

اللجنة القطرية لرؤساء السلطات المحلية العربية

הוועד הארצי לראשי הרשויות המקומיות הערביות

the National Committee of the Heads of Arab Localities (NCALC)

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*Translation: IATF<sup>1</sup>*

**List of areas where the Israeli government has made budget cuts, altered mechanisms, or delayed budget transfers since the beginning of the year:**

**Ministry of Transportation:**

1. A 75% budget cut for the strategic plan aimed at reducing infrastructure gaps in the Ayalon Highway, resulted in funds being reduced to 500 million NIS from 2 billion NIS.
2. The Highway 2 relocation project, which had a budget of 200 million NIS aimed at promoting accessibility, was canceled. Its implementation would have facilitated the development of a new neighborhood in Jisr a-Zarqa.
3. An attempt to redirect the budget for promoting accessibility of Highway 65 bypassing Wadi Ara, in favor of Hadera and Golani Junction.
4. Intention to publish a call for tenders to be carried out by local authorities, limited to Jewish authorities only.
5. Lack of transparency in the distribution of budgets for housing infrastructure projects, totaling 4.5 billion NIS.
6. Allocation of only 3.5% of the government's five-year plan's for Israel's transportation infrastructure to projects between non-urban roads near Arab settlements. And zero budget for this in the next five-year plan currently under development.

**Ministry of Interior:**

7. Delay in legislating regulations for the NIS 200 mil. plan aimed at closing socioeconomic gaps.
8. Delay and threat of canceling the additional ongoing budget transfer.
9. Delay in transferring additional development budgets (total NIS 670 mil.).
10. Freezing all decisions on revenue distribution and expansion of boundaries in geographical committees.

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<sup>1</sup> The budget cuts list was originally compiled by the National Committee of the Heads of Arab Localities, with additional figures incorporated from a report in [TheMarket](#) (updated on August 09, 2023).

**Ministry of Negev and Galilee:**

11. Transfer of oversight and operations related to the Social Periphery (including 17 Arab authorities) to the Ministry of Interior, with no transfer of budget or authority, hitting the budgets of those authorities that were previously under the jurisdiction of the Negev and Galilee Ministry.
12. Demand by the Minister of Negev and Galilee and the Minister of National Security to cancel the 30% allocation to Arab authorities from the ministry's budget (NIS 100 mil.).
13. Publishing calls for tenders that exclude the Arab local authorities in the Negev (in the areas of resources and industrial zones).

**Ministry of Energy:**

14. The government's decision for solar energy projects does not allocate to Arab local authorities any budget for the establishment of solar systems in the Negev.

**Ministry of Construction and Housing:**

15. There is a lack of implementation for the clause aimed at strengthening engineering departments under GR-550, and Bedouin authorities in the Negev are adversely affected in terms of budget allocation.
16. Lack of government action to remove obstacles for public buildings.

**Ministry of Economy and Industry:**

17. No budget for the restoration of old industrial areas, which are becoming crime hotspots.
18. Low budget allocation for new industrial areas.

**Ministry of Welfare:**

19. Failure to publish a request for proposals for the establishment of a rehabilitation center.
20. Lack of budget allocation for finding suitable locations or rentals to provide welfare services in communities, and a shortage of funds for restoring existing facilities.

**Ministry of Education:**

21. Lack of budgets for day-care centers.
22. Insufficient budget for non-formal education.
23. Delay in the budget allocation for approximately 350 ready-to-establish classrooms.

**Ministry of Culture and Sports:**

24. There is a significant gap in sports and cultural infrastructure funding.

**Ministry of Health:**

25. Lack of budget for health infrastructure to encourage outdoor activities and playgrounds for children.

26. Low budget for establishing health units in localities.