

Qibya Village Profile



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Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, town, and village in the Ramallah Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in Ramallah Governorate, which aims at depicting the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment," the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions and the needed programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current unsecure political, economic and social conditions in Ramallah Governorate.

The project's objectives are to survey, analyze, and document the available natural, human, socioeconomic and environmental resources, and the existing limitations and needs assessment for the development of the rural and marginalized areas in Ramallah Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

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

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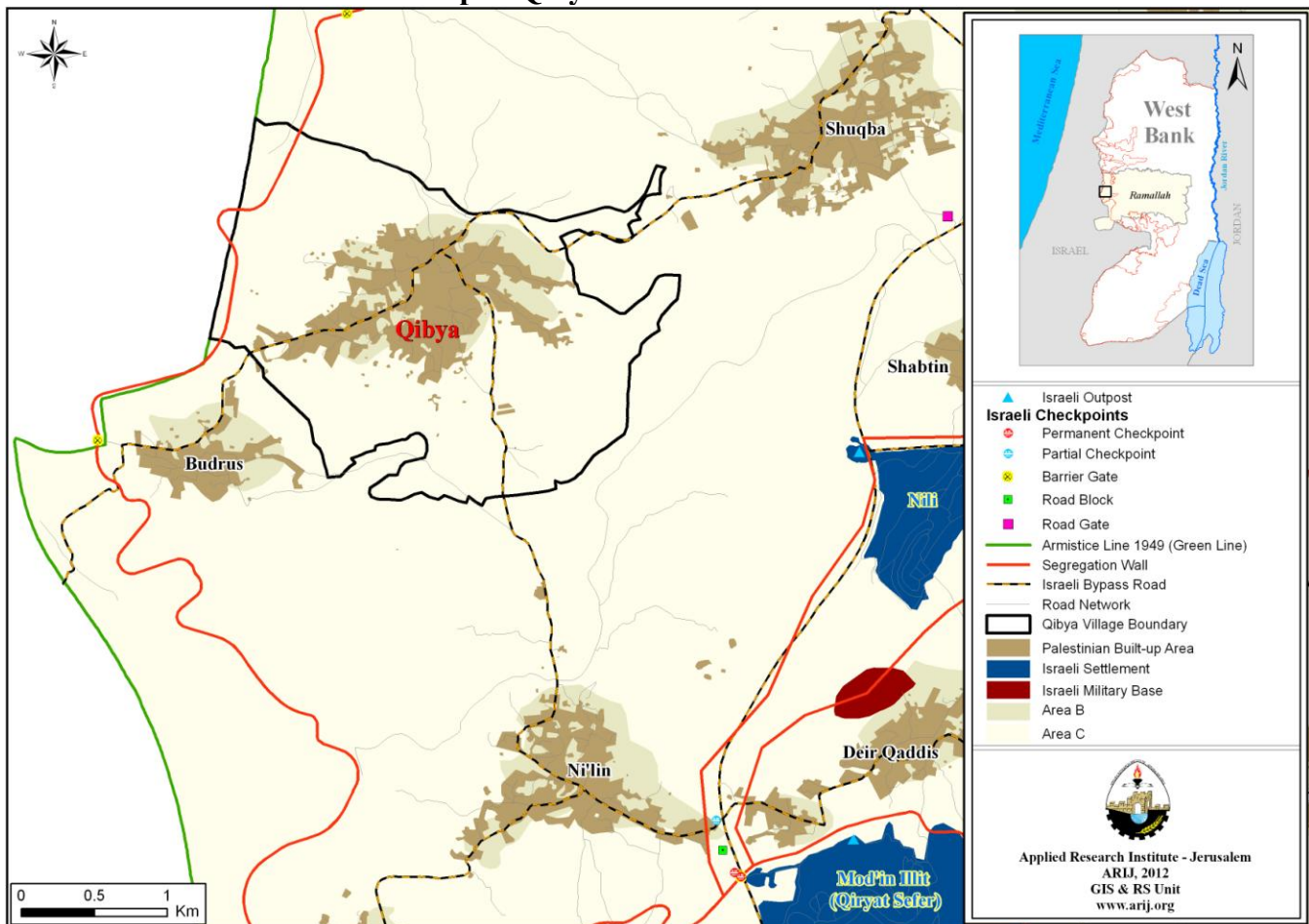
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Qibya Village Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Qibya is a Palestinian village in the Ramallah Governorate located 19.9km northwest of Ramallah City. Qibya is bordered by Ni'lin lands to the east, Shuqba village to the north, the Green line (Armistice Line 1949) lands to the west, and Budrus and Ni'lin villages to the south (ARIJ GIS, 2012) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Qibya location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Qibya is located at an altitude of 219m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 537.8mm. The average annual temperature is 19 °C and the average annual humidity is around 62% (ARIJ GIS, 2012).

