

Jamma'in Town Profile



Prepared by



The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

Funded by



Spanish Cooperation

2014

Acknowledgments

ARIJ hereby expresses its deep gratitude to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) for their funding of this project.

ARIJ is grateful to the Palestinian officials in the ministries, municipalities, joint services councils, town committees and councils, and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for their assistance and cooperation with the project team members during the data collection process.

ARIJ also thanks all the staff who worked throughout the past couple of years towards the accomplishment of this work.

Background

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

The "Town 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 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 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>.

Table of Contents

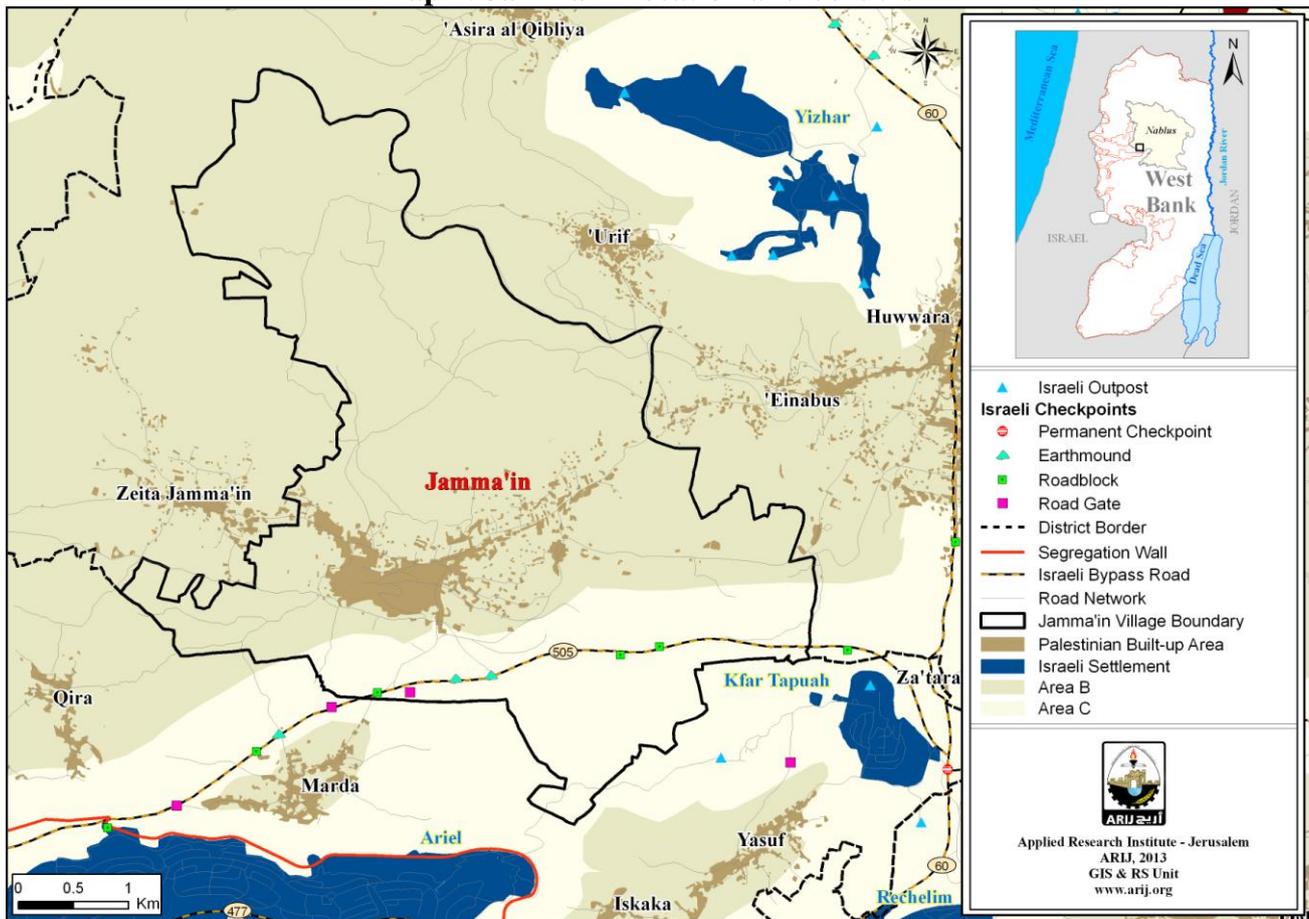
| | |
|--|----|
| <i>Location and Physical Characteristics</i> | 4 |
| <i>History</i> | 5 |
| <i>Religious and Archaeological Sites</i> | 6 |
| <i>Population</i> | 6 |
| <i>Education</i> | 7 |
| <i>Health Status</i> | 8 |
| <i>Economic Activities</i> | 8 |
| <i>Agricultural Sector</i> | 10 |
| <i>Institutions and Services</i> | 12 |
| <i>Infrastructure and Natural Resources</i> | 12 |
| <i>Environmental Conditions</i> | 14 |
| <i>Development Plans and Projects</i> | 17 |
| <i>Implemented Projects</i> | 17 |
| <i>Proposed Projects</i> | 18 |
| <i>Locality Development Priorities and Needs</i> | 19 |
| <i>References:</i> | 20 |

Jamma'in Town Profile

Location and Physical Characteristics

Jamma'in is a Palestinian town in Nablus Governorate, located 11.26km south of Nablus City. It is bordered by 'Einabus & Huwwara to the east, Yasuf, Iskaka & Marda to the south, Zeita Jamma'in to the west, 'Asira al Qibliya and 'Urif to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (See Map 1).

