

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION 550:

PROGRESS REPORT (2022)

THE AUTHORITY FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE
MINORITY SECTORS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL EQUALITY

IATF SUMMARY

September, 2023



המשרד לשוויון חברתי
وزارة المساواة الاجتماعية



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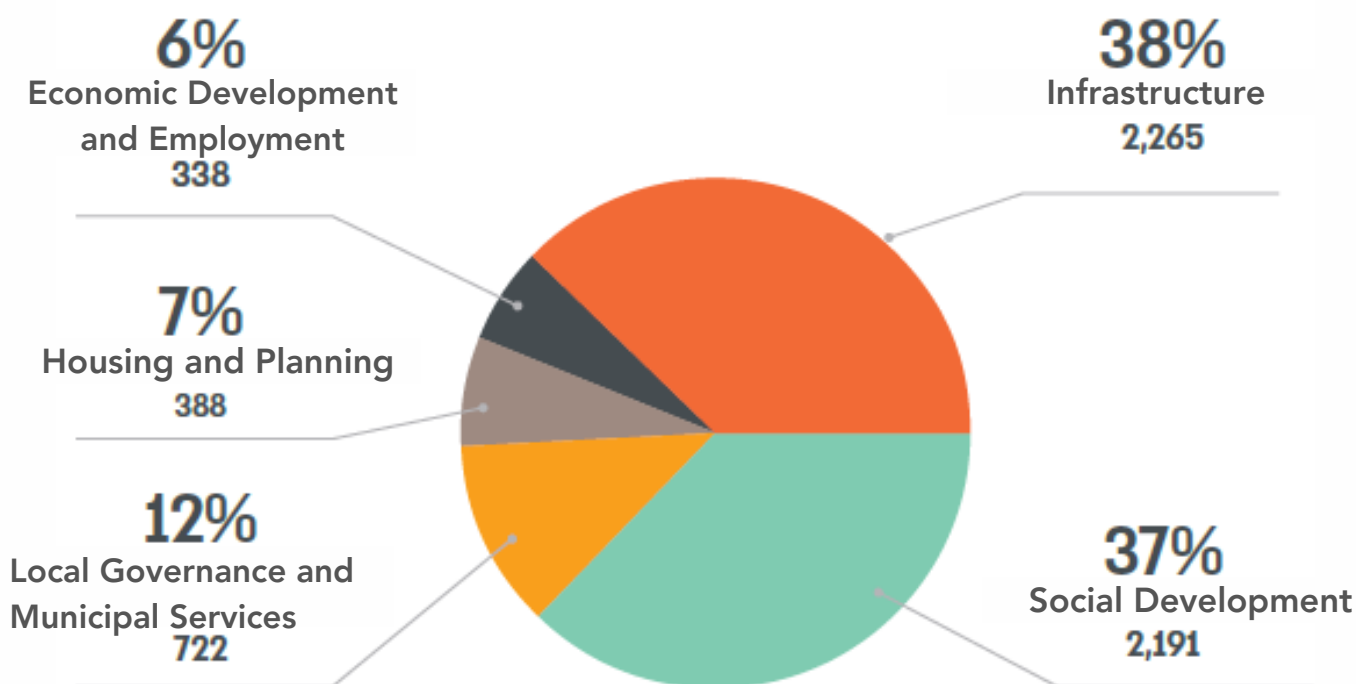
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IATF SUMMARY

On August 16, 2023, the Authority for the Economic Development of the Minority Sectors within the Ministry of Social Equality released [an extensive report](#) outlining the primary measures taken to close economic gaps in Arab society, as well as the key accomplishments over the first year of implementation of GR-550 across various domains. The report also presents insights and recommendations for ongoing implementation.

This update is a summary of the data shared in Ministry of Social Equality report, including discussion of overall progress and details per main area of investment, as illustrated in the chart below from main development areas' reports.

Budget Allocation per Five Main Areas in 2022. Total of NIS 5.9 B



GR-550: In October 2020, the government of Israel approved the GR-550 five-year plan (2022-2026) for the economic advancement of the minority sector, with the goal of integrating Arab society into the Israeli economy. The plan, which received a budget of 30 billion NIS for five years, aimed to allocate 21.8 billion NIS to the Arab and Bedouin societies in the north, 5.2 billion NIS to the Bedouin society in the south, and 3 billion NIS to the Druze and Circassian society. The implementation involved collaboration with over 30 ministries and government entities.

According to the report, around 5.9 billion NIS of the five-year plan's budget was directed to Arab society in the preceding year.

