

Immatin Village Profile (including Far'ata Locality)



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Background

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

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

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

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

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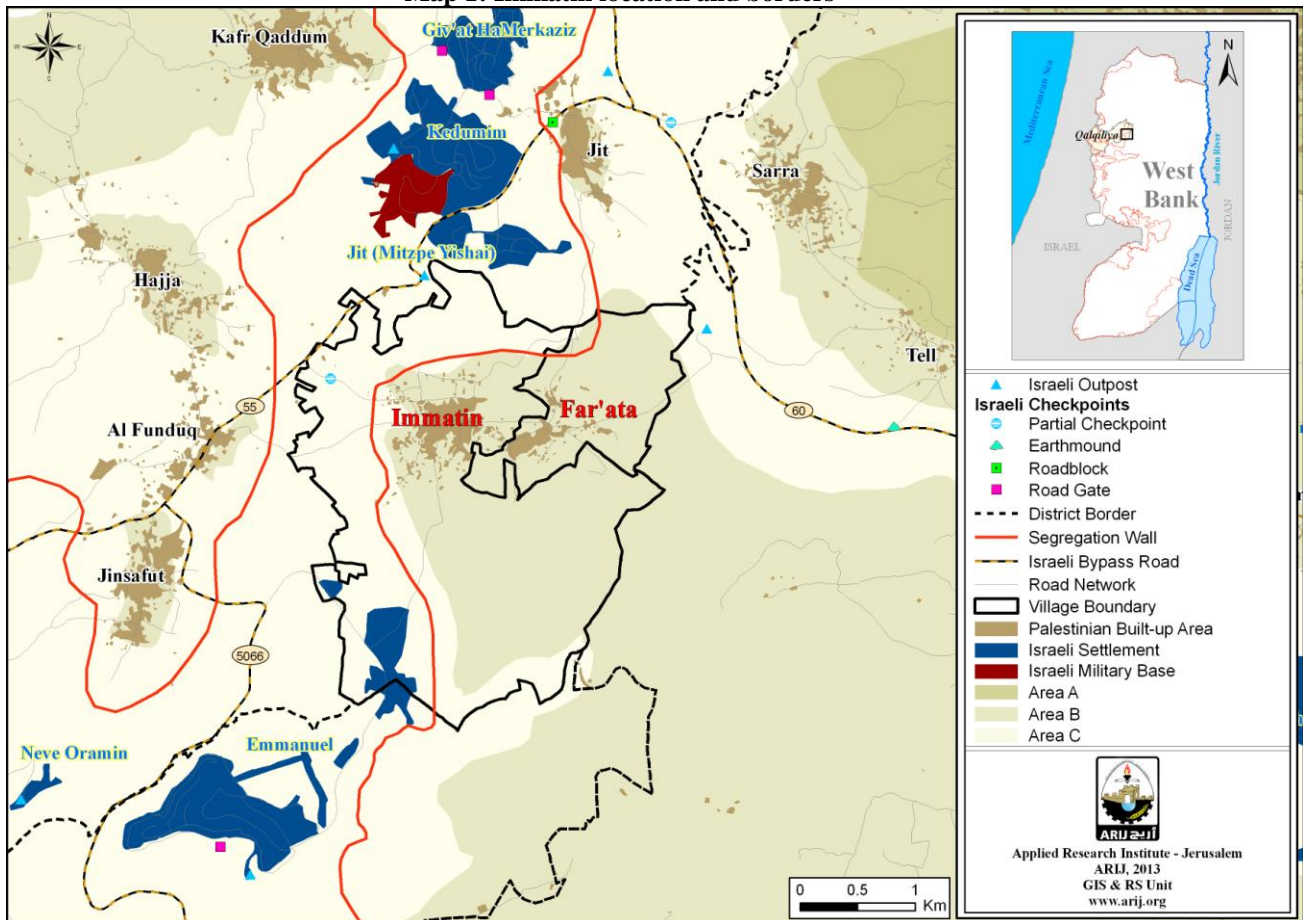
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Immatin Village Profile¹

Location and physical characteristics

Immatin (including the Far'ata locality) is a Palestinian village in the Qalqiliya Governorate, located 19km west of Qalqiliya City. It is bordered by Tell village (in Nablus Governorate) to the east, Deir Istiya village (in Salfit Governorate) to the south, Jinsafut, Al Funduq and Hajja villages to the west, and Kafr Qaddum and Jit to the north (ARIJ-GIS, 2013) (see map 1).

Map 1: Immatin location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Immatin is located at an altitude of 432-518m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 594.6-602mm. The average annual temperature is 16°C whilst the average annual humidity is approximately 61% (ARIJ-GIS, 2013).

Until 2012, Far'ata locality had been governed by a Projects' Committee. However, in 2012, upon a decision by the Palestinian Ministry of Councils and the Ministry of Local Government, Far'ata locality was merged with the bigger locality of Immatin village under Immatin Village Council.

¹ The information listed in this profile includes the information of both Immatin village and Far'ata locality; based on the Local Government's decision in 2012 to merge the two localities under one local council.

