

Towards the establishment of a Natural National Park in Upper Akkar –
Donnieh

Village Profile

FNAIDEQ



In 2008 and 2009, Mada association collected data's on infrastructure, education, health and environment in various villages of the National Park pilot area. These data were collected from the municipalities, mokhtars, universities, public institutions, NGOs, school directors, cooperatives, clinics etc.

. Being regularly updated

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LOCATION

Fnaideq is located north Tripoli, Caza Akkar, 145km far from Beirut.

The neighbouring villages are :

El Qornah 1.15 Km	El Qarye 2.64 Km	Beit Ayoub 2.06 Km
Michmich 1.2 Km	Memnaa 2.79 Km	Tachaa 2.43 Km
Ed Daher 1.29 Km	Beit Younis 3.06 Km	Al Ullayqah 3.18 Km
Nabi Younis 3.21 Km		

Fnaideq roads need maintenance. The majority of the roads is asphalted but has lots of holes causing serious damage to vehicles. The absence of parking in the main street of village where all shops are located is creating a terrible traffic jam. The main access roads to the village are:

- Tripoli – El Abdeh – Berkayel – Hrar – Fnaideq
- Tripoli – Halba – Gebrayel – Rahbeh – Fnaideq
- Hermel – Beit Jaafar – Al Qamouaa – Fnaideq

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE:

WATER:

The drinking water network was established in 2003 covering 97% of Fnaideq. Water is an abundant resource in Fnaideq. Some water sources are contaminated due to dumping. The village garbage is located the quarry above the village. The sewage water runs in open canalization along the main road of the village and joins the river to be evacuated out of the village.

DRINKING WATER

In winter, there is a full time water supply. But in summer the village has only 6 hours day water. Drinking water is collected from the Hooweh water source and is canalized till a reservoir located in the Nabeh region. From the reservoir, water is canalized within a network covering 97% of households inside the whole village. Beside a small river that dries in summer season that provides irrigation water through pumps, the most important water sources in Fnaideq are Fnaideq water source (around 50 inches; used only for irrigation) and Nabeh Al Howeh (around 30 inches; only used as drinking water). The most important water sources in Fnaideq are: Ain el Sitt, Ain Al Khookh and Al Ftou7.

IRRIGATION, WATER RESERVOIRS AND ARTESIAN WELLS

In the Haffeh region, the drinking water reservoir is also alimented by an artesian dwell that helps extracting the water in summer season. The Haffeh reservoir is divided into three different sections that supply:

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the main village, Al MAzraaa, Al Gharbiyeh and Al Daher. The municipality has established 50 000ml of canalization for irrigation. The irrigation network is divided into two different structures. The first is 10 000m long and is made from concrete (maintained by the municipality) and the canalization is through traditional mud made canals maintained by locals.

ELECTRICITY

Fnaideq was first connected to the electrical network in 1961. Today, the electric network covers 97% of Fnaideq for 14 hours each day. The remaining 3% are concerns Baael street (20 houses);Al Kouroum region (10 houses)and the Qamouaa region (10houses).

ELECTRICAL SUBSTITUTES

Due to the long periods of no electricity, locals are using electricity generators instead of UPSs for economical and maintenance reasons. Beside generators and UPSs that r being used across the village, in Nabeeh region, there is a private solar energy system installed. The renewable energy technology is not popular because of its high installation expenses.

PHONE LINES, GSM COVERAGE & INTERNET AVAILABILITY

There are two phone booths in the village. The phone lines network was established in 2000 in Fnaideq and connects Fnaideq, Michmich, Beit Ayoub and Qariat. This network covers around 90% of households. GSM networks (Alpha & MTC) are located in Bait Ayoub cover the main village and its surroundings except Qamouaa. During the last Israeli bombing, the MTC antenna was targeted and since then, its coverage is minimal.

SEWAGE

Sewage in Fnaideq is running in a primitive canalization located beside the main road passing through the village. The municipality is currently replacing this sewage network by a new one. The waste waters are rejected in the river.

