

**UNDP**  
**Socio Economic Rehabilitation Programme for South Lebanon**

**DEIR MIMAS VILLAGE PROFILE**

**1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Deir Mimas is a village located in the district of Marjeyoun. The name Deir Mimas is related to Deir Mima a monastery in village, which means mountainous in old Sirianic.

Deir Mimas is around 105 kilometres away from Beirut and around 12 kilometres from the centre of the Caza' Deir Mimas is characterized by a moderate climate. Its elevation is around 600 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 700 millimetres.

The village is distinguished by its mountainous character and red soil suitable for the cultivation of olives and fruit trees.

**2. POPULATION**

The village inhabitants witnessed internal displacement, by which around 2000 villagers were displaced to other parts of the country especially to Beirut. Additionally, a number of the village inhabitants around 2000 migrated to countries such as USA, Canada, Germany, Mexico and the Arab Gulf states

There are 800 residents in the winter in the village, while the number rises to around 1500 people during the summer. The number of registered voters is around 2890 voters, as estimated during the 2010 summer elections.

*2.1 Labour Force*

Labour force participation in Deir Mimas is 35 % of the total resident population of the village.

Unemployment in Deir Mimas is around 8 %. The economic status of the population has severely declined, as many citizens have lost their jobs and have become unemployed due to many challenges such as the lack of security and the instability in the area.

Many of the young people are either employed or engaged in professions located in Deir Mimas or in close neighbourhoods. As for the working women, they participate in agricultural work of the village especially during the harvesting of olives, in addition to a few who occupy positions in the educational sector in Deir Mimas or nearby villages.

**3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES**

*3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR*

Around 60 % of Deir Mimas areas are considered as cultivated land, and there are around 300 farmers working in the sector.

Table 1 shows the different types of rain-fed and irrigated open-cultivated vegetables in Deir Mimas. The most common cultivated product within this area are olives, grains, pomegranate, cactus, walnuts and citrus fruits.

**Table 1: Agricultural Products**

Products	Cultivated areas (in dunums)
<b>Olives</b>	95
<b>pomegranate</b>	12
<b>Grains (wheat, barley, lentils and humus)</b>	100
<b>walnuts</b>	20
<b>Citrus fruits</b>	75

Deir Mimas also produces a range of agro-foods that are traded with neighbouring villages, and some is sent to Beirut. The different types of Agro- productions are as follows:

- Olive Oil
- Jams
- Pickles
- Kiksh
- Dairy products and cheese

There are some problems facing the agricultural sector in Deir Mimas such as:

- Diseases that hits olive trees.
- The lack of proper and adequate agricultural roads.

### 3.2 *LIVESTOCK*

Residents in Deir Mimas have the following livestock resources (See Table 2).

**Table 2: Livestock in Deir Mimas**

Cows	Beehives	Chicken farms	Goats
20 heads	150 hives	3 free range egg farms	300 heads

### 3.3 *CRAFTS AND TRADE SECTORS*

There are several craft and trade activities in Deir Mimas, mainly in painting, aluminium, carpeting, and concrete carpeting (see Table 3).

**Table 3: Crafts and Trades**

<b>Profession</b>	<b>Number of Workers or institutions</b>
<b>Concrete carpenter</b>	3 people
<b>Carpenter</b>	1 person
<b>Painters</b>	4 people
<b>Sanitary</b>	3 people
<b>Electricity</b>	3 people
<b>Supermarket</b>	1 supermarket
<b>Broidery</b>	2 people

#### **4. EDUCATION**

100 % of the school children had primary education; students in Deir Mimas are mostly enrolled in the schools of Marjeyoun.

#### **5. HEALTH STATUS**

Deir Mimas health facilities are limited, as there is no governmental or private health centre. However, there is one health clinic in the village which belong to Al Najda Al Shaabiya and which provides services related to general medicine and health.

#### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Deir Mimas relies on springs for the irrigation of the cultivated land. ; Solid wastes are usually collected in one placed far from the village. However, these wastes are usually burned without treatments to the hazards emitted and with no considerations to the environments.

#### **7. RELATIONSHIPS WITH NEARBY VILLAGES AND IMMIGRANTS**

Deir Mimas has built trade relationships with Beirut to market its olives and olive oil production.

As for the remittances of the immigrants, they have been mainly invested in construction in the village.

There is a significant numbers of intermarriages between the inhabitants of Deir Mimas and those of the neighbouring villages.

#### **8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES**

Deir Mimas is governed by a municipal council which was founded in 1952, and is currently administrated by 15 members elected by the locals of the area. The council is assisted by several committees composed of locals from the village. There are also 5 contracted and 1

permanent employees working in the municipality. The municipal council owns a permanent headquarters.

Additionally, Deir Mimas has a number of local institutions dealing with social matters in the village, they are:

- Women's Committee of Deir Mimas.
- Council for Lebanese Women.
- Women's Club.
- Orthodox Women.