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

Since 1996, Immatin has been governed by a Village Council which is currently administrated by 9 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). There are also 3 employees working in the council, whose permanent headquarters is included within the First Joint Services Council. The Council possesses a vehicle for the collection of solid waste and an electricity crane (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Immatin, including (Immatin Village Council, 2012):

- The establishment and maintenance of the drinking water and electricity networks.
- Waste collection and street cleaning.
- Provision of road networks and road rehabilitation, construction and paving.
- Implementation of projects and studies for the village.
- Organization of the license processes.
- Protection of historical and archeological sites.
- Protection of governmental properties.
- Provision of educational kindergartens.

History

Immatin's name originates from the Latin word for 'the high place', however this is disputed by another book which suggests that the name is derived from the Arabic word for two nations ('ummatain'). This is due to the different groups that first inhabited the village. Over time, the name was converted to Immatin.'

Far'ata locality has a different story behind its name, as history talks about the presence of siblings who had a lot of money. Those siblings fought after which they migrated from the village except for only one brother whose name was 'Far'aton', from which the village's name was derived, changing gradually from 'Far'attah' into 'Far'ata'.

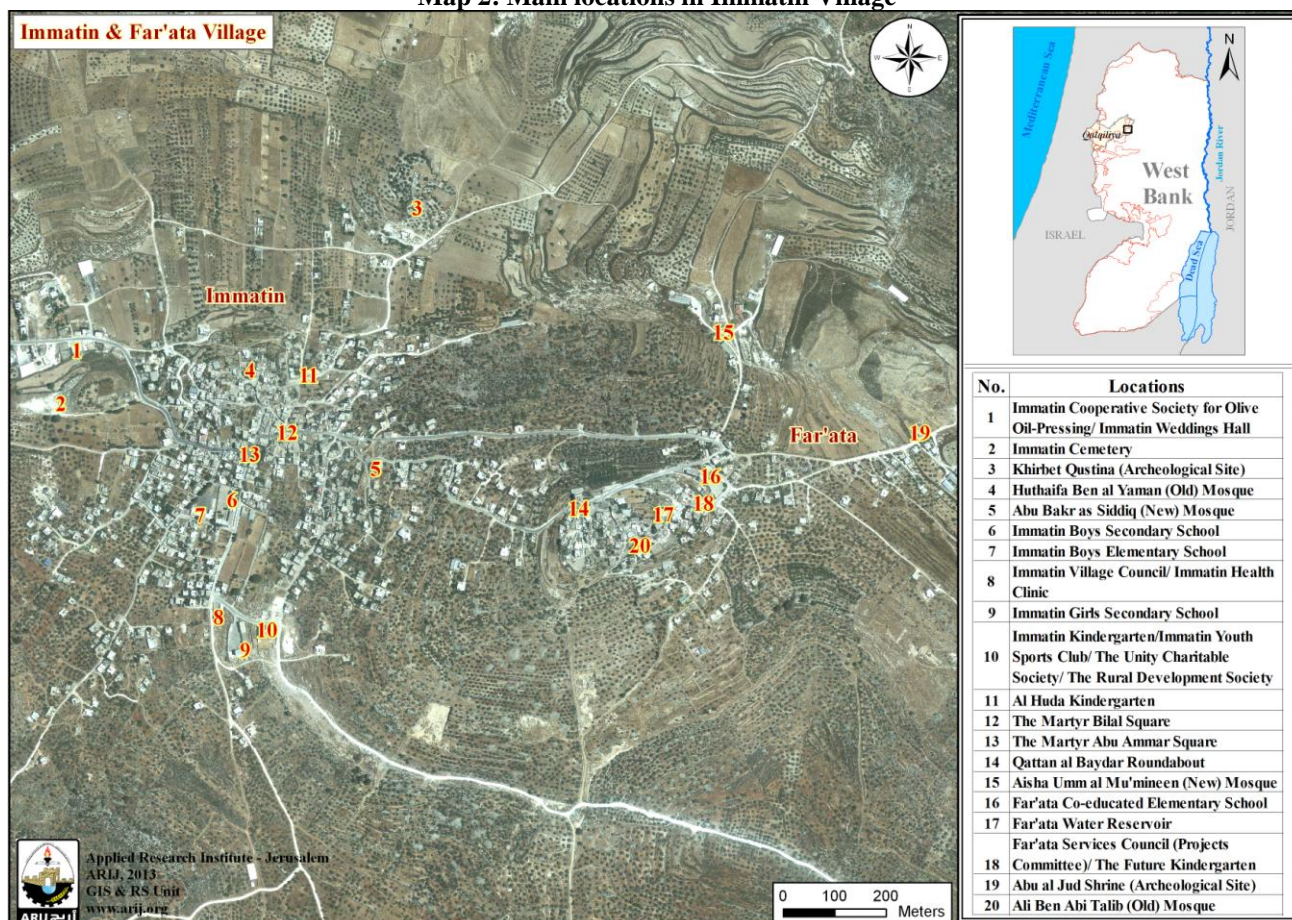
The village was established more than 800 years ago, with its residents descending from the Arabian Peninsula. Most families are originally from the Jabal as Suwan and Al Hijazz areas (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Photo of Immatin

Religious and archaeological sites

There are three mosques in the village (Huthaifa Ben al Yaman, Abdul Rahman Ben ‘Oof and Ali Ben Abi Talib Mosques). The village has several sites of archaeological interest including the Old City, a Constantinople area, ancient houses and caves. All of these sites are in need of restoration in order to be suitable tourist sites, as determined by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (Immatin Village Council, 2012) (see map 2).

