Line and redraw it in order to fit in line with what they are trying to impose as a fact on the ground, such as the Segregation Wall. Through this wall, Israel seeks to redraw their eastern border as part of their approach to impose their vision and implement their plans for the peace process.

Previous Israeli Violations Against 'Arab Abu Farda Land and People

The residents of 'Arab Abu Farda Palestinian village are still suffering from the prohibitions of the Israeli occupation authorities in many forms because once the building of the Separation Wall on the territory of the village was complete, they started to prevent the villagers from approaching the area of the Wall. This was done in an attempt of the Israeli occupation to create a security zone, adjacent to the eastern side of the Wall, that is, on the Palestinian side and as a result there would be more confiscation of Palestinian land in the village. The villagers also suffer because of the remnants of the Israeli settlement of 'Alfei Menashe', that is near to them on the western side, where the settlement extends its space on the territory of 'Arab Abu Farda village and its neighboring Palestinian villages. Some of the results of this include the pollution of farmlands and open areas of the village which creates a health crisis within the village, as well as causes the infestation of insects in people's living environment which is difficult to live with them. The residents in the village of 'Arab Abu Farda are under constant threat of 'Alfei Menashe' and "Tzufim" settler attacks because these settlements surround the village from the north and south sides. These attacks included the attack of the villagers as well as burning Palestinian citizens' vehicles.

While the Israeli occupation authorities refused to allow the villagers to build outside the structural plan of the village, they continued to expand within the settlement of 'Alfei Menashe', which is adjacent to the village along the western side. This continues through the introduction of many bids and settlement plans for this purpose, in which the most recent one was launched in 2013. This ordered the construction of 15 housing units in the settlement of 'Alfei Menashe', which was part of a larger scheme that was put forward by the Israeli authorities back in 2010 for the construction of 800 housing units in the settlement of 'Alfei Menashe'. It should be noted that on September 12th 2010, the Israeli 'peace movement', "Al-Aan" published a detailed report on the expansion plans for 124 Israeli settlements with a rate of 37 684

housing units that will be constructed at the end of the period of 'freezing settlement construction' in the Israeli settlements in the West Bank. This period ended on the seventh and the twentieth of September in 2010, and it was announced by the Israeli government on the fifth and twentieth of November 2009 under the pretexts of moving the peace process negotiations between the Palestinians and Israelis. In the analysis of the Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ) reporting on the Israeli movement of 'Peace Now', it shows that the settlements covered by the expansion is concentrated mostly in the 52 settlements in the Western buffer zone (by 75.2% 28,319 housing units) in order to strengthen the control over these settlements. The settlement of 'Alfei Menashe' was included within the Israeli expansionist plans where the report included building 1389 new housing units in the settlement. It is clear from the previous details that Israel is preparing for a change in the distribution areas of the settlers in the West Bank and Arab occupied areas. The proposed plan for the expansion of the settlement covers any natural population growth of those settlements, which, even by Israeli standards, is exaggerated. It is worth mentioning here that this pattern of expansion plans and construction has prevailed over the past decade as focused construction during the past ten years in what is now the western region of the insulation, which includes the largest settlement blocs and Jerusalem.

The Israeli bypass roads on the Lands of 'Arab Abu Farda village

The concept of "Bypass roads" started to appear during the time of the Oslo Agreement in September 1993 (which was signed by the PLO and Israel) to refer to the roads built by the Israelis in the occupied Palestinian territories. Their aim was to link Israeli settlements in the West Bank to each other and to those inside Israel as well. Since then, Israel has started to raise their efforts in increasing the size of bypass roads in the occupied Palestinian territories as part of its strategy to impose these policies on the ground, which will affect the Peace negotiations with Palestinians, and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is geographically connected and alive. During the last 46 years of occupation since the year 1967, Israel has been able to make and pitch 810 kilometers of bypass roads to facilitate the connection of the illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank. According to the Oslo Agreement that was signed between the Palestinians and the Israelis, the Palestinians were allowed to use these roads, but after the start of the second Intifada on 30 September 2000, the Israeli authorities prevented Palestinians from using these roads under the reason of 'security concerns' as their primary reason. It is worth mentioning that the establishment of the Israeli bypass roads in the occupied Palestinian territories has contributed to weakening the development of the Palestinian communities in the West Bank through the creation of obstacles in the areas that are reserved for Palestinian development. In 2004, Israel proposed a network of bypass roads that will alter the pathways of Palestinians and prevent them from using the Israeli roads. Palestinians will be forced to use an alternative road network that is entirely separated from the Israeli bypass roads to ensure the exclusive use of these roads by Israeli absolute use of these roads ,citizens. In doing so, Israel will be able to tighten its grip and ensure control of the Israeli bypass roads, while at the same time, depriving Palestinians from their right to "freedom of movement" within the occupied Palestinian territory, as guaranteed by international humanitarian law. The Palestinian village of 'Arab Abu Farda is similar to other Palestinian villages in the occupied Palestinian territories

which faced many land confiscations because of the establishment of the Israeli bypass road No. 55 which cuts the village through the middle. Following the outbreak of the second Palestinian intifada in late September 2000, the Israeli occupation authorities increased their control over the bypass road number 55 and started to prevent Palestinians from 'Arab Abu Farda and neighboring Palestinian villages from using these bypass road so as to control the levels of violence. Claims were made that Palestinians throw stones at Israeli settlers who use this Street as an entry and exit point, to and from Israel.

Development plans and projects

Implemented projects

'Arab Abu Farda Village Council has implemented only one development project in 'Arab Abu Farda during the past five years (see table 9).

Table 9: Implemented development plans and projects in 'Arab Abu Farda during the last five years

Name of the project	Type	Year	Donor
Distributing water tanks for households and establishing a public water reservoir of 75m ³ capacity	Public Services/ Water	2011	ACTED

Source: 'Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012

Proposed projects

'Arab Abu Farda 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 Participatory Rapid Appraisal 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 primary school for girls.
2. Establishing a sewerage network (4km in length).
3. Paving roads (approximately 31km).
4. Rehabilitating and expanding the public water network.
5. Increasing the power of the village's electricity network to become 3 phase, expanding it and installing new adapters.
6. Establishing a sports club and a social and cultural center to serve the youth.
7. Constructing and rehabilitating agricultural roads (approximately 27km), and reclaiming approximately 40 dunums of the village lands.
8. Creating small development projects to serve the poor families with limited income in the village.
9. Rehabilitating artesian wells isolated behind the Wall to be entirely exploited.
10. Rehabilitating the greenhouses isolated behind the Wall to encourage their owners to use them.

Locality development priorities and needs

'Arab Abu Farda suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 10 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's point of view.

Table 10: Development priorities and needs in 'Arab Abu Farda

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural needs					
1	Construction about paving of roads	*			31km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks	*			4km
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas			*	
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs			*	
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network		*		4km
8	Construction of a new electricity network	*			4km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection			*	
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste	*			1
11	Providing a sanitary landfill	*			
Health needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres	*			1 health center
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools			*	
Educational needs					
1	Building new schools	*			Constructing schools for all levels and a kindergarten
2	Rehabilitation of old schools			*	
3	Purchasing new school equipment			*	
Agriculture needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			40 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			16 cisterns
3	Construction of livestock barracks	*			20 barracks
4	Provision of veterinary services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			500 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			
Other needs					
1	An agricultural tractor with all of its equipment	*			

[^] 2km main roads, 2km secondary roads and 27km agricultural roads

Source: 'Arab Abu Farda Village Council, 2012

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