Map 1: Jamma'in location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Jamma'in is located at an altitude of 542m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 647.8mm. The average annual temperature is 17°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 61% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of Jamma'in town consists of approximately 19,420 dunums. This is according to the new borders of the local bodies which were 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 and are not included in the files of private land properties.

Since 1997, Jamma'in has been governed by a Municipal Council which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 20 employees working in the council, which has a permanent headquarters. The Council does not own a vehicle for the collection of solid waste, but have a pick-up car, a tractor for the collection of waste, bagger, water and electricity maintenance equipment (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

It is the responsibility of the Municipal Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Jamma'in, including (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013):

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water and electricity networks.
- Waste collection, street cleaning and public services.
- Road rehabilitation, construction and paving.
- Organization of the construction and issuance of licenses processes.
- Protection of governmental properties.
- Protection of historical and archeological sites.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the town.
- Provision of means of transportation.
- Provision of educational kindergartens.

History

Jamma'in town's name has two origins; firstly, it was a gathering point for scientists, such as Ibn Qudama al-Maqdisi; and secondly, it is said that it was a gathering point for Muslim armies in during the Crusades.

The town was established more than 1,500 years ago, with its residents descending from the Hijaz countries (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

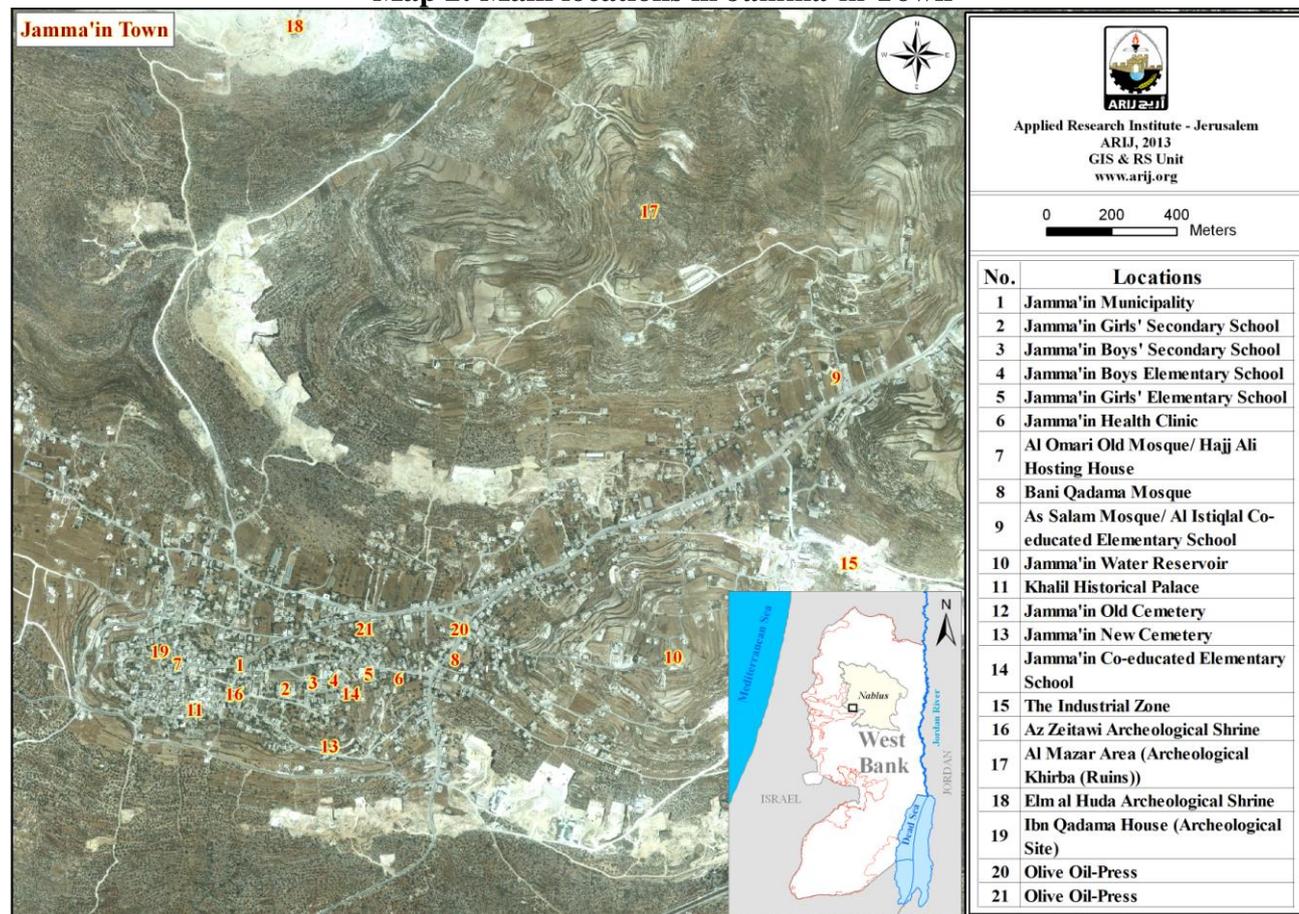
Photo of Jamma'in



Religious and Archaeological Sites

There are three mosques in the town (As Salam, Al Omari and Ibn Qudama mosques). The town has several sites of archaeological ancient including Ibn Qudama house and shrine. 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 (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013) (See Map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Jamma'in Town



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Jamma'in in 2007 was 6,131, of whom 3,121 were male and 3,010 female. There were 1,010 households registered as living in 1,170 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 Jamma'in is as follows: 44.2% were less than 15 years of age, 51.6% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 4.2% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the town is 103.7:100, meaning that males and females constitute 50.9% and 49.1% of the population, respectively.

Families