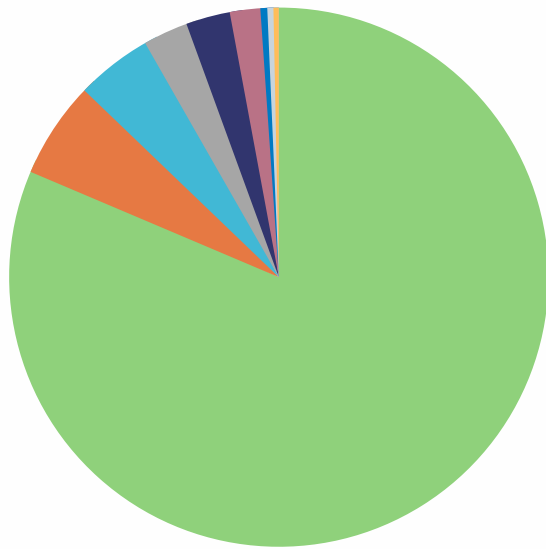
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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Social Development

Budget allocation per area in 2022. Total of NIS 2191 M.



1748	Education
127	Sport
100	Culture
59	Welfare and Social Security
58	Healthcare
40	Digital Accessibility of Governmental Services
9	Higher Education
8	Aging and Loneliness Relief
7	Economic Recovery and Access to Rights

Total NIS 2191 M

Education



Government Authorities: Ministry of Education

Total Budgeted: NIS 5.2 B in additive budgets | NIS 4.3 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 1748 M

Main Goals



- Reduce the dropout rates by at least 50%.
- Reduce the gap in the number of eligible individuals for matriculation exams between Arab and Bedouin secular education and Jewish secular education by at least 50% in comparison to the previous year.
- Increase the proportion of graduates who pass the Yael test with a score of 80-90.
- Increase the number of graduating high school students taking matriculation exams by at least 50% in comparison to the previous year.
- Increase the number scores eligible for higher education to 64%.

2022 Progress

Efforts to close educational gaps are the second largest part of the GR-550 core budget and the focus of the NIS 4.3 billion in differential budgeting across various projects. These initiatives included the construction of 505 new classrooms, efforts to narrow the gaps in matriculation eligibility rates, the development of a comprehensive plan to enhance the performance of education departments in Arab authorities, and the strategic placement of native-speaking teachers in 70 middle schools situated in Arab localities.



Funding of local authorities through the tenders to launch the "Challenges" program (Community Management and Youth).

Budget: NIS 60 M



Formation of 361 groups for psychometric and YAEL courses by July 2023.

Budget: NIS 9 M



Funding for construction of new 505 classrooms.

Budget: NIS 485 M



Joint venture with the JDC and Branko Weiss in 21 educational departments.

Budget: NIS 15 M



Launching differentiated instruction in High Schools.

Budget: NIS 127 M



Funding leadership programs.

Budget: NIS 9.5 M

Higher Education



Government Authorities: Ministry of Education, the Council for Higher Education, Ministry of Finance, the Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee.

Main Goals:

- Assistance to students from Arab society in required courses.
- Increase in numbers of allocated scholarships to the students.

Progress: Increasing the "Irteka" scholarship budget by NIS 9 million (for about 200 more students)

Milestones: Following a significant increase in the number of scholarships allocated to Arab community:

- The number of Arab higher education students surpassed the 60,000 across all levels of higher education in 2021/2022.
- Arab undergraduate students exceeded 20% of the total student body for the first time.

Welfare and Social Security



Government Authorities: Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services

Total Budgeted: NIS 615 M

2022 Allocated: NIS 59 M

The data reveals substantial socio-economic disparities between Arab society and the broader Israeli community, resulting in high poverty rates and increased reliance on welfare services. The funding aims to advance efforts in narrowing the gaps in welfare services within Arab society, offering a comprehensive range of welfare and social resources. The focus lies on addressing the specific challenges unique to Arab society, alongside adapting and refining existing programs as needed.

Progress



Funding of 12 local authorities for construction and renovation of welfare offices.

Budget: NIS 12.1 M



Enhance the network of social workers.

Budget: NIS 4 M



Funds designated for enhancing the implementation of tailored preventive and therapeutic programs. New welfare programs in Arab community.

Budget: NIS 41.3 M

Healthcare



Government Authorities: Ministry of Health

Total Budgeted: NIS 585 M

2022 Allocated: NIS 58 M

Main Goals



- A 25% decrease in the number of undiagnosed diabetics in Arab society.
- A 25% increase in the number of units for child development in Arab society.
- A 25% decrease in the number of children with obesity.
- A 25% drop in the infant mortality rate in Arabic society.