SOLID WASTE

Dumping is taking place in the old quarries site, located above the main source of Fnaideq. Waste are collected daily in the entire village by two different garbage pickup trucks (One covers the large main streets and the other covers all the narrow streets). In the Gharbiyeh region, collection is less frequent; (once or twice a week). For the waste collection service, locals pay the municipality an amount of 35 000 L.L per year. Lately, the municipality is planning to buy a land in Sheikh Zakaria street in El Zaroub region where sorting and recycling of the urban waste could take place

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Permanent residents were estimated by the municipality to be around 18 000. In summer season and holidays, the local population can reach 25 000. Population estimated according to the SDATL methodology: 9687 residents;

1544 primary residences, 5000 secondary residences, 97 empty residences (ACS – 2004).

Migration to foreign countries is very recent. New emigrants are heading to Australia mainly for education. Some families have also migrated to Brazil and Canada long time ago. Internal migration concerned mostly Tripoli, Abdeh, Halba, Akkar Plain, Koura and Beirut. Youth migrating to seek university education are mainly heading to Qobbeh in Tripoli. Other students go to Balamand, the Arab University when they can get scholarships and different technical schools in the region.

PLANS & PROJECTS

For the time being, most of the municipal ongoing and planned projects are related to the village infrastructure, awareness and education.

- Maintenance of the sewage network (700m)- Ongoing.
- Establishment of an irrigation network covering all the agricultural lands of the village. (ongoing)
- Establishment of new roads and bridges (planned and funded by the YMCA) (being planned)
- Establishing new water reservoirs in order to supply the Fnaideq and the surrounding villages – (planned).
- Different awareness and education sessions about: health; conflict management; sowing and computer skills. (being planned)

EDUCATION

School Name	Level	Public/ Private/Private free	Number of students	Number of Primary students	Number of Intermediate students	Number of Secondary students
<i>Fnaidiq Al-Rasmiyye lil-Banat</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Public</i>	153	153		
Al-Gharbiyye Al-Rasmiyye Al-Mukhtalata	Primary	Public	72	72		
<i>Fnaidiq Al-Rasmiyye liisibyan</i>	<i>Primary - Intermediate</i>	<i>Public</i>	787	361	426	

Bara'im Al-Iman	Primary	Private Free	644	644		
Al-Khayriyya Al-Islamiyye Fnaidiq (Maqasid)	Primary	Private Free	544	544		
Al-Ahliyye	Primary	Private Free	318	318		
Al-Douha Al-Ilmiyye	Primary	Private Free	223	223		
Al Baraa Al Islamiyye	Primary - Intermediate	Private Free	450	450		
Al Baraa Al islamiyye	Primary - Intermediate	Private	759	392	367	
Al-Badir lil-Tarbiya Wal-Ta3lim	Primary - Intermediate	Private	513	395	118	
Al-Iman Al-Namouthajiy ye	Primary - Intermediate	Private	826	646	216	
Fnaidiq Al Sanawiyye	Secondary	Public	500			500
Al-Maahad Al-Char'i lil-Banat	Technical secondary	Private	42			42

HEALTH

DISPENSARIES

AL-HARIRI DISPENSARY

Status: private
Contact: 06 895988

Nb of doctors and specialties:

General Health	5	Gynecologist	2
Cardiologist	1	Bones surgery	1
Pediatrician	4	Dentist	3

Nb of employees: 6
Opening days: Monday – Saturday
Services: Dental, x-ray and pharmacy
Problems according to the dispensary:

- Shortage in certain medical equipments as X-ray and laboratory
- Remoteness from hospitals

Beneficiaries: Fneideq and surroundings (Qab'it, Hrar, Chan, Mishmish, Beit Ayoub...)

FNEIDEQ PUBLIC DISPENSARY

Status: public
Contact: Dr. Mounir Al Ba'rini 03 411053
Doctors and specialties: One General health doctor
Opening days: Monday – Saturday

Problems according to the dispensary:

- No cleaning team
- Shortage in physicians and in medical equipments

Beneficiaries: Fneideq

INMAA FNEIDEQ DISPENSARY

Status: free private
Date of creation: 2004
Nb of doctors and specialties: One general health and one pediatrician
Opening days: 7 days a week

Problems according to the dispensary:

- Shortage in physicians and in medical equipments

Beneficiaries: Fneideq and surroundings

AL TA'AWOUN AL KHAYRI DISPENSARY

Status: free private
Date of creation: 1993
Opening days: 7 days a week
Nb of doctors and specialties:

Gynecologist (1)	Cardiologist (1)
Pediatrician (2)	Urologist (1)
Dermatologist (1)	Dentist(1)