Jamma'in residents are from several families, including Awad, Hajj Ali, Abu Omer, Zeitawi and others (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, the illiteracy rate amongst Jamma'in population is approximately 6.9%, of whom 88.6% are females. Of the literate population, 11.3% could only read and write, with no formal education, 21.9% had elementary education, 28.9% had preparatory education, 20.5% had secondary education, and 10.5% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the town of Jamma'in by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Jamma'in 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 | 33 | 252 | 471 | 585 | 478 | 107 | 186 | 1 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 2,138 |
| F | 258 | 222 | 452 | 632 | 384 | 40 | 77 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2,068 |
| T | 291 | 474 | 923 | 1217 | 862 | 147 | 263 | 1 | 21 | 8 | 3 | 4,206 |

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are five public schools and one private school in the town run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (see Table 2).

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

| School Name | Supervising Authority | Sex |
|--|-----------------------|--------|
| Jamma'in Boys' Elementary School | Government | Male |
| Jamma'in Boys' Secondary School | Government | Male |
| Jamma'in Girls' Secondary School | Government | Female |
| Jamma'in Girls' Elementary School | Government | Female |
| Jamma'in Co-educated Elementary School | Government | Mixed |
| Zahrat Al- Mada'in School | private | Mixed |

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

In the town there are 2,157 students, 118 teachers, and 74 classes. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 18, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 29 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There are three kindergartens in Jamma'in town, all of which are run by private organizations (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012) (See table 3 below).

Table 3: Kindergartens in Jamma'in town by name and supervising authority

| Name of Kindergarten | No. of Classes | No. of Teachers | Supervising Authority |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Bed Garden Kindergarten | 4 | 4 | Private |
| Jamma'in Typical Kindergarten | 3 | 4 | Private |
| Palestinian Children Kindergarten | 3 | 3 | Private |

Source: Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012

The educational sector in Jamma'in town faces a number of obstacles, including: (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013):

- Jamma'in Boys Secondary School is in need of rehabilitation.
- The schools in the town are not distributed geographically.
- Inefficient and overcrowded classrooms.

Health Status

Jamma'in has several health facilities available, including Jamma'in private health center, 2 private general physician clinics, 3 private dentist clinics, one private medical lab, a government-run mother and child care center, and 3 private pharmacies. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Rafidiya or the national hospitals, or to another private clinic in Nablus city (16km away) (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

The health sector in the town faces a number of obstacles and problems, principally (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013):

- The lack of an ambulance.
- The lack of a resident physician working on daily basis.
- The lack of equipment at the governmental medical lab.
- The lack of medicines at all health clinics in the town.

