



The Applied Research
Institute-Jerusalem

ANNUAL REPORT 2019





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Towards a Sustainable Palestine

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Executive Summary

In the year of 2019, The Applied Research Institute Jerusalem (ARIJ) continued to articulate its mission toward promoting sustainable development in the occupied Palestinian territories. This mission aims to increase the self-reliance of the Palestinian people through greater control over their natural resources. ARIJ continued to play a major role as a national institution and has produced substantial influences through its highly qualified and skilled staff in the fields of Sustainable Agriculture, 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).*

This year witnessed the implementation of several agro-interventions, contributed to improving the management of available and accessible natural resources, agro-production, and socioeconomic conditions for the farmers. The integration of applied research and the adoption of green and safe innovated agro-practices have resulted in several successful, feasible and sustainable agro-developmental models as further elaborated under the SAP section. In the year 2019, the Sustainable Agriculture Program (SAP) managed to implement different agricultural interventions benefiting 695 vulnerable rural families, 25 women and agricultural cooperatives distributed over 51 localities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The implemented activities were conducted through transparent and participatory approaches mainly with the Ministry of Agriculture covering natural resources management, the agriculture sector, and cooperatives, while engaging youth and women in establishing agrobusinesses. The sustainable agriculture program team held 125 coordination meetings and performed 2254 field visits for the beneficiaries' related activities, in addition to 112 training and awareness sessions.

The *Water and Environment Research Department (WERD)* continued to carry out the implementation of activities related to developing and promoting the Al Aroub wastewater treatment plant in Sa'ir area using activated sludge wastewater treatment processes. This included but was not limited to the development and demonstration of innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans which resulted in reducing the operational costs of wastewater treatment. Another project implemented in the Sa'ir area included the enhancement of the water governance towards better provision of water and sanitation services, at different levels of society through improving social responsibility and accountability measures undertaken by the Sa'ir municipality in the field of public water management. The department also implemented different projects related to enhancing access to clean and safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities mainly through the rehabilitation of cisterns. Moreover, the department participated in several regional and international training workshops covering the subjects of precision, operational control and management of wastewater treatment processes, opportunities and challenges of treated wastewater reuse in agriculture, and water management.

On a *Geopolitical* level, ARIJ continued its monitoring of all of the related Israeli activities in the oPt, by providing information related 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. The yields of the reporting period included 579 case studies, 365 daily reports, 12 monthly, and 4 quarterly reports. The outcome induced by 174 visits to locations (fieldwork trips) in the West Bank and collecting 265 military orders. Moreover, 399 radio and TV interviews were conducted, 67 newspaper articles, 61 presentations, 3 special reports, 11 booklets, 6

info-graphs, and 12000 posters. All of the reports produced materials published on the website (poica.org) which recorded nearly 16 million hits during the designated time of this report.

The **Good Governance Program** continued working on the ground towards ensuring that political, social and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in the Palestinian society and that the voices of the poorest and the most vulnerable are being heard in decision-making *following ARIJ Strategy for the years 2018-2022 promoting Good Governance and Democracy in Palestine*. In 2019, the Good Governance Program reached out to more than 20,389 beneficiaries in 42 localities in the West Bank; almost half of them are females. For the eighth year in a row, ARIJ Good Governance Program worked on improving the good governance practices and capabilities among municipalities, cooperatives, ministries, and community-based organization (CBOs). For the year of 2019, the Good Governance Program conducted 88 field visits to cooperatives, 150 visits to municipalities, 10 visits to Ministries and 5 visits to Joint Services Councils. Moreover, the program continued the Fiscal Transparency Index (FTI) from 2018. FTI served as a mechanism to improve access to information and transparency of local budget documents in 30 targeted municipalities, which relate to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Many interventions were carried out under the FTI namely; producing “Citizens Budgets 2019”, technical support to increase financial transparency, and, small initiatives by community-based organizations to improve budget and financial literacy amongst citizens. The program also supported 10 cooperatives to develop strategic plans and youth outreach plans as well as developing an awareness raising campaign targeted at youth about the cooperative sector. Additionally, a campaign was arranged by the name of “Right to Health” which was created in cooperation with MIFTAH and AMAN aimed to collect 50 thousand signatures from Palestinian citizens to pressure Ministry of Finance to increase monetary allocations in the Ministry of Health’s budget.

At the level of **Networking and Cooperation**, ARIJ built strong ties with international, regional Palestinian institutions, and NGOs. For example, in the year 2019, a memo was signed between ARIJ and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), which reflects the joint and mutual cooperation between the two parties, each in its field of providing data, consultations, expertise and technical skills in the field of maps and application of the geographical information system. In addition, ARIJ signed an agreement with the Bethlehem Governorate with the aim of making the Governorate of Bethlehem a sustainable and green governorate by the year 2030. Interventions carried out under this agreement include but were not limited to updating the electronic information base for the Bethlehem Community profiles, re-greening in cooperation and coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture pastoral and forest areas, especially lands east of the governorate. Another intervention included setting sound foundations and methodologies through cooperation and coordination with the Ministry of Environmental Affairs and the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority to encourage the use of alternative energy and keep the environment clean. ARIJ is continuing disseminating information locally and internationally at all levels through various publications such as scientific articles, special reports, booklets, leaflets, case studies, maps, info-graphs, posters, factsheets, articles; amongst others.

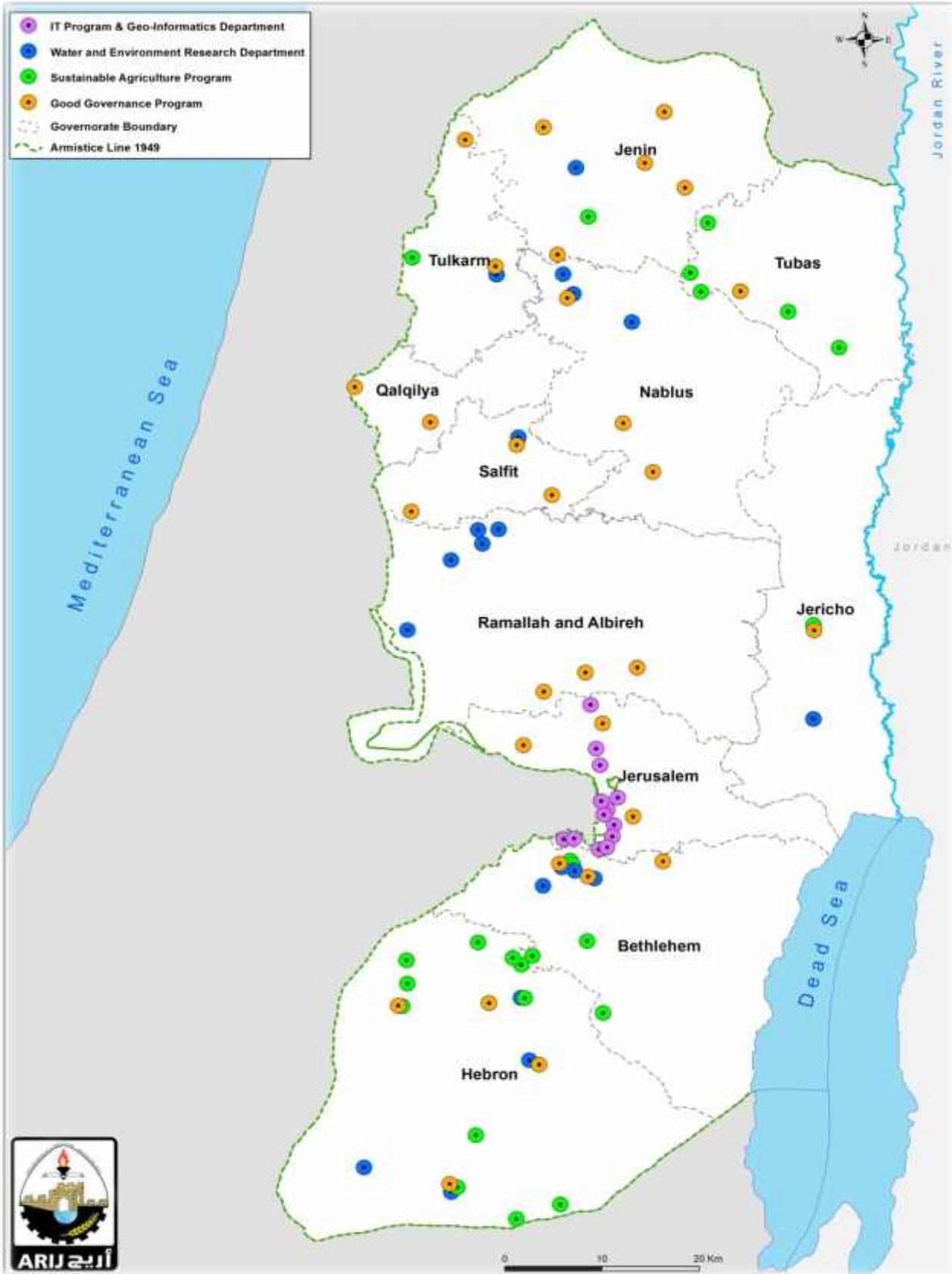
In terms of institutional development, ARIJ enhanced the system through the **Internal Control Department** mainly to oversee internal control procedures and to perform the necessary internal audits reporting directly to the Administrative Committee. In addition, ARIJ is reviewing its manuals and policies concerning the Disclosure of Malpractices in the Workplace, and the Safeguarding Policy.



ARIJ's strength derives from the spirit of collaboration, goodwill and common cause that exists among ARIJ Staff, Administrative Committee, General Assembly, Donors and Partners. Finally, yet importantly, ARIJ programs' planned activities for year 2019 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 Key Interventions



Section 1: Organizational Structure and Management

General Assembly and Administrative Committee

ARIJ enjoys the service of 44 professionals and 2 honorary members (of which 41% 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 held a meeting on May 16th, 2019 where they discussed and approved ARIJ financial and technical reports.

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.

It is worth mentioning that the committee as well as the staff attended the social event conducted on December 21st, 2019. Moreover, six meetings were held during the year of 2019 as follows:

Administrative Committee meetings during 2019
January 29 th , 2019
March 11 th , 2019
April 30 th , 2019
July 9 th , 2019
September 3 rd , 2019
November 5 th , 2019
December 21 st , 2019 Social Event with Employees

ARIJ board of directors in 2019 worked upon expanding the general assembly members and succeeded to recruit 8 new members mainly females, so the number of gender representatives in the general assembly reached 41% and the total number of members reached 44. The newly joined members are:

1. Ms. Arda Albert Arseen Aghazarian.
2. Dr. Kifah Mohammad Manasra.
3. Mrs. Fadwa Saliba Khader.
4. Mrs. Sylvia Shahwan Mukarker.
5. Dr. Hanadi I. Soudah –Younan.
6. Mrs. Reem Wahdan.
7. Mrs. Ursula Mukarker.
8. Dr. Suhair Lolas – Hamameh.



General Assembly



Honorary Members



Administrative Committee



Main ARIJ meetings in 2019

- In August 1st 2019 meeting with Palestinian prime minister Dr. Muhamad Shtayeh the head of board of directors briefed the prime minister about the latest projects and research conducted by ARIJ, in addition to the obstacles facing ARIJ in regards to funding due to the Israeli systematic fierce campaign with ARIJ donors, and a copy of ARIJ latest publications especially **Economic cost of Israeli occupation, Jerusalem Atlas and the “Assessing the impacts of Israeli movement restrictions on the mobility of people and goods in the west bank 2019”** report.
- In July 28th 2019 meeting with newly appointed minister of local government Eng. Majdy Al Saleh in which an agreement were signed to follow up the citizens budget issue and implementing the entitled “ Finance for development”. On the other hand Saeer waste water treatment plant were discussed and agreed on holding a visit to the sight by minister of local government and the head of water authority to learn more about Al Aroub waste water station latest developments accordingly the visit to the sight by the ministers of local authority and water authority were conducted in July 30th 2019 and they were briefed along with the accompanying delegation about the project in the presence of the mayor of Saeer.
- In August 4th meeting with minister of labor Dr. Nasri Abu Jeesh as a result of the of the previously signed agreement with deputy minister Mr. samir Salameh to cooperate in a project to enhance the public participation in implementing the Palestinian national policies. The minister welcomed and encouraged the Joint cooperation and promised to continue after receiving the feedback and results from the ministry related departments.
- In July 24th 2019 meeting with minister of agriculture Mr. Riyad Al Atari with representatives of the Palestinian agricultural institutions coalition mainly to discuss promoting future cooperation between both sides in protecting the Palestinian land to confront the Israeli plans of Judaization and settlement and supporting the steadfastness of Palestinian farmers.
- Briefings for EU member states; three briefings were conducted in 2019

Institutional assessment

During the year of 2019, four institutional assessments were conducted to ARIJ by the DCA, We effect, Oxfam and CRS. The assessments showed very positive results.

Manuals:

During 2019, the following manuals were updated:

- Volunteers and Intern Work Manual
- Procurement Manual
- Financial Management & Accounting Manual
- Human Resources Manual
- Project Management Manual
- Internal audit manual

Policies:

During 2019, the following policies and strategies were updated:

- ARIJ IT Policies & Procedures Manual
- ARIJ Advocacy Manual & Definitions
- ARIJ Sexual Harassment Policy
- ARIJ Child Protection Policy
- Risk Management Report
- Diversification of funding sources
- ARIJ conflict resolution strategy.
- ARIJ Complaints management strategy.

