# أريج (ARI

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

# THE APPLIED RESEARCH INSTITUTE - JERUSALEM (ARIJ)









**ANNUAL REPORT 2021** 

Towards a Sustainable Palestine

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#### Chairman's Message

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present to you the annual report of ARIJ: Towards a Sustianable Palestine for the year of 2021.

This report is the result of a joint and continuous effort by the administrative and technical staff of ARIJ in order to achieve the goals of the institution to promote sustainable development and enhance the resilience of citizens in the occupied Palestinian territories.

The year 2021 marks as one of the most difficult years that ARIJ has experienced since its origin due to the continued spread of COVID-19 pandemic and its accompanying challenges and burdens. And in terms of the decline of external funding affected all Palestinian civil society institutions including ARIJ accompanied by the ferocious campaign led by right-wing and racist Israeli groups to distort Palestinian civil society and challenge its pioneering and developmental role in all areas of life, as Israel invested its relations in order to reduce funding by donors for many NGOs and prevent it for other institutions.

Throughout the report you will learn more about the achievements and the implemented projects done by ARIJ, which certainly have contributed to raise the level of steadfastness of the Palestinian people and enabling them to gain greater control over their natural resources.

As for the fields of work, ARIJ continues to focus in terms of its leading developmental role in the fields of sustainable agriculture, water, wastewater treatment in addition to the fields of environment, renewable energy, and economic development, especially in the marginalized rural areas. The activities of ARIJ also included the sector of good governance and monitoring of settlement expansion activities. Despite the continuous preoccupation with the implementation of various development and executive projects, ARIJ was able to maintain its excellence in the field of scientific research and information technology. In addition, they were able to enhance the administrative, technical and practical capabilities for the ARIJ staff through internal and external courses aiming to build their capacities and provide them with additional experiences. This infact is reflected in the implementation of projects with distinguished scientific research in which enables ARIJ to expand its work circle in several Palestinian geographical areas in the north and south, all the way to the Gaza Strip.

ARIJ was also distinguished by its strategic relationship in expanding the circle of participatory work in cooperation with various ministries, agencies, private sector, associations and grassroots institutions in different regions. Furthermore, ARIJ strives to achieve its specific goals in its strategy with a great focus on the women's sector and how its reflected by the level of its staffing and the level of field work. This shows that ARIJ highly encourages womens empowerment either on an internal level or externally throughout the implemented projects.

To conclude, allow me experess my sincere thanks, appreciation and respect to all the ARIJ staff whom despite the difficulties and challenges encountred, they joined efforts to successfully implement the ARIJ strategy and its objectives for the year of 2021.

Suleiman Abu Dayyeh Chairman of the Board



#### **Executive Summary**

In the year of 2021, The Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ) continued to articulate its mission toward promoting sustainable development in the occupied Palestinian territories despite the situation of the spread of the global COVID-19 pandemic since March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. This mission is oriented toward increasing the self-reliance of the Palestinian people in taking greater control over their natural resources.

ARIJ continues to play a major role as a national institution, producing substiantial influences through its highly qualified and skilled staff in the fields of Sustainable Agriculture, Climatic change, Water, Wastewater Treatment and environment, Renewable Energy, Economic Empowerment, Good Governance, Research and Development, Monitoring Israeli Settlement Activities, IT and GIS. Refer to the summary map showing ARIJ interventions page (5).

ARIJ describes the year 2021 as a continuation of the most critical year that ARIJ faced since its establishment in 1990. ARIJ continued working on the rehabilitation and developmental plan to combat the shrinking space facing civil society institutions that occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thankfully, in 2021, the employees returned to work from office with a high level of alert and safety precautions to ensure the work continuity, in addition to limit as possible physical meeting in ARIJ premises. In Addition, ARIJ encouraged all the staff to obtain the required vaccination as a safeguard for thier safety as well as their families. ARIJ contingency plan and safety measures worked well despite the infection of 10 % of the employees. On the greater picture, the work went as usual without the risk of mass infection to other staff.

During the year 2021, *Sustainable Agriculture Program (SAP*) at ARIJ managed on implementing 8 different projects. The main objectives for such projects are to enhance the resilience and empower poor and marginalized families in the West Bank to poverty, against limited resources, unemployment, poor knowledge and practice, climate change and bad management of natural resources, and poor livelihood. The SAP team focused on creating sustainable communication channels with the targeted communities and related stakeholders through conducting 1,050 coordination meetings.

Moreover, 2021 have witnessed a widespread of agricultural interventions conducted by the Sustainable Agriculture Program at ARIJ through targeting 79 communities in 10 Governorates (Tulkarm, Jenin, Tubas, Nablus, Jerusalem, Qalqilyia, Hebron, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Ramallah), with a large number of directly benefited families, persons, and institutions. Accordingly, 1712 families benefited including 10,758 family members, in addition to 35 institutions that are directly serving up to 4,850 marginalized persons. It is worth mentioning that more than 342 (20%) of the benefited families were women-headed families. In total, the number of directly benefited persons from the implemented Activities in the years 2021 was 15,608 persons.

As for the *Water and Environment Research Department (WERD)*, they continued thier activities to contribute to the protection of the Palestinian natural resources through focusing on safeguarding the environment as means of protecting human health and prompting the sustainable use of these resources. The department continued its work to increase awareness of the Palestinian people toward issues of good WASH behaviours and practices. Moreover, the WERD dep. worked to help the Palestinians in coping with the pandemic through increasing availability and access to quality WASH facilities and services for the most vulnerable communities.



On a Geopolitical level, ARIJ continued monitoring of all of the related Israeli activities in the oPt, providing information to local officials and foreign representatives, in addition, to CSOs including CBOs, grassroots and organizations such as supplying of statistical data, reports, maps and geographical records for a variety of purposes. In 2021, the Urbanization Monitoring Unit, prepared and published on the POICA website (the joint website between ARIJ and LRC) 592 case studies, 4 quarterly reports, 12 monthly reports and 365 daily reports covering the Israeli activities and violations in the oPt. The project website recorded during the period of implementation some 55,927,782 hits. Further, the project team delivered and participated in delivering 32 PowerPoint presentations to decision makers both Palestinian and European officials, locals and foreign visiting groups as well, in addition to interested scholars, academics, and journalists among others. In addition, the circuit for information dissemination was significant as it included 349 radio interviews, 185 television dialogues and 12 programs, 140 newspapers and electronic pieces, 6 special reports, 5 special briefings, 12 fact sheets and 6 info-graphs. Furthermore, the Urbanization Monitoring Unit along with ARIJ's Monitoring and Evaluation Department developed an online survey to look into the general public reflection, which showed favouritism among those surveyed toward the "Two State Solution". In the near future, the team seeks to create a "mobile application" that provides a view of an online interactive map with GIS layers and information related to the Israeli activities in oPt. It is likely that the mobile application will operate during the second half of 2022.

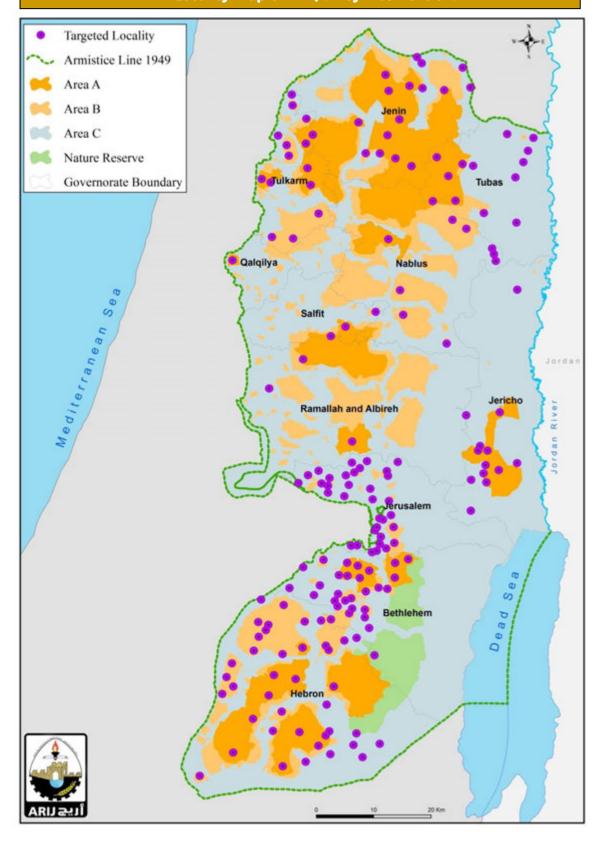
ARIJ *Good Governance Program* continued to enable good governance principles in Palestinian society. It worked on the ground towards ensuring that political, social and economic priorities are based on board consensus in Palestinian society and that the voices of all rights-holders are heard in decision-making over the allocation of development resources in line with SDG 10 and 16.

Activities implemented by the program aimed to promote values of integrity, principles of transparency and systems of accountability in various Palestinian sectors. In 2021, ARIJ Good Governance Program worked in 102 localities reaching out to 4,199 Rights-holders (1,222 Male and 2,977 Female). It worked with and supported 11 cooperatives, 30 services-provider, 4 partners, and 30 community-based organization. In total, the Program conducted 40 field visits to cooperatives, 142 visits to municipalities, 4 visits to Joint Services Councils, and 30 visits to civil society organizations and/or community-based organizations. Relying heavily on online and media tools this year, ARIJ Good Governance Program advocated for women and youth outreach in the cooperative sector, gender equality, changes in the cooperative law, municipal budgets to be more transparent and participatory, full access to basic services regardless of crisis or emergency, and fulfilment of Palestinian rights.

ARIJ Staff, Administrative Committee, General Assembly, Donors and Partners. Finally, yet importantly, ARIJ programs' planned activities for year 2021 will include, but not limited to, seeking new research, developments and pilot / innovative projects towards Sustainable Palestine in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.



#### **Locality Map of ARIJ's Key Interventions**





#### **Section 1: Organizational Structure and Management**

#### General Assembly and Administrative Committee

ARIJ enjoys the service of 45 professionals and 2 honorary members (of which 46.6% are females) constituting the General Assembly of the institution covering a wide range of specializations providing ARIJ Administrative Committee with policy and strategic guidance. The General Assembly hold a meeting on July 13th, 2021 where they discussed and approved ARIJ financial and technical reports. During the same annual meeting the general assembly, hold new elections to elect a new administrative committee for 3 years.

The Administrative Committee is committed in achieving financial sustainability and success through effective management, transparency, good governance and strategic planning. ARIJ Administrative Committee is responsible for implementing and following up on the strategies and policies set by the General Assembly.

Ten meetings were held during the year of 2021 as follows:

Administrative Committee meetings during 2021
January 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
March 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
April 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
June 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
July 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
August 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2021
September 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
October 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021
November 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2021

With deep sorrow we convey to you that Dr. Nasri Qumsieh passed away in February 24th 2021, one of the first founders of ARIJ back in 1990 and ex head of ARIJ board of directors.