Map 2: Main locations in Immatin Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Immatin in 2007 was 2,942, of whom 1,517 were male and 1,425 female. There were 534 households registered as living in 591 housing units.

Age groups and gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by the PCBS in 2007 showed that the distribution of age groups in Immatin was as follows: 43.3% were less than 15 years of age, 53.0% were between 15 and 64 years of age, and 3.2% were 65 years of age or older. Data also showed that the gender ratio of males to females in the village was 106.5:100, meaning that males and females constituted 51.6% and 48.4% of the population, respectively.

Families

Immatin residents are from several families, including Shana'a, At Taweel, Mas'ood, Salman, Suwwan, Ghanem, Barri and Mitani (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Immigration

The field survey conducted by ARIJ staff showed that approximately 12 families have left the village since Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000 (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, the illiteracy rate among Immatin's population is approximately 6.1%, of whom 86.9% are females. Of the total population, 12.2% could only read and write with no formal education, 24.2% had elementary education, 29.0% had preparatory education, 20.3% had secondary education, and 8.2% had completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Immatin by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

Table 1: Immatin population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Element- ary	Preparat- ory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bachelor	Higher Diploma	Masters	Ph D	Unknow n	Total
M	16	129	252	316	212	35	73	1	7	1	0	1,042
F	107	117	235	268	198	23	24	0	1	0	0	973
T	123	246	487	584	410	58	97	1	8	1	0	2,015

Source: PCBS, 2009

There are four public schools in the village, all of which are run by the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education. However there are no kindergartens (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012) (see table 2).

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

School Name	Supervising authority	Sex
Immatin Secondary School	Government	Mixed
Immatin Girls' Secondary School	Government	Female
Immatin Boys' Elementary School	Government	Male
Far'ata Co-educational Elementary School	Government	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012

There are 1,003 students, 65 teachers, and 40 classes in the village. The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 15, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 25 (Directorate of Education in Qalqiliya, 2012).

Due to the lack of some educational levels, including secondary/industrial and commercial branches, students from the village head to Qalqiliya Industrial School in Qalqiliya city (16km away), Nablus Industrial School in Nablus city (12km away) or Hajja Secondary/Commercial School (4km away) (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

The educational sector in Immatin village faces a number of obstacles, mainly:

- The lack of classrooms.
- The schools' need for maintenance and restoration.
- The need for different types of schools, library supplies and computer labs.

(Immatin Village Council, 2012)

Health status

Immatin has two health centers (Immatin Governmental Health Center and the Medical Care Committee), and two general physician clinics, one governmental the other private. There is also a private dental clinic and a private pharmacy. In the absence of required health services or in emergencies, patients are transferred to Darweesh Nazzal Hospital in Qalqiliya city (26km away), Rafidiya Hospital in Nablus city (25km away) or to Al Funduq Health Center in Al Funduq village (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

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

- The lack of a mother and child daycare center

The lack of an ambulance service(Immatin Village Council, 2012)