ARIJ Strategy 2018-2022 was reviewed in light of the recent developments and a new strategy is being developed for the years 2020-2025.

Work plan for 2020

- Conducting an external assessment for New Farm Company and Green Palestine to improve their work in cooperation with Bethlehem University.
- To benefit from the expertise and capacities of the newly approved body by the board of directors “**International Research Associates IRA**” from ARIJ friends and supporters around the world.
- Conducting a Mapping survey for donors, research institutions in the fields of Environment, agriculture, water and biodiversity.



ARIJ Donors and Partners for the Year 2019

- Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS)
- CARE international
- Caritas Switzerland (CACH)
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- Dan Church Aid (DCA)/ Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)
- European Commission
- EKOenergy c/o Finnish Association for Nature Conservation
- Fons Català de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (FCCD)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church (UMCOR)
- Jericho Municipality
- Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)
- Oxfam International
- Palestinian Water Authority
- Polish Aid
- Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM)
- Presbyterian Church (USA)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- The World Food Programme (WFP)
- We Effect

Partners:

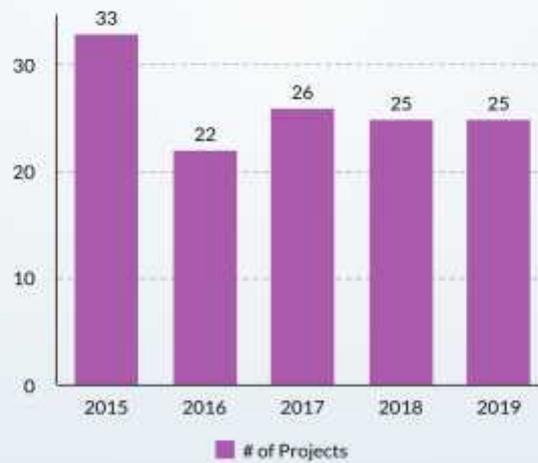
- Land Research Center (LRC)
- Palestine Technical University (Kadoori)
- Joint Services Council for Planning and Development / Eastern Rural – Bethlehem
- The Coalition for Accountability and Integrity – AMAN
- The Palestinian Initiative for Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy- "MIFTAH"
- International Center for Agriculture Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)
- Ma'an Network
- Cesvi Fondazione Onlus (CESVI)
- The Union of Charitable Societies-Jerusalem (UCS)
- Hasso Plattner Institute for Digital Engineering (HPI)

Number of ARIJ's Projects for the year 2019

NO. OF PROJECTS PER PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR 2019 IN %



NUMBER OF PROJECTS / YEAR



Section 2: ARIJ Programs and Activities

2.1 Sustainable Agriculture Program

Introduction

Several challenges are controlling the agricultural sector in Palestine including natural (climate change and drought) and human resources. Many of the young people are leaving this sector to work in other economic sectors or to work in Israel. This is due to the low wages being offered by the agricultural sector and political challenges and/or conflicts in the region, the imposed restriction practices by the occupation including land confiscation, limiting the access to land and water as well as imposing restrictions on the movement of the farmers in reaching their lands. Another reason is the imposed restrictions on agro-commodities movement inside the Palestinian territory and to the export markets including restrictions on importing the required agricultural inputs under the pretext of Israeli Security. These factors are making the agricultural sector vulnerable and facing several challenges that are limiting its development and threatening its sustainability, as well as limiting its contribution in the national economy.

Despite these challenges, agriculture in Palestine is a very important sector that can assist in land protection from confiscation, securing permanent food access for people and considered as part of the national resilience policy against political conflicts and natural economic crisis. Therefore, the agricultural sector is the main pillar in creating balanced food security and sovereignty over food. In addition, the Palestinian economy is overloaded with persons who are actively searching for employment and unable to find work. Unemployment is approximately 30.6% of the labour force aged 15 years (PCBS, 2018).

These challenging conditions create a fundamental need to support the Palestinian farmers (especially small and mid-sized farmers) to keep planting their lands, producing their own food, improving their livelihood and continue their contribution to food security and the Palestinian economy.

Accordingly, the Sustainable Agriculture Program (SAP) at ARIJ has continued its work to contribute in sustaining and improving the productivity and performance of the agricultural sector in Palestine by increasing the Palestinian farmers' access to better and improved production inputs, improved agro-practices towards achieving more production.

ARIJ is encouraging the Palestinian small sized farmers to get into groups or to be organized in cooperatives to empower them to reduce the production cost, achieve better income and improve the livelihood of their families and sustaining their activities. On the other hand, ARIJ still works to link the farmers and cooperatives with the Palestinian private sector to create feasible and sustainable agribusiness hubs local and international marketing channels that will contribute in rising the producers' profits (farmers and cooperatives) through finding opportunities to market their products with better prices.

The Program Activities in the year 2019:

The year 2019 witnessed the implementation of different agro-interventions which contributed in improving the management of available and accessible natural resources, agro-production, and economic impact on farmer community and on the sector level.

The compilation of applied research and the adoption of green and safe innovated agro-practices have resulted in several successful, feasible and sustainable agro-developmental models.

During the year 2019, the Sustainable Agriculture Program (SAP) managed to implement diversified agricultural interventions through which 695 vulnerable families and 25 women and agricultural cooperatives distributed over 51 localities in the West Bank Governorates benefited. These communities included agricultural, rural, Bedouins, urban and refugee camps. The conducted activities covered natural resources management, agricultural production, cooperatives and food security, which included the following main interventions:

1. *Rangeland Rehabilitation and Plantation (FAO and MoA)*: The project aimed at improving the availability and management of land resources through sustainably improved production and productivity of non-or under-utilized agricultural/grazing lands. In order to achieve the main objective, ARIJ is responsible for the production, achievement or delivery of the following deliverables/ outputs:

Assessing and mapping the targeted rangeland sites that identify the existing native herds, shrubs, and land use analysis including the identification of ecological dynamics of the existing rangelands resources. Summarized environmental screening checklist report was prepared and submitted to the FAO project team.

During the year 2019, the project team managed to cultivate an additional 26,000 seedlings in the targeted rangeland areas covering 350 dunums of lands. Additionally, supplemental irrigation was provided for a total of 50,000 seedlings, fences were established, and the project team supervised the construction of 5 km of fire line roads. These activities were conducted in close coordination with MoA under the supervision of the FAO project team. The developed rangelands included the construction of 4 rainwater harvesting cisterns in addition to 7000 meters of lateral irrigation pipes. The project contributed to building the capacities of 10 agronomists from ARIJ and MoA through a conducted training in Jordan about rangeland management.

Furthermore, two EIA reports were prepared and submitted to the FAO: the first report assessed the proposed location for establishing fresh fruits and vegetables post-harvest storage facility, and the second one assessed the rehabilitation of several agriculture roads.

2. *Finalizing the Certification System for New Farm Company (NFC) and the Involved Cooperatives under MAWASEM brand*: The obtained certificates are as the following: Organic, Fair-trade, FSSC 22000, Halal, and PSI. Through the Polish Aid and in partnership with the PCPM, this year witnessed more progress in the produced, processed by the 19 cooperatives of the MAWASEM commodities, and marketed through NFC. The project assisted MAWASEM hub in marketing 27



different food commodities through New Farm Company with a total value of 329,753 USD, of which 50.2% in the local market and 49.8% through the export market.

3. *Strengthening Resilience Amongst Vulnerable Bedouin and other Herding Communities:* Through the CRS and in partnership with the MoA, ARIJ has accomplished its role in this project through finalizing the execution of the gap analysis for the livestock sector in the targeted 15 Bedouin and other herding communities in Area C of the West Bank, prioritizing Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. These areas contain the respective area of the Palestinian agricultural and grazing land and ground water resources. Herding and livestock production represents the main source of income for 10% of the families. During the year 2019, the project team managed to rehabilitate 11 cisterns in these communities to increase water availability for livestock in these areas.
4. *Installing Wicking Beds Systems:* This year, the Sustainable Agriculture program staff managed to install 122 units of wicking beds systems to the benefit of 122 needy families in Hebron Governorate (Tuwani, Yatta, Hata and Safa from Biet Ummar, Tarqoumia, Sa'ir, Beit Ula, As Samu', and Al-Arroub Refugee Camp), Bethlehem Governorate (Beit Fajjar, Tuqu' Arab Al-Aarashaydeh, Ayda Refugee Camp, and Al-Aza Refugee Camp) and Jerusalem Governorate (the Old city of Jerusalem, Sur Baher and Anata Refugee Camp from). The distribution of beneficiaries by donor are presented in the following table.

Intervention	# Targeted communities	Benefited Households	Area m ²	Donor
wicking bed systems	5	70	280	Caritas
	3	25	100	MCC
	7	27	216	WFP
Total	15	122	596 m²	

5. *Innovating and Installing New Hybrid Hydroponic Systems:* Through the Palestinian-Dutch academic cooperation on water (PADUCO) there was funding of the innovation of new hybrid. Accordingly, 10 units of the new hybrid hydroponic **systems** were established to the benefit of 10 families in Al-Arroub Camp, Nour Shams Camp and Tulkarem camp. These models are being tested and evaluated.
6. *Distribution of mother sheep and their newborns:* Under the World Food Program, 52 needy families from 11 communities distributed over Hebron, Bethlehem, Tubas and Jericho Governorates benefited from these interventions through which each beneficiary was provided with two mother sheep and two newborns in addition to required feed.
7. *The production of safer vegetables through enhancing better practices:* Through AMENCA III (Souqona Project) ARIJ, in partnership with Care International through the Australian fund and in cooperation with MoA experts, developed and printed the first extension guideline for producing chemically safe agro-products (without chemical residues) under protected agricultural systems covering mainly cucumber, tomatoes, pepper, pumpkins, and eggplants. These guidelines were tested by 250 farmers and the obtained results were very promising as the farmers managed to increase their production and their savings of up to 6.7% of the production costs. The 60 pioneer

farmers were trained on the better practices to obtain safe products. This activity targeted farmers from Kardala, Bardala, Ein albeda, Al-Jalameh, Abba, Arraneh , Deir abu deaf, Alnasareyeh, Alfaraa, and Tamoun.

8. *Enhancing Food Security and Livelihood Through Planting Home Gardens:* ARIJ managed to support 46 families from Beit Ula in the cultivation of 24 dunums of home gardens using balanced drip irrigation systems. The families consumed part of the vegetables produced and the remaining part was sold in the Beit Ula Women's market. They sold their food products as fresh or processed. These women got the opportunity to communicate with each other and with the community members as they were selling their products directly to the consumers. These home gardens managed to produce 9,626 kg of vegetables with total market value of 12,376 USD in 2019.
9. *Utilization of Treated Wastewater in Introducing New Cultivations:* This approach was undertaken to contribute to the improvement of agricultural production in Palestine through irrigating lands with treated wastewater. Several crops were cultivated over an area of 32 dunums of land cultivated with olive trees, alfalfa, safflower, luffa, pomegranate, seedless grape, and almonds. This activity benefited 38 farming families from Wadi Al-Aroub in Hebron Governorate and Anza village in the Jenin Governorate. The production was very encouraging and the planted luffa lands in Anza managed to produce 2000 matured fruits of luffa, two tons of pomegranate, 30 kg of safflower seeds and 38.6 tons of alfalfa green fodder. Through the PCPM-Polish Aid program, ARIJ managed to provide the Anza wastewater treatment plant with a solar system with a production capacity of 42 KWp. The generated electricity is being used to operate the wastewater unit and the excess amount of generated electricity is being sold to the village families to generate income to cover part of the running costs for this unit, which is being managed by village Council of Anza.
10. Through the DCA-livestock project, 140 livestock breeding families (16 families of them are women headed households) had directly benefited. Up to 95 dunums forage crops under rainfed systems were cultivated to the benefit of 19 herding families. Also, 8 dunums of irrigated alfalfa were planted by 12 farming families. The farmers managed to produce 238.4 tons of green forages and dried hay, in addition to 28.2 tons of seeds. During year 2019, 26,000 kg of milk were delivered by livestock breeders, tested and stored in the cooling milk tank at the milk collection center in the Bardala village, before they transported to the dairy processing companies. The total value of this marketed amount of milk reached 117,000 NIS (33,429 USD).

The Sustainable Agriculture program team has conducted 125 coordination meetings and has performed 2254 field visits for the beneficiaries' activities (215 field days). The program team managed to conduct 112 training and awareness sessions.



2.2 Information Technology Program

The 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 the different departments of ARIJ, the IT program develops and programs web-based information systems and creates efficient logical databases for ARIJ's different projects. These programs support research staff in interpreting and presenting data analysis and in the evaluation findings. ARIJ also keeps up with the latest remote sensing and geographical information system applications.

The ARIJ IT Program has also been responsible for creating and managing the 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 (<http://www.youtube.com/arijvideos>), Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/arij.org>) and Twitter (https://twitter.com/ARIJ_Institute).

Achievements & Activities during 2019

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 project aims to empower Palestinian communities and civil society in East Jerusalem to claim their rights and their political and developmental space through collective actions at the community level, advocacy actions, and participatory planning.