#### **General Assembly**









































































**Honorary Members** 





#### **Administrative Committee**











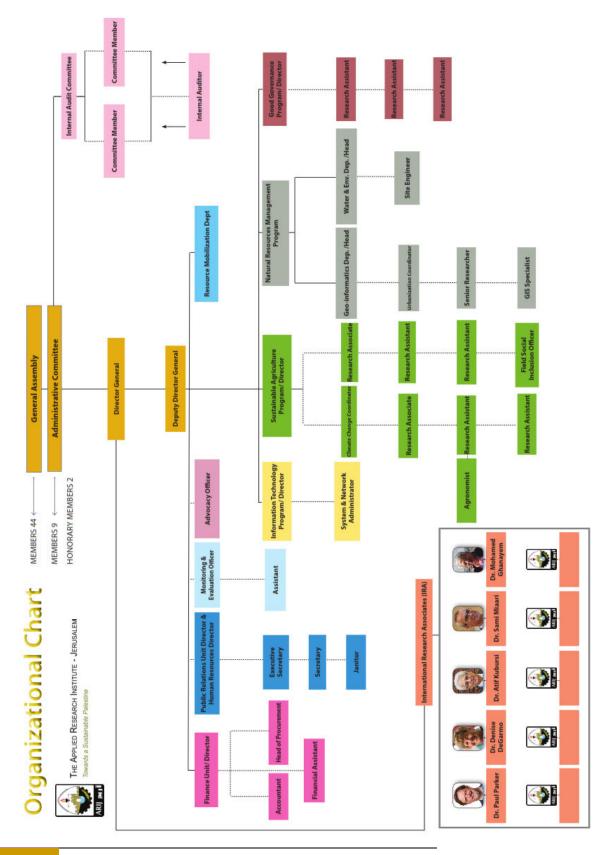








#### ARIJ Organizational Chart





#### ARIJ Donors and Partners for the Year 2021

- European Commission
- CARE international
- Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)
- Presbyterian Church (USA)
- The World Food Programme (WFP)
- We Effect
- Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development
- Institut français
- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)
- OCHA United Nation Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- UN-Habitat
- Al Waleed Philanthropies
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ("FAO")
- United Palestinian Appeal (UPA)
- Welfare Association Taawon
- Spanish Cooperation

#### **Partners:**

- Joint Services Council for Planning and Development / Eastern Rural Bethlehem
- Cesvi Fondazione Onlus (CESVI)
- The Union of Charitable Societies-Jerusalem (UCS)
- Hasso Plattner Institute for Digital Engineering (HPI)
- Women Media and Development (TAM)
- Palestine Child's Home Club-Youth Development Resource Centre
- Birzeit University's Center for Continuing Education (CCE)
- Palestinian Agriculture Institutions Coalition (PAIC)



### **ARIJ Donors for the Year 2021**

















































## ARIJ Contributed to Achieving the Following Sustainable Development Goals:























#### **Section 2: ARIJ Programs and Activities**

#### 2.1 Sustainable Agriculture Program

Climate change threatens not only economic growth (SDG 8) but will also act as a poverty multiplier by increasing the number of poor people and by making poor people even poorer (SDG 1), as well as inequality (SDG 10). It is predicted that by the year 2050, the world will need approximately 70% more food than is currently being produced to sustain the growing world population. Sustainable farming techniques revolve around optimally using natural resources while not harming the environment in any way.

Therefore, sustainable agricultural practices are critical, both for our present as well as our future, as it creates the right equilibrium between the production of food and the preservation of the ecosystem. This approach will help farmers achieve economic stability and improve their quality of life.

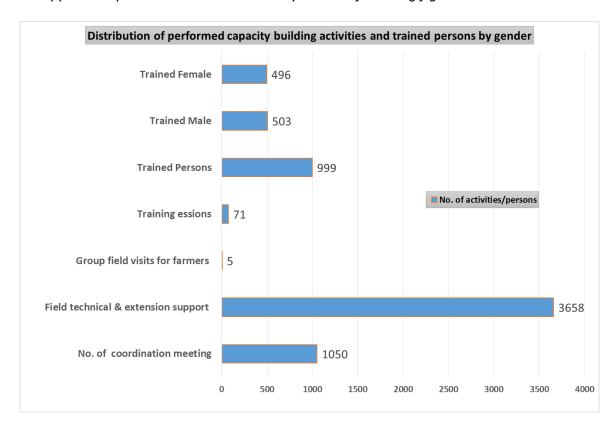
Sustainable agricultural practices work towards achieving a thriving ecosystem, productive economy, and socioeconomic parity. Each player in this value chain, right from farmers, farming experts, waste management experts, food processing companies and cooperatives, distributors, retailers, and consumers can add value and do their bit in building a viable future for all. Sustainable agricultural practices are intended to protect the environment, expand the Earth's natural resource base, maintain and improve soil fertility

In the course of 2021, Sustainable Agriculture Program (SAP) at ARIJ managed on implementing 8 different projects. The main aspects of these projects are to enhance the resilience and empower poor and marginalized families in the West Bank to poverty, against limited resources, unemployment, poor knowledge and practice, climate change and bad management of natural resources, and poor livelihood. The main focus is on youth and women empowerment on social, economic, awareness and building their advocacy power as right bearers approach. The SAP expertise team worked with all partner organizations and related stakeholders in partnership, transparency responsibilities sharing mechanisms on all levels to meet such challenges.

In 2021, the SAP team focused on creating sustainable communication channels with the targeted communities and related stakeholders through conducting 1,050 coordination meetings. Up to 28.5% of the participants in these meetings were females; women's participation is always encouraged. These meetings are conducted to ensure transparency, accountability, avoid duplication of work, and experience share to reach the neediest and suitable beneficiaries. This target was achieved through responding to their needs and allowing them to become more resilient to poverty, food insecurity, and poor livelihood, this encouarges self-dependency and self-productivity as both are key elements to achieve the allocated targets and indicators to reach sustainable and influential impacts. As ARIJ is applying agriculture production systems focusing on the use of safe, innovative, and green practices and techniques, thus the beneficiaries from these interventions should enjoy the capacity on how to operate and manage these systems and be aware of their economic, food security, and positive impact on the environment and the health of the consumer. Therefore, the beneficiaries are usually provided with the required trainings. In fact, previously this year, up to 71 different training sessions in addition to 5 group field visits for the beneficiaries in 2021 were conducted which benefited 999 persons (49.6% females, and 50.4% males). Furthermore, the SAP team has conducted 3,658 on-site visits to the



provided production units/inputs, to monitor their performance and provide the beneficiaries with technical support to operate them in a better way. See the following figure



In the year 2021, SAP has benefited 79 poor, marginalized, and vulnerable communities from 10 Governorates (Tulkarm, Jenin, Tubas, Nablus, Jerusalem, Qalqilyia, Hebron, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Ramallah) in the West Bank. The following table presents the distribution of targeted communities by SAP in the year 2021.

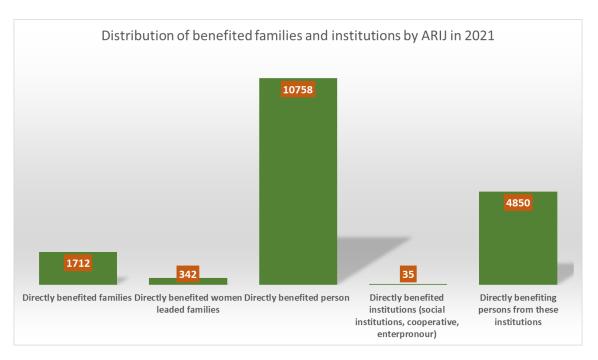
Governorate	Community	No. of communities
Jenin	Al Jalameh, Arraneh, Dier Abu Daeef, Aba, Birqeen, Kufer Dan, Maythaloun, Qabatya, Jalboun, Sanur, Al Jadedeh, Jenin city, Arrabeh, Faqoa, Al-Jarba	15
Tubas	Bardala, Kardala, Ein Al Bida, Tamoun, Atuf, Al Fara, Tayaseer, Wadi Al Fareh, Aqqabeh, Al Aqabeh	10
Nablus	Friush Biet Dajan, Biet Hasan, Al Nassaryeh, Al Aqrabaniyeh, Duma, Qabalan, Nablus city	7
Jericho	Jerico city, Al Oja, Al Diyook, Al Nuwemeh	4
Tulkarm	Ateel, Illar, Dier Al Ghoson, Baqa Al Shrqeyeh, Akaba, Qeffin, Kufor Aboush, Zita, Kufer Jammal, Baleh, Dennabeh, Biet Leed, Irtah, Al Nazleh Al Sharqiyeh	14
Qalqilyia	Qalqilyia city and Al Nabi Ilias	2
Hebron	Al-Samou, Sier, Biet Ula, Al-Arroub, Halhul,Surif, Biet Ummar, Dura, Yatta, Hebron city, Halhul, Idna,	13



	ad-Dhahiriya.	
Bethlehem	Biet Fajjar, Al-Khader, Zatra, Teqoa, Bethlehem city, Asakra, Beit Jala, Beit Sahour City, Dheisheh camp	9
Jerusalem	Anata, Al-Azaria, At Tour & Suwwana	4
Ramallah	Ramallah city	1
	Total	79

Currently, ARIJ started benefiting the social organizations and institutions that are benefiting the vulnerable groups (elder people, orphanages, and handicapped persons) in addition to the needy families identified by the Ministry of Social Development the poorest as well as the needy families, especially women-headed household and small farming families. These are concentrated in the areas affected by occupation and identified as vulnerable communities to food security and poverty.

The year 2021 witnessed widespread agricultural interventions by the Sustainable Agriculture Program at ARIJ through targeting 79 communities in 10 Governorates, with a large number of directly benefited families, persons, and institutions. Accordingly, **1,712 families benefited** through which 10,758 family members benefited, in addition to 35 institutions that are directly serving up to 4,850 needy persons. It is worth mentioning that more than 342 (20%) of the benefited families were women-headed families. In total, the number of directly benefited persons from the implemented Activities in the years 2021 was **15,608 persons**.



The implemented diverse interventions in 2021 included:

a. Plant production systems, including (home garden, wicking bed system, small greenhouses, farming fields, green forage hydroponic, intensive farming systems (large greenhouse for commercial production).



- b. Improvement of water resources and enhancing access to water resources for irrigation and domestic uses, including rehabilitating and constructing rainwater cisterns and irrigation ponds, and establishment of water main pipes.
- c. Livestock production: provision of pregnant ewes, provision of concentrated feed for pregnant ewes, fried powder milk to feed newborns, shelter and barns rehabilitations, and provision of hygiene tool kits.
- d. Encouraging the rise of new entrepreneurs: establishing milk collection and dairy processing center, led by women.
- e. Supporting agricultural cooperatives, especially women cooperatives through increasing their access to the production inputs, improving their production and processing quantitatively and qualitatively as well as in creating marketing channels to promote and market their products for fair prices.
- f. Installation of solar energy to generate electricity on the level of households and institutions.

The implemented developmental interventions by SAP in the year 2021, a total of 2,819 paid working days was conducted. This created more job opportunities and contributed to solving the unemployment problems.

Despite the prevalence of the COVID-19 Pandemic in the year 2021, the SAP expertise staff has managed in introducing the most proper and up-to-date agriculture techniques which contributes to ARIJ success projects. This includes focusing on efficient usage of available resources (land and water, and green cover), better cost-effective, and green and better and smart practices. Hence, this contributes to sustain the natural resources that will create a more productive agro-food system, eventually reaching to better adaptation and mitigation to climate change and creating resilience mechanisms for food insecurity.

Also, the SAP managed to support the farmers, rural families and families living in urban areas with production inputs to improve their existing cultivations or plant additional area, reached to the area of 318.6 dunums. This area became more productive and produced healthy, natural, and safer vegetables. They were provided with a balanced pressure-drip irrigation system (reducing water consumption by 20%); reducing chemicals usage in vegetable production which resulted in decreasing production cost, cultivation inputs, increased production, and specialized inputs for producing safer and healthy vegetables; and providing wicking bed growing systems for urban areas which reducing irrigation water consumption by 40% and ending with natural vegetable with better taste. Furthermore, to enhance and facilitate the farmers' access to cultivate their land and to transport their production easily as well as to bring the required water for irrigating their crops, the program team managed to accomplish the rehabilitation of 6 km of the agricultural roads and in establishing 3.8 km of irrigation water main pipelines.