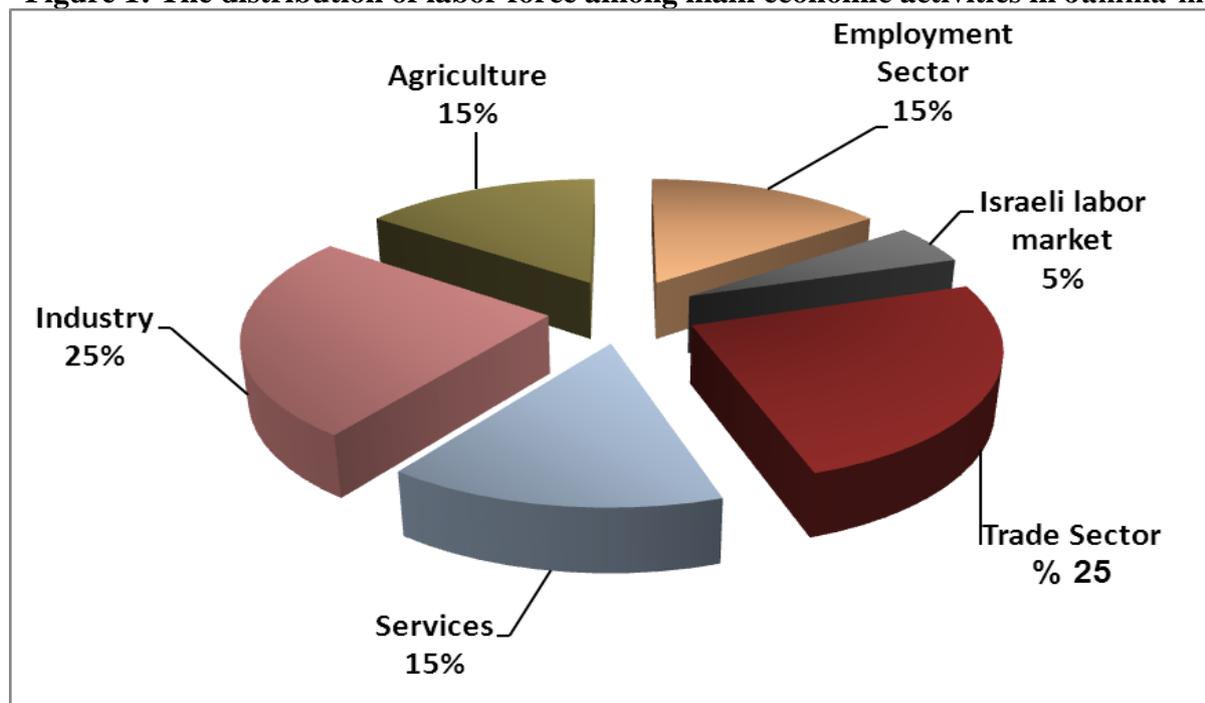
Economic Activities

The economy in Jamma'in is dependent mainly on both the trade sector and industry sector; each of which absorbs 25% of the town's workforce (Jamma'in Municipal 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 Jamma'in are as follows:

- Trade sector (25%)
- Industry (25%)
- Agriculture sector (15%)
- Government or other employees sector (15%)
- Services sector (15%)
- Israeli labor market (5%)

Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in Jamma'in



Source: Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013

Jamma'in has 2 groceries, 4 bakeries, 12 butchers, 43 fruit and vegetable stores, 24 industry professional stores, 27 different professional workshops, 9 quarries, 11 stone crushers, 32 stone cutters, 2 olive oil presses, and 3 stores for agricultural tools (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in Jamma'in reached 5% and the groups most affected economically by Israeli restrictions have been (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013):

- Workers in the agriculture sector.
- Workers in the industry sector.

Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, 30% of Jamma'in's labor force was economically active, of whom 86.6% were employed, 69.7% were not economically active, 50.7% were students, and 35.8% were housekeepers (See Table 4).

Table 4: Jamma'in population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status

| Sex | Economically active | | | | Non-economically active | | | | | | Not stated | Total |
|-----|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------|------------|-------|
| | Employed | Currently Unemployed | Un-employed (never worked) | Total | Student | House-keeping | Unable to work | Not working & not looking for work | Others | Total | | |
| M | 1021 | 83 | 48 | 1152 | 792 | 1 | 158 | 9 | 22 | 982 | 4 | 2138 |
| F | 72 | 9 | 28 | 109 | 696 | 1049 | 193 | 2 | 11 | 1951 | 8 | 2068 |
| T | 1093 | 92 | 76 | 1261 | 1488 | 1050 | 351 | 11 | 33 | 2933 | 12 | 4206 |

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

Source: PCBS, 2009.