Objectives:

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



coherent framework of priority needs for the Palestinian Neighbourhoods in East Jerusalem.

Outputs:

1. A 3D data model and geospatial monitoring system of: (a) geopolitical conditions in East Jerusalem; (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 linked to the Geospatial database.
3. Educational Facilities Development Decision Support System (DSS) for East Jerusalem.
4. East Jerusalem community profiles assessing communities' needs and developmental priorities.

Institutionalization Cooperative Governance (Funded by We Effect)

The project aims at not only improving the environment of the Palestinian cooperatives to address their needs. The project works towards improving the outreach and influence of cooperatives in the Palestinian Community. The IT Program is in charge of the development and implementation of web-based database driven information systems that store and retrieve all the collected data for the targeted cooperatives. The Information System will be the first Palestinian data storehouse for information about cooperative working in Palestine.

Consultancies

“Baseline Study of Higher Education and Research in Palestine”

The IT program has been in charge of developing a web tool for the data collection for the study through the use of open source survey information systems. More ever, the IT program has been in charge of exporting collected data into SPSS for analysis by the project team. Also, the IT program has been in charge of writing a section for the final report on the current Palestinian situation in the field of incubators and centers of excellence.

Application Development:

Assessing the impacts of Israeli movement restrictions on the mobility of people and goods in the West Bank (2017-2018) SDG- Article 19 Freedom of Opinion & Information, SDG- Article 25 Right to adequate living standard

The IT program in cooperation with the Natural Resource Management program is in charge of the development of a transportation analysis system. The system will help to map and measure the impact of Israeli restrictions on the mobility of goods and people in the West Bank, and subsequently assess the marginal costs of such restrictions on employment, wages, days worked, the costs of moving goods and people, and the quality of transported goods.

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 data collection and viewing all data related to the educational centers.

BEYOND Project

The IT program in cooperation with the GIS & RS units is in charge of implementing the BEYOND project whose goal is to promote the use of EGNSS outside the EU in neighboring countries and stimulating investment in EGNSS. Complete work on the BEYOND project, which includes the publication of the EGNOS catalogue document for Palestine, highlights the current use of Global Positioning Systems in Palestine and the recommendation for the future use of these applications such as the Land Registry System, road networks and maintenance.

Social Media & Movie Production:

The IT Program is responsible for producing documentaries and movies to highlight the work of ARIJ in regard to Israeli colonization activities in the West Bank. All movies produced are uploaded on the ARIJ YouTube channel for people to view. Currently ARIJ has more than 300 movies uploaded to its YouTube channel. The program is also in charge of filming, interviewing, and photo shooting for workshops that are hosted by ARIJ. The program is also in charge of managing ARIJ's social media accounts (i.e., Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter). There has been a growing number of people following ARIJ news in the past few years. Moreover, the IT program was in charge of advocacy plans for the institute, including video creation, posting on the social media platforms and banners and flyers designing.

Digital Printing & Design:

The IT program is equipped with a small print shop that includes a small digital printer, a 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, including books, brochures, posters and booklets.

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

In 2019, the IT program was in charge of the development and publishing of a number of websites related to the work and projects of ARIJ. The development of the website includes designing, installation of content management systems (CMS) and data entry.

System Administration & Security

The IT program's main focus is to provide technical support and assistance to the different departments at ARIJ through the development of applications, installing software's, maintaining hardware, and maintaining and updating the local area network. ARIJ has 11 physical servers, 20 virtual instances and over 100 computers to maintain.

2.3 Good Governance Program

Accomplishments and achievements for the Year 2019:

In 2019, ARIJ's Good Governance Program continued to enable good governance principles in Palestinian society. Activities implemented by the Good Governance Program are focused on the promotion of integrity, principles of transparency and systems of accountability in various Palestinian sectors¹.

ARIJ's Good Governance Program works on the ground to ensure 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*.

Realizing the importance of participation, transparency and accountability, efficiency and equitable approaches to development, ARIJ's Good Governance Program worked 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.

ARIJ's Good Governance Program conducted 88 field visits to cooperatives, 150 visits to municipalities, 10 visits to ministries, 5 visits to Joint Services Councils, and 120 visits to civil society organizations and/or community-based organizations.

ARIJ's Good Governance Program continued to support the *Fiscal Transparency Index (FTI)*² from 2018. FTI served as a mechanism to improve access to information and transparency of local budget documents in 30 targeted municipalities³, which relate to *SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions*. Many interventions were carried out under the FTI namely: producing "Citizens Budgets 2019", technical support to increase financial transparency, and, small initiatives by community-based organizations to improve budget and financial literacy amongst citizens. The focus of this work is to increase the responsiveness of the Palestinian national and local budgets to the needs of the poor and marginalized citizens including women, while supporting autonomy and transparency in revenue generation.

Moreover, ARIJ's Good Governance Program works to ensure that citizens and civil society organizations have the knowledge, skills and capacities to contribute to shape a just, effective, and predictable revenue system in the OPT and budget stakeholders are more responsive in allocating public resources in a fair way to support marginalized citizens, in particular women and girls. In this regard, the Program supported the development of a participatory and gender-sensitive budget for

¹ Municipalities, Ministries, Cooperatives, Civil Society Organizations, Community-based Organizations, and Joint Services Councils.

² The overall goal of the FTI is to improve budget transparency at local level, by measuring transparency in 30 municipalities, create an index ranking performance and use findings to promote increased transparency in municipalities by promoting dissemination of financial documents and citizen's participation.

³ Targeted Municipalities: Abu dis, Bani Na'im, Beit Jala, Beit Sahour, Beitunia, Al- Bireh, Halhul, Qabatiya, As-Samu, Ya'bad, Jenin, Huwara, Qabalan, Sebastia, Qalqilya, Silat ad-Dhahr, Zababdeh, Tarqumiya, Al-Auja, Biddu, Deir Istiya, Deir Ballout, Deir Debwan, Salfit, Tammun, Anabta, Qaffin, Kafr Thulth, Al-Ubeidiya.



MoLG and MoL for 2020; by producing factsheets about current budgets' responsiveness to women, youth, and persons with disabilities needs and priorities; then using them as guiding documents in six national workshops, attended by relevant stakeholders⁴.

ARIJ Good Governance Program worked on a national campaign, “**Right to Health,**” which was created in cooperation with MIFTAH and AMAN, and will continue in 2020.

The campaign aims to collect signatures from Palestinian citizens to pressure the Ministry of Finance to increase monetary allocations in the Ministry of Health’s budget. This required both raising public awareness and public engagement tactics. The aim is to collect 100 thousand signatures from the



public who suffer the most from lack of medications in governmental hospitals and clinics.

Increased budget allocations will ultimately lead to more citizens gaining access to greater quality and quantity of healthcare, and have their voice heard in a more democratic society. The secondary objectives of the campaign are to facilitate policy dialogue between the PNA and civil society, engage young Palestinians in the campaign and create a base for setting up a mechanism to hold MoH accountable for budget spending. ARIJ, AMAN, and MIFTAH all trained volunteers to spread out in their areas and collect signatures.

⁴12 women CSOs, 4 agricultural cooperatives, 2 charitable CSOs, 1 youth club, 2 persons with disabilities CSO, 1 parent-teacher association, 12 developmental CSO, 2 healthcare CSO, 1 university 2 chamber of commerce and industry, 2 Labor unions, 2 Vocational schools, and 4 vocational and labor CSOs.





Starting this year, ARIJ's Good Governance Program, in collaboration with other partners in the cooperative sector, formed an advocacy task force to lobby for modifications on the cooperative law. In consultation with a legal expert, the task force drafted a position paper about the law and shared it with the relevant decision-makers in the sector. ARIJ and the task force will continue lobbying for modifications with the ultimate goal of improving the governance environment that faces cooperatives.



Parallel to this collaboration, ARIJ's Good Governance program held legal awareness workshops and printed hard copies of the new law (presidential decree) to increase cooperative members' knowledge of the law and its implications for them.

At the cooperatives level, the work this year focused on the youth sector. ARIJ's Good Governance Program supported 10 cooperatives in the development of strategic plans and youth outreach plans. In line with this, ARIJ's Good Governance Program developed an awareness raising campaign targeted at youth about the cooperative sector through focus groups and prototyping and testing of the campaign elements. Both interventions have the same ultimate goal of increasing youth membership in cooperatives.

التعاونيات ... فكر وحاجة



التعاونيات ... فكر وحاجة



Challenges/Concerns:

The Palestinian Government was functioning in 2019 under a so-called “emergency budget” and the 2019 public budget was not endorsed or made available to the public. This was due to the Palestinian refusal to receive clearance revenue since January 2019 because of Israeli actions. This affected ARIJ’s work with the Ministries of Local Government and Labour for 2019, especially regarding Citizens Budgets.

GOOD GOVERNANCE PROGRAM 2019

Goal:

To promote values of integrity, principles of transparency and systems of accountability in various Palestinian sectors.

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Localities

Targeted in 2019

Objective:

To ensure that political, social and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in the Palestinian society, and the voices of all rights-holders are heard in decision-making over the allocation of development resources

Partners in Targeted Localities



Targeted Rights-holders

11,355

9,034



Social Media Campaigns



Publications

Financial Leaflets for Cooperatives' members.

Readable Cooperative's Budget

Ministry of Labor Citizens' Budget Guide

Ministry of Local Governance Citizens Budget Guide

Citizens Budget for 21 municipalities.

2.4 Natural Resource Management Program

Activities and achievements in the year 2019:

In 2019, ARIJ's Water and Environment Department continued its activities to contribute to the protection of Palestinian natural resources through focusing on safeguarding the environment as means of protecting human health and prompting the sustainable use of resources.

It should be noted that all of these actions are linked to the SDG goals namely: GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being; GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy; GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; and GOAL 13: Climate Action

1.1 Improving access to water and sanitation services

1.1.1 Wastewater Treatment

Through the actions supported by grants from the European Commission, the year 2019 witnessed the continuation of the development and promotion of the Al Arrub wastewater treatment in Sa'ir area using activated sludge wastewater treatment processes. The project started in March 2017 until the goal of this project was achieved in 2020. The direct impacts of these actions resulted in: (1) protecting of landscapes and 41.5 hectares of agricultural land from pollution with untreated wastewater; (2) the reclamation of 10 hectares of agricultural land previously polluted heavily by waste products; and (3) the protection of 222 households and the students of an elementary school in Sa'ir from exposure to waterborne diseases.

During the third year of the project, the project's team succeeded in implementing several activities associated with the objective aimed at the promotion of treatment and reuse in the water scarce areas through development and demonstration of innovative financial instruments and inclusive management plans. These activities resulted in reducing the operational costs of wastewater treatment through using innovative and cost-efficient technologies of energy production and sludge management.

In other words, 2019 witnessed huge efforts for making Wadi Al Arub WWTP more sustainable: 1) Installing a 125 KVA photovoltaic (PV) system to generate electricity at half the current price of the electricity provided by the electrical grid; thus electricity generated by the system will decrease the cost of the electricity by Euro 26,870 at the first year and generate an accumulated saving more than Euro 671000 over 20 years; 2) establishing a sludge dewatering and composting facility to reduce the sludge management cost; 3) introducing innovative irrigation practices to increase economic water productivity by at least 25% by increases in water use efficiency and reductions in the cost of agricultural input; 4) construction of a 800 m³ water storage to efficiently organize main water reuse; and, 5) Installation of a main 160 mm irrigation main line of more than 0.5 kilometre as part of an entire irrigation network system capable of irrigating with treated wastewater at least other 100 Donums of agricultural lands located downstream, with the current existing irrigation system targeting only 20 Donums, but as soon as the project advances on the ground. irrigation areas will be duplicated several times.

These actions will contribute to the sustainability of the WWTP through: 1) enormous reduction of the Wadi Al Aroub WWTP operation and maintenance costs; and, 2) protection of the surrounding 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.



Some Implemented works and coordination activities related to SWIM project different compUnnets

In the same context, during the year 2019, and based on the agreement that was signed with the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), The WERD Department continued its work to operate the Wadi Al Aroub Wastewater treatment plant to ensure sustainable operation and efficiently management of the Wadi Al Aroub WWTP.



Site Sludge Dewatering arrangements and under construction water reuse reservoir



Visit to Wadi Al Aroub WWTP by the Minister of local government (MoG), and (2) Minister of The Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)

1.1.2 Treated Wastewater reuse

For the third year, WERD continued its work to study the impacts of irrigation with treated wastewater on crop quality and productivity. Based on observations and the obtained data during the third experimental period, it was observed that utilized treated wastewater had no negative effect on the morphological and physiological properties of plants (colour, fruit set, etc.). At the same time were clearly observed positive results on the tree's canopy, height, plant diameter and overall growth. Moreover, using the treated effluent appeared to have no effects in relation to fungal diseases and on nutrient deficiency during experiment period.



