

‘Ein Shibli Village Profile



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Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contains compiled information about each city, town, and village in the Nablus Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all localities in the Nablus Governorate, which aims to depict the overall living conditions in the governorate and present developmental plans to assist in 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 programs and activities needed to mitigate the impact of the current insecure political, economic and social conditions in Nablus Governorate.

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

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

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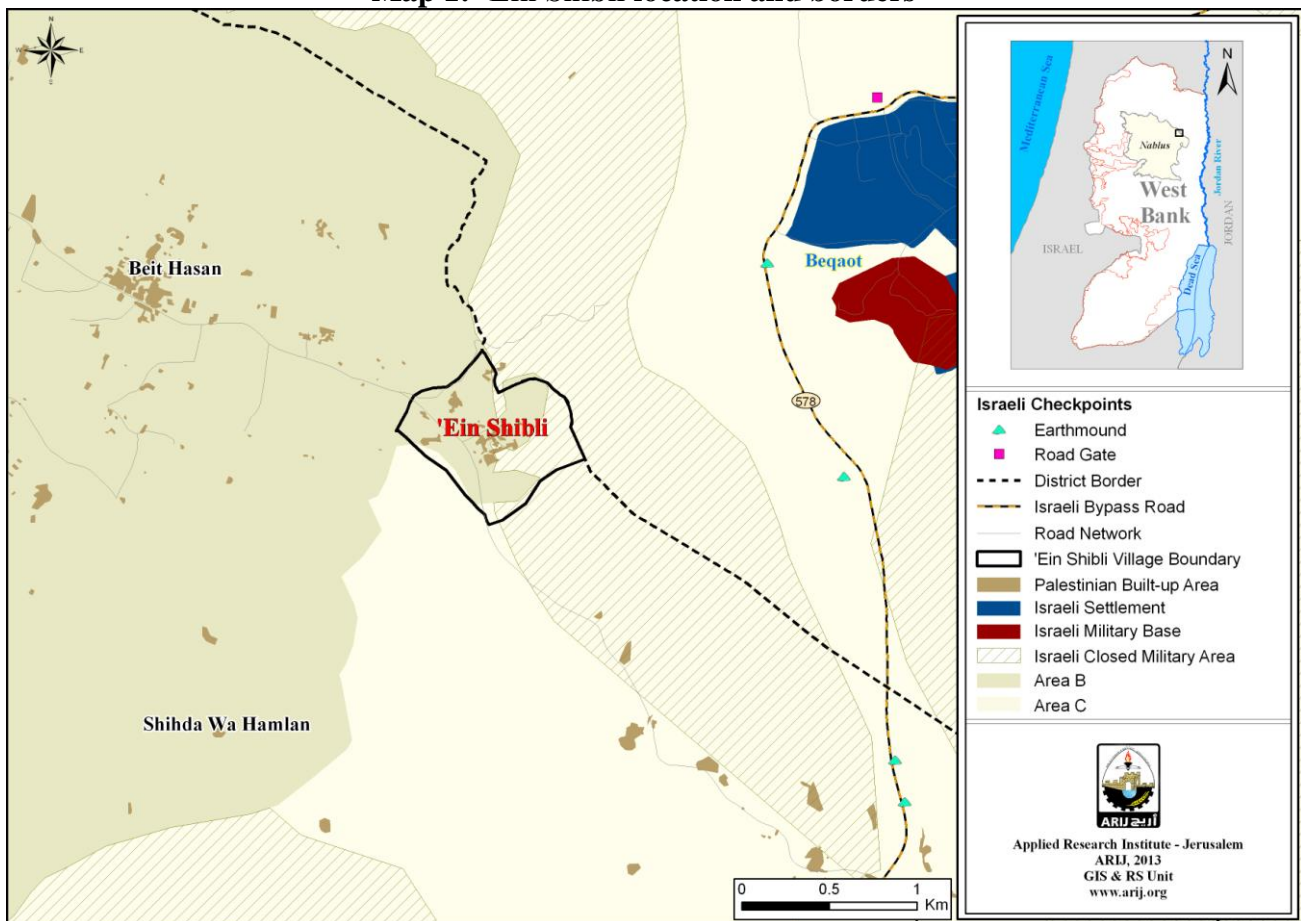
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‘Ein Shibli Village Profile

