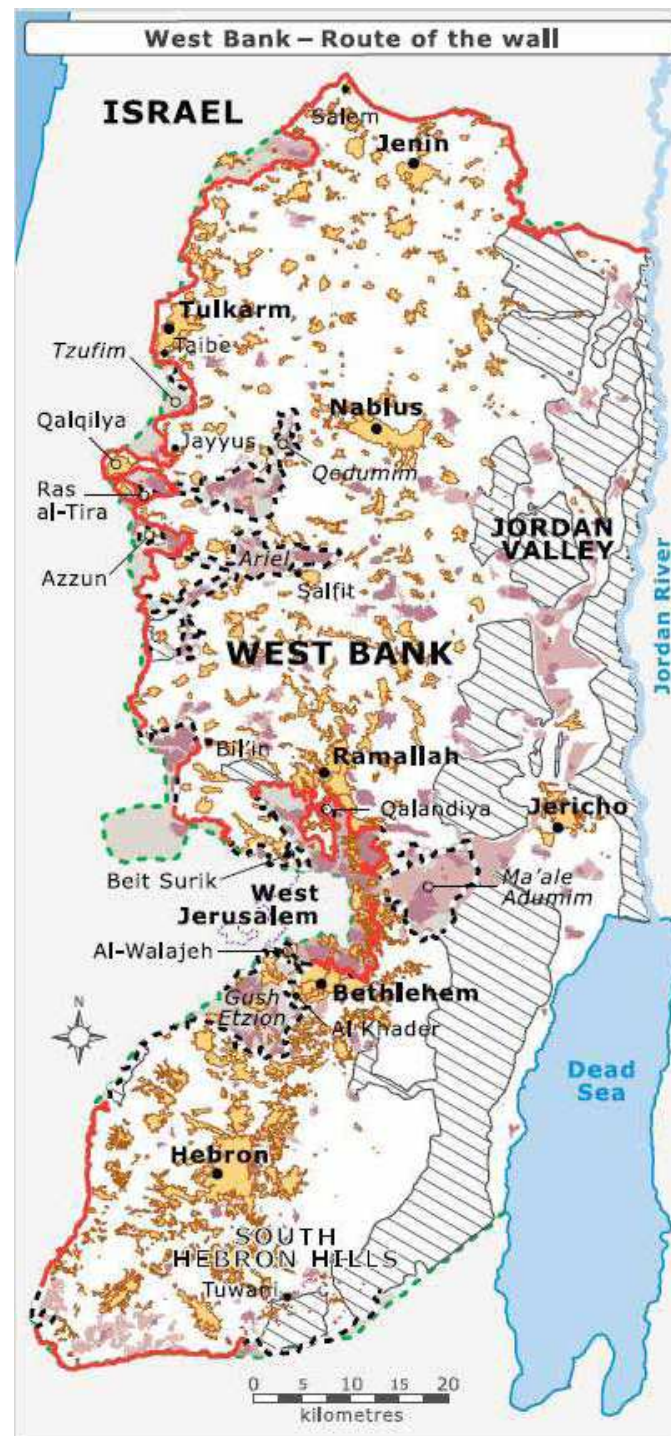