Progress

- Establishment of official health departments. | NIS 12.6 M
- Support for clinics with testing for obesity and diabetes. | NIS 21.75 M
- Health research. | NIS 1.9 M
- Allocation of funds to 3 hospitals in Nazareth for additional equipment and new departments. | NIS 12.5 M

Aging and Loneliness Relief



Government Authorities: Ministry of Social Equality

Total Budgeted: NIS 50 M

2022 Allocated: NIS 8 M

Main Goals



- Participation of at least 3,600 senior citizens and 800 volunteer students in the Senior Citizens Division programs.
- Reported feeling of loneliness reduction by 70%.

Progress



The number of Arab towns participating in "Ahalina", a volunteering program, has risen by 42% compared to 2021, with the addition of 16 new Arab communities.

Total Budget: NIS 7.1 M



The program saw a 125% increase in senior classes participation with the inclusion of 15 new Arab communities.



Providing services to approx. 60,00 senior citizens.

Progress



There was a 350% increase in scholarships for students volunteering for “Ahalina” program compared to 2021.

Budget: NIS 3.5 M

Economic Recovery and Access to Rights



Government Authorities: Ministry of Justice

Total Budgeted: NIS 50 M

2022 Allocated: NIS 7 M

This section encompasses strategic measures for economic recovery and advancing equal opportunities for the Arab community at large, as well as specific minority populations. Main areas of activity are: legal accompaniment for Arab citizens, guardianship for elderly, debt relief, and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Progress

- Conducting webinars and meetings for the general public to raise awareness and promote access to rights for individuals with disabilities. | NIS 10 K
- Initiation of debt management program for Arab debtors in the North through a joint effort by Enforcement and Collection Authority and Legal Aid | NIS 2 M
- Enhancing transparency and accessibility of services provided by the Registrar of Companies to the Arab population. | NIS 50 K



Sport and Culture: Sport



Government Authorities: Ministry of Culture and Sport

Total Budgeted: NIS 315 M | NIS 216 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 127 M

One of the key factors leading to a shortage of Arab athletes in competitive and team sports is the disparity in sports infrastructure between Arab and Jewish communities. This infrastructure gap creates a barrier to the inclusion of new athletes from the Arab community. This section proposes, among other things, the enhancement of physical infrastructure in program communities, the encouragement of youth engagement in sports within the Arab community, and the training of professionals, such as coaches, to attain high-level competencies.

Main Goals:



- Enhancing sports facilities by constructing, renovating, and developing accessible venues for the community.
- Increasing community participation in sports and physical activities, emphasizing equitable access to sporting opportunities.
- Establishing and reinforcing the infrastructure of multidisciplinary sports clubs within Arab society.

Progress



Construction of new pools in Baka Algrabia and Sahnin, along with the construction of a new stadium in Kfar Qasim. Additionally, the upgrading of stadiums in the cities of Sakhnin and Umm Alfam, as well as the construction of sports halls and numerous sports facilities in various Arab localities.

Budget: approx. NIS 110 M



Promotion of Athletics.

Budget: NIS 10 M

Sport and Culture: Culture



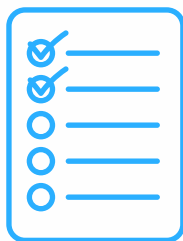
Government Authorities: Ministry of Culture and Sport

Total Budgeted: NIS 152.5 M | NIS 212.5 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 100 M

Purpose: There are significant disparities in both infrastructure and cultural activities within the Arab community, both in terms of per capita investment and the extent of the activity. Activities under this section are aimed at establishing culture as an integral component in the daily life of Arab society, including bolstering cultural organizations across various fields, promoting efforts to address physical infrastructure challenges for cultural activities, and eliminating barriers that hinder relevant entities.

Main Goals:



- Establishing cultural anchors.
- Fostering human capital development for management of cultural activities and development in local authorities.
- Increasing support for cultural institutions

Progress



Increased resources to support Arab cultural activities.

Budget: NIS 7 M



Heritage sites preservation.

Budget: NIS 12.6 M



Creation of a repertory theater in Umm Al Faham, allocation of resources for the establishment of a Cinematic theater, and a musical workshop.