Location and physical characteristics

‘Ein Shibli is a Palestinian village in Nablus Governorate, located 15.6 km East of Nablus City. It is bordered by Tammun to the East, Tammun and Beit Hasan to the North, Beit Hasan and Al ‘Aqrabaniya to the West, and Furush Beit Dajan to the South. (ARIJ-GIS, 2014) (see map 1).

Map 1: ‘Ein Shibli location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

‘Ein Shibli is located at an altitude of 57 m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 278.4 mm. The average annual temperature is 21°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 54% (ARIJ-GIS, 2014).

The total area of ‘Ein Shibli village consists of approximately 567 dunums. This is according to the new borders of the local bodies which was stipulated by the Palestinian Ministry of local government, prepared by the Palestinian National Authority and represented by the Ministry of Local Government, the Central Elections Commission, the Ministry of Planning and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 2011. These governmental institutions redeveloped and altered the borders of the

local bodies for the purpose of the elections. ARIJ adopted these new borders in this project for the purposes of research and study. The adopted borders, to a certain extent, suited the demographic variables and the environmental and agricultural facts on the ground. These borders do not represent the space and the borders of private property in the district. It is also not included in the files of private land properties.

Since 1996, 'Ein Shibli has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 2 employees working for the council, which owns permanent headquarters. The Council does not own a vehicle for the collection of solid waste ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of 'Ein Shibli, including:

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water.
- The establishment and maintenance of the electricity networks.
- Street cleaning, road rehabilitation, construction and paving roads, and providing social services.
- Protection of governmental properties.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.

('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013)

History

'Ein Shibli village name derives from a highwayman called "Shibli" who used to live near a water spring in the village and assaulted passengers; thus, it was named after him. Another narrative, is that a cub "Shibil" used to attack the residents and prevented them from getting near the spring.

The village was established since 1948 and its residents originally came from Jaffa and Al Hamma village in the occupied lands of 1948 ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

Photo of 'Ein Shibli



Religious and archaeological sites

There is one mosque in the village ('Ein Shibli Mosque). The village has several sites of archaeological interest including Abu Sarbal hill and the old caves. However, none of these sites are suitable for tourism as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiques ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013) (see map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in 'Ein Shibli village



source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of 'Ein Shibli in 2007 was 330 of whom 162 were male and 168 were female. There were 57 households registered as living in 76 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 'Ein Shibli was as follows: 43.6% were less than 15 years of age, 52.1% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 4.2% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the gender ratio of males to females in the village was 100:96.4, meaning that males and females constituted 49.1% and 50.9% of the population, respectively.

Families

‘Ein Shibli residents are from Abu Hatab family (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

Immigration

According to the result of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2013, there are 20 families who immigrated from the village since the uprising (Al-Aqsa Intifada, 2000) (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among the population of ‘Ein Shibli is approximately 18.2%, of whom 65% are females. Of the total population, 17.7% could only read and write with no formal education, 21.4% had elementary education, 23.2% had preparatory education, 13.6% had secondary education, and 5% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of ‘Ein Shibli by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: ‘Ein Shibli 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	14	19	22	23	18	5	3	0	0	0	0	105
F	26	20	25	28	12	1	2	0	0	0	0	115
T	40	39	47	51	30	6	5	0	0	0	0	220

Source: PCBS, 2009

There is one public school in the village (‘Ein Shibli co-educational Elementary School) of which is run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education. In addition, there is no kindergarten in ‘Ein Shibli village (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

There are 87 students, 15 teachers, and 10 classes in the village. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 6, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 9 (Directorate of Education in Nablus, 2012).