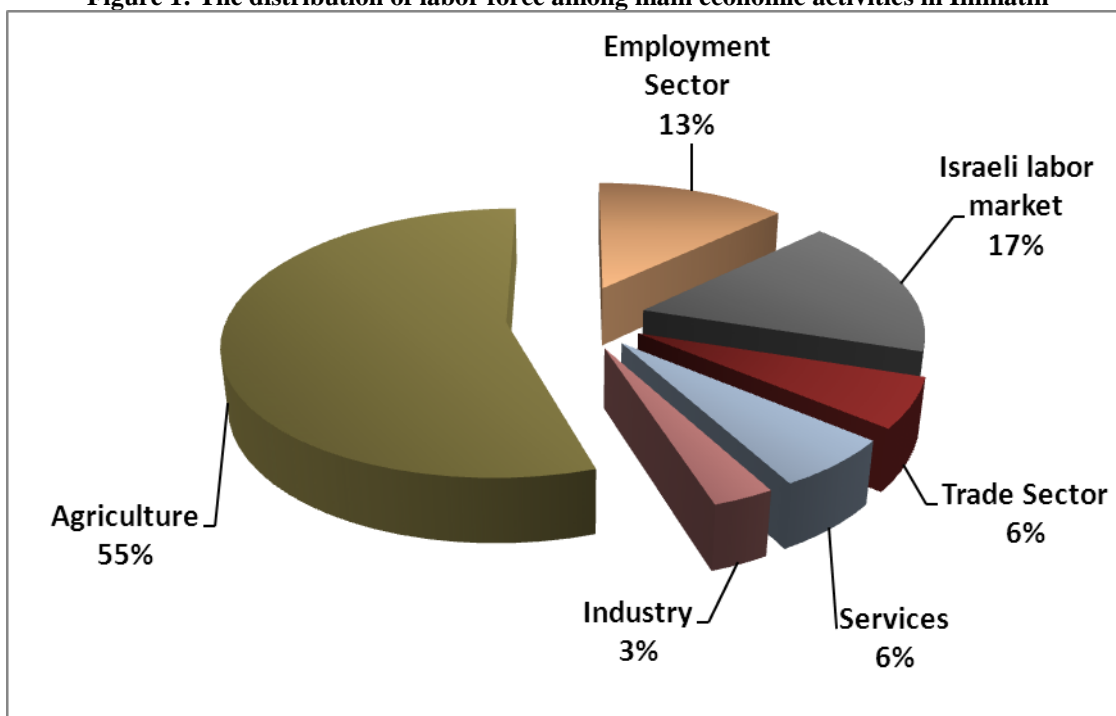
Economic activities

The economy in Immatin is dependent mainly on the agricultural sector, which absorbs 55% of the village's workforce (Immatin Village Council, 2012) (see figure 1).

The results of a field survey conducted by the ARIJ team in 2012 for the distribution of labor by economic activity in Immatin are as follows:

- Agriculture sector (55%)
- Israeli labor market (17%)
- Government or other employees sector (13%)
- Trade sector (6%)
- Services sector (6%)
- Industry (3%)

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



Source: Immatin Village Council, 2012

Immatin has 5 groceries, 6 fruit and vegetable stores, 2 bakeries, 3 butchers, 6 service stores, 5 different professional workshops, 3 olive oil presses, 1 stonemason, 1 store for agricultural tools and 2 chicken slaughterhouses (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

In 2012, the unemployment rate in Immatin reached 23%. The groups most affected economically by the Israeli restrictions have been:

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

(Immatin Village Council, 2012)

Labor force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census - 2007, 33.8% of Immatin’s labor force was economically active, of whom 83.7% were employed, 66.1% were not economically active, 53.8% were students, and 37.2% were housekeepers (see table 4).

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

Sex	Economically active				Non-economically active						Not stated	Total
	Employed	Currently unemployed	Unemployed (never worked)	Total	Student	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & not looking for work	Others	Total		
M	515	74	27	616	363	1	51	7	3	425	1	1,042
F	56	2	8	66	354	494	56	0	3	907	0	973
T	571	76	35	682	717	495	107	7	6	1,332	1	2,015

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

Source: PCBS, 2009

Agricultural sector

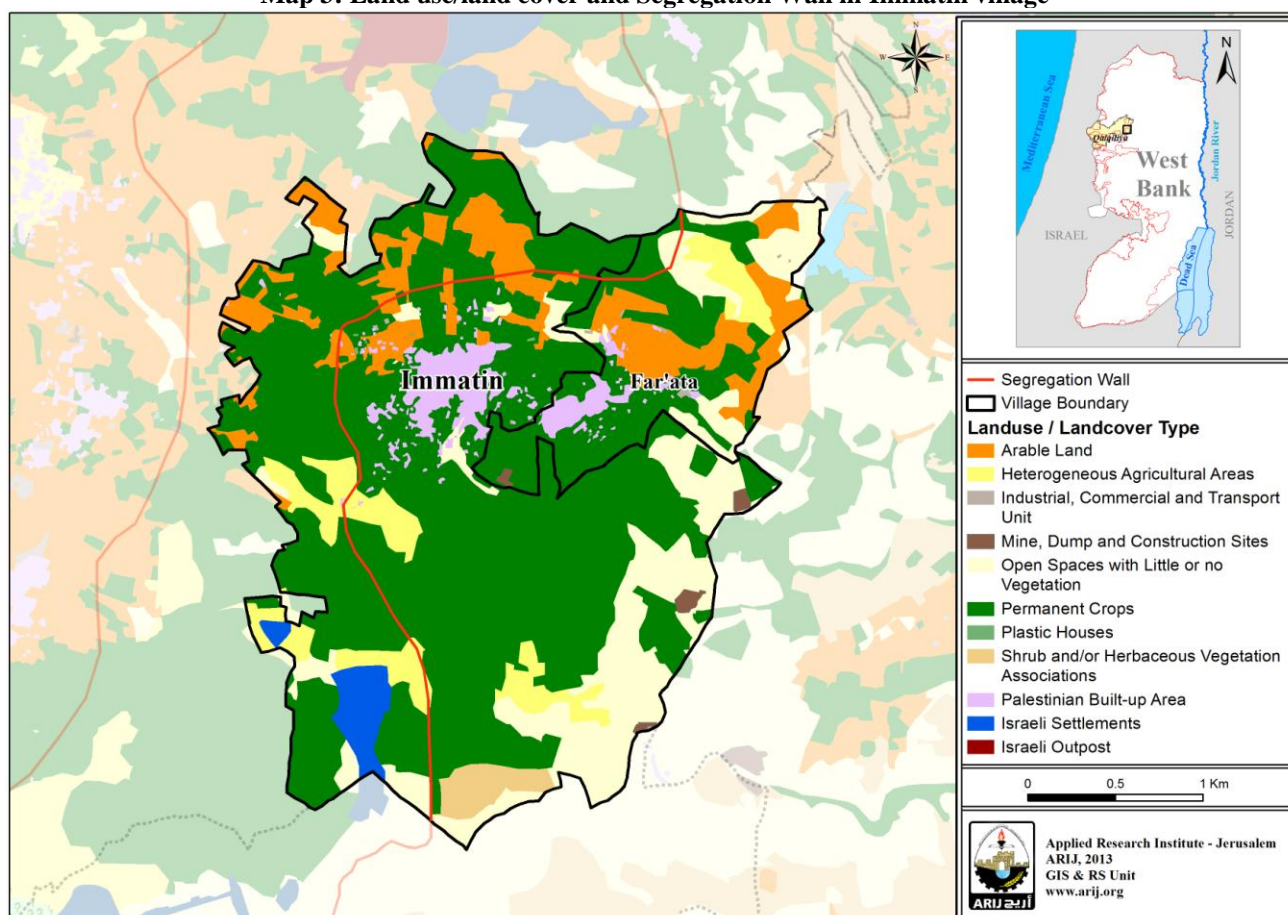
Immatin has a total area of approximately 9,003 dunums of which 7,081 are arable land and 360 dunums are registered as residential land (see table 5 and map 3).