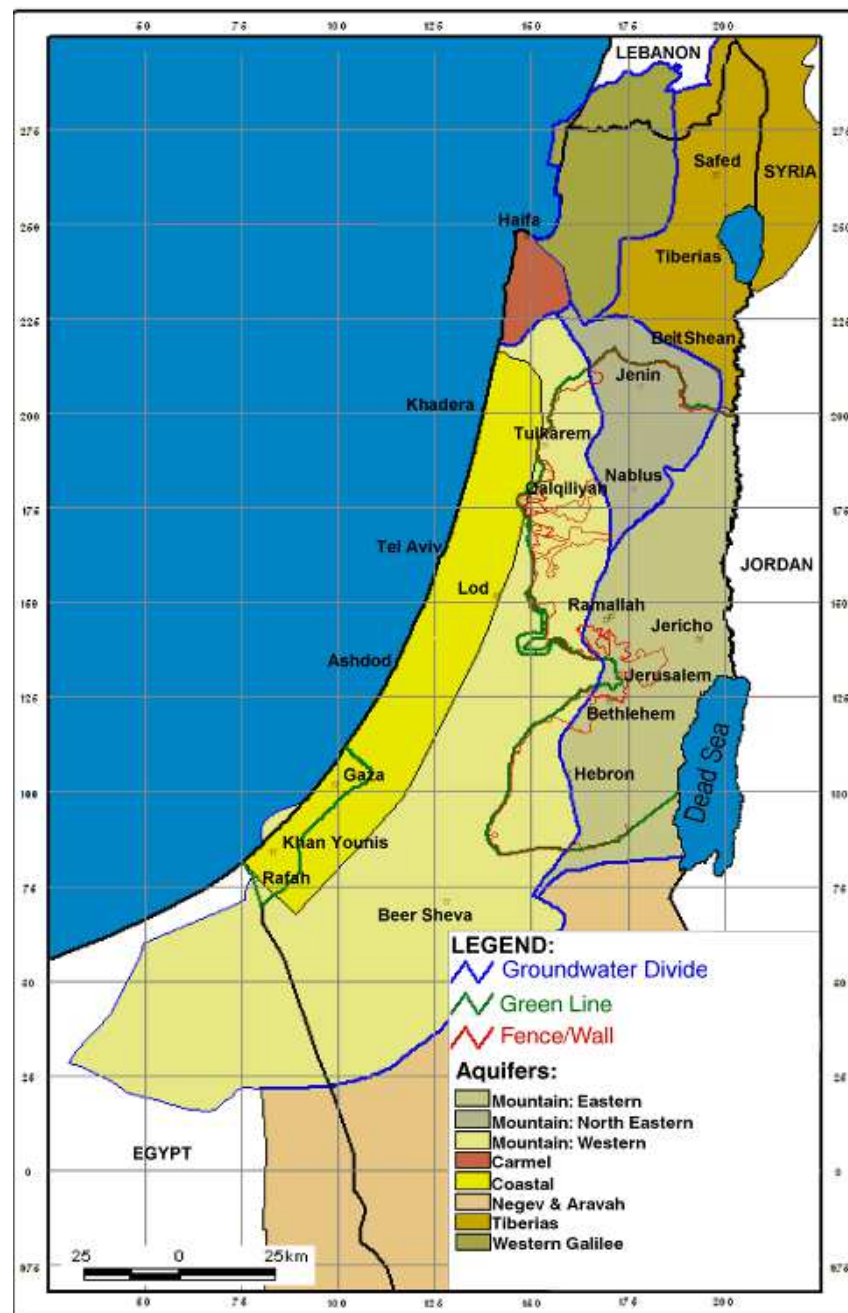