Due to the lack of a secondary level in the village schools, students enroll at Al ‘Aqrabaniya Secondary School in Al ‘Aqrabaniya village which is located 4 km away ((‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

The educational sector in ‘Ein Shibli village faces a number of obstacles, mainly:

- Students are unable to obtain a bachelor’s degree due to their bad economic situation.
- The lack of a secondary school in the village’s school and the long distance between Al ‘Aqrabaniya secondary school and ‘Ein Shibli village.
- The low standard of education provided by some schools.

(‘Ein Shibli village Council, 2013)

Health status

‘Ein Shibli has some health facilities. It has a general doctor clinic, a gynecologist clinic provided by the Health Work Committee which only works once a week. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to An Nassariya governmental health center and An Nassariya health clinic (UNRWA) (7km away respectively). Or patients are transferred to Rafidia Governmental Hospital and the National governmental hospital in Nablus City (20km away respectively), Jericho governmental hospital in Jericho city (50km away), or to Jenin governmental hospital in Jenin city (35km away) (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

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

- The lack of an ambulance for emergency cases.
- The lack of a specialized doctors working in ‘Ein Shibli governmental health clinic.
- The unavailability of some essential medicine.
- The lack of some medical equipment and laboratory, and a radiology center.
(‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013)

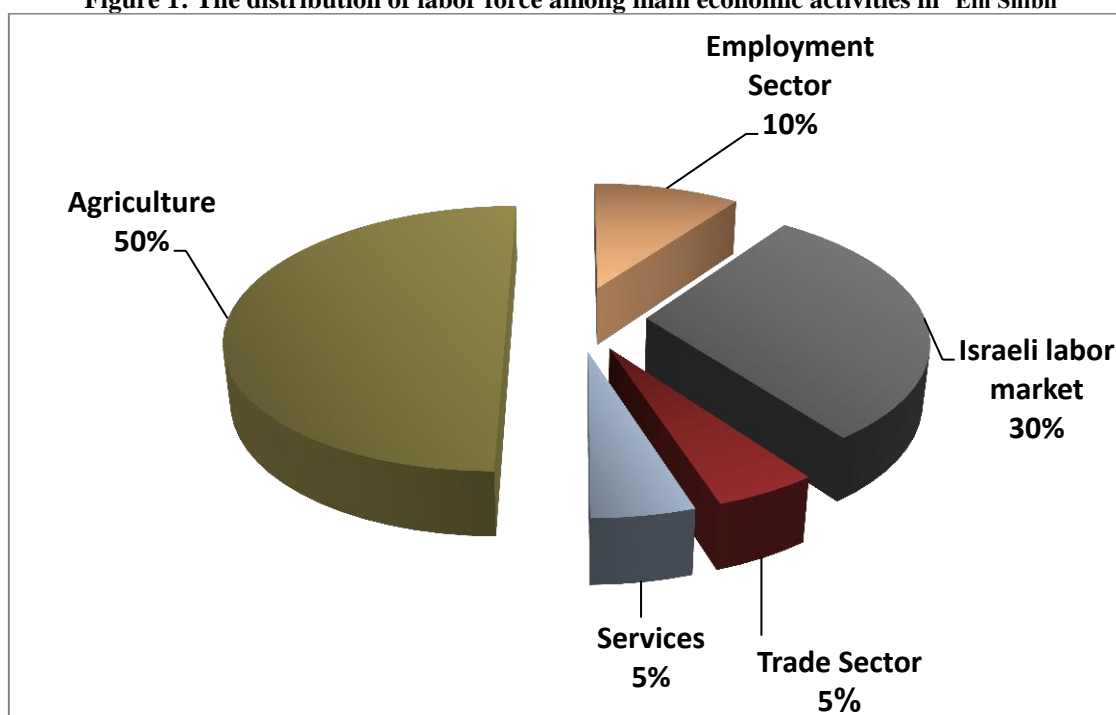
Economic activities

The economy in ‘Ein Shibli is dependent mainly on the agricultural sector, which absorbs 50% of the village’s workforce (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013) (see figure 1).