Agricultural Sector

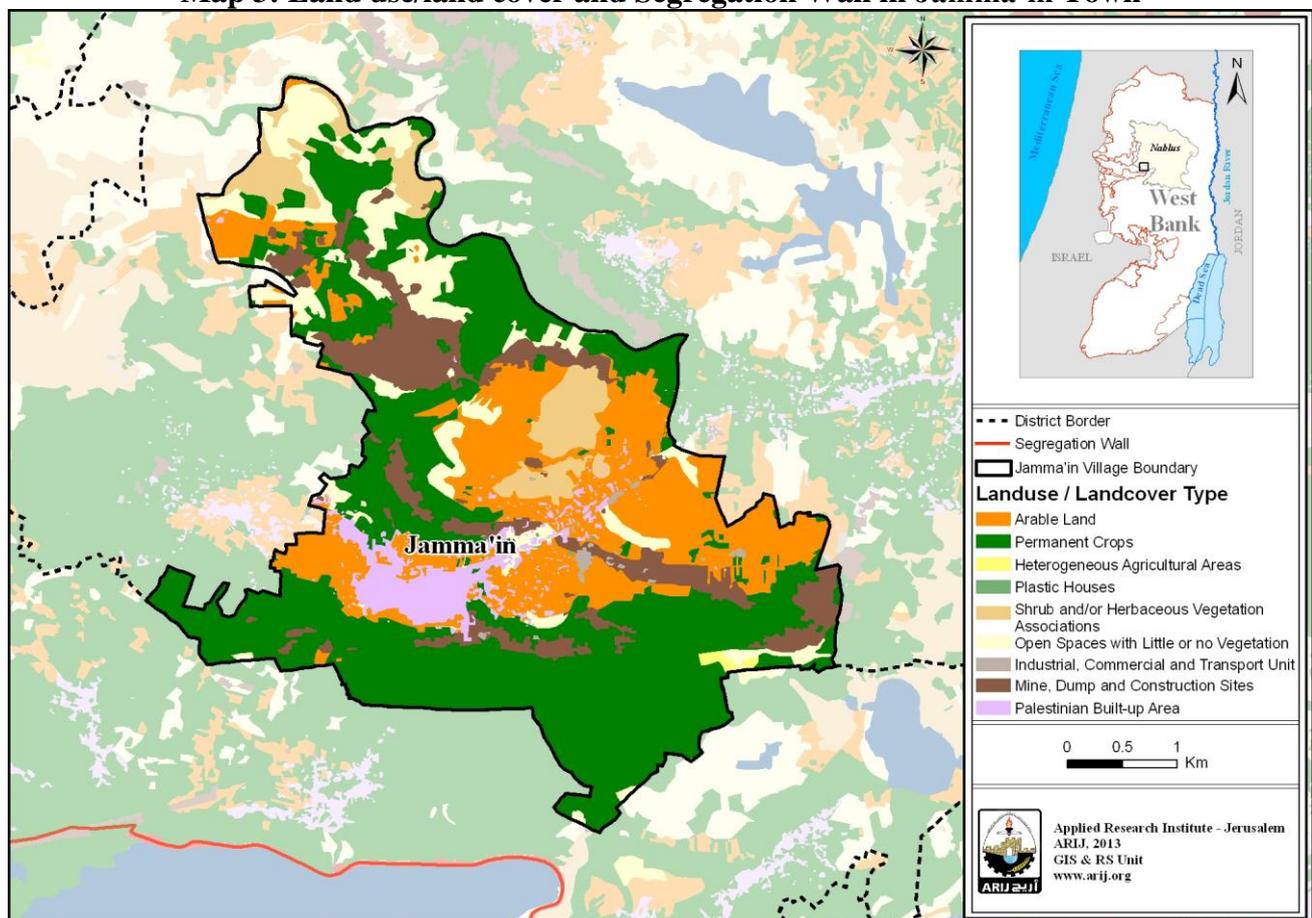
Jamma'in has a total area of approximately 19,420 dunums, of which 14,331 are 'arable' land and 882 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See Table 5 and Map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Jamma'in town (area in dunum)

| Total Area | Built up Area | Agricultural area (14,331) | | | | 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 | | | | | |
| 19,420 | 882 | 8,724 | 7 | 1,179 | 4,421 | 0 | 0 | 1,925 | 2,282 | 0 |

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014.

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Jamma'in Town



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014.

There are different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Jamma'in town. The most commonly cultivated crops within this area are green beans, which cultivated nearly 3 dunums, in addition to cultivated about 11 dunums of greenhouses (Ministry of Agriculture-Nablus, 2010).

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Jamma'in is famous for olive tree cultivation and there are approximately 9,010 dunums of land planted with nuts trees in the town.

Table 6: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Jamma'in (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. |
| 9,010 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 31 | 0 | 9,111 | 0 |

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture-Nablus, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Jamma'in, cereals (particularly wheat) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 765 dunums (See Table 7).

Table 7: Total area of forage and field crops in Jamma'in (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. |
| 765 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 964 | 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 the ARIJ team shows that 1.5% of the residents in Jamma'in rear and keep domestic animals such as cows and sheep (See Table 8).

Table 8: Livestock in Jamma'in

| Cows* | Sheep | Goats | Camels | Horses | Donkeys | Mules | Broilers | Layers | Bee Hives |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|---------|-------|----------|--------|-----------|
| 24 | 115 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 | 0 | 30 |

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 37 kilometers of agricultural roads in the town, divided as follows (Jamma'in Municipal Council):

Table 9: Agricultural Roads in Jamma'in Town and their Lengths

| Suitability of Agricultural Roads | Length (km) |
|--|-------------|
| For vehicles | 14 |
| For tractors and agricultural machinery only | 15 |
| For animals only | 3 |
| Unsuitable | 5 |

Source: Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013

The agricultural sector in the town faces a number of problems, including (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013):

- The lack of capital for agricultural projects
- The lack of water resources.
- Existence of land in Area C and near settlements, which are unable to be cultivated.