Budget: NIS 80.2 M

Digital Accessibility of Governmental Services



Government Authorities: Ministry of Culture and Sport

Total Budgeted: NIS 32 M | NIS 32 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 40 M

Main Goals:



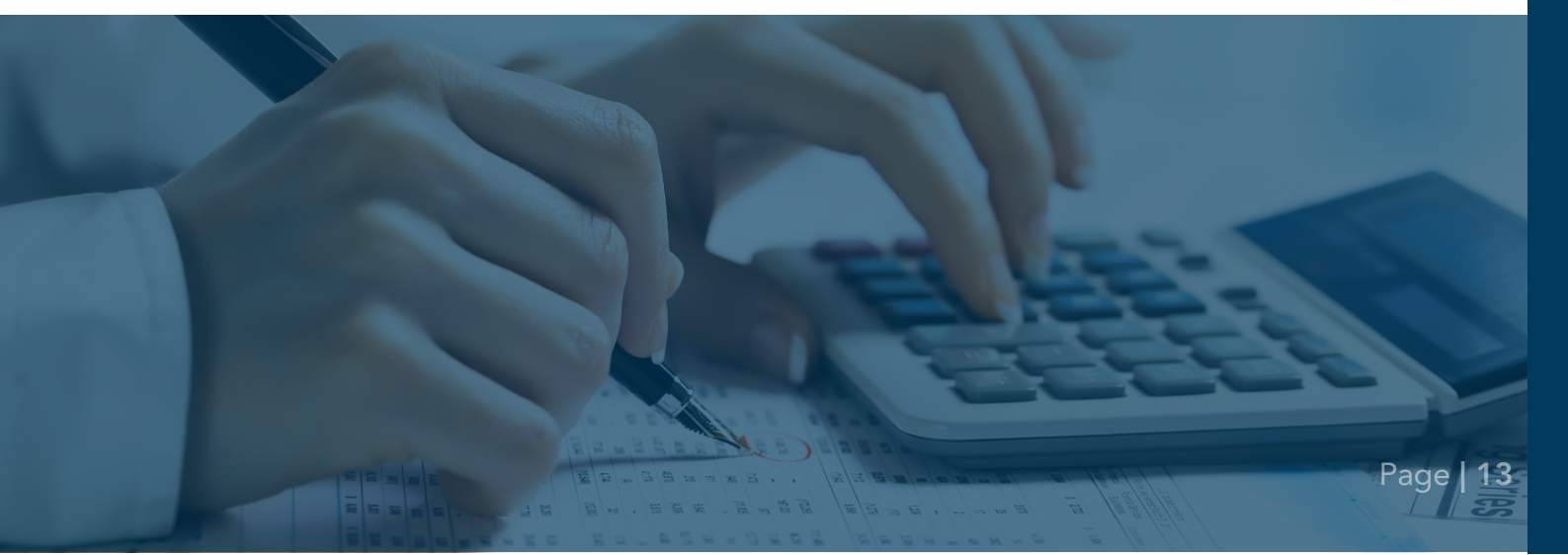
- Facilitating accessibility for a minimum of 50% of government ministries' online content and services to the Arab society.
- Involving at least 40,000 Arab residents in digital literacy initiatives..
- A 25% advancement in the digital literacy proficiency of the average participant by the conclusion of 2026.

Progress



Launch of activities in 68 Arab authorities who were awarded a grant for promoting digital literacy among the residents.

Budget: NIS 37.3 M



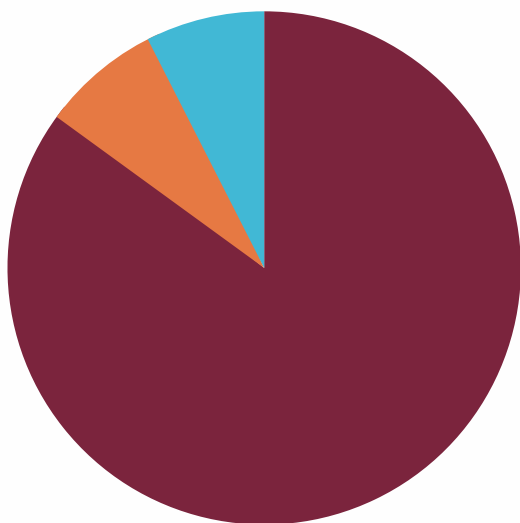
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT



Economic Development and Employment

Budget allocation per area in 2022. Total of NIS 338 M



295 Employment: enhancing human capital, occupational diversity and youth engagement, Hi-Tech and technological innovation.