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

- Agriculture sector (50%)
- Israeli labor market (30%)
- Employees sector (10%)
- Trade sector (5%)
- Services sector (5%)

Figure 1: The distribution of labor force among main economic activities in ‘Ein Shibli



Source: ‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013

‘Ein Shibli has 1 grocery (supermarket), and 1 professional workshop (such as blacksmiths, carpenters...etc.) (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

In 2013, the unemployment rate in ‘Ein Shibli reached 70%. The groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been the agriculture sector, trade sector, and the Israeli labor market (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 38.2% of ‘Ein Shibli’s labor force was economically active, of whom 88% were employed, 61.4% were not economically active, 39.3% were students, and 46.7% were housekeepers (see table 2).

Table 2: ‘Ein Shibli population (10 years of age and above) by sex and employment status

Sex	Economically active				Not economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	Housekeeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	61	5	4	70	25	0	6	0	3	34	1	105
F	13	1	0	14	28	63	10	0	0	101	0	115
T	74	6	4	84	53	63	16	0	3	135	1	220

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

Agricultural sector

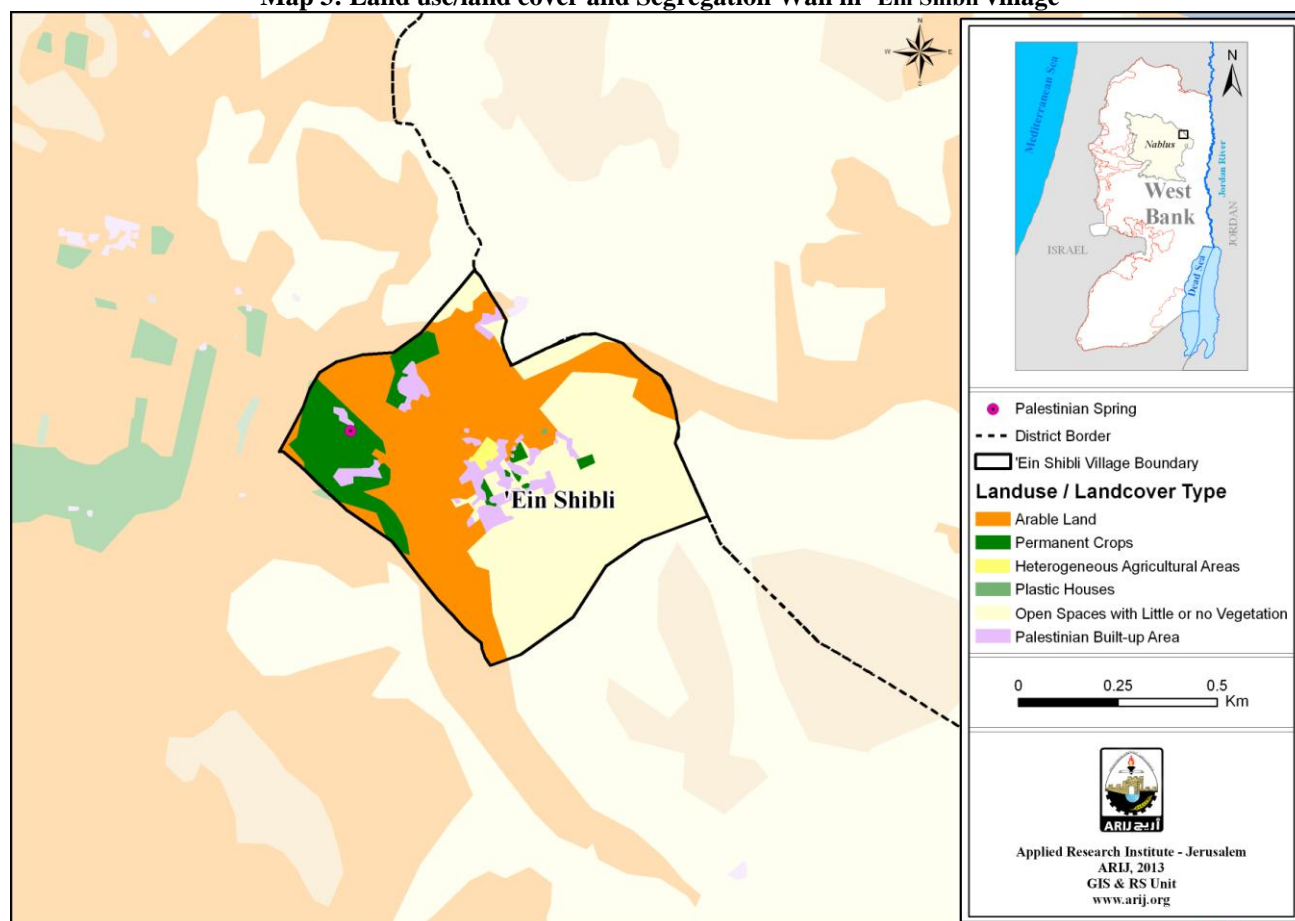
‘Ein Shibli has a total area of approximately 567 dunums of which 296 are arable land and 32 dunums are registered as residential (see table 3 and map 3).