Reuse of the treated wastewater at the Agricultural Lands in Wadi Al Arrub - Sa'ir / Hebron Governorate

1.2 Awareness and knowledge transfer

1.2.1 Water Conservation and optimal use

Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief fund, the WERD Department in partnership with the Bethlehem Higher Education Directorate (BHED), finalized the activities for increasing the access to clean water and improved sanitation facilities at three schools: Elementary Masoudi Girls School; Elementary Al Khader Boys School; and Elementary Virgin Mary Girls School for a total number of 1005 students and teachers in the Bethlehem area. Additionally, the project contributes to raising the awareness of the schoolteachers, students and their parents in relation to water conservation and hygiene.

The project resulted in: 1) rehabilitation of 3 water cisterns; 2) the installation of 12 drinking water storage tanks of 1500 liter capacity each (18 m³ total capacity); 3) rehabilitation of 10 toilet facilities; and, 4) 8 hand washing facilities. These activities resulted in increasing the access of 938 students, of whom 702 are female students, to safe and clean water as well as improved sanitation services.



Improving access to water infrastructure at the targeted School

Moreover, the project team succeeded in conducting an intensive and integrated awareness campaign to establish WASH as part of everyday students' life. The awareness materials that reinforce how important good WASHing behaviors and practices are, were produced and included, but not limited to: drama sketches/theater plays, water and hygiene competitions between the targeted schools, training sessions to the teachers and students, 3 radio spots, a household water audit form, a drawing book with WASH messages, and morning speeches with water optimal water use and hygiene messages. It should be noted that all audio-visual materials, were posted on social media (YouTube, Facebook) and on ARIJ, BHED, and the 3 targeted schools Websites.



School awareness events

The main impacts & outreach of the awareness campaign in the three targeted schools is summarized in table below:

The identified indicators	Target Value
Estimation number of students reached by project	1005
Number of schools targeted	3
estimated number of students and teachers participating in the campaign,	1038 person
Estimated number of students participating in the school competition	60 students
Estimated number of people participating in preparatory and follow up meetings	60-80 person
Estimated number of people following the social media and reading the news related to the campaign at schools website and social Media	2500

Upon a series of consultation with the Office for the Middle East and Europe, World Mission, and the Presbyterian Church team during the first half of 2019, the **WERD Department** started implementation of a project entitled, 'Enhance Access to Clean and Safe Drinking Water in Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala. The implementation of the project will take 12 months until completed. The goal of the project is to contribute to increasing the access to improved water sources through the rehabilitation of 6 household cisterns and its catchments areas to better access to water for domestic purposes mainly for drinking water. The project targets three Palestinian localities namely: Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala.

1.2.2 Water Governance

WERD Department, with funding from the Fons Català de Cooperació and in cooperation with Samir Municipality, has finalized the activities for the project



“Towards improved provision of water and sanitation services in Samir Area in an integrity approach (PWSS)”. The main objective of the project was to enhance water governance towards better provision of water and sanitation services, at different levels of society. During the project implementation period, the team managed to improve social responsibility and accountability measures undertaken by Samir municipality in the field of public water management. In the same context, the human and

technical capacities of 210 of the involved CSOs, municipality staff and citizens in the field of water governance had been reinforced by means of involving them in the assessment of the provision of water and sanitation services, citizen card and dialogue platforms.



To improve the data accuracy, and thus improvement of the water services by Samir Municipality, two new up-to-date software for the billing and revenues systems were provided and installed. Moreover, 6 employees of the Customer Service Department at Samir Municipality received on-job training on the new billing and revenues systems.

1.2.3 Wastewater treatment and reuse

WERD worked to increase the awareness regarding the issues of reuse of treated wastewater through the provision of 7 workshops, 7 days training, and 104 field visits to the Al Aroub Wastewater treatment plant and the reuse site in Samir area. ARIJ's trained team members educated more than 200 farmers and agronomists. During these training session, training materials had been prepared and distributed to these groups. During the workshop meetings, ARIJ's team brought participants together from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), civil society organizations, cooperatives, students of local universities, local people, and farmers in order to share the project findings and results. They also promoted ideas regarding wastewater treatment and reuse, as well as the advantages and precautions needing to be considered when irrigating with treated wastewater so farmers can make appropriate decisions about how to irrigate with treated wastewater.



Capacity building of the farmers

1.3 Technical assistance to ARIJ different departments

In 2019, WERD continued its work providing technical assistance to ARIJ's different departments, including but not limited to: 1) provide support to ARIJ sustainable agriculture program through continuous technical assistance and logistical support to work related to water treatment and reuse in both Wadi Al Arroub Samir in the Hebron Governorate and Anza in the Jenin Governorate. This included the provision of technical assistance in water pumping systems, irrigation network design, maintaining appropriate reuse water quality for on-going projects, provision of maintenance to irrigation network and boosting system on charge of guaranteeing water needs to current on-going projects targeted parcels whether by BARU or WERD; 2) Provide capacity building to increase the knowledge in both wastewater treatment and reuse targeting farmers, ministry of agriculture staff members, local Universities students, schools students, and other relevant stakeholders; and, 3) other technical support works and services provided to ARIJ, Green Palestine Co. and New Farm, services and support when needed (E.g. Implementation of onsite wastewater treatment and reuse system at Al Mazra'a El Garbiyeh, Help in New Farm building modification engineering drawings, and maintain and operate ARIJ's building WWTP.

1.4 Capacity Building

The WERD Department is committed to developing 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 conducted or participated in 106 training workshops, meetings or field visits. This is in addition to providing services to the local community related to its field of work.

Developing the capacities of the WERD staff is also imperative to continue ARIJ's rich tradition of technological and process innovation. The staff participated in several regional and international training workshops covering the subjects of precision, operational control and management of wastewater treatment processes, opportunities and challenges of treated wastewater reuse in Agriculture, and water management,

The department has participated in the IUCN West Asia 9th Regional Conservation Forum 2019 (RCF). The RCF provides a platform for IUCN Members (governments, NGOs, indigenous peoples' organizations) to engage with each other to discuss and debate key conservation issues. In addition, the RCF contributes to strengthening knowledge and networking for biodiversity conservation in the region. During the 2019, Congress held in State of Kuwait, from 09-11 September 2019, over 180 participants represented 77 members in West Asia region, partners, and donors

The Geo-Informatics (GIS & RS) Department maintained its strong cooperative ties with several local and international bodies, including Land and Water Settlement Authority, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), Ministry of Transportation, Traffic Higher Council (THC), General Authority of Civil Affairs, Bus Owners Association, General Union of Transport Workers, The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS)

Activities and achievements in the year 2019

Assessing the impacts of Israeli movement restrictions on the mobility of people and goods in the West Bank study:

The study highlights the Israeli matrix of control applied in the oPt and its economic and environmental impact. It also concluded that there were about 15 major Israeli checkpoints controlling the movement of Palestinians in the West Bank, and 11 major Israeli military checkpoints controlling Palestinian access to East Jerusalem and Israel.

Employing 70 vehicles with tracking devices for a period of 6 months (January – July 2018), more than 18 million records were registered and stored. The records showed total annual delays at checkpoints and ultimately Palestinian labour force time lost of almost 60 million hours, costing Palestinians approximately **\$274 million USD**.

The environmental costs was no less horrifying when calculating along with the congestion and the average annual costs of delays to the Palestinian labour force, the annual emissions from additional

fuel consumption which were calculated at some 81 million liters of fuel, at a cost of nearly \$135 million USD, producing additional 196,000 tons of CO2 emissions.

Published a paper titled: Assessing the impacts of Israeli movement restrictions on the mobility of people and goods in the West Bank in the Tenth Palestinian Environmental Awareness and Education Conference, Bethlehem Jacir Palace Hotel.

Printing 11,000 posters for West Bank Governorates

The posters show the geopolitical status of each of the Palestinian governorates on the ground and the impact of Israeli activities on the geography and the demography in the oPt. The posters are used by the governorates and the organization, and related and interested groups for advocacy purposes.

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 project aims at empowering the Palestinian communities and civil society in East Jerusalem to claim their rights and political and developmental space through collective actions at the community level, advocacy actions, and participatory planning.

In 2019, the Geo-informatics Department provided many services to the local, regional, international institutions and NGOs by:

- ✓ Maps and aerial photographs for International Organizations
- ✓ Services on roads and maps to Palestinian Ministries and Municipalities
- ✓ Maps for Palestinian citizens against the confiscation of land
- ✓ Supporting students with their graduation projects by providing data and maps on the geopolitical status of Palestine
- ✓ Providing members of the local community, affected by Israeli military orders with all necessary information and maps related to the land confiscation that can be used in Israeli courts to oppose in Laws,) maps to be important documents for claims against military orders in Israeli courts)
- ✓ In addition, the department staff participated, in more than 30 meetings 10 workshops, TV and radio interviews.

Urbanization Monitoring

The Urbanization Monitoring Unit - running the project that monitors the Israeli activities in the occupied Palestinian territory entitled “Advocating for a Sustainable and Viable Resolution of Israeli - Palestinian Conflict,” worked to document 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 scope of their work also includes monitoring and documenting expansion in settlements, identifying outposts locations; detecting the development of other colonization activities - the most visible of which is the Segregation Wall being built throughout the occupied Palestinian Territory.

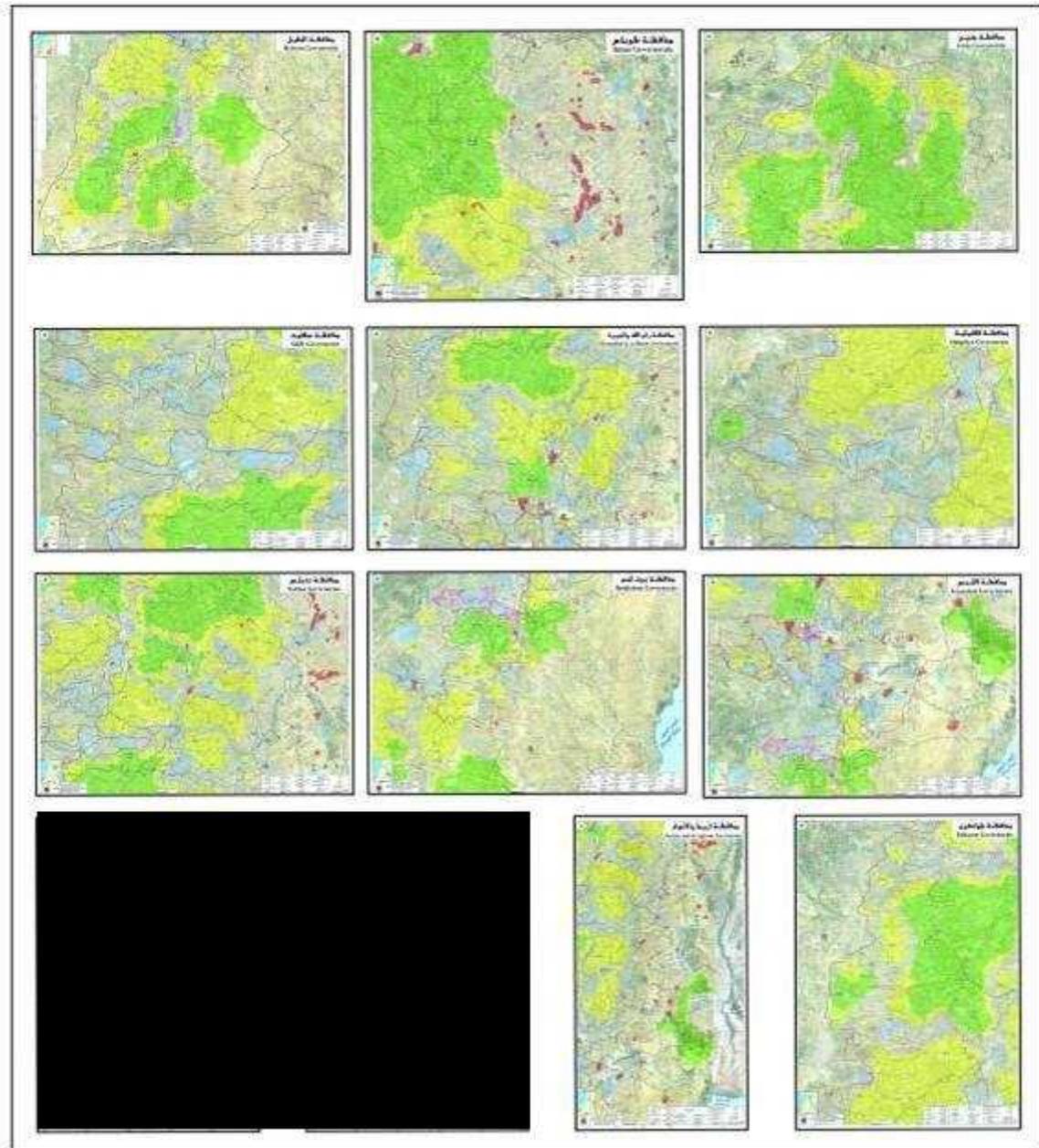
The information was synthesized and produced in the form of case studies which contain the information related to the violations showing targeted locations reinforced with the military orders (if available) and also with the related maps that show the situation on the ground.

Urbanization Monitoring prepared and published on the POICA website: 67 newspaper articles, 3 special reports, 11 booklets (for each of the Palestinian governorates), 6 info-graphs, 12000 posters (1000 for the West Bank overall geopolitical, and 11000 for the West Bank Governorates), 579 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 an excess of 16 million hits during the designated time of this report. Further, the department organized a total of 47 informational briefings; including 2 for EU representatives and delegates, decision makers, Palestinian and European officials, locals and foreign visiting groups, in addition to interested scholars, academics, and journalists among others.