26 Business development in Arab society.

18 Strengthening the industries and increasing business productivity



Government Authorities: Ministry of Science and Technology, Innovation Authority, Employment Service, Department of Labor, Ministry of Economy and Industry, Equal Opportunity Commission, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Equality

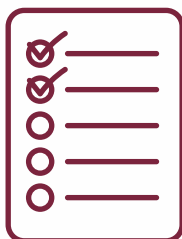
Total Budgeted: NIS 900.25 M | NIS 1.2 B in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 295 M

Increasing the employment rate and improving human capital

Government Authorities: Employment Service, Department of Labor

Main Goals:



- Employment rate of 75.8% for Arab men (aged 25-64) by 2026.
- Employment rate of 46.3% for Arab women (aged 25-64) by 2026.
- Reducing the disparities in employment rates between Arab women and Jewish women.
- Decreasing the number of job seekers and recipients of income support.
- Narrowing the employment gap between Arab men and Jewish men.

Youth Engagement

Government Authorities: Youth Authority, Employment Service, Department of Labor, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services

Main Goals



- Providing a comprehensive and diverse response to young individuals from Arab society, the aim is to diminish disparities in human capital and equip them with tools and skills necessary to achieve their personal aspirations.
- Enhancing Arab youth's integration into the economy, academia, and workforce by fostering civic engagement. The initiative aims to unlock potential, improve academics, secure quality employment, and nurture professional skills and personal qualities. It also promotes sociability, independence, and a positive outlook for the future.

Technological Innovation and Hi-Tech

Government Authorities: Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Labor, Investment Center in Ministry of Economy and Industry, Ministry of Education

Main Goals

- Establishment of new infrastructures in local authorities.
- The employment of an additional 5,000 Arabs in the high-tech sector.

Occupational Diversity

Government Authorities: Economic Development Authority, Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, and all governmental ministries.

Main Goals

- Expanding workforce participation and creating quality jobs.
- Removing barriers and providing tools to increase participation in the labor market.

Progress



5,100 Hebrew course graduates, compared to 3,200 in 2021, a 60% increase, with a 75% success rate, compared to 67% in 2021.

Budget: approx. NIS 24 M



Helping 13,000+ Employment Circles applicants for workforce entry among subsidy recipients.

Budget: NIS 4.35 M



Within the 'Rayan' program, there were 17,914 participants, including 1,914 during 2022. This exceeded the target of 16,000 participants. The program achieved an employment initiation rate of 43.6%, surpassing the 40% target

Budget: NIS 65 M



Expanding the activities of the youth centers to include an additional 33 centers as part of the efforts to promote social engagement.

Budget: NIS 9 M



To boost employment rates and improve human capital, competitive programs were introduced, adding hundreds of new positions for the Arab community.

Budget: approx. NIS 46.9 M



Developing and signing a partnership agreement for the gap program with the JDC - Tevet (Employment Initiative).

Budget: NIS 25.68 M



Signing a contract with Collective Impact and developing a model for integrating Arab talent into meaningful employment in the private sector and government companies, as well as raising awareness about the need for Arab society's inclusion in the workforce.

Budget: NIS 2.66 M



Local authorities have been chosen as recipients of funding for the construction of 27 full-day daycare centers, based on the public vote and allocation of funds.

Budget: approx. NIS 50 M



- Financial support for 286 classes promoting tech skills, including 12 science centers, 5 of which are new.
- Announcing tenders for innovation hubs, accelerators, and related initiatives, and appointing 13 recipients for talent development in the high-tech sector.

Budget: NIS 85 M



Launching 8 programs to promote diversity and equality among employers, with a focus on the Arab community.



Partnership with the Merchavim Institute in the 'Teacher's Room Diversity' program to integrate Arab teachers into Jewish schools.



Collaboration with ITWORKS, with an emphasis on Arab women, in the high-tech companies and the adaptation of the workplace for this purpose.

Budget: NIS 3 M



Business Development in Arab Society



Government Authorities: Ministry of Economy and Industry, Ministry of Finance

Total Budgeted: NIS 87.5 M | NIS 92.5 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 26 M

Main Goals



- Development of tailored advisory programs, grants, and success-based incentives that will enhance the capabilities of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Arab society, addressing the unique challenges faced by Arab businesses.
- Expanding workforce participation and creating high-quality job opportunities.
- Promoting growth engines and enhancing entrepreneurship, competitiveness, and innovation in industry, trade, and services.
- Opening new markets for businesses, including expanding exports and establishing digital marketing channels.

Progress



Funding for small business initiatives and the advancement of online commerce facilitated by the Agency for Small Business.

Budget: NIS 17 M



13 companies were awarded grants to increase revenues. Additionally, over 1,500 Arab women secured loans from the dedicated fund for Arab women.