The performed demonstration on using better-concentrated feed (rich with protein) for milking ewes and goats and feeding the newborn of sheep with milk powder resulted in reducing the mortality among newborn sheep 30% to zero % and milk production by ewes increased from 0.95 Kg/sheep/day to 2.15 Kg Kg/sheep/day and the milking period increased from 4 to 5 months.



Moreover, the team was able to provide: 1) New beehives to 6 families, 4 beehives per family that have allowed them in increasing the number of received beehives by 17 new units. This is in addition to producing honey. This is important since increasing bees number in nature enhances and improves the pollination process. This in turn increases fruit setting and the number of produced seeds that can naturally regrow, contributing to green biomass while adapting to climate change. 2) Rainwater harvesting and storage are crucial solutions for minimizing the impact of water scarcity and limited availability during summer. Thus, ARIJ managed to construct 11 rainwater harvesting cisterns and agricultural pools with a storage capacity of 990 cubic meters. This resulted in the cultivation of additional 20 dunums of irrigated agriculture. 3) Furthermore, 3 wastewater treatment units were constructed to the benefit of 3 social organizations to solve the wastewater cesspits evacuation and flood on environmental and health conditions with a capacity of 15 cubic meters per day. Treated wastewater is being used for irrigating newly cultivated 6 dunums of land planted with seedlings of suitable types of fruit trees. 4) lastly, the program had provided 5 social organizations with solar energy system with a power production capacity of 52 KWh. Such green interventions not only have a positive impact on the environment but also, improve the quality of life for the beneficiaries and increase their economic and well psychological conditions.

The environmental, nutritional, and economic impacts of the implemented green interventions by SAP during 2021 are as follows:

The diversified accomplished agricultural, environmental, renewable energy, and green practices by the Sustainable agriculture program (SAP) for the course of 2021, has benefited 1,712 families and 35 institutions and cooperatives. These interventions resulted in producing healthier and safer agricultural commodities; organic waste treatment and reusing; applying smart applications which resulted in reducing water consumption, greening urban areas, increasing productivity by using feasible, healthy, and sustainable solutions and substitutes, reducing poverty through creating job opportunities and improving food security and food consumption by increasing the access of poor people for self-production agro-food systems based on their resources and know-how. Also, the SAP enriched its work on raising awareness toward grean practices and becoming more sustainable. These efforts have been resulted in producing different types of products and in saving more money that reached 501.42 USD. The impact was extended on serving the ecosystem environment through practicing green interventions which resulted in sequestrating a total of 472.66 tons of CO2 which equals to the CO2 sequestrated by 472.66 Dunums (47.26 hectares) of the forest land planted with mature forestry trees. See the below table:



The resulted production by the provided units by the Sustainable Agriculture Program in their market value and environmental impact in USD, for the year 2021.				
Type of production	Amount	Value in USD	Tons of sequestrated CO2 tons	Sequestrated CO2 in 2021 equivalent to forest trees in dunums
Safer and natural vegetable (kg)	928,852	458,948	458.9	458.9
Green Fodder (kg)	1,674	837	3.96	3.96
Broiler chicken (kg meat)	2,100	6,300		0
New Beehives (No.)	17	1,919		0
Sheep milk (litter)	1,500	2,419		0
Newborn sheep	56	17,486		0
rainwater harvesting and storage systems (cm3)	997	1,713		0
wastewater Treatment units (cm of treated wastewater & saving the evacuation cost and planted 5 dunums with fruit trees	3,540	9,688	3.4	3.4
kW electricity from solar systems	14,924	2,331.9	6.4	6.4
Total		501,642	472.66	472.66

- The SAP practices are matching and contributing to achieving many of the allocated Goals of the SDGs as follows:
- The utilization of solar energy to generate electricity is related to <u>GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean</u>
   <u>Energy</u><sup>1</sup>
- Producing safer agricultural food (safer vegetables) and increasing the access of poor and needy people to have access to more food through self-produced agro-food is related to <u>GOAL</u>
   <u>End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</u>"<sup>2</sup>
- Applying wastewater treatment and recycling the organic solid to compost water to irrigate more agricultural lands with treated wastewater and using the compost to fertilize crops and soils as well and applying them to enhance water harvesting and reduce demand on freshwater for irrigation by applying a green and efficient agricultural system that uses less amount of water and producing food related to <u>GOAL 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</u>, and <u>GOAL 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.<sup>3</sup></u>
- Supporting and empowering the role of women and youth through enhancing their role in agriculture production on the level of decision making and enjoying the fair right to access to natural resources, management, and production as well as better socioeconomic conduction, especially when they are the bread makers of their families and youth empowerment. Thus,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> SDGs-GOAL6: Wastewater safely treated, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors; and proportion of wastewater safely treated and reused; and SDGs-GOAL12: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse; and National recycling rate, tons of material recycled



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> *SDGs-GOAL* 7: Affordable and Clean Energy. of the SDGs aim to correct this enormous imbalance by ensuring everyone has access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services by the year 2030. To expand energy access, it is crucial to enhance energy efficiency and to invest in renewable energy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SDGs-GOAL 2: recognizes the inter-linkages among supporting sustainable agriculture, empowering small farmers, promoting gender equality, ending rural poverty, ensuring healthy lifestyles.

ARIJ project focuses on providing women with production input and know-how. This is related to **GOAL 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**<sup>4</sup>.

#### Some links to published activities of SAP through media:

Ma'an: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spxygoiQejc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spxygoiQejc</a>

• Attan: <a href="https://www.wattan.net/ar/video/354826.html">https://www.wattan.net/ar/video/354826.html</a>

Here are some photos of the SAP work:





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *SDGs-GOAL5:* Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws with main focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.









#### 2.2 Information Technology Program

ARIJ Information Technology Program aims to contribute to the development of information technology in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, through effective dissemination of information and knowledge. In its work, the program improved ARIJ capabilities in computing technologies and applications. In addition to providing technical assistance to ARIJ different departments, the IT program develops and programs web-based information systems and creates efficient logical databases for the different projects for the institute. These programs support research staff in interpreting and presenting data analysis and evaluation findings. ARIJ also keeps up with the latest remote sensing and geographical information system applications.

ARIJ IT Program has been also responsible for creating and managing of Geospatial databases and Meta data that are used to develop web-based mapping applications.

Furthermore, the IT program has extended its work to include video editing and publishing all of ARIJ work. The program is responsible for recording, editing and finally publishing the videos on social media accounts such as YouTube channel (<a href="http://www.youtube.com/arijvideos">http://www.youtube.com/arijvideos</a>), Facebook (<a href="http://www.facebook.com/arij.org">http://www.facebook.com/arij.org</a>) and Twitter (<a href="https://twitter.com/ARIJ">https://twitter.com/ARIJ</a> Institute).

#### **Projects**

EU East Jerusalem Project "Towards Social Inclusion in Community Development by Providing Platforms for Planning and Advocacy" SDG- Article 19 Freedom of Opinion & Information





The projects aim at empowering the Palestinian communities and civil society in EJ in claming their rights as well as their political and developmental space through collective actions at a community level, advocacy actions, and participatory planning.

#### Objectives:

- 1. Increase the national and international stakeholders addressing the challenges and hardships faced by Palestinian EJ residents for adequate housing, infrastructure, and services (educational, health, and environmental) are empowered by providing advocacy, analysis, and decision support tools.
- 2. Increase national and international awareness for understanding the situation in EJ.
- 3. To provide donors and others with the required information in various sectors in East Jerusalem in order facilitate interventions and especially in the educational sector.
- 4. Promotion of the Palestinian cultural and heritage identity of the city in coordinace with Palestinian businesses related to local and international tourism.
- 5. Empowerment of the Palestinian communities and civil society in EJ to defend their rights and promote sustainable development **by** providing an inclusively developed and coherent framework of priority needs for the Palestinian Neighbourhoods in EJ.

#### Outputs:

- 1. A 3D data model and geospatial monitoring system of: (a) geopolitical conditions in EJ; (b) gender disaggregated demographic and socioeconomic indicators; and (c) the quality and accessibility to educational, environmental, recreational (tourism) and health services.
- 2. A 3D visualization system of Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem (EJ) linked to the Geospatial database.
- 3. Educational Facilities Development Decision Support System (DSS) for EJ.
- 4. EJ community profiles assessing communities' needs and developmental priorities.

#### **Application Development:**

#### **GIS & Geospatial Databases**

Mapping of Educational Centers in East Jerusalem –UNDP SDG- Article 19 Freedom of Opinion & Information

The IT Program in coordination with the GIS department has worked with the UNDP to survey schools in East Jerusalem and will develop a web-based system for the data collection and viewing for all data related to the Educational Centers.

#### **Social Media & Movie Production:**

The IT Program is responsible for producing documentaries for ARIJ work, mainly through movies in regards to the Israeli colonization activities in the West Bank. All the movie productions are uploaded on ARIJ YouTube channel for public view. Currently, there are more than 300 movies uploaded on ARIJ's YouTube channel. The program is also in charge of filming, interviewing, and photo shootings for workshops that are accomplished by ARIJ. In addition, The program manages ARIJ social media accounts (ie.. Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter). In the recent times, there has been an increase in the number followers on our social media accounts compared to previous times. Moreover, the IT program was in charge of advocacy plans for the institute, the process includes video creation, posting on the social media platforms and banners and flyers designing.



#### **Digital Printing & Design:**

The IT program has equipped a small print shop that includes a small digital printer, paper folding machine, binding machine, electrical paper cutter and a small paper laminating machine. The print shop is responsible for printing small numbers of ARIJ publications. We have printed hundreds of publications for ARIJ including books, brochures, posters and booklets.

#### Website design & development SDG- Article 19 Freedom of Opinion & Information

The IT program in the year 2021 has been in charge of the development and publishing a number of websites related to ARIJ work and projects. The development of the website includes the designing, installation of content management systems (CMS) and data entry.

#### **System Administration & Security**

The IT program highly focuses in providing the required technical support and assistance to the different departments at ARIJ through developing applications, installing software's, maintaining hardware, and maintaining and updating the local area network. ARIJ has around 11 physical servers, 20 virtual instances and over 100 computers to maintain.

#### 2.3 Good Governance Program

ARIJ is committed to the development of Palestinian communities taking into account the rights-based approach, which states that all people should be treated equally in the access to resources and means of sustainable development towards increasing the level of human security. The healthy and sustainable development of any society must be built on the foundation of mutual respect between humans and their rights. These core values of ARIJ are entrenched in The Good Governance (GG) Program. ARIJ GG Program works on the ground towards ensuring that political, social and economic priorities are based on board consensus in Palestinian society and that the voices of all rights-holders are heard in decision-making over the allocation of development resources in line with SDG 10 and 16.

Despite COVID-19 pandemic, ARIJ Good Governance program continued to enable good governance principles in Palestinian society. Activities implemented by the GG program aimed to promote values of integrity, principles of transparency and systems of accountability in various Palestinian sectors<sup>5</sup>.

In 2021, GG Program worked in 102 localities reaching out to 4,199 Rights-holders (1,222 Male and 2,977 Female). It cooperated with and supported 11 cooperatives, 30 services-providers, 4 partners, and 30 community-based organization. In total, the Program conducted 40 field visits to cooperatives, 142 visits to municipalities, 1 visit to the ministry, 4 visits to Joint Services Councils, and 30 visits to civil society organizations and/or community-based organizations. GG Program formulated 70 committees from citizens and grassroots during 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Municipalities, Ministries, Cooperatives, Civil Society Organizations, Community-based Organizations, and Joint Services Councils.