Since 1996, Qibya has been governed by a village council which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority. The Council is included within the Joint

Services Council for Ni'lin and it owns a permanent headquarters where three employees work, but does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

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

- Infrastructure services such as water management and maintenance.
- Solid waste collection, road construction and restoration, street cleaning, and social development services.
- Protection of governmental properties and archaeological sites.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.

History

Qibya village was named in relation to a water spring located in the village, as 'qibya' is a Syriac word meaning 'spring' (Qibya Village Council, 2010). The establishment of the village dates back to the Ottoman period and its residents originate from Egypt, Tunisia, Amuriyah (Nablus), Jenin, Ar Ramle, and 'Abud (Qibya Village Council, 2010) (See Photo 1).

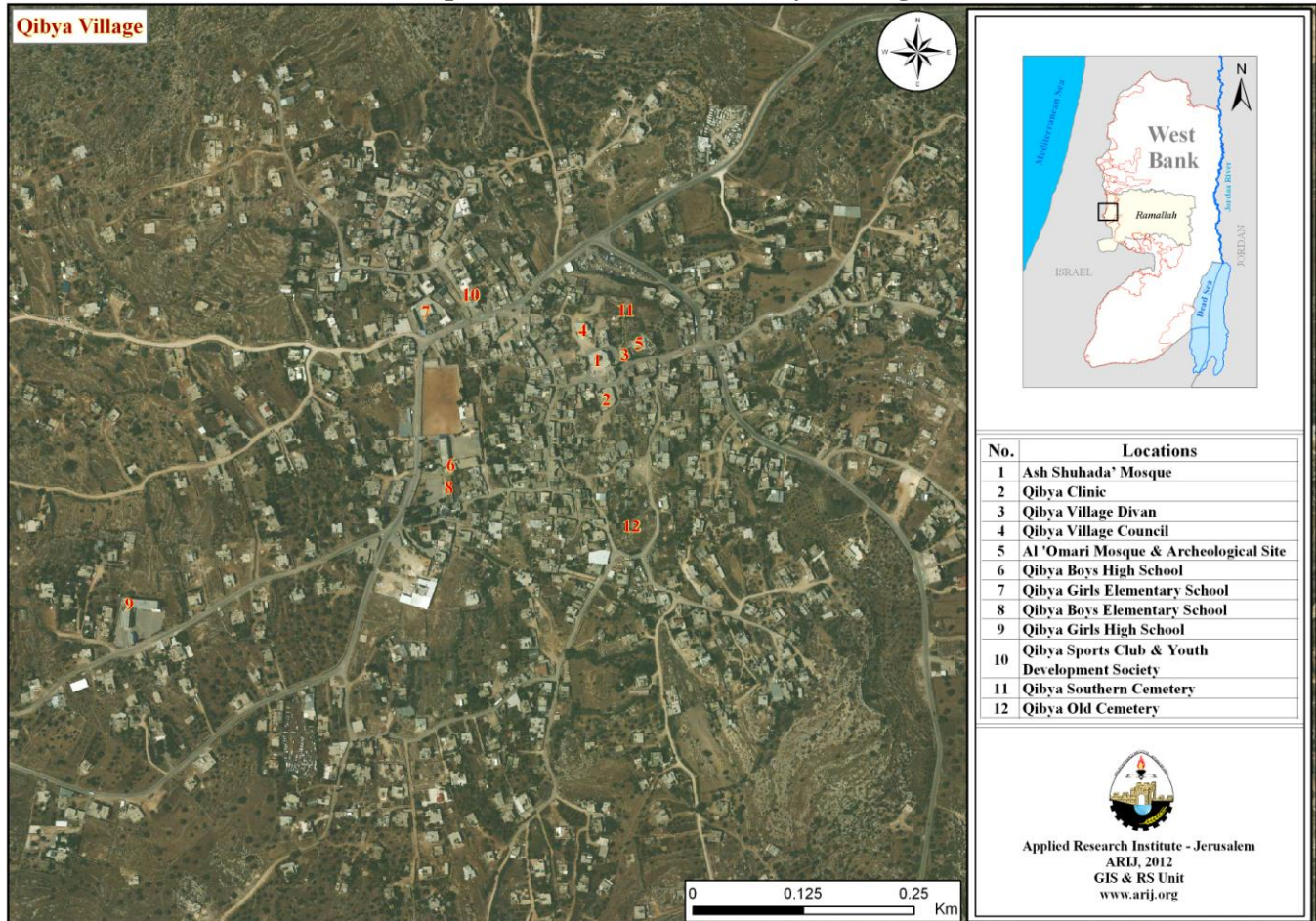
Photo of Qibya



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are two mosques in the village: Ash Shuhada' Mosque and Ash Sheikh Salman Mosque. There are several sites of archaeological interest: Al 'Omari mosque, Ash Sheikh Abdul Razeq shrine, and Ash Sheikh Hamdan shrine (Qibya Village Council, 2010) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Qibya Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Qibya in 2007 was 4,607, of whom 2,392 are male and 2,215 are female. There were 803 households living in 838 housing units.

Age Groups and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Qibya is as follows: 43.1% were less than 15 years of age, 54.6% were between 15 and 64 years of age, whilst 1.7% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to

females in the village was 108:100, meaning that males and females constituted 51.9% and 48.1% of the population respectively.

Families

Qibya residents are from several families, primarily the Khalifeh, 'Ghaithan, Al 'Absi, Abu Sa'dah, Al Hamed, Al Halhuli, Al 'Ajrab, Naser, Qatna-Al Khatib, and Dallool families (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ shows that around 10 people have left the village since the Second Intifada in 2000 (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate among Qibya population was approximately 8%, of whom 83.8% were females. Of the literate population, 19.7% could only read and write, with no formal education 29.4% had elementary education, 26% had preparatory education, 12.8% had secondary education, and 3.8% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Qibya by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Qibya population (10 years of age and above) by sex and educational attainment