Budget: NIS 11.8 M

Strengthening the Industries and Increasing Business Productivity

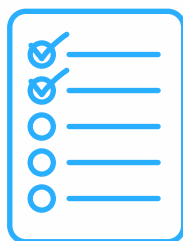


Government Authorities: Investment and Economic Development Authority at Ministry of Economy and Industry, Ministry of Finance

Total Budgeted: NIS 50 M | NIS 50 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 18 M

Main Goals



- Reducing economic and social disparities.
- Strengthening the industrial sector.
- Increasing productivity.
- Attracting quality investments for the purpose of regional economic development and reducing disparities between the periphery and the center.

Progress



Promoting the CEO Directive 4.68 for advanced manufacturing and investment in businesses in the Arab society.

Budget: NIS 17.5 M

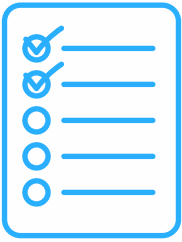
Industrial Area Development



Government Authorities: Ministry of Economy and Industry, Local Authorities

Total Budgeted: NIS 175 M | NIS 300 M in differential budgeting

Main Goals



- Reducing socio - economic disparities in the Israeli economy.
- Promotion of feasibility studies at every stage.
- Advancement of Strategic and Marketing Plans.
- Attracting quality investments for the purpose of regional economic development and reducing disparities between the periphery and the center.

Progress



Continuing Land Marketing and Providing Grants to Entrepreneurs on State-owned Land.

Budget: approx. NIS 14 M



Designation of three communities for private land employment zone development: Mashhad, Reineh, Kafr Qasim.

Budget: approx. NIS 76 M

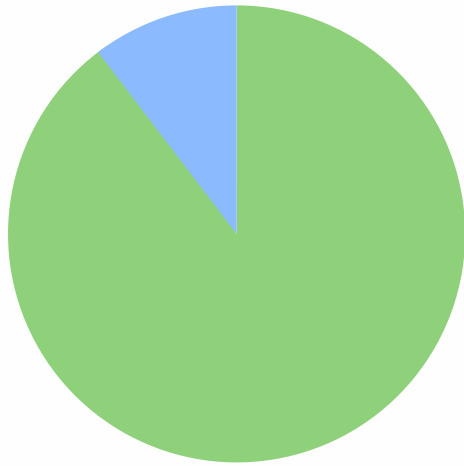
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HOUSING AND PLANNING



Planning and Housing

Budget allocation per area in 2022 out of a total of NIS 388



346 Housing

40 Local Committees and Construction Units



Government Authorities: The Ministry of Construction and Housing, Planning Authority, Israel Land Authority, Government Authority for Urban Renewal.

Total Budgeted: NIS 676 M | NIS 2,009 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 346 M

Main Goals



- Marketing of 5,000 housing units in 2022.
- Promotion of detailed urban planning in settlement areas by the Planning Administration.
- Statutory planning of at least 60,000 residential units on state land, mixed-ownership land, or privately owned land.
- Detailed infrastructure planning for public facilities serving up to 12,500 residential units in approved private land development plans.
- Promotion of detailed statutory planning for a minimum of 25,000 residential units in mixed private land developments.
- Preparation, submission, and approval of approximately 400 land registration and zoning plans for the purpose of formalizing land titles in settlement areas, with the aim of closing registration gaps.
- Subsidizing development costs for infrastructure projects in privately owned land for approximately 15,000 housing units.

Progress



Budget allocation for the preparation of 133 registration plans.

Budget: approx. NIS 5 M



Undertaking detailed statutory planning for 45 complexes and for one comprehensive master plan.

Budget: NIS 76.88 M



Planning for 4 urban renewal complexes and evaluating the feasibility of an additional eight complexes.

Budget: NIS 10.8 M



Funding public institutions in both established and newly developed neighborhoods.

Budget: NIS 116.7 M



Upgrading existing infrastructure in the villages of Kafr Qasim, Sakhnin, and Deir al-Asad.

Budget: approx. NIS 70 M



Tender winners were announced, and now the process of finalizing the agreement and transferring the approved budget is underway.

Budget: NIS 26.9 M

Local Committees and Construction Units



Government Authorities: Planning Authority

Total Budgeted: NIS 180 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 40 M

Main Goals



- Increasing human capital in engineering departments and committees.
- Procuring and funding technological equipment, especially in computing.
- Implementing a systematic plan for obtaining building permits.

Progress



Increasing personnel in local committees - 12 committees have been granted permission to hire a licensed employee.

Budget: NIS 10.56 M



The approval for extending a contract to hire a strategic planner for two years has been granted to 29 local Arab authorities with a population exceeding 10,000 residents. Additionally, 21 authorities (with over 15,000 residents) were granted permission to hire a part-time engineer.