In 2021, GG Program placed great emphasis on legal awareness and legal advice/support to rights-holders Therefore, it increased the awareness of Palestinians on their rights enshrined in international treaties, through holding 32 legal awareness workshops in Bethlehem and Hebron Governorates. Moreover, the Program partnered with UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Water Resources Management and UNESCO on Human Rights and Democracy and Peace (hosted by An-Najah National University) to build the capcaities of the legal clinics in Hebron and Palestine Ahliya Universities so they are able to provide legal advice/support to rights-holders in regards to their water and sanitation rights.

Realizing the importance of participatory, transparent and accountable, efficient and equitable approaches to development, GG Program managed to increase the accountability of local and national authorities; develop the participatory capacities of local and national authorities to become more responsive to community needs, and ensure fairness and equity in distributing available resources. This took place through increasing the engagement between citizens and their public service-providers to demand a more fair public services delivery, through accurate and timely service schedules, and participated in public hearings. Moreover, GG program continued its mission to improve access to information and transparency of local budget documents in Palestinian municipalities, which relates to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. The Program followed up closely with municipalities to improve their financial transparency practices through dissemination of "Citizens Budgets 2021"

The Program seeks to improve the capacities of municipalities in accessibility and availability of information, and addressed the following:



- 1. The clarity and relevance of information available to citizens; and its timely availability.
- 2. The quality of the mechanisms and channels utilized for disseminating information to citizens.

The GG Program works for women's increased resilience through greater access to natural and productive resources, financial (economic) resources, and marketing opportunities. The Program focuses on women's participation, empowerment, and resilience by addressing the importance for women to have access to knowledge, practices, facilities and resources that contribute to their full participation especially in economic activities, and the value chain (production, processing, marketing and consumption) mainly in rural Palestine. In line with Human Rights' claims of accessibility, availability, and protection. Within this framework, GG Program implemented awareness and advocacy campaigns aiming to:

- **1.** Breaking discriminatory attitudes that hinder women's participation in rural development and undervalued human rights principals.
- **2.** Advocate for national policies and laws that promote rural women economic rights and equal rights to participate in the economy.
- **3.** Promote the role of women and their integration into union work and their participation in cooperative work and their integration into specialized cooperatives and committees and enable them to obtain leadership roles.

The Program follows with its efforts from last year, 2020, to protect the cooperative sector's enabling environment from fallouts of COVID-19 pandemic, and advance the interest of cooperatives and their members. Accordingly, the Program implemented 2 national-level advocacy initiatives which sought to amplify voices of coops and their members in rural Palestine.

- 1. The Program campaigned the strength and resilience of Palestinian rural women. It highlighted stories of rural cooperative women. These women, through their determination and cooperative work were able to break the traditional typecast of Palestinian rural women, and empower others to do the same.
- 2. The Program marked the International Day of Cooperatives which was celebrated as "Rebuild better together". The Project collaborated with Raya FM for a month-long radio program (2 episodes per week). Cooperatives were featured to showcase how they have been meeting the COVID-19 pandemic crisis with solidarity and resilience and offering communities a people-centred and environmentally just recovery.



Schedule	Name	Link	Views
July 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2021	Beita Coop for Agricultural Manufacturing	https://fb.watch/724wWyDqnM/	764
July 6 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Anabta Coop for Consuming	https://www.facebook.com/RayaFm/videos/400326618 542	411
July 11 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Zahrat Shuqba Coop for Services	https://www.facebook.com/RayaFm/videos/284976352 1626	546
July 13 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Bizzariya Coop for reciprocal cooperation	https://www.facebook.com/RayaFm/videos/277142987	427
July 18 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Alshuyukh Coop for Livestock	https://www.facebook.com/RayaFm/videos/378957703629	615
July 25 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Seida Coop for Rural Products Manufacturing and Marketing	https://www.facebook.com/RayaFm/videos/347626226 394	472





The Program focused on giving women and youth more representation and control in social and economic decisions that directly impacts their livelihoods. these two concepts are highly crucial especially in the mist of the pandemic. Additionally this year, the Program collaborated with PACU to implement ESIAs and green practices to solve an environmental issue as a result of coopertives' activities.

At the heart of its mandate is to work with community-based organizations and grassroots. Accordingly, the Program directly target and collaborate with grassroots in empowering them by building their capacities. This year the Program, enhanced awareness and capacities of community-based organizations in the protection of human rights, and the involvement of rightholders in claiming their rights. The Program also increased CSOs participation in promoting the PA's obligations to introduce human rights and gender sensitive oriented policies and mechanisms to promote and protect the rights of rights- holders. Furthermore, the Program conducted public education workshops in 30 localities to promote and protect the rights of marginalized communities.

The Program strives for the inclusion of young people in public decision-making through creating an environment that fosters the civil participation of young people, and the creation of spaces for dialogue between young people and the public authorities.

This year, the Program trained Palestinian youth in advocacy for the achievement of the sustainable development goals to enable them of participating fully in decision-making processes.





Relying heavily on online and media tools this year because of COVID-19 pandemic, ARIJ GG Program advocated for 1) women and youth outreach in the cooperative sector, 2) gender equality, 3) changes in the cooperative law, 4) municipal budgets to be more transparent and participatory, 5) full access to basic services regardless of crisis or emergency, and 6) fulfillment of Palestinian rights.

#### **Challenges/Concerns**

A number of political, economic and social factors were relevant concerns for the Program during 2021. Certainly, in this context, factors are intertwined together and no clear-cut line can be clearly drawn to separate social from economic from political. 2021, was a sad benchmark for civic space in Palestine. Both duty-bearers the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Israel attacked and placed tighter restrictions on Palestinian civic space.

It started early in the year (February/March 2021) when the PA amended Law No. 1 on Charitable Associations and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs Law). This amendment placed the independence of civil society in a weak position and violated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 20) and The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Article 22). Collectively, Palestinian CSOs rejected the amendment, boycotted all PA events, and networked locally and internationally against it. After pressure mounted on the PA from the civil society and the international community, it was forced to suspend the amendment, but the PA continued to be under pressure until it repealed the amendment all together. Nonetheless, a move like this one by the PA make their stance regarding the civil society very clear, and is an indicator of the future of Palestinian civil society.

The designation of six prominent Palestinian organisations as "terrorist organisations" by the Government of Israel marks a significant turn for the worse in this already shrinking civic space. They are Addameer; Al-Haq; Defense for Children – Palestine; the Union of Agricultural Work Committees; Bisan Center for Research and Development; and the Union of Palestinian Women Committees. This designation lacks concrete evidence, and the Government of Israel has been unable, so far, to present any real evidence to support its claims.

This move is part of an alarming trend against Palestinian Civil Society. Palestinian CSOs, including ARIJ, fears this "criminalization" is the new strategy for the Government of Israel against all Palestinian CSOs. Worryingly, Palestine had the highest unemployment rate in Asia and the sixth highest rate in the world6. Youth unemployment rate stood at around 41.1% 7. According to PCBS, 2021 Palestinian unemployment rate is 27.8 (West Bank: 17% Gaza Strip:51%.8.

Israeli settlers' rate of violence directed against Palestinians (primarily rural Palestinians) has increased in 2021 in terms of the highest recorded levels of violence in recent years and more severe incidents9.

#### 2.4 Natural Resource Management Program

In 2021, ARIJ Water and Environment Department continued (WERD) its activities to contribute to the protection of the Palestinian natural resources through focusing on safeguarding the environment as means of protecting human health and prompting the sustainable use of these resources. Moreover, the WERD dep. worked to help the Palestinian combat the pandemic through increasing availability and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/un-experts-alarmed-rise-settler-violence-occupied-palestinian



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://tradingeconomics.com/country-list/unemployment-rate?continent=world

 $<sup>^{7}\ \</sup>underline{\text{https://tradingeconomics.com/country-list/youth-unemployment-rate}}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/postar.aspx?lang=ar&ltemID=4145

access to quality WASH facilities and services for the most vulnerable communities. The 2021 witnessed a huge of efforts put by the WERD Dep for:

#### Improving access to sanitation services at different level:

1.1 Through the actions supported by grants from the European Commission, the year 2021 witnessed the continuity of developing and promoting Al Arrub wastewater treatment in Sair area using activated sludge wastewater treatment processes. During the four year of the project's lifespan, the project's team succeeded in implementing several activities associated with the project objective that aimed to promote wastewater treatment and reuse in the water scarce areas through development and demonstration of innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans. These activities contributed to the sustainability of the WWTP through 1) enormously reduce Wadi Al Arub WWTP operation and maintenance costs, and 2) protect the sounding environment by conversion of destabilized sludge into a marketable product that can be safely used to improve the physical and chemical characteristics of soils in rangeland and croplands.



Figure 1: Wadi Al Arub WWTP process configuration.

A field visit to Wadi Al Arub was organized on 23th, November 2021, where a delegation from the EU visited the WWTP. It is worth remarking that the plant uses a combination of solar power and reuse through the treatment process to support the sustainability and affordability of the plant.



Figure 2: A field visit of EU and to the Al Arub WWTP



- 1.2 Operation and management of the Wadi Al Arub WWTP: during the year 2021, and based on the agreement that was signed with the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) in 2019, The WERD Dep. continued its work to operate the Wadi Al Arub Wastewater treatment plant that ensures sustainable operation and efficient management of the Wadi Al Arub WWTP.
- 1.3 Promoting and facilitating the public's access to personal hygiene facilities in public spaces through providing 23 physical sanitation and hygiene units (Hand washing units) in selected public spaces in the cities of Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala and Al Doha in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. This was complemented with an awareness-raising campaign, which contributed in raising awareness on personal health safety, hygiene and the best behaviours to keep safe and healthy during the pandemic. This project is funded by Al Waleed Philanthropies and UN-Habitat. The project targets 60,000 Palestinians, including 20,000 refugees directly and 217,400 people indirectly in Bethlehem governorate (49 per cent are female, and more than 33 per cent are youth).



Figure 3: Hand washing units

1.4 In cooperation with the ARIJ Agriculture Department, WERD implemented *3 wastewater treatment plants* and reuse systems in Both Tubas and Hebron Governorates that targeted: (1) The Rural Women's Charity Association of Aqaba, and neighbouring buildings that are connected to the same sewage network (2) Sair Youth Sports Club and the Sair Ikram Elderly Charitable Society, and (3) Al Simya Agriculture Association, Al Simya Women's Center, and the neighbouring buildings that are connected to the same sewage network. This activity was done through The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development Project entitled "Using green and environmentally friendly technologies to obtain energy, water and food in a sustainable manner". The funding served as a protection for the environment from direct pollution as well as contributed in increasing fruits production, without increasing the water consumption by domestic water replacement used in irrigation with the treated effluent.

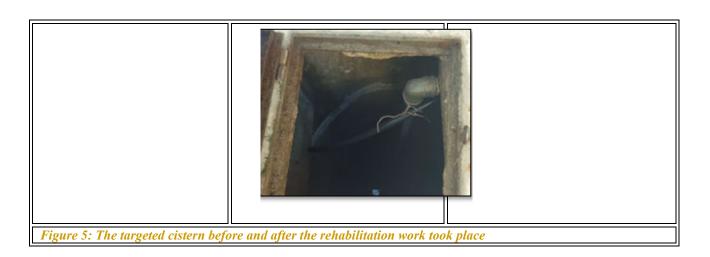




Figure 4: one of the three implemented wastewater treatment plants through The Arab Fund Project -Location : Al- Aqaba Tubas Governorate (after and before) .

