

## NAQOURA VILLAGE PROFILE

### 1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Naqoura is a village located in the district of Tyre a city in the Southern Governorate of Lebanon (one of the eight governorates). It is around 100 kilometres away from Beirut. Naqoura is characterized by a moderate climate; its elevation is around 100 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 600-700 mm.

Naqoura is bordered by Al Bayada to the north, the Mediterranean to the west, Al Alma to the east, and the occupied Palestinian territory to the South.

The village is distinguished by its red soil suitable for the cultivation of citrus plants.

### 2. POPULATION

The total population of Naqoura is around 4150. The village inhabitants witnessed internal displacement, by which around 1200 villagers were displaced to other parts of the country as a result of war or internal conflicts. Additionally, a number of the village inhabitants around 500 migrated to countries such as Europe, Canada, and Germany (See Table 1).

There are 2450 inhabitants in the village all over the year. The number of registered voters is around 2180 voters (as estimates were reflected during the summer 2010 municipal elections).

**Table 1: Distribution of Population**

Population	Number	In Percent
Residents	2450	59.0
Displaced	1200	28.9
Migrants	500	12.1
Total	4150	100.0

#### 2.1 Age Groups

The distribution of the population by age groups in Naqoura is as follows: 47.46 percent are less than 21 years, 49.51 percent are between 15 - 64 years, and 3 percent are 65 years and older (See Table 2).

**Table 2: Distribution of Population by Age Groups**

Age Group	Number	In Percent
Under 21	1970	47.5
Between 21-65	2055	49.5
Above 65	125	3.0
Total	4150	100.0

## 2.2 Labour Force

The labour force in Naqoura accounts for 25 % of the total resident population of the village.

Working women participate in selling clothes and teaching. Additionally, many of the young people in the village are contracted with the UN Interim Force as to fill specific professions. Unemployment in Naqoura is around 15 percent, as most of the young generation are unemployed due to the fact that they lack the skills and capabilities to perform any type of work. This deficiency is the result from the previous Israeli occupation of the area.

The distribution of the labour force by economic activity is as follows:

- Agriculture (10%) such citrus, banana and lemon.
- Fishing (80%)
- Skilled workers and crafts (2%)
- Government Employees Sector, mainly in the security forces or the military (5%)

## 3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

### 3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Naqoura lies on a total area of about 38000 dunums of which 1000 dunums are considered arable land, 1000 dunums are cultivated land, and with around 37000 of non-arable land (See table 3).

**Table 3: Land use**

Land use	Area (in dunums)
Outlying area of the village	38000
Area of arable land	1000
Cultivated land	1000
Areas of non-arable land	37000

Around 100 workers take part in the agricultural sector. The most common cultivated products within this area are citrus fruits and bananas.

The field survey shows that there are prominent problems facing the agricultural sector in Naqoura such as:

- Lack of arable land.
- The high costs of production and cultivation of citrus fruits, in terms of high prices of labour, fertilizers and pesticides.

### 3.2 CRAFTS AND TRADE SECTORS

There are several craft and trade activities in Naqoura (Table 4).

**Table 4: Crafts and Trades**

<b>Profession</b>	<b>Number of Workers or institutions</b>
Concrete carpenter	4 institutions
Carpenter	4 people
Industrial Smith	2 people
Painters	3 people
Tiling	1 person
Sanitary	3 people
Electricity	3 people
Baker	3 people
Barber	8 people
Aluminium	2 people
Car Mechanics	2 people
Oil changing	1 person
Cellular shops and fixing	1 person
Tool shops	2 shops
Restaurants	3 restaurants
Children Clothing shops	4 shops

#### **4. EDUCATION**

100 % of children have completed elementary school. The children of Naqoura attend elementary school at their village and move to Tyre and Alma Al Shaab for the attainment of primary education.

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

Naqoura health facilities are limited. There is one health clinic that belongs to the Ministry of Social Affairs which provides general checkups, vaccinations and medicines in the village.

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

Naqoura's environmental conditions are affected by several problems and challenges. The village relies on one artesian well for the irrigation of the cultivated fields, for both the provision of drinking water and irrigation services. Naqoura faces a problem of wastewater management due to the absence of proper public sewages. Solid wastes of the emergency forces are usually collected in one place and then burned.

Additionally, the village is faced by the pollution emitted by the emergency forces in the landfills.

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

Naqoura has built trade relationships with the neighbouring villages and businesses, and relies on them to discharge and market most of its fishing produce. Additionally, some of the fish is used by three available restaurants at Naqoura.

Additionally, the field survey shows that there are inter marriages between Naqoura and the neighbouring villages and towns.

As to the role of the immigrants, the remittances sent to their families in the village have not been invested in construction but has been used as a source of support to boost the income of their relatives.

## **8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES**

Naqoura is governed by a municipal council which was founded in 1966, and is currently administrated by 12 members elected by the locals of the area. The council is assisted by several committees composed of locals from the village. There are also 3 permanent and 2 contracted employees working in the municipality. The municipal council owns a permanent headquarters.

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

- Agricultural Cooperative Association.
- Islamic Scouting Association.
- Association of the Mahdi Scouts.