Table 5: Land use and land cover in Immatin village (area in dunums)

Total area	Built up area	Agricultural area (7,081)				Inland water	Forests	Open spaces	Area of industrial, commercial & transport unit	Area of settlements, military bases & Wall zone
		Permanent crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
9,003	360	5,995	2	128	956	0	0	1,353	44	164

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2013

Map 3: Land use/land cover and Segregation Wall in Immatin village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2013

Table 6 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Immatin. The most commonly cultivated crops in this area are snake cucumber and okra.

Table 6: Total area of rain-fed and irrigated open cultivated vegetables in Immatin (area in dunums)

Fruity vegetables		Leafy vegetables		Green legumes		Bulbs		Other vegetables		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
55	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	87	0

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

Table 7 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Immatin is famous for olive cultivation and there are approximately 2,405 dunums of land planted with olive trees in the village.

Table 7: Total area of horticulture and olive trees in Immatin (area in dunums)

Olives		Citrus		Stone fruits		Pome fruits		Nuts		Other fruits		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
2,405	0	0	0	85	0	0	0	78	0	61	0	2,629	0

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Immatin, cereals (particularly wheat and barley) are the most cultivated, covering an area of approximately 105 dunums (see table 8).

Table 8: Total area of forage and field crops in Immatin (area in dunums)

Cereals		Bulbs		Dry legumes		Oil crops		Forage crops		Stimulating crops		Other crops		Total area	
Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.	Rf.	Irr.
105	0	11	0	7	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	33	0	201	0

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

Source: Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and ARIJ's GIS Unit in size of agricultural areas is explained by the difference in each organization's definition of land coverage and ownership. The MoA and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas and they did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories. This therefore accounts for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ team shows that 7% of the residents in Immatin rear and keep domestic animals such as sheep and goats (see table 9).

Table 9: Livestock in Immatin

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee hives
1	484	437	0	0	0	0	60,000	8,000	221

*Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Qalqiliya, 2010

There are approximately 23km of agricultural roads in the village, divided as follows:

Table 10: Agricultural roads in Immatin village and their lengths

Suitability of agricultural roads	Length (km)
For vehicles	2
For tractors and agricultural machinery only	17
For animals only	2
Unsuitable	2

Source: Immatin Village Council, 2012

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

- The lack of economic feasibility for agricultural investment.
- The lack of underground water.
- The Israeli settlement outpost which surrounds the agricultural lands.
- The lack of water resources for irrigation.
- The high price of water.

(Immatin Village Council, 2012)

Institutions and services

Immatin village has a post office as well as a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These include:

- **Immatin Village Council:** Founded in 1996 and registered by the Ministry of Local Government. Aims to address numerous issues concerning the village and provide various services and infrastructure to its residents.
- **Immatin Charitable Society:** Founded in 2004 by the Ministry of the Interior with the aim of organizing summer camps and assisting students in need.
- **Immatin Youth Sports Club:** Founded in 2000 by the Ministry of Sports & Youth with the aim of providing young people with sports, cultural and social activities.
- **Immatin Rural Development Society:** Founded in 2008 by the Ministry of the Interior with an interest in food processing and providing women with different services.
- **Immatin Cooperative Society for Olive Oil Pressing:** Founded in 1986 and registered by the Ministry of Interior. The society aims to provide agricultural activities, services and guidance on the quality of olive oil and its marketing.
- **The Livestock Society:** Founded in 2001 by the Ministry of the Interior. The society is interested in animal care, the distribution of livestock and the establishment of development projects.
- **Ruwad al Ghadd Society:** Founded in 2003 by the Ministry of the Interior. The society is interested in providing entertainment projects and activities for women. (Immatin Village Council, 2012)

Infrastructure and natural resources

Electricity and telecommunication services:

Immatin and Far'ata have each been connected to public electricity networks since 2009 and 2007 respectively. Both are served by the Israeli Qatariya Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in both localities, and 100% of the housing units in both localities are connected to the networks (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Immatin and Far'ata are also connected to telecommunication networks and approximately 50% and 98% of the housing units within the localities' boundaries are connected to phone lines, respectively (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Transportation services:

There are 4 taxis and 25 private cars in the village (Immatin Village Council, 2012). There are 3.7km of main roads and 14.1km of secondary roads in Immatin (Immatin Village Council, 2012) (see table 10).