# Environmental Injustice in Palestine

## Facts and Figures

Abeer AL Butmeh  
PENGON-FoE Palestine  
[www.pengon.org](http://www.pengon.org)

- What does it mean to enter “occupied” land? It means that we enter a territory inhabited by two kinds of people. One group consists of 450,000 West Bank Jewish settlers who have all possible rights and protection from Israeli national institutions. The other group is comprised of West Bank 2.6 million Palestinians, stateless people, who are denied most basic human rights: to work, to study, to a free movement, to health care, to ownership of their property.



# Our Rights in Land



Our first stop is AL Walaja **village**, just south of Jerusalem. One cannot see happy faces here. Nearly each house is threatened with a demolition order from the Jerusalem municipality, and we can see hundreds of agricultural donoums had been controlled under Israel, and had been separated by the huge wall





**1.5 million tree have been uprooted for the Apartheid Wall and its seem zone**



**Many of the trees are protected under international cultural heritage laws, as they are hundreds of years old**





**Thousands of dunums were burned. In this village alone (Qufeen & Aqaba) 40,000 tree was burned.**















# Pollution Caused by settlers

## 1. Solid waste



- The 450,000 Israeli settlers living in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, generate 500 tons/day of solid waste.
- Around 80% of the solid waste generated by Israeli settlers living in the West Bank is dumped at Palestinian lands and dumping sites, whereas the remaining 20% is dumped at dumping site located inside Israel

# Solid waste from Borkan near Al Mawti Spring







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هذا المشهد في منطقة وادي الوعر في صحراء بني نعيم ... وهو عبارة عن غطاء سميك من الإسمنت المموه بما يشبه الصخر وضع فيه براغ.  
ويغلق هذا الغطاء كهفا كبيرا، يقول سكان المنطقة بأنه مكب للنفايات النووية

الطفل بلال - سرطان في العيون منذ الولادة



مازن ابن الأربعة عشر - تشوه خلقي



مصابة بسرطان المثانة وتساقط الشعر





## **The Pressure Added on the Palestinian Environment from the Wastewater Management Practices in the Israeli settlements**

- The 450,000 Israeli settlers living in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, generate annually 37.6 MCM of wastewater.
- This can be compared to that generated by Palestinians living in the West Bank which is 29.5 MCM.
- Most of the generated wastewater in the Israeli settlements is discharged untreated into the nearby wadis and Palestinian lands





# Downstream from Ariel settlement wastewater pipe





*untreated sewage*

إن عدم تنفيذ إسرائيل للاتفاقيات المعقودة مع السلطة الوطنية الفلسطينية وعدم انسحابها من الأراضي الفلسطينية يدفع بالمستوطنين لاستخدام كل الطرق الذين يرونها مناسبة للتخلص من النفايات الصلبة على حساب الأراضي الفلسطينية سواء بالحرق أو بالدفن أو تهريب المواد الخطرة السامة من المصانع الإسرائيلية إلى الأراضي الفلسطينية.

*Wadis of untreated sewage*

Wadi Qana settlement



Land Research Center



# Wastewater flow from Araeil settlement





# **Wastewater Stream Flowing from Barqan Israeli Industrial Zone in Salfit District**





**Burkan Factory**





# **TROUBLED WATER – PALESTINIANS DENIED FAIR ACCESS TO WATER**



## SURFACE WATER IN PALESTINE



# CONTROL

Israel retains control over all sources of water in the West Bank and retains significant control over water resources in Gaza

Israel extracts close to 90 per cent of the water from the aquifer underneath the West Bank