- There are many quarries and crushers that have negatively impacted upon agriculture in the area.
- High prices for feed and veterinary medicines.
- The lack of farmers' experience and awareness.

Institutions and Services

Jamma'in town has several governmental institutions, including; a post office, in addition to a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013):

- **Jamma'in Municipal Council:** Founded in 1997, and registered later by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of taking care of different issues concerning the town and providing various services to its population, in addition to infrastructure services.
- **Jamma'in Club:** Founded in 2010, by the Ministry of Youth & Sports, which aims to organize sport and cultural activities.
- **Savings and Credit Feminism Association:** Founded in 2002, by the Ministry of Labor, with an aim to provide loans for women.
- **Rural Women Development Association:** Founded in 2001, by the Ministry of the Interior, with the aim of providing vocational training, female empowerment and agricultural training.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Electricity and Telecommunication Services:

Jamma'in has been connected to a public electricity network since 1997. It is served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, through the North Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the town. Approximately 100% of the housing units are connected to the network. Jamma'in residents face a number of problems with regards to their electricity supply especially in the winter, as the network is very old and in need of rehabilitation (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

Jamma'in is connected to a telecommunication network; approximately 30% of the housing units within the town boundaries are connected to phone lines (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

Transportation Services:

There are 7 taxis and 3 buses in Jamma'in town. When there is a lack of transportation available, residents use a private taxi office. Residents' movement is hindered as they must pass through Hawara checkpoint (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013). There are 9.5km of main roads and 25km of secondary roads in Jamma'in (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013) (See Table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Jamma'in Town

| Status of Internal Roads | Road Length (km) | |
|---|------------------|-----------|
| | Main | Secondary |
| 1. Paved & in good condition | 1 | 5 |
| 2. Paved & in poor condition | 1.5 | 19 |
| 3. Unpaved | 7 | 1 |

Source: Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013

Water Resources:

Jamma'in is provided with water by Mekorot through the public water network established in 1996. Approximately 99% of housing units are connected to the public water (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

The quantity of water supplied to Jamma'in town in 2012 was recorded at approximately 168,000 cubic meters/year (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 67 liters/day. However, no Jamma'in citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 35% (Jamma'in Municipal 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 Jamma'in is 43 liters per day (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013). The average water consumption of Jamma'in residents is very low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 4 NIS (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

The town also has 800 individual household rainwater harvesting cisterns, and a public water reservoir with a capacity of 280 cubic meters (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

Sanitation:

Jamma'in lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks, as a main means for wastewater disposal (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximated quantity of wastewater generated per day, is 239 cubic meters, or 87,400 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 35 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 Jamma'in Municipal Council is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the town. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to 9 NIS/ month per household is charged to the population and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. All of these fees are collected from the citizens (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013)

Most of the population in Jamma'in benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags. Jamma'in Municipal Council collects the solid waste daily and transports it using a waste vehicle to a random dumping site located 1.5km from the town, where it is subsequently buried (Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Jamma'in is 1.05kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Jamma'in residents is nearly 7.3 tons, or 2,648 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental Conditions

Like other towns and town s in the Governorate, Jamma'in experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved. These problems can be identified as follows:

Water Crisis

1. Interruption of water for long periods in the summer.
2. An increase in the proportion of wastewater network, which reaches about 35%.

Wastewater Management

The absence of a public sewage network in the town means that Jamma'in residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits for the disposal of wastewater, 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 town. 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

Jamma'in town suffers from a lack of containers for waste collection in the town where the citizens collect garbage in front of homes and leaving it until the car waste collected once a week by causing accumulation in the streets and in front of homes and collect insects and stray animals.

The lack of a sanitary and a central landfill to service the town, like other towns and villages in the Nablus governorate and that is to get rid of their waste in the Zahret Al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate, to dispose of its solid waste safely, as other villages and towns for Nablus Governorate.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Jamma'in town

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Jamma'in was divided into Area B and Area C. Approximately 14,977 dunums (77% of the town's total area) were classified as Area B, where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to retain overriding responsibility for security. The rest of the town's area, constituting 4,443 dunums (23% of the total area), was 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. The majority of Jamma'in's population resides in Area B while most of the land lying within Area C is agricultural land. (See Table 11).