Sex	Illiterate	Can read & write	Elementary	Preparatory	Secondary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Unknown	Total
M	42	315	554	459	243	11	79	-	2	-	4	1,709
F	218	327	401	388	175	8	22	-	1	-	4	1,544
T	260	642	955	847	418	19	101	-	3	-	8	3,253

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are 4 public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), but there are no kindergartens (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011) (see Table 2).

Table 2: The Schools in Qibya by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority (2010/2011)

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Qibya Boys Secondary School	Government	Male
Qibya Girls Secondary School	Government	Female
Qibya Boys Elementary School	Government	Male
Qibya Girls Elementary School	Government	Female

Source: Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011

In the village in 2011 there were 1445 students, 77 teachers, and 50 classes (Directorate of Education in Ramallah, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 19, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 29.

The educational sector in Qibya village faces some problems and obstacles, mainly (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

- The need for the construction of two single-sex elementary schools
- The classrooms in the boys' secondary school need maintenance.
- The computer and science laboratories are in need of development.
- The lack of books in the schools' libraries.
- The lack of resources for students with special needs.
- The need to install 3-phase electricity lines in schools due to the weak electric power.

Health Status

There are a number of healthcare centers and services available in Qibya village, including: a governmental health center (which hosts a physician's clinic, a chiropractor, a diabetes doctor, a dentist, a radiology center, a medical analysis laboratory, a physiotherapy center and a motherhood and childhood center), a private physician's clinic, a private dental clinic, and a private pharmacy. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, residents of Qibya use Ramallah Governmental Hospital in Ramallah city, 33km from the village (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

The health sector in the village faces some obstacles and problems, including (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

- The lack of an emergency center in the village.
- The lack of staff to work in the health center.
- The need to increase the number of specialized doctors and the current doctors' working hours.
- The lack of an ambulance for medical emergencies in the village.