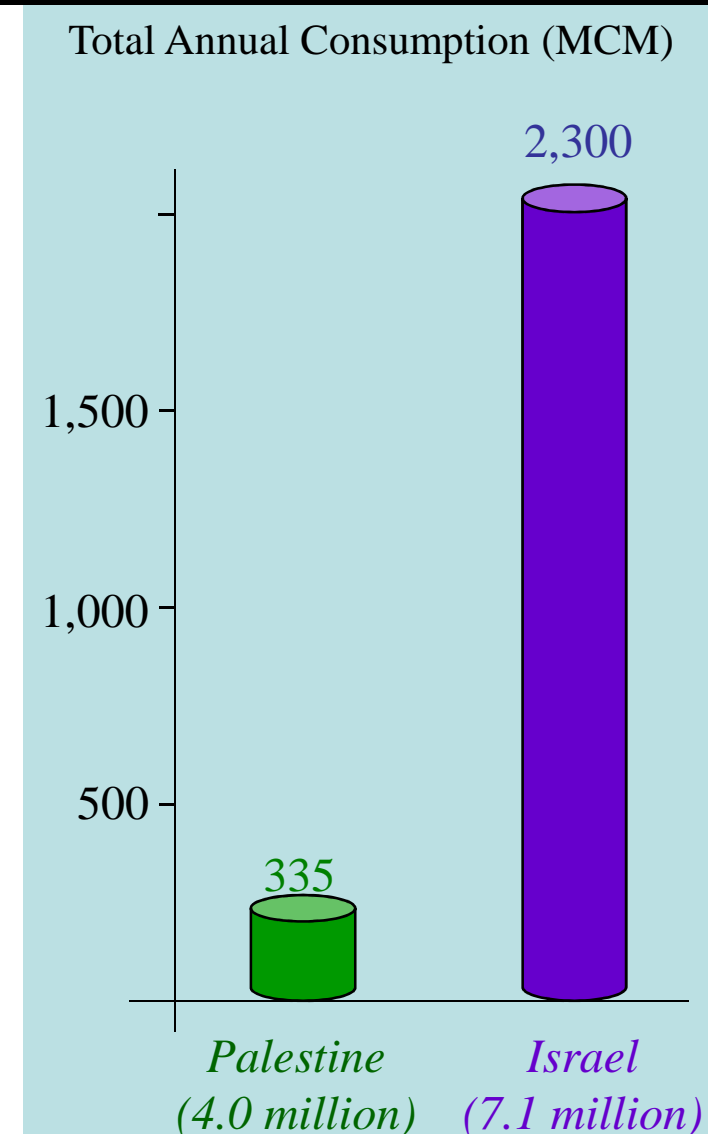
Palestinians have no access to the Jordan River



# Israeli and Palestinian Domestic Water Consumption

On average, Israelis' domestic consumption is more than four times Palestinians'.

- 80 liters/capita/day vs. 320 liters/capita/day
- Many Palestinian communities less the **15 liters/capita/day**
- This is not *“equitable and reasonable”* by any measure





# GAZA: UNSAFE WATER SUPPLIES

The southern end of the Coastal Aquifer is the sole source of water for the 1.5 million Palestinian inhabitants of the Gaza Strip, but it is only one of several sources of water for Israel.

With no other source of water available to them, Palestinians in Gaza have long resorted to over-extraction from the Coastal Aquifer, by as much as 80-100 MCM/Y – a rate equivalent to twice the aquifer's yearly sustainable yield.

The result has been a marked, progressive deterioration in the quality of the water supply, already contaminated by decades of sewage infiltration into the aquifer.

Today some 90-95 per cent of Gaza's water is polluted and unfit for human consumption







**A water pump  
and well in the  
Zaytoun  
neighbourhood  
of Gaza City  
destroyed in an  
Israeli attack**





**An Israeli well in the OPT**



**A rainwater well destroyed by the Israeli army for lack of permit**



## HOPES AND LIVELIHOOD DESTROYED



Israeli soldiers destroy a Palestinian farm in the outskirts of Jiftlik, in the Jordan Valley area of the West Bank. Nearby, Israeli settlers have large farms cultivated with verdant irrigated crops.

# Cistern demolition in the south Hebron hills







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**Jayyus' land with the fence/wall snaking through the landscape**





There is an unjust  
distribution of water-  
Israeli settlements  
use the majority and  
The Palestinians  
lack it severely