Table 3: Land use and land cover in ‘Ein Shibli village (area in dunums)

Total area	Built up area	Agricultural area (296)				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					
567	32	64	0	0	232	0	0	239	0	0

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2014

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in ‘Ein Shibli village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2014

The field survey conducted by the ARIJ team shows that 20% of the residents in ‘Ein Shibli rear and keep domestic animals such as cows and sheep (see table 4).

Table 4: Livestock in ‘Ein Shibli

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Beehives
7	1200	279	0	0	0	0	10.000	0	0

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Nablus, 2010

There are approximately 10km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows:

Table 5: Agricultural roads in 'Ein Shibli village and their lengths

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	-
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	6
For animals only	-
Unsuitable	4

Source: 'Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013

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

- The lack of sufficient irrigation water sources.
- The lack of agricultural roads leading to the agricultural lands.
- The lack of capital for agricultural projects.

('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013)

Institutions and services

'Ein Shibli village has no governmental institutions, but and it has a number of local organizations that provide services to various sectors of society ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013). These include:

- **'Ein Shibli Village Council:** Founded in 1996 and later registered by the Ministry of Local Government, with the aim of addressing different issues concerning the village and providing various services to its population, as well as infrastructure services.
- **'Ein Shibli Women Society:** Founded in 2003 by a group of women with the aim of addressing different issues concerning training women, mainly in food processing, first aid, and embroidery...etc.
- **'Ein Shibli Society for Refugees:** Founded in 2000 by the Division of Refugees Affairs. The society aims to support and help the refugees living in the village and provide various services.

('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013)

Infrastructure and natural resources

Electricity and telecommunication services:

'Ein Shibli has been connected to a public electricity network since 1985. It is served by the Israeli Qatari 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 ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

'Ein Shibli is also connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 15% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

Transportation services:

There are 2 public buses, 9 taxis in ‘Ein Shibli village, and 4 private cars. In case there is not an efficient public transportation, residents take a taxi from a taxi office near the village (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013). The lack of vehicles in the village is considered to be the main obstacle faced by the village’s residents and the neighboring villages. There are 7 km of main roads and 5.5 km of secondary roads in ‘Ein Shibli (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013) (see table 6).