The results are attracting significant attention and providing support for several national and international stakeholders. The number of interviews (399 including both Radio and TV) conducted on emerging issues related to Israeli violations and policies attest to the credibility and trust the media has in the organizations implementing this project. The Urbanization and Monitoring along with the Geographic Information System (GIS), perform mapping of communities targeted by Israeli activities on the ground to help assess the magnitude of the damages in order to arrive at conclusions. Additionally, it works to produce visual illustrations (poster/ map used in case studies) of the changes and damages while at the same time sharing the results of Israeli activities with the Palestinian decision makers and the population at large. Nonetheless, the turmoil of the political arena, the increase severity on movement and the constant threat and fear of safety to those in the field, remain the biggest concern. The significance of the work is reflected in the amount and the quality of information obtained from the field, productions and presentations delivered to those in the decision-making chamber and to the public. Moreover, ARIJ and POICA websites have proven to be an invaluable research and informational source regionally and internationally.

Palestinian Governorates Geopolitical Status Posters

The poster/ map below shows the geopolitical status of each of the Palestinian governorates on the ground and the impact the Israeli activities have had on the geography and the demography in the oPt. The Unit printed and distributed 11,000 posters/ maps to each of the Palestinian governorates during a lecture (PowerPoint presentation)/ meeting with the governors and the stakeholders of each of the governorates. The poster is used by the governorates and the organization, and related and interested groups to convey the situation of their localities to visiting groups and for advocacy purposes.



Annual Report 2019 Reports that stood out during this reporting period and were distinctively referenced are as follows:

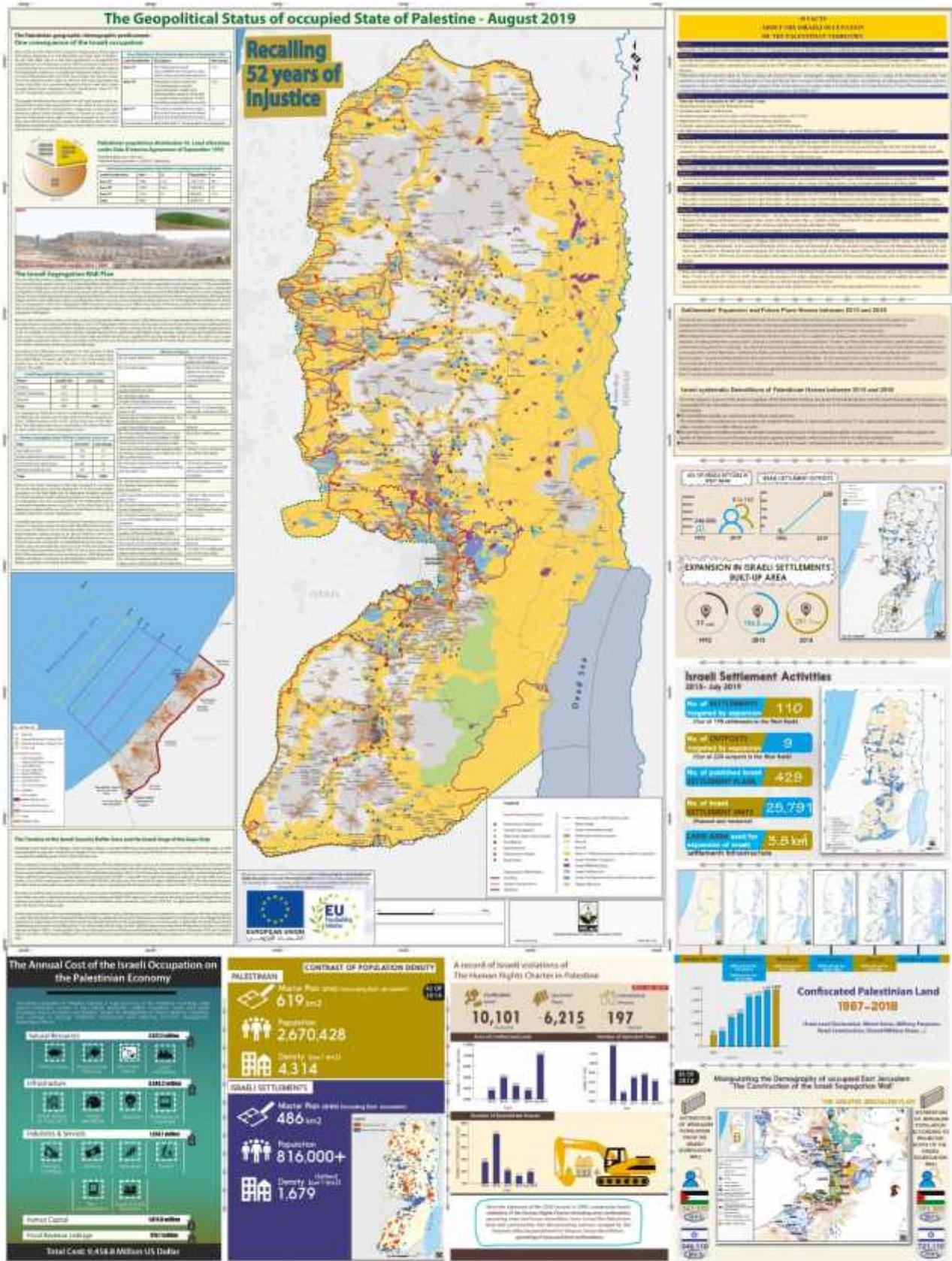
❖ **In Good Faith? The Bedouin Question and the Geo-political Implications of a Right of Return to the Negev**

The report conducted several field visits to Palestinian Bedouin communities in the West Bank, one unrecognized village in the Negev and the Arab Bedouin townships in Jerusalem and Hebron districts. Interviews also extended to human rights activists concerned with Bedouin rights. From the interviews, this report focused on the Jahalin tribe in the Khan al-Ahmar village as its focus. The report examined the possible new Israeli strategy of displacement towards the Khan al-Ahmar Bedouins. The report showcases the peril and insecurity of the Right of Return. Primarily, the report has focused on the social impact of the Israeli relocation proposals.

❖ **What is the impact of Israeli land policies and the settlement industry in the West Bank?**

Demographic engineering (DE) is the intentional alteration of a territory's demography as a means for self-determination by ethnicity. The State of Israel continues to leverage the authority granted to its military, as the occupying power of the West Bank, to exponentially expand the Israeli civilian settlement enterprise. They institute land policies allowing for land acquisition, planning, and development that create an avenue for DE methods of economic incentivization and ethnic consolidation through the Israeli civilian settlement enterprise. To maintain the status quo of the territory, it is imperative the Israeli government Issue a settlement freeze to encourage permanent peace agreement negotiations to commence, given their political salience. The PA and PLO, international state actors, international civil society organizations, and Israeli civil society organizations each have a key role to play to achieve a settlement freeze.

The following poster summarizes the geopolitical situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza territory. It shows the geographical-political classifications within the Palestinian Governorates, according to the 1995 interim agreement, in which, the areas under Palestinian control, the settlements' locations, the bypass roads, the outposts' locations, and the locations of the various types of obstacles and all what is related to the geography in each of the Governorates and all over the entire West Bank area.



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:

- The SAP program is representing ARIJ in the Food Security Working Group (FSS) in Palestine.
- The SAP program is representing ARIJ in the Climate Change National Committee (CCNC), which is led by the Environment Quality Authority-Palestine
- ARIJ continues its good relations with the CBOs (cooperatives and women clubs) to improve their economic models, empower their management systems, improve their production system qualitatively and quantitatively, and linking them to marketing system, as an efficient part of the value chain.
- ARIJ became a member in the founding committee of Palestinian Plant Production and Protection Society (PPPPS) which was established under the supervision of the Palestine Academy for Science and Technology (PALAST). ARIJ continued its partnership with Earth and Human Center for Research and Studies through implementing the climate change activities in Gaza Strip.
- ARIJ was elected to become the secretariat of the Palestinian Agricultural Institutions Coalition (PAIC). This coalition is made of the main agricultural NGOs, which are ARIJ, Maan Development Center, PARC, AUWC, LRC, and PHG.
- ARIJ has continued its cooperation with the national Universities, especially, An Najah University and Al-Khadouri University as well as Hebron University to contribute in building the capacities of their students, especially the students of Faculties of Agriculture.
- World Food Program (WFP): ARIJ managed to establish new funding relationship with the WFP. This new partnership has resulted in funding a resilience project in the West Bank (which is implemented by ARIJ) and in Gaza Strip (which is being Implemented by Maan Development Center and OXFAM). The project has formulated Steering Committee for the Resilience project (ARIJ, WFP, FAO, MoSD, MoA, UNDP, OXFAM and Maan Development Center, continued its coordination and several meetings were held during the year 2019 by the SC.
- Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO): ARIJ continued the implementation of the rangeland joint activity which managed to get an additional fund which started since May 2018 and will be continued till May 2019. This project focused on supporting the implementation of rangeland rehabilitation activities in Tubas Governorate (Atouf, Um Kbaish, and Qishad).
- The Canadian Food Grain Bank (CFGB) and Mennonite Committee Center (MCC): ARIJ is implementing food security project which is funded by MCC and CFGB. This project will be ended by March 2020.
- The Palestinian-Dutch Academic Cooperation Program in Water: ARIJ is implementing a research project under PADUCO consortium in partnership with Al-Khadouri University.
- The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID): ARIJ in partnership with CARE International has continued its work on Souqona project through implementing AMENCA III program.



- Polish Aid & Polish Center for International Aid “PCPM”: This is the second year of the project entitled “Optimizing the use of conventional and non-conventional water for irrigation towards rural development and women and youth empowerment, Palestine”. And the third year of the project entitled “Certification and improving professionalism of producer-consumer cooperatives' group, Palestine”. The two projects are focusing on diversified subjects that are related to the agro-food products certification and on reusing the treated wastewater in irrigating new crop in Palestine. On the other hand, the youth and women entrepreneur initiatives were encouraged.
- Dan Church Aid (DCA): The second phase of the livestock project in the northern part of the Jordan Valley already accomplished by the end of this year.
- Caritas Switzerland: This year was the last year of the project titled “Adopting Eco-Friendly and Feasible Agro-Production Techniques to Enhance Urban Agriculture in the West Bank. (AEF-UA)”. The project was one of the pioneer projects that have been responded for the poorest households and managed to target rural, Bedouins, refugee camps and urban areas in the West Bank to contribute in improving their food security and livelihood. Unfortunately, the Caritas Switzerland has decided to close its representative office in Palestine. By this, ARIJ lost one of the great partners and supporters. **(Please see the attached the compliment letter sent by Caritas Switzerland to ARIJ).**
- Good Governance Program maintained its strong cooperation ties with Palestinian Authority Bodies: Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC), Ministry of Local Government, and Ministry of Labor.
- Good Governance Program maintained its strong cooperation ties with 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).
- Good Governance Program maintained its strong cooperation ties with regional and International Institutions, Bodies and NGOs: We Effect, Oxfam International
- 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 Samir, Jericho 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 ,UNRWA and IUCN.
- 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 willing 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.

- 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.

Marion Schröder
Program Director
Adligerswilerstr. 15
P.O. Box, CH-0002 Lucerne

Applied Research Institute Jerusalem
ARIJ
Kam Mu'ammur- Karkafeh Street
Bethlehem

Lucerne, 31st October 2019

RE: Letter of Recommendation

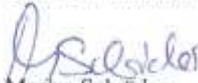
With this letter we wish to express our sincere appreciation of the effective cooperation with the NGO Applied Research Institute Jerusalem (ARIJ).

Caritas Switzerland has supported ARIJ in implementing a project "Reducing Food Insecurity in the West Bank through Urban Farming Methods)" from 1 December 2018 until 31 December 2019. The project piloted the application of wicking bed systems for plant production. It was designed to assist the most vulnerable and food insecure families in the West Bank to cultivate crops at household level and motivate them to diversify their diet by increasing the intake of vegetables and leafy crops. The project goal was twofold: Urban agricultural technology was introduced to the targeted families and they were trained to manage and sustain the wicking bed system for future plant cultivation. Secondly, through continuous research and development ARIJ could improve and better adapt sustainable eco-agriculture techniques.

During the project 130 families (60 in the first and 70 in second year) benefitted from this cost-effective and eco-friendly agro-production system by planting and harvesting a variety of vegetables. Besides the improvement of dietary intake and reducing costs of the weekly food basket, the wicking beds had an unexpected social benefit for the participating households, especially in refugee camps: With the greening of roof terraces, where wicking beds units were usually installed, they became leisure spaces for family members to enjoy. In addition, ARIJ demonstrated and tested new forms of producing bio-fertilizer and a more cost-efficient alternatives to build and sustain the wicking bed systems.

We are pleased to have worked with ARIJ as an efficient and resourceful partner that is committed to seeking innovative solutions to challenges encountered by the local community. Beside demonstrated expertise, ARIJ staff have transparently and responsibly implemented this project, respecting standard best practices. ARIJ relies on knowledgeable and qualified staff, experienced in project-cycle management, financial administration, as well as reporting procedures to donors.