Table 10: Roads in Immatin village

Status of internal roads	Road length (km)	
	Main	Secondary
1. Paved and in good condition	3.5	4.7
2. Paved and in poor condition	0.2	0.4
3. Unpaved	-	9

Source: Immatin Village Council, 2012

Water resources:

Immatin is provided with water by the West Bank Water Department through the public water network established in 2011. All housing units are connected to the network (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

The quantity of water supplied to Immatin village in 2012 was recorded at approximately 87,600 cubic meters/year (Immatin Village Council, 2012). Therefore, the estimated rate of water supply per capita is approximately 70 liters/day. However, no Immatin citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are estimated at 5% (Immatin Village Council, 2012). These losses happen at the main source, along major transport lines, in the distribution network and at the household level. Therefore, the rate of water consumption per capita in Immatin is 67 liters per day (Immatin Village Council, 2012). The average water consumption of Immatin residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters per capita per day proposed by the World Health Organization. Each cubic meter of water from the public network costs 4 NIS (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

In addition, the village has 510 individual household rainwater harvesting cisterns, as well as 2 water reservoirs, each with a 500 cubic meters capacity (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Sanitation:

Immatin lacks a public sewerage network and most of the population use cesspits and septic tanks as the main means of wastewater disposal (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the approximate quantity of wastewater generated per day is 182 cubic meters, or 67,000 cubic meters annually. At the individual level, it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is approximately 54 liters per day. The wastewater collected by cesspits and septic tanks is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with little regard for the environment. It is noted that there is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to the environment in addition to public health (ARIJ - WERU, 2013).

Solid waste management:

The Joint Services Council for Solid Waste is responsible for the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee amounting to 15 NIS per household is charged to the population

and facilities served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. All of these fees are collected from the citizens (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

Most of the population in Immatin benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops and public squares in plastic bags, and placed in 26 containers (of 1m³ capacity), located at various points in the village. The Joint Council collects the solid waste three times a week and transports it using a waste vehicle to a random dumping site called 'Hariqa', 2.5km from the village, where it is subsequently burnt (Immatin Village Council, 2012).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Immatin is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from the Immatin residents is nearly 2.4 tons, or 871 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2013).

Environmental conditions

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

Water crisis

Water is cut off by the West Bank Water Department for long periods of time during the summer in several village neighborhoods, for numerous reasons:

1. Israeli control over Palestinian water resources causes problems in the organization of water pumping and its distribution among residents. The West Bank Water Department distributes water to various areas on an interval basis because the quantity of water available is not sufficient to meet everyone's needs simultaneously. The West Bank Water Department also purchases water from Israeli companies in order to meet the citizens' water needs.
2. The high cost of water.
3. The difficulty in accessing water in higher areas in the village due to the lack of water pumps.

Wastewater management

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

Solid waste management

Zahrat al Finjan landfill in Jenin Governorate (approximately 27.5km from the center of Qalqiliya Governorate), is considered the central sanitary landfill which is supposed to serve Qalqiliya

Governorate. However, some of the Municipalities and Village Councils in Qalqiliya Governorate do not transfer the solid waste to Zahrat al Finjan landfill, but rather get rid of waste in random dumps scattered throughout the Governorate. This is due to the high costs of transporting and disposing waste in the landfill. As a result, waste is being disposed of randomly in these landfills causing severe damage to human health and leading to the proliferation of harmful flies, insects and mice, as well as the bad odors, toxic gases and black smoke which emits when the waste is burnt. All of these impacts are harmful both to humans and the environment.

The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Immatin and the other neighboring communities in the Governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities. Due to the location of the region in Area C, planning consent in the form of licenses to establish such services as landfills must be obtained, but these permits are extremely difficult to acquire and in most cases they are simply not granted. The implementation of such projects also depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary landfill is a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leakage produced from the solid waste, which produces bad odors and a distortion of the landscape.

Impact of the Israeli Occupation

Geopolitical status in Immatin village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on 28th September 1995, Immatin was divided into areas “B” and “C”. Approximately 5,257 dunums (58.3% of the village’s total area) were assigned as area B, where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. Area B constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, towns and some refugee camps, therefore most of the village’s population resides in area B. Area C constitutes 3,746 dunums (41.7% of the village’s total), where Israel retains full control over security and administration related to the territory. In area C, Palestinian building and land management is prohibited without prior consent or authorization from the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within area C are agricultural areas, open spaces and Israeli settlements built on the village’s territory (see the table 11).