#### Improving access to water sources for domestic purposes:

Through the rehabilitating of household cisterns and its catchments areas for 30 families in Bethlehem, Beit Jala, and Beit Sahour area. The project aimed at increasing access to improved water sources for domestic purposes mainly for drinking water. This project is funded by World Mission, Presbyterian CHURCH and it will continue until 2025. In the second year of the project 2021, another 6 households representing 40 individuals benefited from rehabilitation of 6 cisterns by increasing their access to improved drinking water sources especially in the dry months.



Through increasing the availability and access to quality WASH facilities and services for the most 45 vulnerable communities and households (HH) across nine governorates in Area C of the West Bank. The action targeted beneficiaries who are not served by piped water services and depend on water trucking or cisterns as their primary water source.

The project directly benefited 1046 household representing almost 5,000 individuals. All HHs benefited from improvements to the quality of 5 centralized water sources, namely: (1) Aldoyok - Jericho Governorate, (2) Alnuemeh- Jericho Governorate, (3) Al-Mudawar Qalkilya Governorate, (4) Abu-



Shamsa – Jenin Governorate and (5) Sair – Hebron Governorate and from improving 120 water transition means (water truck tankers).



In total, 140 HHs benefited from the rehabilitation of their HH level WASH facilities, 80 HHs from maintenance works on water tanker trucks and 40 HHs from both activities. Moreover, a total of 90 hygiene kits were distributed to the HH beneficiaries. The 260 assisted households corresponded to a total of 1,863 individuals, of which 9.2% (24 HHs) of the total households were female-headed. This project is funded by oPt Humanitarian, and implemented in partnership with Agency for Technical cooperation and Development (ACTED).

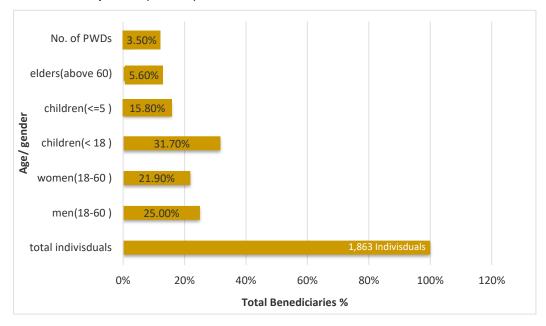


Figure 7: Demographic characteristics of the targeted beneficiaries





#### **Environment and Climate Change**

WERD Dep carried out an environmental and social study (ESIA) for the 2 projects entitled 1) Olive Mill solid waste (olive cake) management at Yasouf and 2) A model of integrating sustainability and utilization of natural resources in Eco friendly Park". The 2 studies provided the road map to the environmental measures needed to prevent and/or mitigate negative environmental and social consequences effects associated with the 2 interventions. More specifically, the ESIA included: a description of the existing socio-environmental conditions within the Project area; 2) a description extent, duration and severity of potential environmental and social impacts (environment and the rights-holders; 3) analysis of all significant impacts; and 4) environmental and social management plan.

The WERD department in cooperation with GG program finalized the study evidence-based report entitled "Monitoring of human rights violations against water rights and their linkages to violations against the rights to movement, education, protection and healthViolation of the Palestinian human Rights to Water and Sanitation- Evidence based report". The report study was carried out to document human rights violations against the right to water, and the ramifications of these violations on other human rights, particularly rights to movement, education, protection, and health, as codified by



international human rights conventionsin regards to water rights in order for decision-makers and human rights defenders to claim and protect the rights of the Palestinian rights-holders, particularly water and sanitation rights. Moreover, several leaflets and a documentary film (Violations of theagainst Palestinian human Rights to Water and Sanitation) has been developed under the project entitled (Towards Better Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Area C and Gaza Strip).

More in 2021, as part of a three-year Consulate General of Sweden funded program, "Environmental and Climate Justice in Palestine (ECJP)" was initiated with the overarching goal "To contribute to improving environmental and climate justice in Palestine" and the specific programme objective is "By 2024, civil society organisations and right-holders have the capability to address and challenge structural barriers to environmental and climate justice in Palestine". The Program is designed as a partnership between We Effect, and the Palestinian Agricultural Institutions Coalition (PAIC) established in 2018; a coalition of six environment, climate and agricultural non-governmental organisations in Palestine (Agricultural Development Association (PARC), Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC), Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG), Land Research Centre (LRC), MA'AN Development Centre, and the Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ. The Programme is a 36-month programme with the timeframe 2021-2023, and it will be implemented in the most climate vulnerable rural communities in Palestine (Gaza, West Bank specifically Area C, Hebron District, East Jerusalem and Jordan Valley).



(www.facebook.com/PalECJP),

ECJP uses a gender mainstreaming and human rights based approach linking the rights of marginalized community members especially women, youth and smallholder farmers with the obligations and commitments of duty bearers when it comes to environmental governance and rights, access to information and natural resources. The major results and achievements of the program during the first phase was (ARIJ's part):

- The vulnerability mapping study: The study identified the most vulnerable Palestinian communities in terms of climate sensitivity which are: 110 in the West Bank and 8 in Gaza Strip. Based on the Geopolitical classification, the targeted communities (60 Most Vulnerable) are located in area C, with average unemployment rate equals to 18% and average poverty equals to 22.6%.
- Comprehensive socioeconomic and environmental baseline assessment covering the most 15 Vulnerable communities with focus on the hosted CBOs, and their capacity to work throughout the project implementation framework.



- Selection of the most compatible grassroots organizations (6 CBOs) with ECJP out of 21 CBOs. The selected CBOs will be ARIJ ECJP partners for 2022 and 2023.
- Environmental and eco-friendly pilot project (Pilot) were selected and implemented "A model of integrating sustainability and utilization of natural resources in Eco friendly Park".
- Visibility campaign for the program with participation of all PAIC members that included:
  - o a press conference to lunch the Environmental and Climate Justice program in Palestine was held on 6<sup>th</sup> of October "Global Day of Action for Climate Justice".
  - o 3 Infograph (Social Media Posters).
  - Motion graphics (Video)
  - o a press tour to three locations classified as "environmentally vulnerable" in the south of West
  - o 4 TV talk shows to discuss key thematic working areas for ECJP.
  - Overall, reach of the camping on social media was 300,450views.



Figure 9: a press conference to launch the Environmental and Climate Justice program at Wattan TV

On Oct 27, 2021 ARIJ signed the charter of the climate and Environment for Humanitarian Organizations. This Charter provide a clear vision and principles to guide humanitarian action in the face of the climate and environment crises. It is worth mention that 205 humanitarian organizations have signed the Charter from over 80 countries around the world. The development of the Charter was led by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). https://www.climate-charter.org/

#### Awareness and knowledge transfer

As part of its endeavour in spreading awareness of the Palestinian people in the issues of good WASH behaviours and practices, as well as the important of the reuse of treated wastewater, WERD succeeded in conducting: **90** door to door visits to convey to the household's WASH key messages and hygiene issues to prevent and to help people protect against COVID-19; **60** on site awareness raising sessions were conducted to transfer knowledge and to raise the capacity/qualification of the for truck drivers and the truck supervisor on both practical and theoretical issues related to proper operation



and maintenance works, water quality and mitigate the spread of COVI-19 whilst servicing the water needs of their communities. **5** On job training session for **5** WASH operators of the chlorination system; **4** On onsite training session on the operation, maintenance and calibration of the handwashing units, **4** field and knowledge exchange visits to the Al Arroub Wastewater treatment plant and the reuse site in Saiir area, **5** workshops aiming to empower farmers with advanced knowledge of treated wastewater Resue and their adoption of practices to increase farming efficiency and its income, where more than 100 farmers participated.





Figure 10: On job training and on site awareness raising sessions

The awareness material were designed to reinforce the importance of good WASH behaviours and practices. It includes; one A technical user's manual of the chlorination plant, safety instructions, two WASH leaflets (focus on the importance of water preservation a leaflet for the prevention and mitigation of the spread of COVID-19, and adequate WASH practices at house hold level, one Hand washing unit's illustrative maintenance manual; and one Water Tankers a check list. It should be noted that All audio-visual material, were posted on social media (Facebook).









Figure 11: leaflet as mean of raising the awareness of the public regarding WASH practices

#### Technical assistance to ARIJ different departments

WERD in 2021 continued its efforts in providing technical assistance to ARIJ different departments, including but not limited to: 1) Provide support to ARIJ sustainable agriculture program through providing continuous technical assistance and logistic support to the work related to the water treatment and reuse, and 2) Encourage capacity building that increases the knowledge in both wastewater treatment and reuse targeting farmers, ministry of agriculture stuff members, local



Universities students, schools students, and other relevant stakeholders; and 3) Other technical support works and services provided to Green Palestine Co.

#### **Capacity Building**

The Department is committed to develop national capacities (individuals, grassroots initiatives, cooperatives, and state-based organizations) in the fields of wastewater treatment and reuse, climate change adaptation, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), and water management. Towards that end, WERD Department participated in 50 training workshops and Field visits while also providing services for the local communities in relation to its field work.

#### **Urbanization Monitoring**

The Urbanization Monitoring Unit - runs the project "POICA" that monitors the Israeli activities in the occupied Palestinian territory; entitles "entitled ASSESSING THE IMPEDIMENTS BEFORE THE TWO-STATE SOLUTION" and documents the Israeli violations in the occupied Palestinian territory, and regularly update the database concerning (settlements' construction, houses demolitions, land confiscation, uprooting trees, Israeli military orders, restrictions on movement, Israeli settlers' violence). The Urbanization and Monitoring along with the Geographic Information System (GIS); perform mapping communities targeted by Israeli activities on the ground to help assess the magnitude of the occurred damages and derive conclusions. The scope of its work also includes monitoring and documenting settlement expansions, identifying outposts' locations; detecting the development of other colonization activities, the most visible of which the under construction Segregation Wall throughout the occupied Palestinian Territory.

The information synthesized and produced in the form of case studies contains information related to the violation showing targeted locations that reinforced with the military orders (if available) and also with the related map that shows the situation on the ground.

In 2021, the Urbanization Monitoring Unit, prepared and published on POICA website (the joint website between ARIJ and LRC) 570 case studies, 4 quarterly reports, 12 monthly reports and 365 daily reports covering the Israeli activities and violations in the oPt. The project website recorded during the period of implementation some 55,927,782 hits. Further, the project's team delivered and participated in delivering 32 PowerPoint presentations to decision makers both Palestinian and European officials, locals and foreign visiting groups as well, in addition to interested scholars, academics, and journalists among others. In addition, the circuit for information dissemination was significant as it included 349 radio interviews, 185 television dialogues and 12 programs, 140 newspaper and electronic pieces, 6 special reports, 5 special briefings, 12 fact sheets and 6 info-graphs. Furthermore, the Urbanization Monitoring Unit is working in the project to create its own "mobile application" that will provide a view of an online interactive map with GIS layers and information related to the Israeli activities in oPt provided by project. Primary work on Phone application started during 2021, to be completed and operational in the second half of 2022.

The team also worked on showing how the Israeli activities in the occupied territory represent impediments to peace as they aim to hinder possible breakthrough, as well as to coerce facts on the ground to manipulate the outcome of any future negotiations, and eventually the conceded "Two State



Solution". On that note, the project team (ARIJ and LRC) along with ARIJ's Monitoring and Evaluation Department developed an online survey to look into the general public reflection, which showed favoritism among those surveyed toward the "Two State Solution; nonetheless some two-third of the surveyed expressed doubtless to whether or not it is an achievable goal. The survey findings provide a snapshot of the views of a random sample of 56 persons and can serve as a benchmark to keep track of the public's knowledge of and their views on the Two State Solution when similar surveys are conducted in the future. The mentioned poll was conducted between November and December 2021 where the survey was circulated via email to the project's mailing list in addition to being disseminated to some organizations through ARIJ connections as well as posting it on ARIJ's Facebook page.