We, hereby, recommend ARIJ as a reliable partner in the execution of projects, specifically in the domain of agriculture and food security.

Sincerely,
Caritas Switzerland

Marion Schröder
Program Director


Lejla Zvizdic
Program Manager

Caritas Schweiz

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Qualitätsmanagementsystem
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NPO-Label, Reg.-Nr. 22110

Das Richtige tun
Agir, tout simplement
Fare la cosa giusta

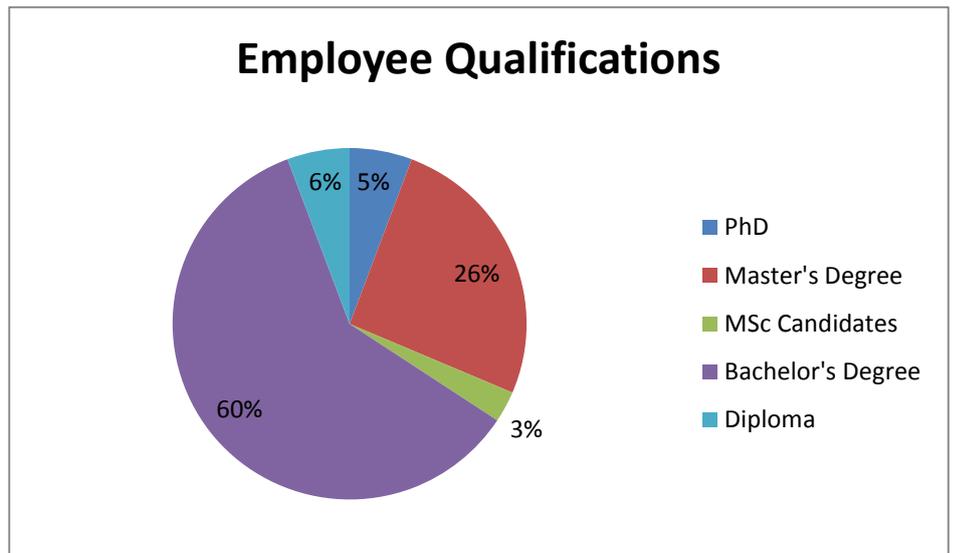
2.6 Internal Control Department

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 act 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 identifying the possibility 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 and sharing them with the staff.

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

- *PhD Degree Holders* 2
- *Master's Degree Holders* 9
- *Msc Candidates* 1
- *Bachelor's degree Holders* 21
- *Diplomas* 2

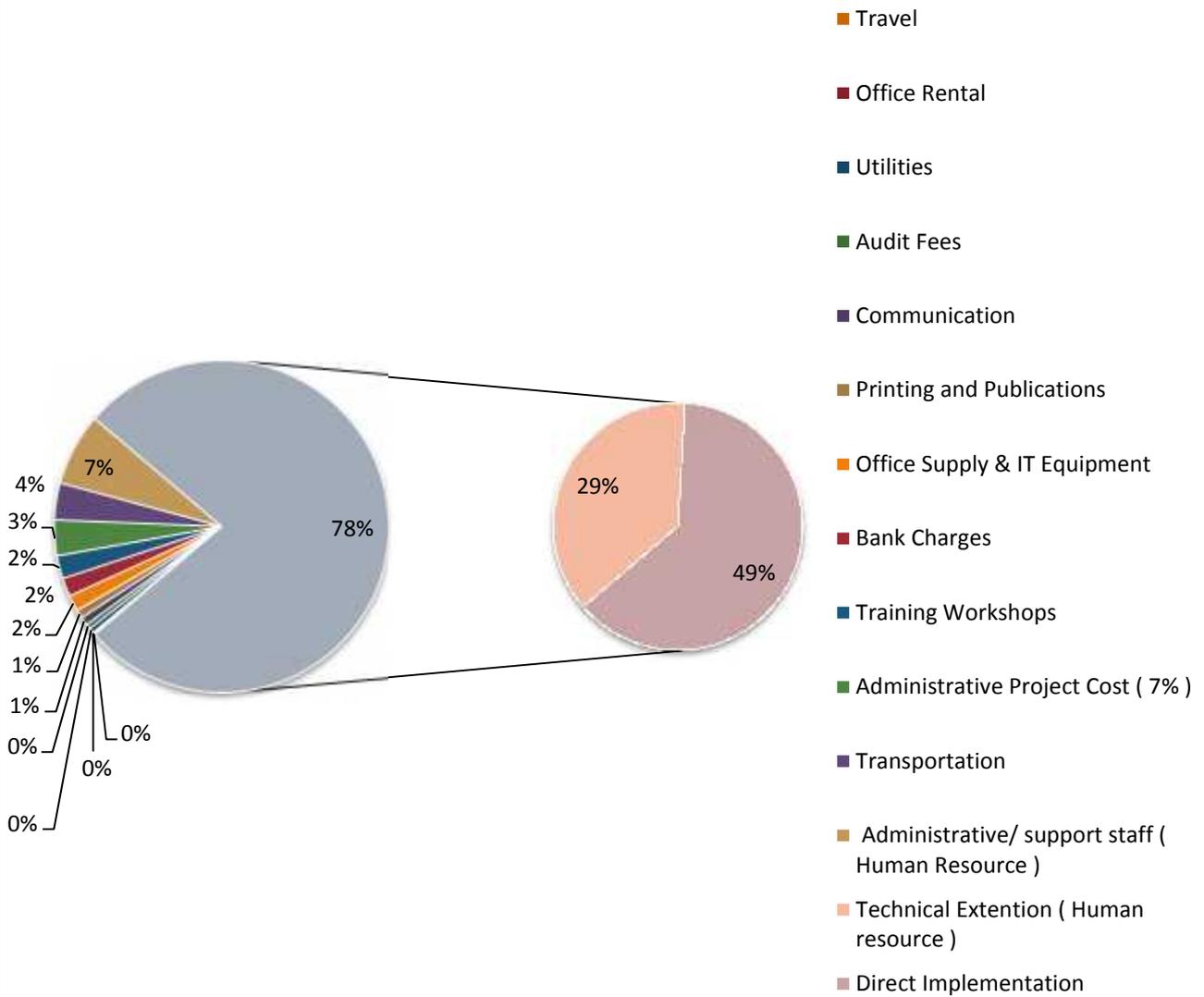


Section 3: Estimated Budget and Future Plans 2020

As Palestine is remains in a developing state going through many phases to reach maturity, it requires further research and development in many sectors. ARIJ remains focused on the 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 (49%) followed by Human Resources (Administration and Technical) of 36%.

Budget Item 2020	Total (USD)
Travel	2,166.00
Office Rental	3,099.00
Utilities	10,872.95
Audit Fees	10,960.00
Communication	17,706.23
Printing and Publications	18,547.50
Office Supply & IT Equipment	34,409.71
Bank Charges	40,000.00
Training Workshops	49,792.91
Administrative Project Cost (7%)	77,257.26
Transportation	80,021.98
Administrative/ support staff (Human Resource)	156,563.69
Technical Extension (Human resource)	640,646.22
Direct Implementation	1,081,550.45
	2,223,594

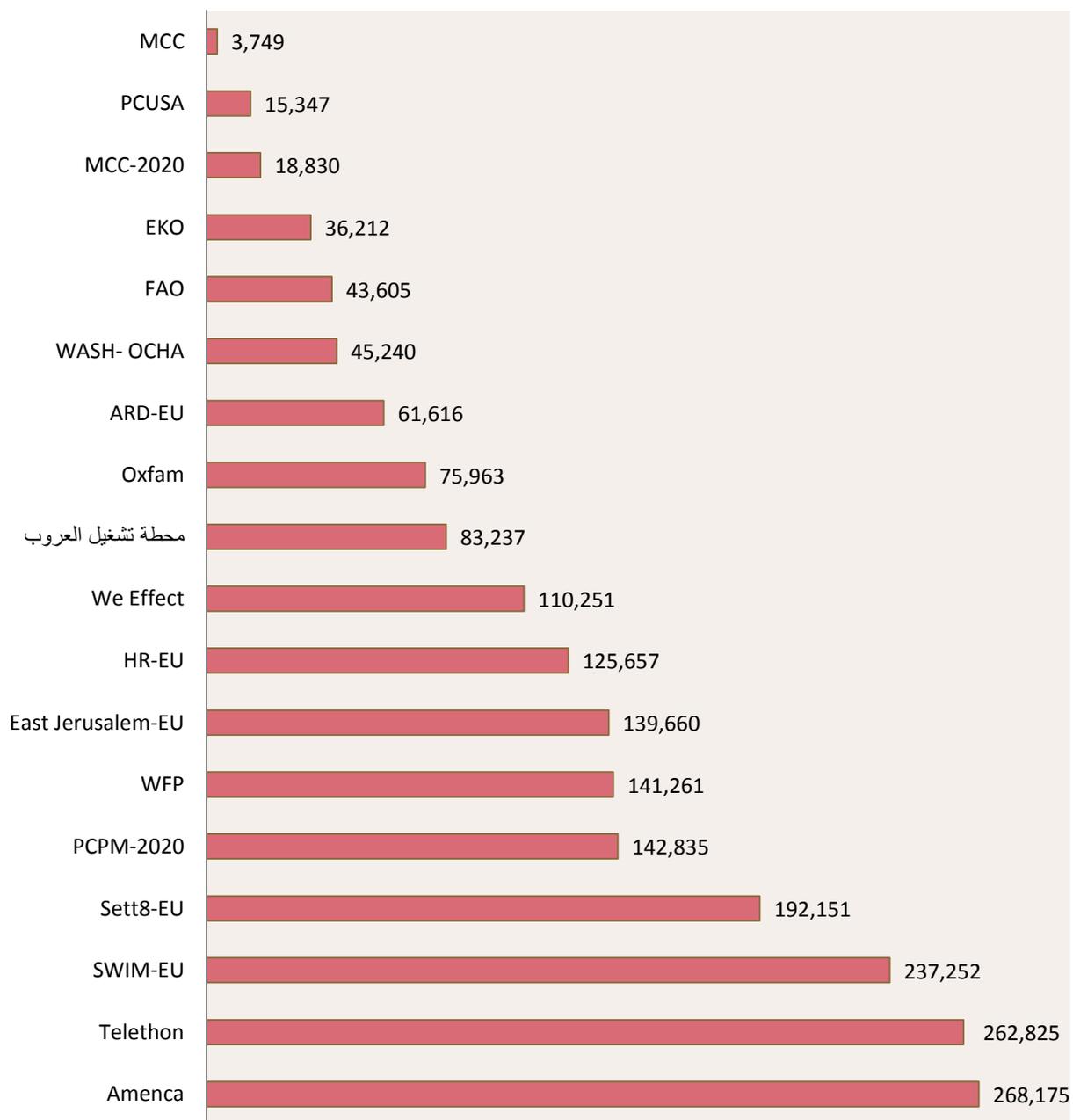
Total Budget for the year 2020 is 2,223,594 USD



The table below shows the budget per project line:

Projects 2020	Total (USD)
Souquna – Our Market Phase II	268,175
My Economic Empowerment, Our Future	262,825
Promote wastewater treatment and reuse. Sustainable Water Integrated Management programme (SWIM)– Phase II -Demonstration project	237,252
Assessing the impediments before the Two-State Solution	192,151
Innovative applications of treated wastewater to produce feed and new products in Palestine (FDP)	142,835
Empowering WFP beneficiaries to increase their resilience via agricultural hydroponic / hybrid system livelihood activities	141,261
Towards Social Inclusion in Community Development by Providing Platform for Planning and Advocacy	139,660
Towards Better Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Area C Gaza Strip	125,657
Towards Inclusive and Just Cooperative Sector in the West Bank	110,251
Wadi - Al Arroub Wastewater Treatment	83,237
Finance for Development	75,963
East Bethlehem ARD initiative	61,616
Emergency Response to Promote Access to Adequate Sanitation, Safe Water and Best Knowledge on Hygiene Practices	45,240
Enhance and Build the Managerial, Administrative, Technical and Marketing Capacities of Five Targeted Producers' Associations in Tubas Governorate	43,605
A replicable model of affordable renewable energy for poor – communities Bethlehem-Palestine	36,212
Building resilience to enhance food security and nutrition of poor families through Practicing Innovative Green Agro-Technologies in Palestine. (PIG)	18,830
Enhance Access to Clean and Safe Drinking Water in Bethlehem, Beit Sahour Beit Jala	15,347
Securing food for poor families through introducing friendly and sustainable agriculture techniques	3,749
Co-finance	136,328
ARIJ	83,400
	2,223,594

Estimated Budget Per Project 2020



Strategic Goals Alliance with Programs-2020 Work Plan

The Sustainable Agriculture Program

Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022	Planned activities for the year 2020
<p>Goal 1: To disseminate information related to sustainable development in Palestine.</p> <p><i>Objective 1.1: To improve dissemination of ARIJ's reports and work to the various stakeholders.</i></p> <p>Goal 5: To contribute in improving the livelihood of the Palestinian society.</p> <p><i>Objective 5.1: To improve food security, agro-practices, marketing procedures, and economic conditions on household, communities and national level.</i></p> <p><i>Objective 5.2: To achieve sustainable management for controlled harvesting of Palestinian economic plant species.</i></p> <p><i>Objective 5.3: To assess the livelihood conditions and opportunities for development at Palestinian localities.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish new cooperation and strengthen the existing partnership and joint activities with the agricultural governmental bodies, research institutes, civil society, UN agencies and international organizations as well as the accessible specialized consortiums and networks. 2. Activate, empower and reactivate the existing partnerships and/or relations with We Effect, CARE International, POLISH CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AID (PCPM), DANCHURCHAID (DCA), ICARDA, Spanish Cooperation, MCC, CFGB, FAO, GEF Small Grant Program, UNDP, UNRWA, EC, SDC, AusAid, GIZ, BMZ-Germany, WFP, Pontifical Mission, United Methodist Church ("Global Ministries"), and PADUCO, etc. 3. Enrich the cooperation and partnership with the governmental bodies by providing and sharing experience with main focus on the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Directorates in the Palestinian Governorates as well as NARC. 4. Support the New Farm Company and Green Palestine Company: by enhancing their socially based and eco-green tools and technologies, also, support the production of healthy and safe products. 5. Applying for funding opportunities, which fit with ARIJ's vision and strategic objectives individually and through partnerships, specialized consortiums unilateral or with partnership. 6. Working closely with the Agriculture Coalition (PAIC) member organizations to empower its role and to institutionalize its structure and catalyzing its role in agricultural sector. <p>Publications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare and publish research papers, fact sheets, operational and management manuals, leaflets and articles in the following fields: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Land use, crop and water management b. Hydroponic/wicking technology for



Goal 4: To promote sound natural resource management

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

Objective 4.3: *To contribute in minimizing the climate change and variability impact by increasing the resilience of vulnerable Palestinian communities.*

Goal 5: To contribute in improving the livelihood of the Palestinian society.