Table 11: The geopolitical divisions of Immatin village

Area	Area in dunums	Percentage of total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	5,257	58.3
Area C	3,746	41.7
Nature reserve	0	0
Total	9,003	100

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

The Israeli Occupation practices in Immatin village

Immatin has been subjected to numerous Israeli confiscations for the benefit of the various Israeli objectives, demonstrated by the construction of Israeli settlements, in addition to the construction of

the Segregation Wall. The following is a breakdown of the Israeli confiscations which have had a negative impact on Immatin village:

Israel has confiscated 163 dunums of land from Immatin to establish the 'Sha'ar Emmanuel' settlement, which is part of the Kedumim settlement and is inhabited by more than 3,200 Israeli settlers. It is worth noting that part of these settlements have been his residence on the Immatin land village, as has been the establishment of the other part of the settlement on the lands of Deir Istiya village, which adjacent to Immatin village from the south side.

Israel planned to keep Kedumim settlement (which is part of Ariel bloc) under control through Israel announced in 2005 to includes the annexation of all settlements in the West Bank of Ma'ale Adummim settlement bloc in the east of Jerusalem City, Ariel settlement bloc in north Salfit, Giv'at Ze'ev settlement bloc in the north west of Jerusalem City, Gosh Etzion settlement bloc south west of Bethlehem city, Mod'in Illit settlement bloc west of Ramallah city, and Kiryat Arba settlement bloc in Hebron city, through considering them an essential part of the Israeli State because they "... contribute to security, to political standing, to the economy and to the demographics of the Jewish people in the land of Israel", as stated by former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to former American president George Bush on 11th April, 2005 (see table 12).

Table 12: Israeli settlements established on Immatin land

Name of settlement	Year of establishment	Area of land confiscated from Immatin village (dunums)	Total area of the settlement (dunums)	No. of settlers living in the settlement
Emmanuel	1981	163	1,154	3,229
Total		163	1,154	3,229

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

The Israeli Occupation Authorities have also constructed numerous bypass road stretching hundreds of kilometers from the north to south of the West Bank and confiscating thousands of agricultural and non-agricultural dunums in order to link Israeli settlements, dismember Palestinian lands and enhance security control. As for Immatin, the Israeli authorities confiscated part of its lands to construct bypass road no.55 which extends approximately 0.16 km. The buffer zones created alongside the bypass road by the Israeli Occupation Forces also extend to 75m on either side of the road.

The Segregation Wall plan in Immatin village

The Israeli Segregation Wall plan has had a negative and destructive impact on Immatin village. According to the latest amendments to the route of the Israeli Segregation Wall plan, published on the Israeli Ministry of Defense's website on 30th April 2007, the Wall extends 5.25km on Immatin lands to the west of the village. The Wall will isolate 2,843 dunums (28.6% of the village's total area) to be a part of the Western Segregation zone in the West Bank. The confiscated lands include open spaces, agricultural lands, a residential Palestinian area, and lands which have already been confiscated for settlement construction (see table 13).

Table 13: Classification of land confiscated for the construction of the Segregation Wall in Immatin – Qalqiliya Governorate

No.	Land classification	Area in dunums
1	Israeli settlements	163
2	Open spaces	158
3	Agricultural lands	2,519
4	Palestinian urban areas	3
5	Total	2,843

Source: ARIJ-GIS, 2013

Israeli attacks against Immatin village lands and properties

Attacks by Israeli settlers living in the settlement established on Immatin lands have had a significant impact on Palestinians living in the village and their properties. These attacks have also contributed to the loss of Palestinian lands adjacent to the settlement, as Palestinian landowners are prevented from accessing their properties, which have been fenced in with barbed wire and planted with trees by the Israelis. Israeli settlers have also attacked Palestinian landowners many times in an attempt to intimidate them and deter them from returning to their lands adjacent to the aforementioned settlement. That which follow are some stories of Israeli attacks:

On 4th February 2011, settlers from the Emmanuel settlement uprooted 60 dunums of land in Immatin, in an area called Zari' Abu Karsh, lying within parcel 2 according to the master plan for the town. The land is owned by Ibrahim Muhammad Ibrahim Suwwan (35 dunums) and Amin Hasan Suwwan (25 dunums). The targeted land is adjacent to the Segregation Wall surrounding the settlement of Emmanuel.

On 3rd June 2011, a group of settlers from the Israeli outpost 'Gil'ad Zoher' lying to the east of Qalqiliya city attacked and uprooted the wheat fields in the in the north east of Far'ata village. The destroyed area, which lies in Wad El Shami, covered approximately 12 dunums and is owned by the farmers Abdullah Mahmoud Ibrahim Salman, Nayef Ibrahim Shana'a, Ibrahim Mahmoud Salman Salah, and Shafiq Salim Shana'a.

On 8th September 2011, a team from the Israeli Civil Administration working under the protection of the Israeli Occupation Forces raided the Al Houta area in the east of Immatin village and handed three citizens warnings to stop their construction activities on their agricultural lands under the pretext of building with no license in area C. It should be noted that the Israeli Civil Administration gave landowners a deadline of the last 2nd of October, (which is the date of the last session in the construction and organization of Beit El Court), to consider the legality of the land. The targeted facilities are owned by Hakam Ibrahim Ghanem, Amin Hasan Suwwan, and Ibrahim Kayed Al Ra'i.