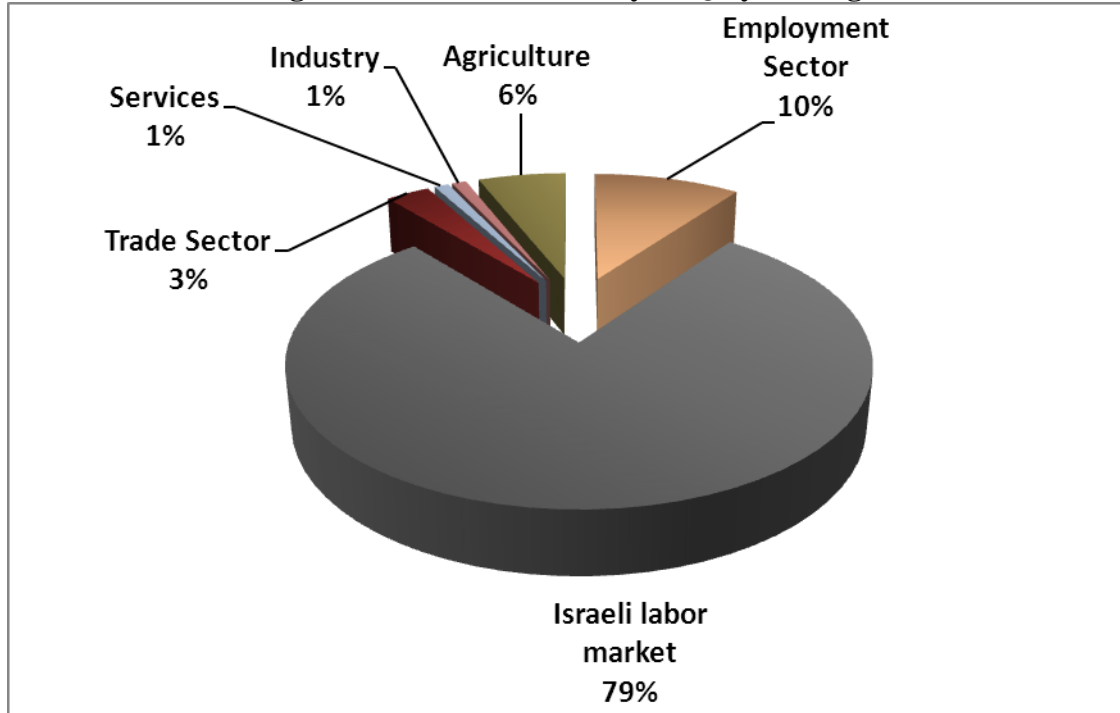
Economic Activities

The economy in Qibya is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the Israeli labor market which absorbs 79% of the village workforce (Qibya Village Council, 2010) (See Figure 1).

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

- Israeli Labor Market (79%)
- Government or Private Employees Sector (10%)
- Agriculture Sector (6%)
- Trade Sector (3%)
- Services Sector (1%)
- Industry (1%)

Figure 1: Economic Activity in Qibya Village



Source: Qibya Village Council, 2010

Qibya village has 32 groceries, 4 vegetable and fruit stores, two butcheries, 5 different service stores, 6 different professional workshops, an olive-oil press, a store for agricultural tools, an agricultural nursery, 2 shops for phone maintenance, and 2 internet centers (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

The unemployment rate in Qibya reached around 45% in 2010, and the economical groups most affected by the Israeli restrictions have been (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

1. Workers in the agriculture sector.
2. Workers in the services sector.
3. Workers in the trade sector.

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, 35.8% of the Qibya labor force was economically active, of whom 80.7% were employed, and 64.2% were not economically active, 52.7% were students, and 36.8% were housekeepers (See Table 3).

Table 3: Qibya population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status-2007

SEX	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Un-known	Total
	Employed	Currently Unemployed	Unemployed (Never worked)	Total	Students	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other	Total		
M	851	109	88	1,048	535	1	88	7	29	660	1	1,709
F	88	7	20	115	564	768	63	-	32	1,427	2	1,544
T	939	116	108	1,163	1,099	769	151	7	61	2,087	3	3,253