Objective 5.1: *To improve food security, agro-practices, marketing procedures, and economic conditions on household, communities and national level.*

Objective 5.2: *To achieve sustainable management for controlled harvesting of Palestinian economic plant species.*

Objective 5.3: *To assess the livelihood conditions and opportunities for development at Palestinian localities.*

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

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

- food security and better livelihood.
- c. Ecosystems / crop suitability mapping system
- d. Rangeland preservation and improvement practices
- e. Rural socially based enterprises focusing on community benefits, and the involvement of youth and women cooperatives.
- f. Climate Change impact on Crop Water Requirements (CWR) through climatic gridded observations in the Jordan Valley

1. *Focus on the following important and viable research and development topics: poverty alleviation, resilience to food security, improving food security (consumption vs livelihood), climate change (drought mitigation) and adaptation, biodiversity, nature reserves management and biosphere improvement, rangeland protection, adopting environmentally sound agro-practices, conservation agriculture, optimization of water use by crops, rangeland preservation and enhancement, urban agriculture techniques, encouraging the creation of social enterprise models towards community development, studying the value chain of rural agro-food commodities, shift towards safe agriculture and healthy agro-food.*
2. *Studying and innovating different types of composting techniques.*
3. *Continue improving the adoption of hydroponic agriculture techniques for food and feed production.*
4. *Following up the issue of climate change green fund and searching for creating strong consortiums to apply for this funding opportunity.*
5. *Improve the small ruminants' and dairy production value chain.*
6. *Investigating the possibility of applying smart digital agriculture (SDA) - digital way for planning and decision-making.*
7. *Also, adopting new agro-technology to*

	<p>control plant growth in hydro-agriculture systems digitally and smartly, using sensors and wireless connections.</p> <p><i>Continue performing, and accomplishing the ongoing projects: MCC, Telethone, Amenca III (Souqona-phase Two), and WFP-phase one and phase two.</i></p> <p>Inspiring Resource:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage the employees' participation in the specialized workshops and training courses to improve their experiences and know-how in different related topics. 2. Encourage the specialists to participate in the local, regional and international events. 3. Conduct research consultancies and provide training courses. 4. Improve staff experience in queen bees' production techniques, drought mitigation, forest and rangeland management, livestock improvement, find alternative feeds, resource optimization and modelling to ensure the best practices and most feasible approach.
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Natural Resource Management Program

Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022	Planned activities for the year 2020
<p>Goal 1: To collect, analyze and disseminate information related to sustainable development in the Israeli occupied Palestine</p> <p>Objective 1.1: Enhanced accessibility to reliable environmental, socio-economic, and geopolitical information and knowledge in the Israeli occupied Palestine</p> <p>Objective 1.2: Improved dissemination of ARIJ's reports and data to the various stakeholders.</p> <p>Goal 2: To foster initiatives that lead to clean and healthy environment through improving natural resource management in the Israeli occupied Palestine.</p> <p>Objective 2.1: Improved conservation, management, and utilization of land, environment and water resources in the Israeli occupied Palestine.</p>	<p>Funded projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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 improved provision of water and sanitation services in Sa'ir Area in an integrity approach (PWSS)". 3. Access to Safe and Clean Water and Promote Hygiene Practices at Schools in Bethlehem Area <p>Approved projects</p>

<p>Goal 3: To play an active role in advocating for the Palestinian human development and security at local, regional and international levels.</p> <p>Objective 3.1: Increased international community knowledge on the of Palestinian human security level</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Responses to promote access to Adequate sanitation, safer water and Best Knowledge on Hygiene practices (in partnership with Union of Agricultural Work Committees) 2. Produce GEF/SGP OP7country Strategy” SGP 7th Operational Phase Country Programme Strategy Development Process” 3. Towards Better Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Area C and Gaza Strip (in partnership with the Good governance programmer at ARIJ). <p>Proposals at development stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENI CBC MED Programme • European Development Fund “civil society organisations as actors of governance and development work in the field”
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Urbanization Monitoring

Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022	Planned activities for the year 2020
<p>Goal 1: disseminate information related to sustainable development in Palestine.</p> <p>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</p> <p>Objective 7.1: advocate for Palestinian human rights under the prolonged Israeli</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research issues in line with the department goals and project’s (monitoring Israeli settlements activities) objectives 2. Carryout activities of settlement monitoring project 3. Prepare and produce the daily, monthly, and quarterly reports 4. Prepare administrative and technical reports related to the department’s activities 5. Prepare and deliver presentations to stakeholders 6. Write proposals for future projects 7. Write thematic papers and news articles 8. Represent ARIJ at national committees’ meetings, workshops, etc. 9. Prepare statistical pamphlets and hand-outs of issues related to department and projects’ objectives 10. Research and organize meetings/ focus groups, etc. on the “Two State solution” proposal and produce researched papers and anticipated scenarios and future



	<p>developments and it's the impacts on the overall peace process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Prepare, print and publish posters, maps, Info graphics of relation to department and projects' objectives 12. Solicit an external evaluation for the project in line with the project activities
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Information Technology Program

Strategic Goals and Objectives Strategy 2018-2022	Planned activities for the year 2020
<p>Goal 1: disseminate information related to sustainable development in Palestine. Objective 1.1: <i>improve dissemination of ARIJ's reports and work to the various stakeholders.</i></p> <p>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: <i>advocate for Palestinian human rights under the prolonged Israeli occupation.</i></p> <p>Goal 8: adapt ARIJ managerial performance to local and international standards. Objective 8.1: <i>enhance the performance of ARIJ Administrative Committee (AC) & General Assembly (GA)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue working on the implementation of the project submitted to 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 be monitored and coordinated by the IT program. 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. 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 2020
<p>Goal 2: promote good governance and democracy in Palestine.</p> <p>Objective 2.1: <i>promote inclusive and accountable decision-making.</i></p> <p>Objective 2.2: <i>promote effective public service delivery and government responsibility.</i></p> <p>Objective 2.3: <i>promote equitable civic participation and voice.</i></p> <p>Objective 2.4: <i>promote government fair policies and openness.</i></p> <p>Objective 2.5: <i>increase women and youth participation in economic development.</i></p>	<p>Funded Projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Third year of “Enhancing Local Authorities' contribution to governance and development processes in Palestine” funded by the EU. 2. Fifth year of the strategic partnership “Finance for Development” funded by Oxfam International. 3. First year of “Towards Inclusive and Just Cooperative Sector in the West Bank” funded by We Effect. 4. First 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 Conference Papers

- Issa Zboun, Aseel Bader and Jane Hilal, 2019. “Assessing the economic and environmental impacts of the restrictions imposed by the Israeli occupation on the movement of Palestinian citizens between Palestinian cities and villages, including Jerusalem” submitted to "Green Life Practices, Models and Climate Change" conference held by Environmental Education Centre in Bethlehem.
- Elias Abu Mohor and Jane Hilal, 2019. "The Promotion of an integrated and sustainable wastewater management system "Wadi Al Arroub Wastewater Treatment Plant (Case Study)" Presented in the Fifth Annual Conference Towards Integration in Fields of Water and Energy", organized by Union of Palestinian Water service providers in Palestine (UPWSP)
- Elias Abu Mohor, 2019. Scientific Paper entitled: “Persistence of MCPA in three Mediterranean soils amended with fresh and composted two-phase olive mill waste”. Presented in “The Fourth International Conference on Olive in Palestine” . Organized by: The Palestine Technical University Kadoorei (PTU)/Location: Tulkarm.
- Jane Hilal and Jad Isaac, 2019. “Opportunities and Challenges of Palestinian Development actions in Area C” International Conference held by Birzeit University

- Munif Doudin. 2019. “Developing Bee Queens production in Palestine”, organized by the NARC in Ramallah.

4.2 Leaflets

- Good Governance Program (2019). Abu dis Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Bani Na'im Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Beitunia Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Halhul Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Howwara Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). As-Samu Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Ya'bad Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Qabalan Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Sebastia Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Qalqilya Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Silat ad-Dhahr Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Zababdeh Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Tarqumiya Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Biddu Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Deir Istiya Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Deir Ballout Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Deir Debwan Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Salfit Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Anabta Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Kafr Thulth Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Beit Sahour Municipality Citizens Budget 2019
- Good Governance Program (2019). Financial Leaflets for Cooperatives' Members.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Readable Cooperative's Budget
- Sustainable Agriculture Program (2019). One leaflet about infectious diseases in sheep and goat were produced and distributed on DCA project's beneficiaries within targeted areas.
- Sustainable Agriculture Program (2019). Wicking bed management leaflet covering wicking bed structure, operation, cultivation and crop management (diseases, pest and fertilization).

4.3 Monthly & Quarterly Reports

- Water and Environment Research Department (2019). One Quarterly progress reports and Final report for *Towards improved provision of water and sanitation services in Samir Area in an integrity approach (PWSS)*”.
- Water and Environment Research Department (2019). One Quarterly progress reports and Final report for the project entitled “*Access to Safe and Clean Water and Promote Hygiene Practices at Schools in Bethlehem Area*”
- Water and Environment Research Department (2019). One annual report for the project entitled “*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”

• اوامر عسكرية جديدة ضد البيئة الفلسطينية واستنزاف مواردها الطبيعية

- Citizen Card results report assessing the perceptions about the problems associated with the existing practices of water and sanitation services at Sa’ir Locality.
- Assessment of the provision system of water and sanitation services in Samir Municipality Report
- Assessment of Water Quality in Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour areas” report
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – January 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – February 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – March 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – April 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – May 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – June 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – July 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – August 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – September 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – October 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – November 2019
- Monitoring Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine – December 2019
- Israeli settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine during the 1st Quarter of 2019, (January – March) / 2019
- Israeli settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine during the 2nd Quarter of 2019, (April – June) / 2019
- Israeli settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine during the 3rd Quarter of 2019, (July – September) / 2019
- Israeli settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine during the 4th Quarter of 2019, (October – December) / 2019



4.4 Special Reports

- Good Governance Program (2019). Ministry of Labor Budget Factsheet.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Ministry of Labor 2020 participatory Vocational Training, Employment, and Cooperative Program budget report.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Ministry of Local Governance Budget Factsheet.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Ministry of Local Governance 2020 participatory Local Authorities' Empowerment Program budget report.
- Urbanization Monitoring (2019). What is the impact of Israeli land policies and the settlement industry in the West Bank?
- Urbanization Monitoring (2019). Base Report: Israeli settlement activities during the year 2019”.
- Urbanization Monitoring (2019). The Bedouin Question and the Geo-political Implications of a Right of Return to the Negev.
- Urbanization Monitoring and GIS Department (2019). ASSESSING THE IMPACTS OF ISRAELI MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS ON THE MOBILITY OF PEOPLE AND GOODS IN THE WEST BANK 2019

4.5 Info-graphs links

- A record of Israeli violations of The Human Rights Charter in Palestine
<http://poica.org/2019/12/info-graph-a-record-of-israeli-violations-of-the-human-rights-charter-in-palestine/>
- Israeli Settlement Activities during 2019
<http://poica.org/2019/12/info-graph-israeli-settlement-activities-during-2019/>
- The Annual Cost of the Israeli Occupation on The Palestinian Economy
<http://poica.org/2019/10/info-graph-the-annual-cost-of-the-israeli-occupation-on-the-palestinian-economy/>
- The Geopolitics of Area C
<http://poica.org/2019/09/infographic-the-geopolitics-of-area-c/>
- Contrast of Population Density in the occupied Palestinian Territory
<http://poica.org/2019/08/info-graph-contrast-of-population-density-in-the-occupied-palestinian-territory/>
- Confiscated Palestinian Land during the period of 1967 & 2018
<http://poica.org/2019/07/info-graph-confiscated-palestinian-land-during-the-period-of-1967-2018/>
- Manipulating the Demography of occupied East Jerusalem “The Construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall”
<http://poica.org/2019/04/info-graph-manipulating-the-demography-of-occupied-east-jerusalem-the-construction-of-the-israeli-segregation-wall/>
- Expansion in Israeli Settlements built-up area during the period of 1992 & 2018
<http://poica.org/2019/03/info-graph-expansion-in-israeli-settlements-built-up-area-during-the-period-of-1992-2018/>

4.6 Posters

- Nine water, sanitation and hygiene practices posters to teach about good WASH practices”
- One poster about infectious diseases in sheep and goat were produced and distributed on DCA project’s beneficiaries within targeted areas.
- "The geopolitical Status of occupied State of Palestine " poster prepared in September 2019
- Urbanization Monitoring (2019). Poster for Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Jericho, Jerusalem, Nablus, Qalqilya, Ramallah, Salfit, Tubas and Tulkarem Governorates.