Table 6: Roads in ‘Ein Shibli village

Status of internal roads	Road length (km)	
	Main	Sub
1. Paved and in good condition	7	-
2. Paved and in poor condition	-	4
3. Unpaved	-	1.5

Source: ‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013

Water resources:

‘Ein Shibli is provided with water by ‘Ein Shibli spring through the public water network established in 1985. All housing units are connected to the public water network (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

The quantity of water supplied to ‘Ein Shibli village in 2012 was recorded as approximately 36,000 cubic meters/year (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013). Therefore the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 265 liters/day. However, no ‘Ein Shibli citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses which are estimated at 5% (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013). These losses happen at the main source, along major transport lines, within the distribution network and at the household level. Therefore the rate of water consumption per capita in ‘Ein Shibli is more likely to be around 252 liters per day (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

In addition, the village has an artesian well and a spring that supply the citizens with water, in addition to a cistern with a capacity 250 cubic meters.(‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013). Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 1.5 NIS (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

Sanitation:

‘Ein Shibli lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks as the main means of wastewater disposal (‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013). Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximate quantity of wastewater generated per day is 75 cubic meters, or 27.4 thousand cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 202 liters per day. 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 both the environment and public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid waste management:

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste in Jericho is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village.

Most of the population in 'Ein Shibli benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags and placed in 16 containers (of 1m³ capacity), located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste twice a week and transports it using a waste vehicle to Zahret al Finjan dumping site in Jenin Governorate, 30km from the village, where it is subsequently buried in an environmentally friendly way ('Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in 'Ein Shibli is 0.7 kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the 'Ein Shibli residents is nearly 0.3 tons, or 95 tons per year (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Environmental conditions

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

Wastewater management

The absence of a public sewerage network in the village means that 'Ein Shibli 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 the residents' health.

Solid waste management

'Ein Shibli village does not suffer any problems concerning the management of solid waste, as the Joint Council for the Management of Solid Waste is responsible for the process of collecting waste from the village and disposing it in Zahret al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate. This landfill is the main environmentally friendly landfill serving the village, as well as most of the other localities in the Nablus Governorate.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Ein Shibli village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28th September 1995 by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Ein Shibli was divided into Area B and Area C. Approximately 385 dunums (68% of the village'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 village's area, constituting 182 dunums (32% 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 Ein Shibli's population resides in Area B. (See Table 7).

Table 7: The Geopolitical Divisions of Ein Shibli village according to the Oslo Agreement 1995

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of Total village area %
Area A	0	0
Area B	385	68
Area C	182	32
Nature Reserve	0	0
Total	567	100

Source: Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2014

Israeli occupation practices in Ein Shibli village

Despite the fact that there are no current settlements and camps established on Ein Shibli 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 village. Israeli settlements surround the village on two sides, the east and south. "Beqaot" settlement located on the eastern side of the village, is established on the neighboring village territory of Tammun. "Hamra" settlement is located to the south of the village on the territory belonging to the neighboring village of Furush Beit Dajan. These settlements have been a source of human rights violations and continuous attacks on the neighboring Palestinian villages.

In previous years, the Israeli occupation forces have established military bases on the territory of the neighboring village of An Nassariya village. It was evacuated in 2005 as a result of the Israeli unilateral withdrawal plan from the northern settlements in the West Bank, according to An Nassariya Village Council. Israeli forces established another military base near to "Beqaot" settlement on the territory of the neighboring village of Tammun. These bases have been a focal point for Israeli human rights violations against Palestinian civilians.

Israeli checkpoints in Ein Shibli village

After the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, Israeli authorities established two military checkpoints located to the south-eastern and western sides of Ein Shibli village. The first is “Hamra” permanent checkpoint, which is located to the eastern side of the village on bypass road No. 57, controlled by the Israeli authorities. This road links the Jordan Valley and Jericho to the Northern provinces (such as Nablus Governorate and Tubas Governorate). “Hamra” checkpoint is deemed this important road passes by Ein Shibli village. “Al Hamra” checkpoint, which is located near “Hamra” settlement, is considered the most important and hardest military checkpoint in the West Bank because of its strategic location, as this checkpoint is the main entrance for the people coming from the Northern governorates to the Jordan Valley. This checkpoint has been a source of human rights violations against Palestinians for over 12 years. This checkpoint has witnessed shootings, murders, arrest procedures and denial of access, in addition to waiting periods of several hours for Palestinian vehicles.

