

## **YAROUN VILLAGE PROFILE**

### **1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Yaroun is a village located in the district of Bint Jbeil, a city in the Southern Governorate Nabatieh (one of the eight governorates). It is around 126 kilometres away from Beirut, and around 0.7 kilometres from the centre of the Caza'. Yaroun is characterized by a moderate climate. Its elevation is around 780 meters above sea level with an average annual rainfall of 600- 700 mm. The total area of Yaroun is estimated at 15.18 square km.

### **2. POPULATION**

The total population of Yaroun is around 7500. Around 65% of the villagers emigrated from Lebanon. Immigrants from Yaroun are mainly found in countries such as North and South America and Australia.

There are 2000 inhabitants all year long in the village, except in the summer where the number of village inhabitants rises to around 4000 people. The number of registered voters is around 3500 voters, of which 1000 voted in the 2010 elections.

#### *2.1 Labour Force*

Unemployment in Yaroun is very high reaching around 50 percent. Agriculture absorbs 25 per cent of the labour force, while 10 per cent are employees. Most of the population relies on the assistance sent by immigrants.

### **3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES**

#### *3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR*

Most of the agricultural land in Yaroun is either neglected or leased to farmers from neighbouring towns. This is because of the minimal number of people working in this sector. Recently some attempts were made to cultivate olives in the village. Yaroun does not have any agro-industry.

#### *3.2 LIVESTOCK*

Some of the residents in Yaroun are breeding animals such as goats (4 goat herds), and cows (15 heads).

### **4. EDUCATION**

100 % of the school children had primary education.

It is important to highlight that the official school in the village is closed, therefore the villagers send their children to neighbouring villages of Bint Jbeil Caza'.

## **5. HEALTH STATUS**

Yaroun health facilities are limited; there is a charity health clinic run by the nuns. However, in cases of emergencies the residents go to Bint Jbeil.

## **6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Yaroun suffers from a drinking water crisis. Drinking water is given for only 24 hours per week. Yaroun relies also on the collection of water from rains.

Additionally, the village is faced by a problem of wastewater management and the absence of a public sewage network.

Solid wastes are usually collected in one place and then burned without treatments to the hazards emitted and with no considerations to the environments.

## **7. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES**

Yaroun is governed by a municipal council, 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 1 contracted employee working in the municipality. The municipal council owns a permanent headquarters.