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

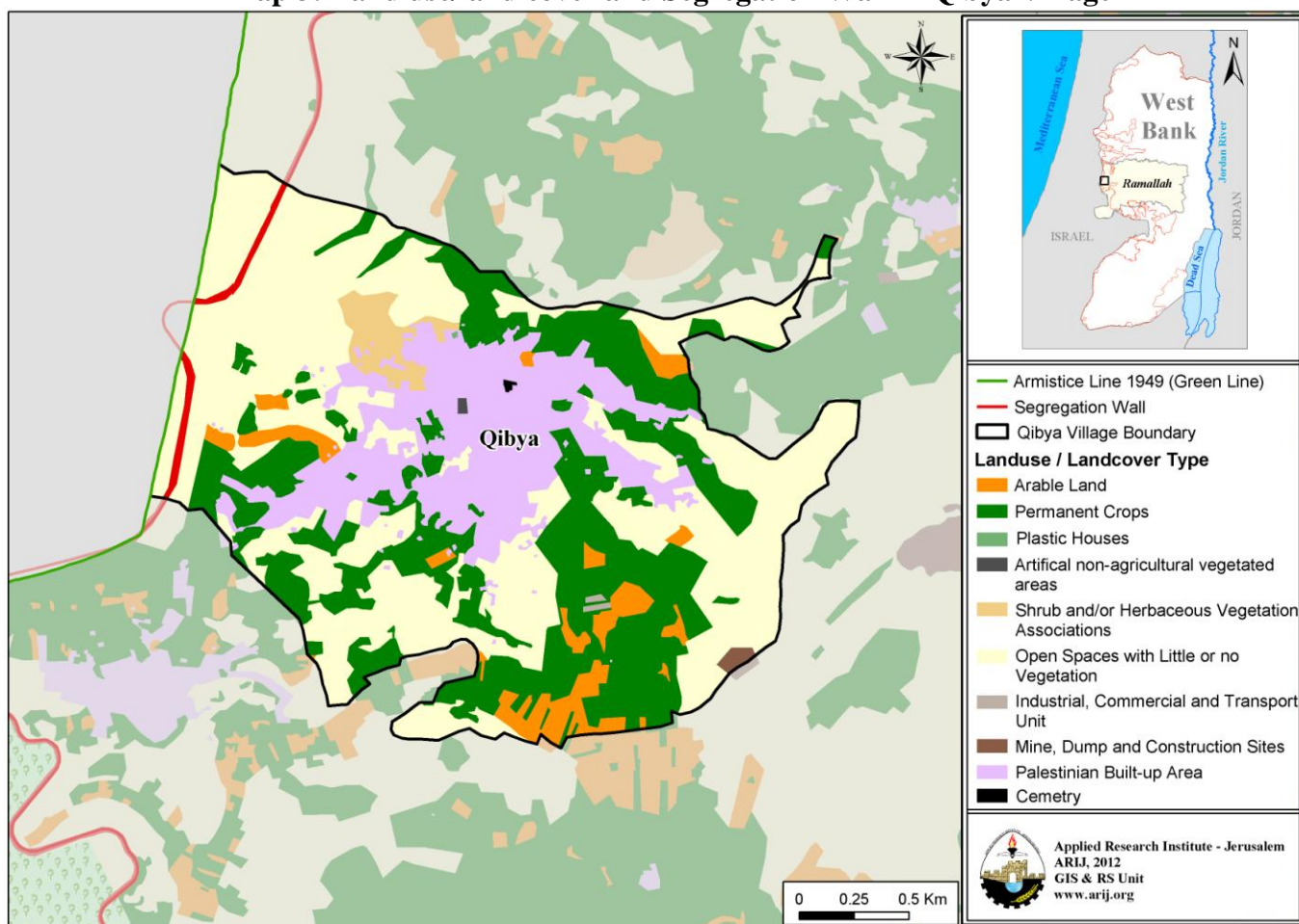
Qibya has a total area of around 5,130 dunums of which 1,832 are arable land and 950 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See Table 4 and Map 3).

Table 4: Land use and land cover in Qibya village in 2010 (area in dunums)

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (1,832)				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					
5,130	950	1,478	1	107	246	0	0	2,283	23	43

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

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



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

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

Table 5: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Qibya village (dunum)

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetable		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total Area	
RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.	RF	Irr.
40	2	0	0	15	0	5	0	0	0	60	2

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Qibya is famous for olive cultivation; there are 1,064 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

Table 6: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Qibya Village (dunum)

Olives		Citrus		Stone-fruits		Pome fruits		Nuts		Other fruits		Total Area	
Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.	Rf	Irr.
1,064	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	29	0	102	0	1,200	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

In terms of field crops and forage in Qibya, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of about 190 dunums, in addition to the cultivation of dry legumes such as beans (See Table 7).

Table 7: Total area of field crops in Qibya village (dunum)

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Oil crops		Forage crops		Stimulating crops		Other crops		Total Area	
Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr	Rf	Irr
190	0	20	0	50	0	5	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	310	0

Rf: Rain-fed, Irr: Irrigated

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and by ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2010) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas instead of seasonal ones. The survey did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, thus accounting for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ shows that 2% of the residents in Qibya rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep, chicken, and goats (Qibya Village Council, 2010) (See Table 8).