In short, the survey findings reveal that 57.4% of respondents support the two state solution while 61.1% of the surveyed expressed doubtless to whether or not it is an achievable goal. Moreover, 83.3% of the respondents reported that Israel's policies stand before achieving the "Two State Solution". The survey respondents were mainly by Palestinians (68%), the USA (14%), European countries citizens (6%), Israeli (4%) and the last (8%) other nationalities (Lebanese, Australian, Jordanian and Brazilian). When asked about their opinions on the reasons behind the Israeli-Palestinian conflict's continuity until now, 81.1% of the responses were "Israel's lack of commitment towards international legitimacy", while both reasons the "weak/reluctant international political stance" and the "unwilling Israeli leadership" were equally chosen by 69.8% of the respondents, 64.2% indicated that it's the "weak and distracted Palestinian front" and close to it at 60.4% the "weak positions of Arab and Islamic countries", while only 5.7% chose the "Palestine's lack of commitment towards international legitimacy".

The project team manages to collect information on Israeli settlements related activities, in terms of land confiscation (28962 Dunums-- included in the base report), plans set to establish new Israeli settlements (8 new settlements- included in the base report), and/ or expand existing ones (16896 new housing units-- included in the base report), registered 764 demolition cases (300 houses and 464 structures).

During the reporting period, the department prepared published, disseminated and circulated the outcomes and the various findings via various means. The tools used by the project team to collect information on all sorts of Israeli activities in oPt were based mostly on fieldwork with 268 field visits conducted to targeted locations.











# MONITORING ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE WEST BANK

#### 2021 in numbers

The number of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank reached 199 in addition to 220 outposts.



During 2021, the Israeli occupation issued 113 settlement plans targeting more than 59 Israeli settlements to build approximately 17,000 settlement units on a confiscated area of 28,962 dunums, including industrial zones and bypass roads.



The Israeli occupation have sanctioned the demolition of more than 300 Palestinian homes and more than 450 Palestinian structures.

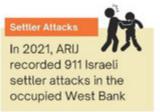


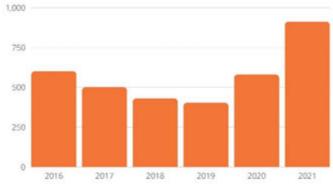
The Israeli Settlers and the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) uprooted around 20,000 trees in the occupied West Bank.



The Israeli occupation revealed plans to establish 35 industrial zones/settlements in the occupied West Bank on an area of 25,073 dunums of Palestinian land.







This infograph is prepared as part of the project entitled ASSESSING THE IMPEDIMENTS BEFORE THE TWO-STATE SOLUTION. which is financially supported by the EU. However, the content of this presentation is the sole responsibility of ARIJ & LRC and does not necessarily reflect those of the donors.



#### 2.5 ARIJ Partnerships and Agreements

ARIJ continued fostering its relationships with the related Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations activities includes the following but not limited:

- WERD Department maintained its strong cooperation ties with state-, and non-state-based institutions especially PWA, WSSA, MoA, PCBS, EQA, Municipality of Bethlehem, Municipality of Sa'ir, Jericho Directorate of Education, Jenin Bethlehem Directorate of Education, Bethlehem Directorate of Education, Ma'an network, and MoLG Ministry of Higher Education, the Department also cooperate with several regional and international organizations including but not limited to UN-Habitat, SCP/RAC, DTD, CENTA, UNCTAD, EU, Belgian Development Agency, Oxfam ,ACTED, UNRWA and IUCN.
- ARIJ Good Governance Program maintained its strong cooperation ties with several local and international bodies, including: Palestinian Authority Bodies: Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC), Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Labor, Cooperative Work Agency. Local NGOs and Institutions: National Team to Support the Transparency of the Public Budget, Cooperative Sector Advocacy Task Force, Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN), Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH), Palestinian Agricultural Cooperative Union (PACU), Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC), Land Research Center (LRC), The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWSD), Women Media and Development (TAM), Youth Development Resources Center-Hebron (YDRC-Hebron), and Economic and Social Development Center (ESDC). Regional and International Institutions, Bodies and NGOs: EU, the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND), Institut Français, We Effect Oxfam International, and UNDP.
- Al-Quds University and ARIJ has agreed to partner together in order to introduce a bachelor's degree in the field of geoinformatics part of the university dual studies program. The IT program has been in charge of the communication between the two organization and the designing of program. On the other hand, ARIJ has agreed to host university students that are welling to implement their graduation projects on systems that ARIJ is currently using. Accordingly, the first project which was agreed with the students and their supervisor is to enhance the aquaponics system at ARIJ and to integrate a number of sensors (light, temperature, PH) and connect these systems wirelessly with a mobile app the sends notifications to the owner of the system.
- ARIJ registered as a member of **Global Waste Cleaning Network.**
- Meetings with the different stakeholders and beneficiaries of the EU East Jerusalem Project.
   These meeting include focus group meeting with the education, health, environment, water & sanitation and tourism sectors in East Jerusalem.
- Meeting with GIZ in order to coordinate and cooperate on the work being done in East Jerusalem.



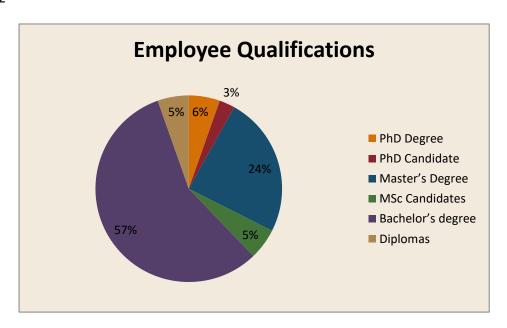
#### 2.6 Internal Control Department

Internal audits adds value to ARIJ and its stakeholders by enhancing governance, risk management and control processes. The Internal auditor assists the board in the areas related to internal control procedures and practices, audits and quality, which acts as an independent body performing its duties and obligations independently while reporting to the internal audit committee. The reasoning behind establishing an independent unit that overlooks all of ARIJ internal controls and procedures is to enhance the transparency, achieve the overall objectives of financial sustainability and better quality of work.

In terms of administration, ARIJ is continuously identifying the possibilities of new positions and reviewing the current roles and responsibilities, internal manuals, procedures and recommending the necessary changes while ensuring compliance with the local laws, the reliability and integrity of the financial information - Internal controls ensure that management has accurate, timely and complete information, including accounting records, in order to plan, monitor and report the projects. Moreover, ARIJ is reviewing the policies in place while sharing them with the staff.

In regards to staffing and recruitment, ARIJ focuses on attracting talent and calibre from various fields, with the following qualifications as listed below:

- PhD Degree Holders 2
- PhD Candidate 1
- Master's Degree Holders 9
- MSc Candidates 2
- Bachelor's degree Holders 21
- Diplomas 2





### **Section 3: Estimated Budget and Future Plans 2022**

Budget Item 2022	Total (USD)
Bank Charges	3,000
Office Rental	3,147
Utilities	8,756
Travel	14,984
Printing and Publications	25,925
Communication	28,003
Audit Fees	33,869
Office Supply & IT Equipment	47,566
Administrative Project Cost ( 7% )	60,644
Transportation	81,646
Co-finance	105,928
Administrative/ support staff ( Human Resource )	204,629
Training Workshops	521,407
Technical / Extention ( Human resource )	635,665
Partner Exp.	744,746
Direct Implementation	1,466,175
	3,986,090

Palestine remains As in a developing state going through many phases to reach maturity, it requires further research and development in many sectors. ARIJ focused remains the on aforementioned sectors of, Good Governance, Natural Resource Management, IT and Agricultural sustainability. The budget shows that the main costs are related to development and research (37%) followed by Partner Exp. of (19%).



## The table below shows the budget per project line:

Projects 2022	Total (USD)
Climate Resilient Agriculture (CRA) project for enhancing resilience, local food	579,090
production, and income of the most climate-vulnerable communities in Palestine	
Towards Social Inclusion in Community Development by Providing Platforms for Planning and Advocacy	561,325
Towards a renaissance of safe agricultural products for agricultural cooperatives and families in Area "C"	495,566
The Environmental and Climate Justice Programme (ECJP)	455,054
Assessing the impediments before the Two-State Solution	436,153
Towards Better Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Area C and Gaza Strip	380,746
My Economic Empowerment, Our Future	218,722
Towards Inclusive and Just Cooperative Sector in the West Bank	122,943
Support the economy of the Palestinian agricultural and rural cooperatives led by women and small farmers to recover from the economic crisis in a smart and sustainable approach (ECSS)	100,348
Practicing Climate-Smart Agriculture to Increase Food Production and Enhancing Eco-System Services in Palestine (SAFE-PAL)	84,000
Land and Water (PAIC)	76,700
ARIJ	56,300
Vulnerability Assessment of Public Water Supply Sources and Public Water Supply Risk Mapping in the West Bank and Gaza Strip	54,950
Improving the Access of Vulnerable People in Al Aqaba to equitable, affordable and sustainable safelymanaged WASH services	53,727
Climate Change - Agriculture	50,000
Wadi - Al Arroub Wastewater Treatment	37,500
Implement water productivity improvements at a watershed level and Scaling insitu water harvesting for orchard agriculture (Olive trees)	35,947
Building resilience to enhance food security and nutrition of poor families through Practicing Innovative Green Agro-Technologies in Palestine-II. (PIGAT-II).	35,000
Youth in action - Safir	30,930
Enhancing the Socioeconomic and Food Security of Economically Disadvantaged Families Living in the Marginalized Areas of Bethlehem Governorate	30,732
Research on the environmental prejudice in the West Bank caused by Israeli settler violence and Israeli settlements	28,750
Promote wastewater treatment and reuse in the water scarce areas of the Middle East and North Africa through development and demonstration of innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans	24,136
Empowering the Economy of the Women's Clubs To Become Sustainable Entrepreneurs in Palestine	23,072
Enhance Access to Clean and Safe Drinking Water in Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala	10,000
East Bethlehem ARD initiative	4,400
Total	3,986,090



#### Strategic Goals Alliance with Programs-2022 Work Plan

#### The Sustainable Agriculture Program

#### Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022

#### Planned activities for the year 2022

# Goal 1: To disseminate ARIJ research & information related to sustainable development in Palestine.

Objective 1.1: To improve dissemination of ARIJ's reports and work to the various stakeholders. Task 1.1.4: Network with regional and national related institutions.

### Enhance cooperation and engagement with different stakeholders, especially, women, youth, small farmers, the private sector, agriculture and SMEs, and related governmental organizations.

# Goal 8: To adapt ARIJ managerial performance to local and international standards.

Objective 8.2: To improve resource mobilization and devising new approaches of fundraising. Task 8:2:1: Continue and further promote diversification of funding sources

- Applying to the NAMA-funding program under the climate change fund.
- Looking for potential funding opportunities that increase that has a big amount of funding, rather focusing on small size funds.

# Goal 1: To disseminate ARIJ research & information related to sustainable development in Palestine.

Objective 1.1: To improve dissemination of ARIJ's reports and work to the various stakeholders.

Task 1.1.2: Diversify communication channels via

Task 1.1.2: Diversify communication channels via websites, social media, and publications.