Farmers in the Jordan Valley have suffered from the long closure of this checkpoint, as this area is considered as the main bread basket for Palestinians (the main source of fruit and vegetables). This has caused an increase in poverty and unemployment rates in this area and has significantly damaged the economy. This checkpoint still exists in the neighboring area of Furush Beit Dajan, but Israeli forces have reduced their control over this checkpoint under the current calm conditions.

The other checkpoint that the village was affected by is the “Al Badhan” temporary checkpoint was located to the western side of the village and established on the road that links Ein Shibli village and Nablus city. This checkpoint had a significantly negative impact on the lives of Palestinians during the Second Intifada and the following years. This checkpoint violated the right to freedom of movement between Nablus city and its villages, which in turn devastated the villages’ economic activity. Israeli forces have since removed “Al Badhan” checkpoint.

Israeli bypass roads on Ein Shibli village

Israeli authorities have established multiple bypass roads across the West Bank stretching from north to south, confiscating thousands of dunums of agricultural and non-agricultural lands. These roads link Israeli settlements and separate the Palestinian community. They also enhance security control on these roads as well as control on Palestinian village territory. Israel has confiscated Ein Shibli village territory for the establishment of Israeli bypass road No. 57, which connects the Jordan Valley to Nablus City. Hamra checkpoint was established on this road and is under full Israeli control. The length of this road extends approximately 1 km onto the village territory of Ein Shibli.

It should be noted that the real danger of the bypass roads lies in the lands that were confiscated for the purpose 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.

Development plans and projects

Implemented projects

‘Ein Shibli Village Council has implemented several development projects in ‘Ein Shibli during the past five years (see table 8).

Table 8: Implemented development plans and projects in ‘Ein Shibli during the last five years

Name of the project	Type	Year	Donor
Paving parts of the secondary roads	Infrastructure	2008	Ministry of Finance
Establishing a public park	Public Services	2008	Oxfam
Rehabilitating ‘Ein Shibli water spring	Water resources	2009	Oxfam
Building retaining walls	Infrastructure	2010,2011	CHF
Building a public services center in ‘Ein Shibli	Public Services	2012	JICA
Continuing the maintenance of ‘Ein Shibli co-educational elementary school	Educational	2012	JICA

Source: ‘Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013

Proposed projects

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

1. Implementing productive projects (firms, factories etc.)
2. Implementing infrastructure projects (roads, electricity, water etc.)
3. Providence of entertainment parks for kids.
4. Supporting the cooperative societies the village.
5. Supporting the educational and health sectors.
6. Supporting women and their important role in the village
7. Supporting the agricultural sector and livestock sources.

Locality development priorities and needs

‘Ein Shibli suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 9 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council’s perspective:

Table 9: Development priorities and needs in 'Ein Shibli

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural needs					
1	Construction and paving of roads	*			15.5km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks			*	
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	*			Digging new groundwater well and providing new equipment for water extraction
6	Construction of water reservoirs	*			500 cubic meters
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			3km
8	Construction of a new electricity network			*	
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			10 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*	
11	Providing a sanitary landfill			*	
Health needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres			*	
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres			*	
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools	*			
Educational needs					
1	Building new schools	*			Continue building 'Ein Shibli co-educational elementary school
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			Laying floor tiles and painting walls in 'Ein Shibli co-educational elementary school
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			'Ein Shibli elementary school
Agriculture needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			250 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns	*			30 wells
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		*		20 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			
Other needs					
1	Building a premises for 'Ein Shibli women society				

[^] 5.5km secondary roads, and 10km agricultural roads

Source: 'Ein Shibli Village Council, 2013

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