Table 8: Livestock in Qibya village

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
1	359	204	0	0	0	0	90,200	0	19

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, 2009

There are approximately 20 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

Table 9: Agricultural Roads in Qibya Village and their Lengths

Suitability of Agricultural Roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	14
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	-
For animals only	4
Unsuitable	2

Source: Qibya Village Council, 2010.

The agricultural sector faces some obstacles and problems, including (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

- The confiscation of lands.
- The poor economic feasibility.
- The lack of capital.

- The lack of laborers.
- The increasing numbers of feral animals.
- The lack of pastures.
- The lack of agricultural guidance services.
- The lack of agricultural cisterns.

Institutions and Services

Qibya village has no governmental offices but a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

- **Qibya Village Council:** Founded in 1996 by the Ministry of Local Government with the goal of taking care of issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Qibya Sports Club:** Founded in 1975 by the village's youth and currently registered in the Ministry of Youth & Sports, with an interest in sports and cultural activities for young people.
- **Youth Development Society:** Founded in 2003 by the Ministry of Interior with an interest in youth-related issues
- **The Women Society:** Founded in 2004 by the Ministry of Labor with an interest in all women's issues in the village.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Qibya has been connected to a public electricity network since 1987. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village, and approximately 60% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network. However, the village residents face some problems concerning electricity, mainly (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

- The weak electrical current in some neighborhoods.
- Some neighborhoods are in need of new electricity lines.
- The lack of commitment by the electricity company to fulfilling the citizens' needs.

Qibya is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 20% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

Transportation Services:

There are 8 buses, 7 taxis and 3 unlicensed/ illegal cars in Qibya forming the main means of transportation in the village. Residents of Qibya face some obstacles concerning the transportations sector, primarily the lack of vehicles in the village, the unqualified roads, and the existence of the

Segregation Wall in addition to earth mounds and military checkpoints on roads (Qibya Village Council, 2010). There are 7km of main roads and 8.25km of secondary roads (See Table 10) (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

Table 10: Roads in Qibya village

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved & in good condition	4	2
2. Paved but in poor condition	3	-
3. Unpaved	-	6.25

Source: Qibya Village Council, 2010.

Water Resources:

Qibya is provided with water by the West Bank Water Department through the public water network established in 1973. Almost all housing units are connected to this network (Qibya Village Council, 2011). The quantity of water supplied to Qibya in 2008 was approximately 111,800 cubic meters (PWA, 2009); therefore, the average rate of water supply per capita in Qibya is 66 liters per day. However, no Qibya citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 20%. 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 Qibya is 53 liters per day (Qibya Village Council, 2010). The rate experienced by Qibya residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters proposed by the World Health Organization.

Qibya also has 90 rainwater harvesting cisterns. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 4 NIS. (Qibya Village Council, 2010)

Sanitation:

Qibya lacks a public sewerage network; most of the village residents use cesspits for the disposal of waste water (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 196 cubic meters or 72,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village it is estimated that per capita wastewater generation is 37 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. The wastewater collected by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with no regard for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

Solid Waste Management:

The Joint Services Council for Planning & Development for West of Ramallah Region is responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by the citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee of 20 NIS is charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, the collected

fees are not sufficient for good management of solid waste; only 30% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

Most of the population in Qibya benefit from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 30 containers spread throughout the locality. The Joint Council collects the solid waste from the containers three times a week and transports it through the waste vehicle to Qibya random dumping site, 3km from the locality, where it is buried or burnt (Qibya Village Council, 2010).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Qibya is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Qibya residents is nearly 3.2 tons, or 1177 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

Environmental Conditions

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

Water Crisis

- Water is cut off by the West Bank Water Department for long periods of time in several neighborhoods of the village for several reasons:
 - (1) Israeli control over Palestinian water resources.
 - (2) High rate of water losses, because the water network is old and in need of rehabilitation and renovation.
- The lack of a public reservoir in the village.

