Palestinian Project Priorities 2014:

West Bethlehem & Fasayel

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Good Water Neighbors Conference
November, 13th 2013
Western Bethlehem Villages
Battir, Husan, Nahhalin, Wadi Fukin and Walajah

1. Preservation of the Terraced Landscape
2. Upgrading the water systems and developing a sanitation solution
Western Bethlehem Villages
Battir, Husan, Nahhalin, Wadi Fukin and Walajah

Problem:

Destroying Terraced Landscape & the integrity of the site.

Problem:

Sewage and Water supply

- Soil and water contamination from cesspits
- Insufficient drinking water
  - Water cut by Mekorot
  - Water loss due to leakage
Preservation of the Terraced Landscape

Advocating against the planned route of the Separation Barrier in the area of Batir that is threatening to destroy its highly valued natural & cultural landscape
Preservation of the Terraced Landscape

FoEME together with the Council of Battir and residents of the neighboring Israeli community, appealed to the Israeli High Court of Justice against the planned route of the Wall.

Obtained expert opinions of leading heritage experts, all in agreement on the issue.

The Nature and Parks Authority of Israel played a critical role in the court and agreeing with the position taken by FoEME.
Celebrating the Unique Terraced Landscape in Battir

Celebrating the terraced Landscape in Battir

10th Dec. 2012
Preservation of the Terraced Landscape

FoEME is cooperating with, and giving advice to UNSCO and several other UN agencies on the design and implementation of the 4M$ project:

“Safeguarding the West Bethlehem Villages”

- Landscape Conservation and Management Plan
- Improved livelihood through support for agricultural activities and agro-tourism initiatives
Preservation of the Terraced Landscape

- Furthermore, FoEMEs application to the "World Monuments Fund Watch List" is accepted.

- FoEME is presently planning a strategy of actions to capitalize on this listing.
Upgrading the water systems and developing a sanitation solution

Following FoEME's meeting with the World Bank, Joint Service Council, the mayors and the Palestinian Water Authority.

(1) Selection of a consultant for a detailed engineering design for water supply rehabilitation was completed by the end of September 2013;

(2) water supply construction contracts will be issued within the next 6-9 months and construction completed by early 2015;

(3) The Feasibility Study is slated to be completed by mid-2014.
Fasayel

Problems: Water & Sanitation
- No sewage network, deteriorating cesspits
- Groundwater contamination
- Poor water supply – deteriorating pipes
- Lack of irrigation water

Proposal:
- Repair and extend water supply network to benefit 1300 residents
- Study and construct village-wide sewage network and Treatment
Fasayel

FoEME brought in an International expert from the Netherlands Water partnership to check possible sanitation small scale WWTPs, as a solution.

FoEME is also in contact with the German Global Nature Fund, in collaboration with other "Living Lakes" partner organizations that have developed good expertise in the field of constructed wetlands or "Green Filters".
Fasayel

In the meantime, FoEME staff also met with the Director of Water Resources Development Department in the Palestinian Water Authority on the need for improved water supply and sanitation solutions for Fasayel.

We prepare a concept paper for the rehabilitation of the Fasayel springs.

Additionally, FoEME staff met with Dr. Shaddad Attilli, Palestinian Minister of Water and other representatives from the PWA, to Faseyel on July 1st so that they could learn the problems with the village's water supply on-site.
Thanks for your Attention

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