Task 1.1.5: Create special tools and mechanisms for effective dissemination of information

• Developing web stories, scientific, research papers, success stories, accomplishments, news on social media and newspapers.

# Goal 4: To promote sound natural resource management in Palestine.

Objective 4.1: To improve management of environment and utilization of land and water resources.

Task 4.1.4: Promote science and technology research and development (R&D)in field of environment

Objective 4.2: To enhance conservation, management and utilization of Palestinian natural ecosystems and biodiversity.

Tasks 4.2.1-4.

- Applying more interventions on optimizing water uses in a smart and more effective and sustainable approach. Increasing the practice of urban agriculture.
- Practicing and researching rainwater harvesting techniques, epically in olive trees orchards.
- Practicing more green and environmentally oriented activities to enhance adaptation and mitigation activities to climate change and



services.

sustaining

# Goal 8: To adapt ARIJ managerial performance to local and international standards.

Objective 8.3: To strengthen ARIJ organizational & human resources capacity.

Task 8.3.2: Enhance professional skills and capabilities of ARIJ Staff.

 Provide training on practicing and operating water harvesting measurement tools, devices, and measuring the impact on olives production.

ecosystem

preservation

and

#### **Natural Resource Management Program**

#### Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022

# Goal 1: To collect, analyze and disseminate information related to sustainable development in the Israeli occupied Palestine

**Objective 1.1:** Enhanced accessibility to reliable environmental, socio-economic, and geopolitical information and knowledge in the Israeli occupied Palestine

**Objective 1.2:** Improved dissemination of ARIJ's reports and data to the various stakeholders.

Goal 2: To foster initiatives that lead to clean and healthy environment through improving natural resource management in the Israeli occupied Palestine.

**Objective 2.1:** Improved conservation, management, and utilization of land, environment and water resources in the Israeli occupied Palestine.

Goal 3: To play an active role in advocating for the Palestinian human development and security at local, regional and international levels.

**Objective 3.1:** Increased international community knowledge on the of Palestinian human security level

#### Planned activities for the year 2022

#### Funded projects:

- Promote wastewater treatment and reuse in the water scarce areas of the Middle East and North Africa through development and demonstration of innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans (EU SWIM Program: 2017-2020. Status: Funded 80%. Co-financing probable from MoLG).
- 2. Towards Better Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Area C and Gaza Strip ( in partnership with the Good governance programmer at ARIJ). In partnership with the GG program at ARIJ.
- 3. Environmental and Climate Justice Programme in Palestine 2021- 2023
- 4. Shelter, WASH and food security integrated response for the most vulnerable communities negatively affected by occupation policies in Area C
- 5. Emergency WASH interventions to improve access to quality water, hygiene and sanitation services for the communities at high WASH vulnerability in Area C
- 6. Enhancing resilience and access to sufficient WASH services in four vulnerable



communities in West Bank, Area C  7. Improving the Access of Vulnerable People
in Al Aqaba to equitable, affordable and
sustainable safely-managed WASH services

## **Urbanization Monitoring**

Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022	Planned activities for the year 2022
Goal 1: disseminate information related to sustainable development in Palestine.  Goal 7: play an active role in advocating for the Palestinian human rights under the prolonged Israeli occupation; including the right to self-determination as inscribed in the United Nations Charter and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights  Objective 7.1: advocate for Palestinian human rights under the prolonged Israeli	<ol> <li>Research issues in line with the department goals and project's objectives</li> <li>Carryout activities of settlement monitoring project</li> <li>Prepare and produce the daily, monthly, and quarterly reports</li> <li>Prepare administrative and technical reports of the department's activities</li> <li>Prepare and deliver presentations to stakeholders</li> <li>Write proposals for future projects</li> <li>Write thematic papers and news articles</li> <li>Represent ARIJ at national committees meetings, workshops, etc.</li> <li>Prepare statistical pamphlets and handouts of issues related to department and projects' objectives</li> <li>Research and organize meetings/ focus groups, etc. on the "Two State solution" proposal and produce researched papers and anticipated scenarios and future developments and it's the impacts on the overall peace process</li> <li>Prepare, print and publish posters, maps, Infographics of relation to department and projects' objectives</li> <li>Solicit an external evaluation for the project in line with the project activities</li> </ol>

## **Information Technology Program**

Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022	Planned activities for the year 2022
Goal 1: disseminate information related to	1. The IT program in cooperation with the GIS
sustainable development in Palestine.	& remote sensing department will in the
Objective 1.1: improve dissemination of ARIJ's	year 2022 keep working on the
reports and work to the various stakeholders.	implementation of the project submitted to



Goal 7: play an active role in advocating for the Palestinian human rights under the prolonged Israeli occupation; including the right to self-determination as inscribed in the United Nations Charter and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

**Objective 7.1:** advocate for Palestinian human rights under the prolonged Israeli occupation.

Goal 8: adapt ARIJ managerial performance to local and international standards.

**Objective 8.1**: enhance the performance of ARIJ Administrative Committee (AC) & General Assembly (GA)

- the EU Jerusalem office on the use of 3D technology in East Jerusalem to provide citizens and donors the tools and platform needed to strategize their work and involvement in the city. The project activities and coordination will monitored and coordinated by the IT program. As this year is last year of the project, so the main activity for this year is to communicate the output of the project to the public, that includes TV interview, social media marketing campaigns, workshops and training for the different stakeholders in the intended information
- 2. ARIJ e-office suite version 2: The IT Program has in 2005 developed an E-office system for ARIJ that is currently used by all employees at ARIJ. The current system is very old and requires many updates as new internal manuals have been published therefore, we are planning to develop new version of the system to take in consideration all the changes that have been implemented on our HR, Financial, Project and Administration manuals.
- 3. ARIJ Fauna & Flora web information system: The IT Program has started in the last of month of 2020 the development of the Fauna Flora database which will be accessible through the web.
- Designs: The IT Program will go on with its work in designing and printing materials related to ARIJ work and the projects implemented by ARIJ.
- 5. Advocacy: The IT Program will continue its work in publishing on the different social media tools available to increase the number of followers and connections to be able to promote ARIJ work around the world. The program will also be responsible for creating documentaries related to ARIJ work and mission and publish all materials on our YouTube channel.



#### **The Good Governance Program**

# Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022

#### Planned activities for the year 2022

# Goal 2: promote good governance and democracy in Palestine.

**Objective 2.1:** promote inclusive and accountable decision-making.

**Objective 2.2:** promote effective public service delivery and government responsibility.

**Objective 2.3:** promote equitable civic participation and voice.

**Objective 2.4**: promote government

fair policies and openness.

**Objective 2.5:** increase women and youth participation in economic development.

#### **Funded Projects**:

- 1- Second Year of "SAFIR -Youth in Action"
- 2- Third year of "Towards Inclusive and Just Cooperative Sector in the West Bank" funded by We Effect.
- 3- Third Year of "Towards Better Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Area C and Gaza Strip" funded by the EU.



#### **Section 4: Publications**

#### 4.1 Leaflet

- Good Governance Program (2021). Al-Ubeidiya Municipality Citizens Budget 2021
- Good Governance Program (2021). Zababdeh Municipality Citizens Budget 2021
- Good Governance Program (2021). Legal Clinics in Hebron and Palestine Ahliya Universities leaflets

#### 4.2 Monthly & Quarterly Reports

- العللة العياية والمن الحيف في السطين ملين مطرقة السخال لوسي للصمود أمامت هيداليغير المن اخي
- موتمرالسادس والعشرين لألطر اففي عالى القيمة الطارية الطارية الطارية النهاجية على النهاجية على النهاجية التحليق وممارسات التحال السرط اليابي والمارسات التحال السرط اليابي المعاليات المعا
- يوم الجهالة عالم عالج العطائف لسطيني قبين الوقاع والتف المبيوم والطلمي

#### 4.3 Brochure

- A technical user's manual for chlorination plant.
- Safety instructions for chlorination plant.
- Users instructions chlorination plant.
- WASH leaflets focus on the importance of water preservation.
- A leaflet for the prevention and mitigation of the spread of COVID 19.
- A leaflet for WASH practices at house hold level.
- One Hand washing unit's illustrative maintenance manual.
- One Water Tankers a check list.

#### 4.4 Social Media

- Good Governance Program (2021). Israeli Violations of Palestinian Water Rights Movie
- Good Governance Program (2021). Water Crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territories Movie
- Good Governance Program (2021). Water Loss in Hebron, Bethlehem and Jerusalem Governorates Infographs
- Good Governance Program (2021). Ma'a Wa Ard Baseline results posters



### كلمة رئيس مجلس الادارة

يعتبر هذا التقرير ثمرة جهد مشترك ومتواصل من قبل الطواقم الإدارية والفنية لمعهد اربج في سبيل تحقيق أهدف المؤسسة من اجل تعزيز التنمية المستدامة وتعزيز صمود المواطنين في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة.

يعتبر هذا العام متميزا كون الفترة التي يغطيها التقرير من أصعب السنين التي مر بها المعهد منذ تأسيسه سنة 1990، حيث شكل استمرار انتشار وباء كورونا بجميع التحديات المرافقة والإجراءات الوقائية الضرورية، ومن حيث تراجع وتذبذب التمويل الخارجي، والذي عانت منه العديد من المؤسسات وليس فقط معهد أريج، وإنما كافة مؤسسات المجتمع المدني الفلسطيني، وترافق ذلك مع الحملة الشعواء والتي قادتها المجموعات اليمينية والعنصرية الإسرائيلية من أجل تشويه المجتمع المدني الفلسطيني والطعن في دوره الريادي التنموي والتطويري في كافة المجالات الحياتية، حيث استثمرت إسرائيل علاقاتها من أجل الحد من التمويل للعديد من المؤسسات الأهلية وقطعه عن مؤسسات أخرى.

من خلال هذه التقرير ستتعرفون على الانجازات والمشاريع التي تم تنفيذها، والتي بالتأكيد قد ساهمت في رفع مستوى الصمود للشعب الفلسطيني وتمكينه من السيطرة أكثر على مواردهم الطبيعية.

أما فيما يتعلق بمجالات عمل معهد أريج فقد استمر في التركيز من حيث دوره القيادي التنموي في مجالات الزراعة المستدامة، المياه، معالجة المياه العادمة بالإضافة الى مجالات البيئية والطاقة المتجددة، والتنمية الاقتصادية وخاصة في المناطق الريفية المهشمة.

كما وشملت نشاطات معهد أربيج قطاع الحكم الرشيد ومراقبة النشاطات التوسعية الاستيطانية واستطاع المعهد في العام 2021 وبالرغم من الانشغال المستمر في تنفيذ المشاريع التنموية والتنفيذية المختلفة المحافظة على تميزه في مجال البحث العلمي، وتكنولوجيا المعلومات بالإضافة الى أنه تمكن في السنة المنصرمة من الاستمرار في تعزيز القدرات الإدارية والفنية والعملية لموظفي المعهد من خلال الدورات الداخلية والخارجية لبناء القدرات واكساب الطاقم خبرات إضافية بحيث أصبح لدى المعهد كادر وظيفي وعلمي متميز مما ساعده في تنفيذ المشاريع بخبرات علمية وبحثية وعملية متميزة الامر الذي مكن المعهد من توسيع دائرة عمله في كل المساحة الجغرافية الفلسطينية في الشمال والجنوب وصولا الى قطاع غزة.