Services: Echo and pharmacy

Beneficiaries: Fnaideq and surroundings

DR. MOHAMED KHODRIN CENTER

Status: private
Date of creation: 2005
Nb of doctors and specialties: one Gynecologist, one pediatrician, one thorax and one **Bones**

Opening days: 7 days a week

Services: Pharmacy

Beneficiaries: Fneideq and surroundings

DOCTORS AND SPECIALTIES (PRIVATE CLINICS)

Number of Physicians per specialty

General Health (3) Pediatrician (1)	Dentist (3) E.N.T. specialist (1)
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PHARMACIES

Number: 2

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

MOSKS

Al Jame' Al Kabir	Al Harf	Al Kabe'
Al Cheikh Zakaria	Ali Nouh Al Ba'rini	Al Nabe'
Al Chafak	Al Gharbiyi	Al Dawra

SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

GOVERNMENTAL CENTERS

One Phone Office

MUNICIPAL CENTER

Date of creation: 1963

Contact: 06 895500

Nb of employees: 27

Nb of beneficiaries: 80 per week

Activities:

- Sanitary drainage
- Expansion of side roads
- Waste collection

ASSOCIATIONS/ NGO'S

INMAA FNEIDEQ ASSOCIATION

Date of creation: 1991
Contact: Ahmad Abdo Al Ba'rin 03 387640
Nb of members: 12
Main activities:

- Tourism festival in Al Kamou'a (1996)
- Lectures about health
- Computer and sewing courses for girls
- Expansion of agricultural roads in order to link all quarters
- Constructing irrigation channels and reservoirs

Beneficiaries: Fnaideq

AL TA'AWOUN AL EJTIMA'I WAL THAKAFI ASSOCIATION

Date of creation: 1997
Contact: Mohamed Salah Al Din 06 895692
Nb of members: 18
Main activities:

- Assistance to orphans
- Food aid
- Cultural and social lectures
- Computer and scientific subjects courses to students
- Women lectures (awareness)
- Qoraan Karim courses

Beneficiaries: Fneideq

DAR AL MOUSTAFA ASSOCIATION

Date of creation: 2006
Contact: 03 799606 (Ahmed Abd Al Rahman)
Nb. of members: 15
Main activities:

- Assistance to orphans
- Teaching Qoraan Karim
- Awareness campaigns

Beneficiaries: Fnaideq

AGRICULTURE COOPERATIVE

Date of creation: 1982
Contact: 06 895412 (Mohamed Saoud)
Nb of members: 25
Main activities: The cooperative administration is composed from 12 persons and regroups more than 30 members. The cooperatives products "mouneh" among it Qamareddinne Khokh, that is commercialized in Beirut supermarkets. It was lately subject to agricultural products processing awareness and had received support from YMCA (Equipment) Mada (electric generator, trainings sessions on marketing, production and management) as well as UNDP (bourghoul Mixer).

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Beneficiaries: Fnaideq

CULTURAL AND SPORT CENTERS OR ACTIVITIES

INTERNET CAFÉ

Number: 2
Nb of computers: 15
Users: children and youth

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

The unemployment rate is estimated by the municipality to be approximately at (18%) is related to the volume of allowed recruitments for governmental positions. 50% of the population is in governmental positions (army) and around 70% of the residents practice farming as a complementary income.

INDUSTRY/HANDCRAFT

The following activities have been identified : Wrought iron 5, Car body work 3, Aluminum 3, Car mechanics 5, Car paint job 1, Car electricity 1, Sawmill 8, Furniture 2, Shoe manufacture 3, wheat fiber baskets (at home), car wheel reparation 4, paves factory 3, Tailoring (at home), concrete blocks 8, Quarry 1 and one jaroucheh.

Grocery shops (more than 150), clothing stores 8, Shoes stores 5, snacks 4, restaurants 2, coffee shop 4, internet 2, hairdresser 14, agricultural equipment shops 3

AGRICULTURE

Fnaideq is considered as an agricultural village for the variety of its products. Locals cultivate crops, fruits and vegetables on all lands where agricultural practices can take place. The following table illustrates the agricultural land use:

The cultivated area in Fnaideq is estimated to 39% of Fnaideq. Cultivated area (with no irrigation) 50%, irrigated cultivated area 40%, Abandoned areas 10% (source: municipality – 2008 –)

FARMERS

More than 60% of the local population is into farming activities. Farmers are constantly shifting into more profitable jobs and youth is more attracted by university degrees and governmental positions.