Table 11: The Geopolitical Divisions of Jamma'in town according to the Oslo Agreement 1995

| Area | Area in dunums | Percentage of Total village area % |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Area A | 0 | 0 |
| Area B | 14,977 | 77 |
| Area C | 4,443 | 23 |
| Nature Reserve | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 19,420 | 100 |

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

Israeli occupation practices in Jamma'in town

Despite the fact that there are no current settlements and camps established on Jamma'in lands, the town still suffers from Israeli occupation practices and human rights violations; settlements, camps and Israeli military checkpoints still exist not far from the town. "Kfar Tapuah" settlement bloc is located to the south-east of Yasuf, which encompasses the settlement of "Kfar Tapuah", an Israeli military base, and "Tapuah" military checkpoint. "Tapuah" military checkpoint is known to Palestinians as "Za'tara" checkpoint; it is an important site which links the northern and southern governorates. This outpost has been in place since the Second Intifada, and has continued to be a central point for Israeli human rights violations against Palestinian civilians, such as killings, arrests, torture and denial of access.

Israeli occupation forces established "Tapuah" military base, located beside "Za'tara" checkpoint, which has had a negative impact upon Jamma'in residents. Such military bases are situated deep inside Palestinian territory in order to boost the Israeli military presence and maintain tight control over the Palestinian population, and are often the source of human rights violations against Palestinians.

Jamma'in town has been affected by "Ariel" settlement, which is located to the south side of the town. "Ariel" is considered one of the largest Israeli settlements in the West Bank in terms of size. It is built on the territory of Marda village and Salfit city.

Israeli military checkpoints in Jamma'in town

Since the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, the Israeli authorities established hundreds of military checkpoints; on the Palestinian village lands, and on the lands of Jamma'in town. Israeli occupation forces have set up several checkpoints on the southern side of Jamma'in town, near Israeli bypass road No. 505. Israeli occupation forces have used concrete blocks and earth mounds to shut down agricultural roads which link the town and the bypass road. One of these roads, at the southern entrance of Jamma'in remained closed for ten years. The iron gate and earth mounds were removed and the road reopened in 2010, under the calm conditions in the area.

Za'tara permanent checkpoint has a negative impact on Jamma'in residents, particularly through the extensive search procedures imposed on residents by the Israeli military. This checkpoint is considered as the southern gate to Nablus city. Recently, Israel the extensive search procedures is less than the previous years.

Over the last decade, military checkpoints in the area have continued to have a negative impact on the daily lives of Jamma'in residents. Checkpoints continue to hinder freedom of movement and sever the links between Nablus city and the surrounding villages, as well as the connection between the villages and their agricultural lands. This has resulted in heavy economic losses for residents of Jamma'in as they are forced to travel further distances which takes more time, in order to reach their agricultural land, especially when checkpoints are closed.

Israeli bypass roads in Jamma'in town

The Israeli authorities have constructed a number of bypass roads that stretch thousands of kilometers from the north to the south. These roads have involved the confiscation of hundreds of agricultural and non-agricultural lands in order to link Israeli settlements with each other. It also impedes Palestinian territorial continuity, enabling further Israeli control over Palestinian territory.

Israel has confiscated Jamma'in territory from the south of the town in order to establish Israeli bypass road No. 505. This runs 4km along Jamma'in territory. Israeli occupation forces have used concrete blocks and earth mounds to shut the roads which links the town and the bypass road. In addition, to preventing the farmers from bringing equipment with them to cultivate their lands, and the settlers attacks living in the neighboring settlements.

It should be noted that the real danger of the bypass roads lies in number of lands that were confiscated for the benefit of what is known as the buffer zone. The buffer zone is imposed by the Israeli army and usually occupies 75 meters on both sides of the road.

The attacks of the Israeli settlers on Jamma'in town

Attacks and violence perpetrated by settlers living in the settlements near Jamma'in town has had a profoundly negative impact on residents and their property. Palestinian land owners are unable to access their lands, as they have been fenced off with barbed wire. Settlers have planted trees in these areas to reinforce their control over the area. The settlers have damaged and burned a number of Palestinian owned trees and plants. Settlers have also attacked the land owners in an attempt to intimidate and deter them from returning to their land.

The occupation did not only confiscate lands from the town of Jamma'in for the purposes of establishing their settlements, but also these settlements started to pose a real threat for the Palestinians on their own land. Since the establishment of these settlements, Palestinian residents have been subjected to several violent attacks, for example farmers have been attacked in order to prevent them from reaching their agricultural land. Settlers have also stolen crops, damaged trees and attacked homes, places of worship, cars and other private property.

Development Plans and Projects

Implemented Projects

Jamma'in Municipal Council has implemented several development projects in Jamma'in during the past five years (See Table 12).