4.7 Brochure

- Two water, sanitation and hygiene practices Brochures,
- Brochure on rangeland management: This brochure focused on the general information about rangeland management in Palestine.

4.8 Guides and Manuals Project Related

- Good Governance Program (2019). Ministry of Labor Citizens' Budget Guide
- Good Governance Program (2019). Ministry of Local Governance Citizens’ Budget Guide
- Sustainable Agriculture Program (2019). Many of training materials about good farm management, breeds improvement and sheep and goat diseases were printed and distributed on the farmers at the targeted localities.
- Sustainable Agriculture Program (2019). Rangeland manual: This manual focused on the methods and procedures to be used by the rangers from the MoA

4.9 Social Media

- 1 Radio advertisement spots about water conservation messages
- 1 TV episode about water conservation messages
- Facebook posts and videos regarding water conservation and Hygiene practices the awareness campaign implemented activities in Bethlehem schools
- 5 Awareness Facebook posts on ARIJ social media in regard to climate change and environmental protection
- Good Governance Program (2019). Financial Transparency Index Website. www.fti.arij.org
- Good Governance Program (2019). Testimonial Video: Right to Health Public Campaign.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Documentation Video: Right to Health Public Campaign.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Influencers Video: Right to Health Public Campaign.
- Good Governance Program (2019). Social Media Campaign about the Cooperative Sector Targeted at Youth.

الملخص التنفيذي

في عام 2019 ، واصل معهد الأبحاث التطبيقية القدس (أريج) إيصال رسالته نحو تعزيز التنمية المستدامة في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة. وتهدف هذه الرسالة إلى زيادة اعتماد الشعب الفلسطيني على نفسه من خلال سيطرة أكبر على موارده الطبيعية. واصلت أريج لعب دور رئيسي كمؤسسة وطنية وأحدث تأثيرات كبيرة من خلال كوادره المؤهلة تأهيلاً عالياً والخبرة المتراكمة في مجالات الزراعة المستدامة والمياه ومعالجة مياه الصرف الصحي والبيئة والطاقة المتجددة والتمكين الاقتصادي والحكم الرشيد والبحث والتطوير، بالإضافة إلى مراقبة النشاطات الاستيطانية وتقنية المعلومات ونظم المعلومات الجغرافية

وشهد هذا العام تنفيذ العديد من التدخلات الزراعية التي ساهمت في تحسين إدارة الموارد الطبيعية المتاحة والمتواجدة والإنتاج الزراعي ولاسيما تحسين الظروف الاجتماعية والاقتصادية للمزارعين. وقد أسفر تكامل البحوث التطبيقية اعتماد ممارسات زراعية مبتكرة وسليمة مبنية عن عدة نماذج للتنمية الزراعية الناجحة والمجدية والمستدامة لمزيد من التفصيل كما هو مبين في قسم برنامج الزراعة المستدامة من هذا التقرير. وفي العام 2019 تمكن برنامج الزراعة المستدامة SAP من تنفيذ تدخلات زراعية مختلفة استفاد منها 695 أسرة ريفية مهمشة و25 امرأة وجمعيات تعاونية زراعية موزعة في 51 تجمع في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة. ونود التنويه بأنه تم تنفيذ الأنشطة من خلال منهجية متمثلة بالشفافية والمشاركة البناءة مع المعنيين و بشكل رئيسي بالتعاون مع وزارة الزراعة. ومن خلال البرنامج تمت تغطية الأنشطة المتعلقة بإدارة الموارد الطبيعية وقطاع الزراعة والتعاونيات بالتعاون مع الشباب والنساء في إنشاء مشاريع مريحة في هذا المجال. وقد عقد فريق برنامج الزراعة المستدامة 125 اجتماعاً تنسيقياً وأجرى 2254 زيارة ميدانية للأنشطة المتعلقة بالمستفيدين بالإضافة إلى 112 دورة تدريبية وتوعوية.

واصل قسم أبحاث المياه والبيئة تنفيذ الأنشطة المتعلقة بتطوير وتعزيز محطة العروب لمعالجة مياه الصرف الصحي في منطقة سعير باستخدام تكنولوجيا الحمأة المنشطة. وكذلك تطوير وعرض الأدوات والوسائل المالية المبتكرة وخطط الإدارة الشاملة التي أدت إلى تقليل التكاليف التشغيلية لمعالجة مياه الصرف الصحي. ومن المشاريع الأخرى التي تم تنفيذها في منطقة سعير تعزيز إدارة المياه لتحسين توفير خدمات المياه والصرف الصحي على مستويات مختلفة من المجتمع من خلال تحسين المسؤولية الاجتماعية وتدابير المساءلة التي اتخذتها بلدية سعير في مجال إدارة المياه العامة.

كما نفذ القسم مشاريع مختلفة تتعلق بتعزيز الوصول إلى مياه الشرب النظيفة والأمنة وتحسين مرافق الصرف الصحي من خلال إعادة تأهيل الآبار المنزلية. علاوة على ذلك، شارك القسم في العديد من ورش العمل التدريبية الإقليمية والدولية التي تغطي مواضيع الدقة والرقابة التشغيلية وإدارة عمليات معالجة مياه الصرف الصحي، وفرص وتحديات إعادة استخدام المياه العادمة المعالجة في الزراعة وإدارة المياه.

وفيما يتعلق بالوضع على الصعيد الجيوسياسي، واصل فريق العمل في معهد أريج على مراقبة ورصد جميع الأنشطة الاستيطانية الإسرائيلية في دولة فلسطين المحتلة، وتقديم خدمة توفير المعلومات لدعم منظمات المجتمع المحلي والمنظمات الوطنية من خلال توفير البيانات الإحصائية والتقارير والخرائط والسجلات الجغرافية لأغراض متنوعة. ونجح فريق العمل في اعداد ونشر 579 حالة دراسية و 365 تقريراً يومياً و 12 تقريراً شهرياً و 4 تقارير ربع سنوية. هذا وقد تم من خلال التدخلات تنفيذ 174 زيارة إلى مواقع (رحلات ميدانية) في الضفة الغربية وجمع 265 امرا عسكريا و 399 مقابلة إذاعية وتلفزيونية و 67 مقالة صحفية و 61

عرضا و3 تقارير خاصة و 11 كتيبا و 6 رسوم بيانية و 12000 ملصقا. جميع التقارير والمواد المنتجة منشورة على الموقع الإلكتروني الخاص بمراقبة الانتهاكات الإسرائيلية (poica.org) والتي سجلت بما يقارب 16 مليون زيارة للموقع.

ومن ناحية أخرى فقد واصل برنامج الحكم الرشيد جهوده لضمان التوافق على الأولويات السياسية والاجتماعية والاقتصادية في المجتمع الفلسطيني من خلال تشجيع الحكم الرشيد والتركيز على ان يتم مشاركة المواطنين بما في ذلك الفقراء والمهمشين في عملية صنع القرار بشأن تخصيص موارد التنمية تبعا لاستراتيجية المعهد للأعوام 2018 - 2022. وفي العام 2019، وصل برنامج الحكم الرشيد إلى أكثر من 20,389 مستفيد في 42 منطقة في الضفة الغربية نصفهم تقريبا من الإناث. وللعام الثامن على التوالي عمل برنامج الحكم الرشيد على تحسين ممارسات الحكم الرشيد بين البلديات و الجمعيات التعاونية والوزارات والمنظمات المجتمعية. وفي عام 2019 نفذ برنامج الحكم الرشيد 88 زيارة ميدانية للجمعيات التعاونية و 150 زيارة إلى البلديات و 10 زيارات إلى الوزارات و5 زيارات إلى مجالس الخدمات المشتركة. علاوة على ذلك، واصل البرنامج العمل على مؤشر الشفافية المالية (FTI) اعتباراً من عام 2018. وعملت مبادرة FTI كألية لتحسين الوصول إلى المعلومات وشفافية وثائق الميزانية المحلية في 30 بلدية مستهدفة، والتي تتعلق بالهدف 16 من أهداف التنمية المستدامة: السلام والعدالة والمؤسسات القوية. وتم تنفيذ العديد من التدخلات في إطار مبادرة FTI وهي: إصدار "موازنات المواطنين لعام 2019"، الدعم الفني لزيادة الشفافية المالية، والمبادرات الصغيرة من قبل المنظمات المجتمعية لتحسين الميزانية ومحو الأمية المالية بين المواطنين.

كما دعم البرنامج 10 تعاونيات لتطوير الخطط الاستراتيجية وخطط الوصول إلى الشباب وكذلك تطوير حملة توعية موجهة للشباب حول القطاع التعاوني. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تم تنظيم حملة باسم "الصحة حق وبن ما كان" تم إنشاؤها بالتعاون مع "مفتاح" و "أمان" بهدف جمع 50 ألف توقيع من المواطنين الفلسطينيين للضغط على وزارة المالية لزيادة المخصصات النقدية في ميزانية وزارة الصحة

على صعيد التشبيك والتعاون فقد قام المعهد ببناء وتطوير علاقات قوية مع العديد من المؤسسات والمنظمات غير الحكومية الدولية والإقليمية والفلسطينية فعلى سبيل المثال في عام 2019، تم توقيع مذكرة تفاهم بين معهد أريج والجهاز المركزي للإحصاء الفلسطيني الذي يعكس التعاون المشترك والمتبادل بين الفريقين كل فيما يخصه لتوفير بيانات واستشارات وخبرات ومهارات فنية في مجال الخرائط وتطبيق نظم المعلومات الجغرافية.

بالإضافة إلى ذلك، وقع معهد أريج اتفاقية مع محافظة بيت لحم بهدف جعل محافظة بيت لحم محافظة مستدامة وخضراء وذكية بحلول العام 2030. وتشمل التدخلات بموجب هذه الاتفاقية على سبيل المثال لا الحصر تحديث القاعدة المعلوماتية المحوسبة (الإلكترونية) لدليل تجمعات بيت لحم، وإعادة التخصير بالتعاون والتنسيق مع وزارة الزراعة للمناطق الرعوية والحرجية وخاصة الأراضي الواقعة شرق المحافظة. وتشمل التدخلات الأخرى وضع أسس ومنهجيات سليمة من خلال التعاون والتنسيق مع سلطة جودة البيئة وسلطة الطاقة والمصادر الطبيعية للوصول لتشجيع استخدام الطاقة البديلة والحفاظ على نظافة البيئة في المحافظة. مع العلم بان المعهد يواصل نشر المعلومات محليا ودوليا على جميع المستويات من خلال نشر المقالات والتقارير والكتيبات والدراسات حالة والملصقات ورسومات توضيحية وخرائط وتقارير يومية وشهرية وتفصيلية وغيرها.

ومن حيث تطوير النظام الداخلي لمعهد الأبحاث التطبيقية - القدس (أريج) فقد تم استحداث قسم الرقابة الداخلية للإشراف بشكل اساسي على إجراءات الرقابة الداخلية و اجراء التدقيق الداخلي اللازم والذي يرفع تقاريره ويتواصل مباشر إلى الهيئة الإدارية. بالإضافة إلى ذلك يعمل المعهد على مراجعة كتيباته وسياسته المتعلقة بالإفصاح عن الممارسات الخاطئة في مكان العمل

بالإضافة الى تطوير سياسة الحماية الاجتماعية للموظفين والمستفيدين على حد سواء.

وأخيرا فان قوة معهد أريج تتبع من روح التعاون وحسن النوايا والقضية المشتركة التي يؤمن بها كافة موظفي المعهد وهيئته الإدارية وجميعته العمومية على حد سواء بالإضافة الى الجهات المانحة والشركاء. وأخيرا وليس آخرا، فان الأنشطة والبرامج المخطط لتنفيذها من قبل المعهد للعام 2020 وعلى سبيل المثال لا الحصر ستتركز في الاستمرار في البحث عن فرص تمويل للمشاريع بالإضافة الى أي فرص بحثية جديدة تتعلق بالتطوير والمبادرة والابتكار نحو فلسطين مستدامة بما يتماشى مع أهداف التنمية المستدامة.

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