Wastewater Management

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Qibya residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, and/or discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. These methods facilitate environmental damage, health problems, and the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. Untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas without concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

Solid Waste Management:

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Qibya and the other neighboring communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions in granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land

is within Area C and under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary landfill is a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Qibya

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed in 28th September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Qibya was divided into areas “B” and “C”. Approximately 1,101 dunams (21.5% of the village’s total area) were assigned as area B, where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has a complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. Area B constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, villages and some camps. It is worth mentioning that most of the village’s population resides in area B. The rest of the village’s area, constituting 4,029 dunams (78.5% of the total area), is classified as area C, where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory. In area C Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through consent or authorization by the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within the area C are agricultural areas and open spaces in addition to lands confiscated for settlement purposes which are isolated behind the Wall (table 11).

Table 11: The Geopolitical Divisions of Qibya – Ramallah Governorate

Area	Area in dunams	Percent of Total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	1,101	21.5
Area C	4,029	78.5
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	5,130	100

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2011

The Israeli Occupation Practices in Qibya Village.

There are no Israeli settlements on Qibya lands, although it is located on the Green Line adjacent to the occupied territories of 1948 and a major part of its land (71% of the total area of the village) is located within the occupied region. Also, the village is affected directly and indirectly by the nearby settlements such as Nili and Na'aleh which are located east of the village. These settlements occupy part of the neighboring villages’ land and are currently inhabited by around 1,781 Israeli settlers. These settlements, in addition to the Segregation Wall and bypass road no. 446, separate Qibya village from the neighboring villages of Deir Qaddis and Kharbatha Bani Harith.

Israeli settlers living in settlements established on Qibya lands have had a significant impact on Palestinians and their property in Qibya village. These attacks have contributed to the loss of Palestinian lands adjacent to settlements as landowners are prevented from accessing their lands, which have been fenced in with barbed wire and planted with trees. Israeli settlers have also carried out a series of attacks against Palestinian landowners in an attempt to intimidate them and deter them from returning to their lands adjacent to the aforementioned settlements.

The Israeli Segregation Wall Plan in Qibya Village

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan had a negative and destructive impact on Qibya residents. The latest route of the Israeli Segregation Wall Plan, published on the Israeli Ministry of Defense's website on April 30 2007, shows that the wall constructed west of the village extends for 1.5km on its land. This confiscates 200 dunams of the village's total area and isolates more lands for the Israeli settlement purposes. The majority of the isolated land includes open spaces and agricultural areas in Qibya village. Also, during the construction of the Segregation Wall in the area; 200 olive trees were uprooted and 50 dunams of agricultural land were isolated.

The Israeli isolation schemes in this region aim to sequester as much land as possible for the benefit of Israeli settlement expansion and to prevent Palestinian urban expansion mainly towards the western region. This would increase the suffering of the Palestinians in Qibya and the surrounding villages. These schemes in the western region also aim to unilaterally demarcate Israeli borders; separating the West Bank from the occupied territories of 1948, without taking into consideration the armistice line (Green Line); as the Segregation Wall cuts through a large amount of land of the areas adjacent to the Armistice Line.

Ghettos and Cantons

On February 1st of 2007, the Israeli Prime Minister at the time (Ehud Olmert) endorsed on a new plan to modify the Segregation Wall route north of Mod'in Illit (Qiryat Sefer) settlement bloc located west of Ramallah Governorate. This decision made by the Israeli Prime Minister came after intense pressure put on him by settler leaders to change the route of the wall to enclose the Israeli settlements of Nili and Na'aleh and include them behind the wall within the western segregation area; thus leading to an increase in the length of the Wall passing through the Palestinian territory and the isolation of additional land in those areas. The Israeli decision resulted in the isolation of seven Palestinian villages which were besieged by the wall from all sides. This placed these villages in total isolation. It is worth mentioning that these villages are inhabited by more than 22,000 Palestinian residents. These villages are Al Lubban al Gharbi, Rantis, Shuqba, Qibya, Budrus, Ni'lin and Al Midya.

The construction of the wall and the confiscation of land by force pushed Qibya village residents, in cooperation with Budrus and the neighboring villages affected by the Wall, to start weekly marches and popular events against the attacks. They demonstrate for the Wall's discontinuation, an end to the confiscation of land for the purposes of settlement expansion and the return of what was taken to its owners. Since these weekly peaceful marches were launched in 2009 the Israeli Occupation Forces have handled them with blazing fire and many other forms of force. This has led to the burning of homes, injuring dozens of various injuries, suffocating of hundreds, the arrest of dozens, hundreds of raids,

closures and attacks on the village and its inhabitants. All of this in order to abort this peaceful movement which is demanding a halt to attacks on land and human beings.