كما تميز المعهد بعلاقته الاستراتيجية في توسيع دائرة العمل التشاركي بالتعاون مع الوزارات المختلفة والهيئات، والقطاع الخاص والجمعيات والمؤسسات القاعدية في المناطق المختلفة بالإضافة الى الوصول الى أهدافه المحددة في استراتيجيته والتي على سبيل المثال لا الحصر التي شمل بها قطاع المرأة بشكل فعال وعلى صعيد الكادر الوظيفي والذي يشكل نصف العاملين فيه وعلى صعيد العمل الميداني حيث كانت المشاريع تستهدف تقوية وتمكين المرأة الذي كان في صلب اهتمامه.

وفي النهاية لا بد لي من توجيه كلمة شكر وتقدير واحترام الى جميع موظفي المعهد الذين عملوا بالرغم من الظروف الحياتية الصعبة والتحديات الداخلية الخارجية على تنفيذ استراتيجية المعهد وأهدافه وأتمنى أن يعطي هذا التقرير القراء والمانحين وشركاء وأصدقاء معهد أربح صورة كاملة وتفصيلية عن عمل المعهد ونشاطاته وإنجازاته خلال العام 2021.

سليمان أبو دية رئيس مجلس الإدارة



#### الملخص التنفيذي

في عام 2021 واصل معهد الأبحاث التطبيقية -القدس (أريج) توضيح رسالته الهادفة الى تعزيز التنمية المستدامة في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة على الرغم من حالة انتشار وباء كورونا العالمي COVID 19 الذي انتشر في 3 آذار 2020 وتهدف هذه المهمة الى زيادة اعتماد الشعب الفلسطيني على الذات من خلال زيادة السيطرة على موارده الطبيعية.

استمر معهد أريج في لعب دور رئيسي كمؤسسة وطنية وأحدثت تأثيرات كبيرة من خلال طاقمها المؤهل تأهيلا عاليا والمهارة في مجالات الزراعة المستدامة، والتغير المناخي، والمياه، ومعالجة المياه العادمة، البيئة، الطاقة المتجددة، التمكين الاقتصادي، الحكم الرشيد، الأبحاث التنموية، مراقبة الأنشطة الاستيطانية الإسرائيلية، تكنولوجيا المعلومات ونظم المعلومات الجغرافية. (راجع الخارطة الموجزة التي توضع صفحة تدخلات أربح (5).

يصف معهد أريج عام 2021 بأنه استمرار لأهم عام واجهه المعهد منذ تأسيسه عام 1990 حيث واصل المعهد العمل على خطة إعادة التأهيل والتطوير لمواجهة تقلص المساحة التي تواجه مؤسسات المجتمع المدني عندما ضرب فيروس كورونا المستجد (كوفيد 19) فلسطين في أوائل شهر آذار من العام 2020 بيت لحم.

وفي العام 2021، عاد الموظفون إلى العمل في المكاتب ولكن بمستوى عالٍ من سياسات الحذر والسلامة، بالإضافة الى اتباع احتياطات السلامة والأمان لضمان استمرارية العمل، بالإضافة إلى الحد من الاجتماعات المباشرة وجها لوجه قدر الامكان في مباني أريج. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، شجع معهد الأبحاث التطبيقية –القدس (أريج) جميع العاملين بضرورة تلقي المطاعيم اللازمة لضمان سلامتهم وسلامة أسرهم ونجحت خطة أريج للطوارئ وإجراءات السلامة بشكل جيد جدا خلال عام 2021 على الرغم من إصابة 10% من الموظفين من خارج بيئة العمل ولكن تم أخذ الاحتياطات اللازمة من قبل المعهد، إلا أن العمل سار كالمعتاد دون التعرض لخطر العدوى الجماعية للموظفين الآخرين.

خلال عام 2021، تمكن برنامج الزراعة المستدامة (SAP) في أريج من تنفيذ 8 مشاريع مختلفة وتتمثل الأهداف الرئيسية لهذه المشاريع في تعزيز الصمود وتمكين الأسر الفقيرة والمهمشة في الضفة الغربية للحد من الفقر، المحدودية في الموارد، البطالة، ضعف المعرفة والممارسات، تغير المناخ، سوء إدارة الموارد الطبيعية وسوء المعيشة. وركز فريق الزراعة المستدامة SAP على إنشاء قنوات اتصال فعالة ومستدامة مع المجتمعات المستهدفة وأصحاب العلاقة ذوي الصلة بالتدخلات الزراعية من خلال عقد 1050 اجتماعًا تتسيقيًا.

شهد عام 2021 تدخلات زراعية واسعة النطاق من قبل برنامج الزراعة المستدامة في أريج من خلال استهداف 79 تجمعاً في 10 محافظات (طولكرم، جنين، طوباس، نابلس، القدس، قلقيلية، الخليل، بيت لحم، القدس ورام الله) وبعدد كبير من التجمعات المباشرة حيث استفاد الكثير من الأسخاص والمؤسسات واستفاد من هذه التدخلات 1712 بواقع 10758 فردًا من أفراد الأسرة، إضافة إلى 35 مؤسسة تخدم بشكل مباشر نحو 4850 من الأشخاص المهمشين. والجدير بالذكر أن أكثر من 342 من الاسر المستفيدة بواقع (20%) كانت تعيلها نساء. وبالمجمل العام بلغ عدد المستفيدين بشكل مباشر من الأنشطة المنفذة في عام 2021 ما يقارب 15608 شخصا.

في العام 2021 واصل قسم أبحاث المياه والبيئة في أريج أنشطته للمساهمة في حماية الموارد الطبيعية الفلسطينية من خلال التركيز على حماية البيئة كوسيلة لحماية صحة الإنسان والحث على الاستخدام المستدام لهذه الموارد بالإضافة الى ذلك واصلت الوحدة العمل على زيادة وعي الشعب الفلسطيني بقضايا السلوكيات والممارسات الجيدة في مجال المياه والصرف الصحي والنظافة علاوة على ذلك فإن وحدة المياه والبيئة عملت توعية ومساعدة الشعب الفلسطيني للتعامل مع الوباء من خلال زيادة توافر والوصول الى مرافق وخدمات المياه النظيفة والصرف الصحي بالإضافة الى النظافة الصحية الجيدة في المجتمعات الأكثر ضعفاً.



على المستوى الجيوسياسي، واصل معهد الأبحاث التطبيقية -القدس (أريج) مراقبة جميع الأنشطة الإسرائيلية ذات الصلة في الأرض الفلسطينية المحتلة، وتوفير المعلومات للمسؤولين المحليين وممثلي البعثات الرسمية الاوروبية، بالإضافة إلى منظمات المجتمع المدني بما في ذلك منظمات المجتمع المحلي والبلديات والقواعد الشعبية مثل توفير البيانات الإحصائية والتقارير والخرائط والسجلات الجغرافية التي يحتاجونها لأغراض متنوعة. في عام 2021 أيضا، أعدت وحدة مراقبة النشاطات الحضرية ونشرت على موقع POICA (الموقع المشترك بين أريج ومركز أبحاث الاراضي) ما يقارب 592 دراسة حالة، و4 تقارير ربعية، و12 تقريرًا شهريًا، و365 تقريرًا يوميًا تغطي الأنشطة والانتهاكات الإسرائيلية في الأرض الفلسطينية المحتلة. ومن الجدير ذكره بأن موقع المشروع الرسمي سجل خلال العام 2021 حوالي 55،927،782 زيارة للراغبين بالاطلاع على المعلومات والتقارير. علاوة على ذلك، قدم فريق المشروع 23 محاضرة باستخدام برنامج PowerPoint لصناع القرار من المسؤولين الفلسطينيين والأوروبيين والسكان المحليين والمجموعات الزائرة الأجنبية أيضًا، بالإضافة إلى العلماء والأكاديميين والصحفيين المهتمين.

بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تضمنت دائرة نشر المعلومات حيث عملت على اجراء 349 مقابلة إذاعية، و 185 برنامجا حواريا تلفزيونيا و 6 برنامجا اذاعيا، و 140 خبرا صحيفا ومقطعًا إلكترونيًا، و 6 تقارير خاصة، و 5 إحاطات تلفزيونية خاصة، و 12 صحيفة وقائع، و 6 رسوم بيانية. علاوة على ذلك، طورت وحدة مراقبة التحضر مع إدارة المراقبة والتقييم في أريج استبيانًا عبر الإنترنت للاطلاع حول آراء وانعكاسات الرأي العام حول المواد والمعلومات التي يتم توفيرها، والذي أظهر التفضيل بين أولئك الذين شملهم الاستطلاع تجاه "حل الدولتين". كما ويجري العمل في وحدة مراقبة التحضر على إنشاء "تطبيق جوال" لتوفير عرض لخريطة تفاعلية عبر الإنترنت مرفق بتطبيقات نظم المعلومات الجغرافية والمعلومات المتعلقة بالأنشطة الإسرائيلية في الأرضي الفلسطينية المحتلة ومن المتوقع أن يتم تفعيل التطبيق للهاتف المحمول وادخاله دائرة الاستخدام خلال النصف الثاني من عام 2022.

استمر برنامج أريج للحكم الرشيد في تطبيق وتمكين مبادئ الحكم الرشيد في المجتمع الفلسطيني حيث عملت على أرض الواقع من أجل ضمان أن تستند الأولويات السياسية والاجتماعية والاقتصادية إلى إجماع في المجتمع الفلسطيني وأن يتم سماع أصوات جميع أصحاب الحقوق في عملية صنع القرار بشأن تخصيص موارد التتمية بما يتماشى مع هدفى التتمية المستدامة 10 و 16. .

ومن ناحية أخرى فقد هدفت الأنشطة التي نفذها البرنامج إلى تعزيز قيم النزاهة ومبادئ الشفافية وأنظمة المسائلة في مختلف القطاعات الفلسطينية. ففي العام 2021، عمل برنامج أريج للحوكمة الرشيدة في 102 تجمع حيث وصل عدد المستفيدين إلى 4،199 من أصحاب الحقوق (2022 ذكر و 2،977 أنثى). وعمل البرنامج مع ودعم 11 تعاونية و 30 مقدم خدمة و 4 شركاء و 30 منظمة مجتمعية. وبالمجل فقد أجرى البرنامج ما يقارب 40 زيارة ميدانية للجمعيات التعاونية، و 142 زيارة للبلديات، و 4 زيارات إلى مجالس الخدمات المشتركة، و 30 زيارة لمنظمات المجتمع المدني. وتم الاعتماد بشكل كبير على أدوات الإنترنت ووسائل الإعلام هذا العام بسبب جائحة 10-COVID، عزز فيها برنامج أريج للحوكمة الرشيدة إلى توعية النساء والشباب في القطاع التعاوني والمساواة بين الجنسين والتغييرات في القانون التعاوني وموازنات البلديات لتكون أكثر شفافية وتشاركية على أساس حق الوصول إلى الخدمات الأساسية بغض النظر عن الأزمات أو الطوارئ من منطلق حقوق الفلسطينيين.

تتبع قوة أريج من روح التعاون وحسن النية والقضية المشتركة الموجودة بين موظفي أريج، اللجنة الإدارية، الجمعية العمومية، المانحين والشركاء وأخيرًا، والأهم من ذلك، أن الأنشطة المخطط لها لبرامج أريج لعام 2022 ستشمل على سبيل المثال لا الحصر، الوصول الى أفكار بحثية، برامج تطويرية بالإضافة الى أفكار ومشاريع تجريبية مبتكرة لتصب في هدف أريج الأساسي الذي هو نحو فلسطين مع أهداف التنمية المستدامة.



## The Applied Research Institute-Jerusalem (ARIJ)

#### Towards a Sustainable Palestine

Address of Organization:

P.O. Box 860

Bethlehem

West Bank

**Palestine** 

Website: www.arij.org

E-mail: pmaster@arij.org

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