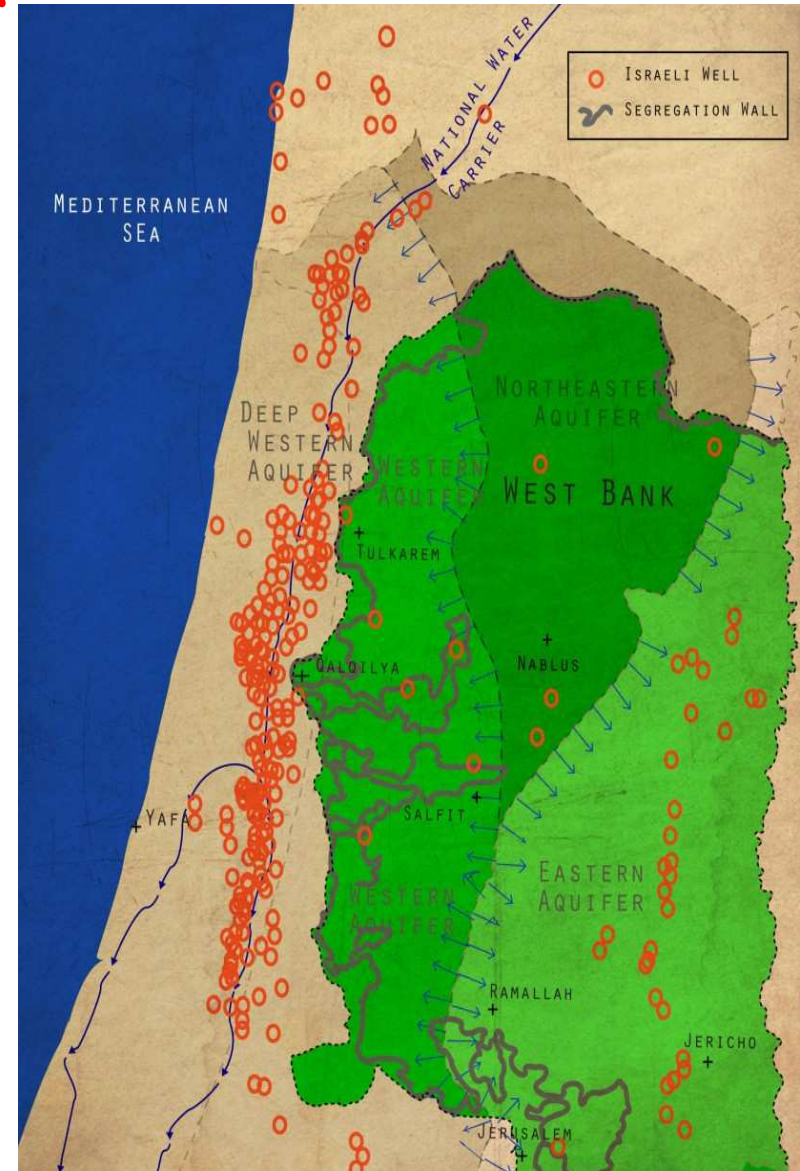


# Consequences of settlements on access to water

Settlement infrastructure has been planned to take into account expropriation of water resources. Route of the wall takes into account key catchment areas for future extractions from strategic western aquifer

Violent actions from Israeli settlers have restricted or denied Palestinian access to water resources (springs)

Several Israeli settlements in the West Bank do not treat their wastewater



# Settlements trade: profiting from Palestinian water appropriation

Agriculture is main source of income for Israeli settlements in West Bank

Agricultural settlements, particularly those in the Jordan Valley, rely on their own water wells inside the West Bank operated by Mekorot. Some wells owned and operated by private agricultural export company Mehadrin.

The approx 9,400 Israeli settlers in the West Bank consume the equivalent of a third of the water consumed by 2.6 million Palestinians

Water for agriculture subsidized by the government of Israel .