On 12th March 2012, settlers from Gil'ad Zoher to the north east of Far'ata village uprooted and destroyed 25 olive trees in Wad Surra in the east of Far'ata village. These trees are owned by Ayman Muhammad Mahmoud Tawil (15 trees), and Tayseer Ibrahim Tawil (10 trees). It is worth mentioning that the attack took place in the evening, during which Palestinians are not allowed to access their lands without prior agreement from the Israeli Civil administration due to the proximity of their lands to the Israeli settlement.

On 10th October 2012, settlers of Gil'ad Zoher robbed some of the olive harvest from Wadi Surra east of Far'ata village. The amount stolen was estimated to be 100kg from the Palestinian farmer Ibrahim Mahmoud Suleiman Salah.

On 14th June 2013, a group of settlers from Gil'ad Zoher set fire to olive groves in Far'ata village and Immatin village using flammable materials, leading to the burning of 64 olive trees. Once again, the settlers attacked the groves during the evening when Palestinians are not allowed to access their lands without prior permission from the Israeli Civil Administration because the area (Qattan Al Danan) is adjacent to the settlements. The targeted olive trees belonged to a number of Palestinian farmers; Khalid Fuad Suwwan, Ziad Abdulhafiz Suwwan, Sadiki Abdulhafiz Suwwan, and Ahmed Abdul Aziz Shana'a.

Israeli military orders in Immatin village

The Israeli Occupation Authorities have published a series of Israeli military orders to confiscate land or as warnings to stop the construction work in Immatin village. An example includes Israeli military order no.05/05/T, issued on 8th December 2005. It confiscated 128.4 dunums of land from Immatin and Deir Istiya for undisclosed security reasons.

Development plans and projects

Implemented projects

Immatin Village Council has implemented several development projects in Immatin during the past five years (see table 14).

Table 14: Implemented development plans and projects in Immatin during the last five years

Name of the project	Type	Year	Donor
Constructing additional classrooms in the boys' school	Educational	2009	Ministry of Finance
Paving the main road	Infrastructure	2010	Immatin Village Council
Establishing the public water network	Infrastructure	2010	Immatin Village Council
Building an elementary school	Educational	2010	CHF
Establishing the water network	Infrastructure	2011	France/Ministry of Finance/Far'ata Projects' Committee
Paving the main road	Infrastructure	2011	Ministry of Finance/The Islamic Bank

Source: Immatin Village Council, 2012

Proposed projects

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

1. Paving streets (approximately 8km long).
2. Establishing a sewerage network (10km).
3. Expanding and repairing agricultural roads (15km).
4. Building 5 additional classrooms in Far'ata Co-educational Elementary School.
5. Building a secondary school for boys.
6. Finding an environmental solution for the problem of wild pigs and stray dogs.
7. Expanding and rehabilitating the existing public park in Immatin village.
8. Rehabilitating Far'ata public garden.
9. Constructing a public services building as a facility for the women's and youth organizations as well as other societies.
10. Supporting livestock and providing it with fodder, medicines, guidance courses for livestock and others.
11. Expanding the electricity network (2km) and the water network (2 km) to reach the areas threatened by settlements.

Locality development priorities and needs

Immatin suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the village, according to the Village Council's perspective:

Table 15: Development priorities and needs in Immatin

No.	Sector	Strongly needed	Needed	Not a priority	Notes
Infrastructural needs					
1	Construction and pavement of roads	*			26.5km [^]
2	Rehabilitation of old water networks			*	
3	Extending the water network to cover new built up areas	*			2km
4	Construction of new water networks			*	
5	Rehabilitation/construction of new wells or springs			*	
6	Construction of water reservoirs			*	
7	Construction of a sewage disposal network	*			9km
8	Construction of a new electricity network		*		3km
9	Providing containers for solid waste collection	*			30 containers
10	Providing vehicles for collecting solid waste			*	
11	Providing a sanitary landfill		*		
Health needs					
1	Building new clinics or health care centres		*		1 health center
2	Rehabilitation of old clinics or health care centres	*			1 health center
3	Purchasing medical equipment and tools		*		
Educational needs					
1	Building new schools	*			An elementary school for girls
2	Rehabilitation of old schools	*			The boys' secondary school
3	Purchasing new school equipment	*			
Agriculture needs					
1	Rehabilitation of agricultural lands	*			120 dunums
2	Building rainwater harvesting cisterns		*		4 cisterns
3	Construction of livestock barracks		*		10 barracks
4	Provision of veterinary services	*			
5	Provision of seeds and hay for animals	*			300 tons per year
6	Construction of new greenhouses			*	
7	Rehabilitation of greenhouses			*	
8	Provision of field crops seeds	*			
9	Provision of plants and agricultural supplies	*			

[^] 2.5km main roads, 9km secondary roads and 15km agricultural roads

Source: Immatin Village Council, 2012

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