Military Orders Issued in Qibya Village

The Israeli Occupation Forces have issued a series of military orders in Qibya village in order to confiscate lands, demolish houses or notices to stop construction in Qibya village. Following is one of these orders:

- Israeli Military Order 69/03/T: Issued on the 20th of November 2003 to confiscate 862 dunams of land from Shuqba, Rantis, Qibya and Budrus villages for the construction of the Segregation Wall.

Also, Qibya village was brutally attacked by Israelis who targeted houses and properties. On the 22nd of October 2010, the Subcommittee for Construction & Organization of the Israeli Civil Administration in Beit El handed Palestinian residents of Qibya village military orders to stop the construction of 26 Palestinian establishments; residential and other, under the pretext of unlicensed construction in the village due to its location in area C according to the Oslo II Agreement in 1995. These notified establishments are inhabited by nearly 200 people. The District Committee gave the village one month (until the 23rd of November 2010) to appeal the Israeli decision to stop the construction and to request a building permit from the Israeli Civil Administration. It should be taken into consideration that submitting the application for a building permit does not guarantee citizens the license required from the Israeli civil administration. The Israeli military orders distributed to Palestinian citizens in the village of Qibya carry the following numbers :(147070), (147071), (147074), (147582), (147583), (147585), (147586), (147587), (147588), (147589), (147590), (147591), (147592), (147593), (147594), (147595), (147596), (147597) and (147598).

The Israeli authorities deliberately targeted Palestinian homes and establishments located in area C (as classified by the Oslo Agreement) which are subjected to full Israeli military administrative and security control, thus Palestinians living in the area or intending to construct and expand in it must obtain special permits from the Israeli Civil Administration. However, the Israeli occupation authorities are tightening the screws on the Palestinian applicants as they impose onerous conditions that must be met in order for their building permits applications to be approved. The response from the Israeli civil administration to these permit applications may take months and even years. In most cases they are rejected under the pretext of not meeting the Israeli's cumbersome conditions. This results in the loss of huge amounts of money paid by the Palestinian citizen in order to obtain a building permit in area C. However, due to the urgent need for shelter and population growth, the Palestinians are forced to build without permits issued by the Israeli Civil Administration.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Qibya village council has implemented several development projects in Qibya during the past five years (See Table 12).

Table 12: Implemented Development Plans and Projects in Qibya during the Last Five Years

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Pavement of some internal roads	Infrastructure	2010	Ministry of Finance
Construction of a headquarters for the village council	Infrastructure	2010	Ministry of Finance
Construction of 14km of agricultural roads	Agricultural	2007	World Vision
Furnishing a computer lab and a resources room	Educational	2010	Qibya Village Council
Source: Qibya Village Council, 2010			

Proposed Projects

Qibya Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoint of the participants in the workshop (Qibya Village Council, 2010):

1. Constructing agricultural roads and reclaiming agricultural lands (5 km).
2. Rehabilitating the water network (1 km).
3. Establishing a sewage network.
4. Eliminating pests through effective pesticides and medicines.
5. Establishing a cultural center.
6. Providing veterinary medicines, fertilizers, and further agricultural equipment.
7. Providing containers (100 containers).
8. Establishing a sanitary landfill with an area of 2 dunums.
9. Providing a variety of courses in different fields including food manufacturing.
10. Providing two different sports fields.
11. Constructing agricultural and household cisterns (150 cisterns).
12. Constructing a water reservoir.
13. Constructing two model schools.
14. Rehabilitating the health center.
15. Creating income-generating projects.
16. Completing the water network (3 km).
17. Providing science laboratories and computer labs in schools.
18. Providing multi-services halls (4 halls).
19. Establishing 3 libraries in the village.

20. Providing an ambulance.
21. Providing a waste vehicle.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Qibya 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 Qibya

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
Infrastructural Needs					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			22.25km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			2km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas	*			6km
4	Construction of New Water Networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs			*	
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*			500m ³
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			14km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network	*			14km
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			65 containers
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			1
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill	*			
Health Needs					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres			*	
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools			*	
Educational Needs					
1	Building of New Schools	*			elementary level
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			secondary level
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
Agriculture Needs					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			300 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			85 cistern
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*			17 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			320 tons/ year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses	*			20 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses	*			8 greenhouses
8	Field Crops Seeds	*			
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*			

*2km are main roads, 6.25km are sub roads and 14km are agricultural roads

Source: Qibya Village Council, 2010.

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