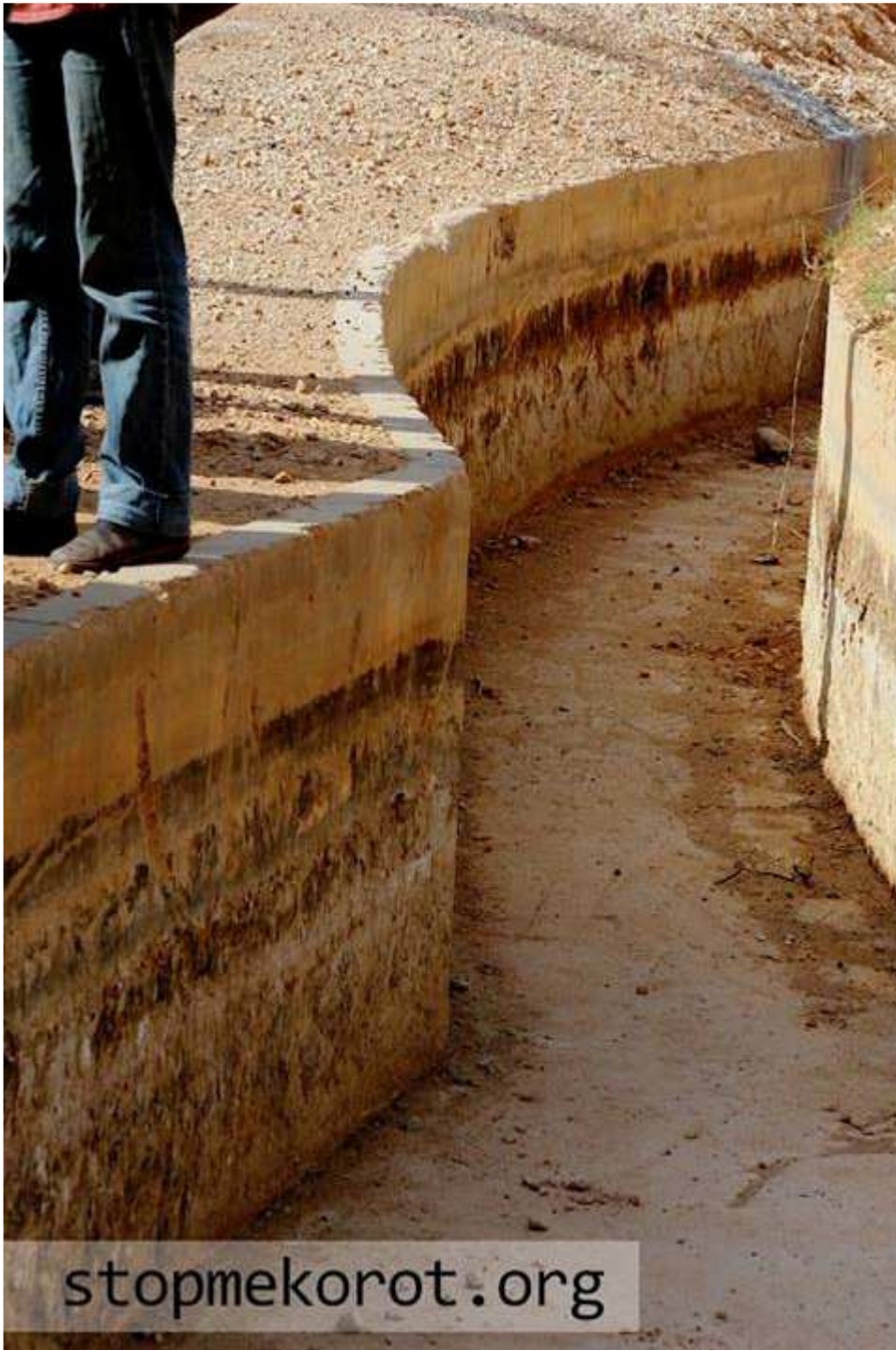
Water Print of some Israeli agricultural exports to Europe:

1 Avocado = 154 gallons of water

1 Mango = 118 gallons of water

1 Date = 8 Gallons of water





- Destroying the natural resources in order to supply the illegal settlements *in violation of international law.*





**We, the Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network (PENGON- FoE Palestine), appeal to environmental organisations around the world to refrain from working with the Jewish National Fund (JNF), an organisation responsible for the displacement of our people, theft of their property, colonisation of land and the destruction of the natural environment.**



**Many Thanks**

**Abeer AL Butmeh**

**PENGON-FOE Palestine**

**[info@pengon.org](mailto:info@pengon.org)**

**02 2966317**