MAIN PRODUCTION

Agricultural products are available depending on the geographical and climate conditions. The main production is apple fruits and different kinds of cereals. Other available products in Fnaideq are:

- Cereals
- Fruits: apples, pear, plums, cherry, apricot, and peach.
- Vegetables: tomatoes, green bean, cucumber and zucchinis.
- Other: (Roses, citrus ...)

Marketing is done in three different ways:

- Products are collected by traders to be sold in the Arab countries
- Farmers keep their products in Tripoli and Joumeh fridges.
- Farmers drive around neighbouring villages in their pickup truck and their products

GRAZING AND LIVESTOCK KEEPING

In Fnaideq the most important livestock is goats reaching 1000-1100 goats spread among 6 different shepherds. Grazing is all over Fnaideq territory. Sheep are only available in the Qamouaa area. The total number of sheeps in the Qamouaa is estimated to 250 – 300 individuals.

Beside the local shepherds, many shepherds from Beit Jaafar let their goats graze on Fnaideq territory. Shepherds are cutting Cedar tree branches and keeping them for winter to feed their baby sheep. Goats are trampling all the new trees which are affecting the forests regeneration.

FIRES

The constantly burning dumper located in the local quarry led to small nearby forest fires. Every year, a fire takes place in the Horsh El Snawbar region.

TOURISM

- Cultural heritage includes around 15 wakfs covering an important area that has been preserved.
- The wonderful scenery and important biodiversity of the region made it a center of attraction for ecotourism. Hiking agencies organize regularly trips in Qamouaa.

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- During summer's week-end, more than 1 000 persons visit the Qamouaa region for recreation. They are coming from the villages of Fnaideq and other villages and they have picnic. Some recreational activities are also offered in Qamouaa such as small café, one restaurant, and horses.
- Hiking organized by a local guide in the region (Mr. Hassan Zakaria) who owns a tent in the Qamouaa region (Nabi Khaled).
- Other cultural heritage sites : Weli Zakaria and other holy / sacred places, caves, grottos

NATURAL AREAS

Various governmental decisions have classified the Qamouaa region as a protected area, including the unique Turkey oak forest¹. This region is very famous for the beautiful scenery that varies from season to season and is also considered as the biggest green reservoir in Lebanon. The Qamouaa forests are the habitat to many local birds and provide food and shelter to migratory birds passing by Lebanon.

QUARRIES

The only quarry in Fnaideq seems to have been shut down a year ago. Since then, it is used as the village dumper. It is important to mention that beneath this quarry is located one of the main water sources of the village. The contaminated water has been causing lots of diarrhea and intestinal disorders and infections.

MAIN IDENTIFIED NEEDS:

- To provide a clean drinking water network with reservoirs to the different sectors
- To provide an healthy sewage network
- To link Baeel and Kouroum to the electric network
- To buy the land in Sheikh Zakaria street in El Zaroub region (or finding alternative) for sorting, recycling and stop dumping solid wastes in the quarry.
- To find a solution for the traffic jam and another solution for parking the cars along the main road of the village
- To improve general socio-economic conditions
- To protect Qamouaa and the turkey oak forest from urban development
- To find solution for forest fires occurring in Horsh El Snawbar region

¹ See Final Report on Flora Assessment – Dr Elsa Sattout - 2007

CONTACT LIST:

Samih Abdel Hay	President	03 34 66 96	
Khaled Saleh Eddine	Vice President	03 26 65 11	
Mohamad Hamoud	Municipal councillor- Environt		06 89 55 41
Hussein Abou Baker	Municipal councillor-	03 20 70 94	
Khaled Numeir	Municipal police	03 26 07 16	
Zafer al Sayied	Qamouaa ranger	70 22 59 38	
Najah Taleb	municipality secretary		
Mahmoud Hammoud	Director of education committee		
Abdel Kader Abou Bakr	Moukhtar		
Fate7 Abd el Ra7man	Municipal tax collector		
Mohamad Ahmad Saooud	COOP President (Abou Nazih)	03 226 980	
Ahmad izz el din Nou'man	COOP Vice president		06 895 348
Mohamad Ali Salaheddine	COOP Treasurer	03 461 774	
Ahmad Mahmoud Zakaria	COOP Member		
Hassan Zakaria	Guide and loge		