Budget: NIS 29.5 M

Financial Assistance



Government Authorities: Bank of Israel, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Capital Market Authority, Department of Survey of Israel

Total Budgeted: NIS 20 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 4 M

Main Goals:

- Homebuyers in the program's communities who are ineligible for mortgage loans due to building restrictions will be qualified to receive credit under mortgage terms from financial institutions.
- Doubling the percentage of mortgage recipients from the Arab society residing in the program's communities within five years.

Progress



Conducting bidding processes for the preparation of 144 detailed urban outline plans, which include registration files through local planning and building authorities.



Technological advancement-property deeds home delivery in 3 authorities.

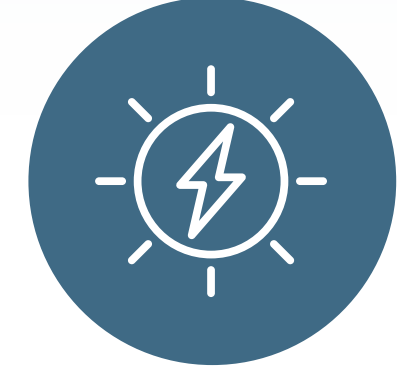


Ensuring Property Rights: Handling 400 Requests for Land Registration Plans in Arab Community Settlements.

Budget: approx. NIS 4 M

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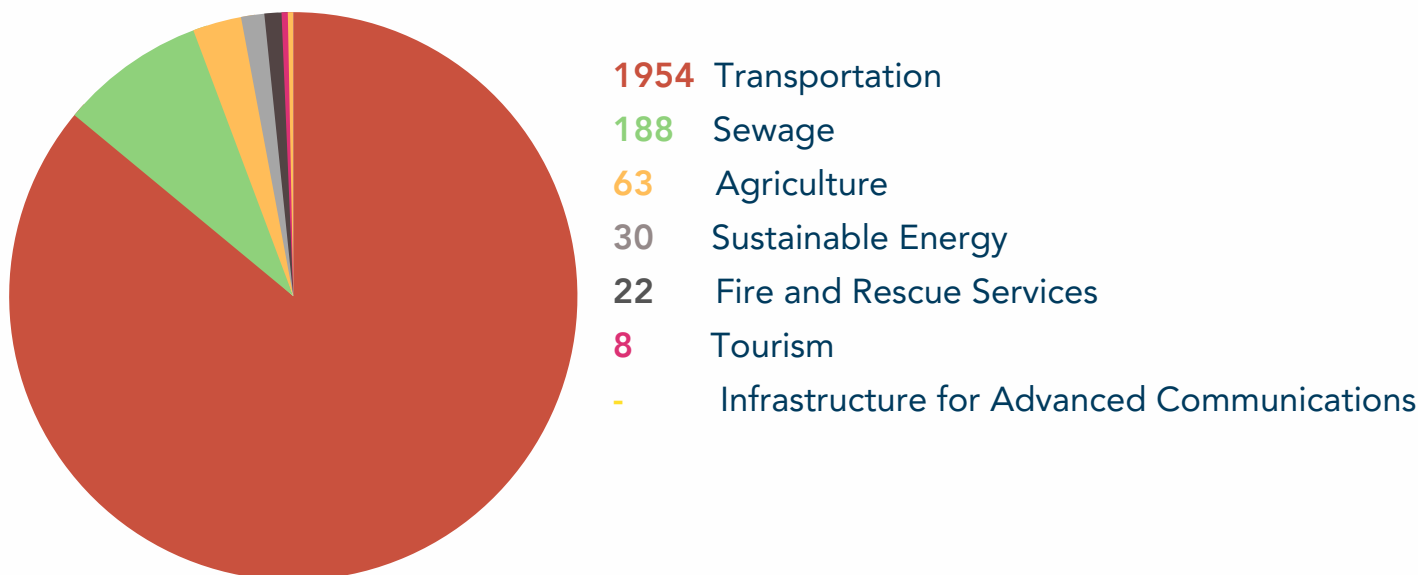
INFRASTRUCTURE



Infrastructure

In line with the plan, the majority of the GR-550 budget allocations was directed towards infrastructure.

Budget allocation per area in 2022 out of a total of NIS 2,265



A comprehensive strategic plan has been completed for all 133 settlements within the minority sectors, focusing on enhancing the urban road network. With a budget of 1.02 billion NIS, projects are now underway, with 98 active at varying stages. Over the past year, the needs of Arab communities to be connected by urban roads were carefully outlined as part of the five-year plan for Routes of Israel. A budget of approximately NIS 100 million was allocated for this purpose, driving the advancement of 29 ongoing projects.