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

| Name of the Project | Type | Year | Donor |
|--|----------------|---------------|--|
| Purchase Bagger | Services | 2008 | Jamma'in Municipal Council |
| Restoration Khalil Palace | Services | 2008 | A grant from the Sida Belgian Foundation in collaboration with Riwaq |
| Paving the main road | Infrastructure | -2008 2011 | Municipal Development & Lending Fund |
| Purchase a land to build a school | Educational | 2011 | Jamma'in Municipal Council |
| Paving the main road | Infrastructure | 2012 | Jamma'in Municipal Council |
| Adding a new classrooms in the town's school | Educational | 2012 | Jamma'in Municipal Council |
| Restoration Abu Omar House (Hosh) | Services | 2012 | A grant from the Sida Belgian Foundation in collaboration with Riwaq |
| Restoration Ibn Qudama | Services | 2013 | A grant from the Sida Belgian Foundation in collaboration with Riwaq |

Source: Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013

Proposed Projects

Jamma'in Municipal Council, in cooperation with the town's civil society organizations and town 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 town. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the viewpoints of the participants' in the workshop:

- 1 - Establish a health center including a laboratory, X-Ray center, maternal and child health clinic, diabetes clinic, employ specialist doctors, employ a resident doctor and an ambulance .
- 2 - Establish a center for people with special needs.
- 3 - Establish a public park and children's park.
- 4 - Establish a sport stadium, and a socio-cultural youth center.
- 5 - Establish a public water tank at the highest point in the town.
- 6 - Provide buses to transport students.
- 7 - Establish a sewage network and station for purification of wastewater.
- 8 - Road rehabilitation and agricultural road construction (15 km).
- 9 - Establish a services building which will contain the Municipality, a hall, a bank, a social affairs office etc.
- 10 - Rehabilitation and paving of Hamra and Jra'a Street (6km).
- 11 - Expand the public water network (5km).
- 12 - Establish Overhead Power line network (3km).
- 13 - Expand and Renewal electricity network (8 km).
- 14 - Building retaining walls (8km).
- 15 - Paving sidewalks (16km).
- 16 - Build a boys' secondary school.
- 17 - Adding classrooms in Jamma'in boys' secondary school.
- 18 - Providing the town with equipment for the municipality, such as; a lever for electricity, road roller, asphalt scissors and a bulldozer.
- 19 - Developing and rehabilitating the industrial area.
- 20 - Solving the problem of land ownership.
- 21 - Developing the capacity of workers in the municipality.

Locality Development Priorities and Needs

Jamma'in suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 13 shows the development priorities and needs in the town, according to the Town Council's perspective:

Table 13: Development Priorities and Needs in Jamma'in

| No. | Sector | Strongly Needed | Needed | Not a Priority | Notes |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------|--------|----------------|---|
| Infrastructural Needs | | | | | |
| 1 | Opening and pavement of roads | * | | | 13 km [^] |
| 2 | Rehabilitation of old water networks | * | | | 10 km |
| 3 | Extending the water network to cover new built up areas | * | | | 5 km |
| 4 | Construction of new water networks | * | | | 2 km |
| 5 | Rehabilitation/ construction of new wells or springs | | | * | |
| 6 | Construction of water reservoirs | * | | | 300 meter cubic |
| 7 | Construction of a sewage disposal network | * | | | 24 km |
| 8 | Construction of a new electricity network | * | | | 23 km |
| 9 | Providing containers for solid waste collection | * | | | 200 containers |
| 10 | Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste | * | | | 1 vehicle |
| 11 | Providing a sanitary landfill | * | | | |
| Health Needs | | | | | |
| 1 | Building new clinics or health care centres | * | | | health centre |
| 2 | Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres | * | | | health centre |
| 3 | Purchasing medical equipment and tools | * | | | |
| Educational Needs | | | | | |
| 1 | Building new schools | * | | | school in the eastern area |
| 2 | Rehabilitation of old schools | | | * | Rehabilitation of Jamma'in Girls' Elementary School and Jamma'in Boys' Secondary School |
| 3 | Purchasing new school equipment | * | | | |
| Agriculture Needs | | | | | |
| 1 | Rehabilitation of agricultural lands | * | | | 500 dunums |
| 2 | Building rainwater harvesting cisterns | * | | | 500 cisterns |
| 3 | Construction of livestock barracks | * | | | 20 barracks |
| 4 | Provision of Veterinary Services | * | | | |
| 5 | Provision of seeds and hay for animals | * | | | 20 tons per year |
| 6 | Construction of new greenhouses | * | | | 10 greenhouses |
| 7 | Rehabilitation of greenhouses | * | | | 5 greenhouses |
| 8 | Provision of field crops seeds | * | | | |
| 9 | Provision of plants and agricultural supplies | * | | | |

[^] 7 km main roads, 1 km secondary roads and 5 km agricultural roads.

Source: Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013

References:

- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ), 2014. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit Database. Bethlehem - Palestine.*
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ), 2014. Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Unit; Land Use Analysis (2012) – Half Meter High Accuracy. Bethlehem - Palestine.*
- *Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ). 2013. Water & Environment Research Unit Database (WERU). Bethlehem - Palestine.*
- *Jamma'in Municipal Council, 2013.*
- *Ministry of Education & Higher Education (MOHE) - Nablus, 2012. Directorate of Education; A database of schools (2011/2012). Nablus – Palestine.*
- *Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. 2009. Ramallah, Palestine: General Census of Population and Housing Censuses, 2007.*
- *Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), 2010. Directorate of Agriculture data (2009/2010). Nablus – Palestine.*