An additional allocation of around NIS 150 million has been committed to the advancement of the Tira train station, currently in the construction phase and projected to be completed by the end of 2023. Furthermore, approximately NIS 75.2 million has been set aside to bolster public transportation by introducing new routes and modifying existing ones. A tailored strategy has also been devised to curtail the occurrence of road accidents within the Arab society, with a dedicated budget of NIS 26 million.

Around NIS 150 million was directed to improve public facilities and communal spaces like parks and gardens. Additionally, barriers for public marketing of housing units were removed, leading to a visible uptick in marketing efforts in 2022 compared to prior years. Further investments included approximately 180 million NIS to enhance water and sewage infrastructure, 30 million NIS for establishing renewable energy systems and fostering energy conservation in Arab communities. Moreover, roughly 185 million NIS were dedicated to streamlining waste collection systems in Arab communities.

Sewage



Government Authorities: Governmental Water and Sewage Authority

Total Budgeted: NIS 635 M | NIS 300 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocations: NIS 188 M

Main Goals:

- Sewage infrastructure: a substantial increase in connected households.
- Aiming for a 90% sewage system connection rate in minority communities and municipalities within the Water and Sewage Corporation's jurisdiction.

Progress



Allocating budget to multiple projects aimed at addressing wastewater and sewage management in minority communities, which includes funding for treatment plants, local solutions, and connecting households and neighborhoods to the sewage system. This initiative has led to a rise from 80% to 85% of homes being connected to sewage systems.

Transportation



Government Authorities: Ministry of Transportation and Road Safety, the National Road Safety Authority, Ayalon Highways Company, Israel Roads Company.

Total Budgeted: NIS 1.57 B | NIS 1.25 B in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 1,954 M

Main Goals



- Create and implement a strategic plan for all minority communities, prioritizing key areas based on criteria like economic development and housing, tailored to each community's size.
- A 9% decrease in the number of severe or fatal cases within the Arab community compared to the annual average between 2016 and 2020.
- Boosting the use of public transportation and expanding the network of public transit routes.

Progress



Roads: The strategic plan for all 133 minority communities has been finalized. Each community has identified and prioritized the projects to be undertaken. As of the end of 2022, there are currently 98 active projects in various stages: 10 have been completed, 45 are in progress, and 43 are in the planning phase.

Budget: NIS 1.023 B



Enhancing public transportation by introducing additional services and route outlets.

Budget: NIS 75.21 M



The requirements for inter-city roads are being actively addressed as part of the comprehensive five-year plan by the Israel Roads Company. Presently, there are 29 projects underway in this initiative, with 7 already in execution and 22 in the planning stages.

Budget: NIS 75.21 M



Enhancing public transportation by introducing additional services and route outlets.

Budget: NIS 150 M



A targeted plan was developed to reduce road accidents involving members of the Arab community in Tamra, Shefa-'Amr, A'ablin, Umm al-Fahm, Bir al-Maksur, Basmat Tab'un, and Kafr Qabul. This includes a pilot program and focused efforts on road safety.

Budget: NIS 26 M

Tourism



Government Authorities: Ministry of Tourism

Total Budgeted: NIS 7 M | NIS 7 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 8 M

Main Goals:

- Increasing the availability of lodging units in high-demand tourist regions.
- Improving the maintenance and sanitary standards of primary tourist destinations.
- Promoting tourism through various means, such as regional marketing, event branding, and others.

Progress



Development of a strategic plan for tourism marketing in the Northern Bedouin community.

Budget: NIS 0.5 M

Infrastructure for Advanced Communications



Government Authorities: Ministry of Communications

Main Goal:

- Ensuring 80% of the household infrastructure in Arab communities is connected to advanced communication networks within 5 years.

Progress



100% of the households in the target communities are located either within Bezeq's deployment zones or in areas that won tenders. Out of approximately 205,000 households, around 132,000 households are situated within Bezeq's deployment zones, while an additional 63,000 households are in areas that won contracts through the initial tender process, with approximately 10,000 more households in areas that secured contracts through the secondary tenders. Actual deployment has already occurred in twenty communities.

Sustainable Energy



Government Authorities: Ministry of Energy

Total Budgeted: NIS 50.15 M | NIS 7 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocations: NIS 30 M

Main Goals:

- Reducing the energy consumption by 3% in the participating authorities within a total scope of 33,000 MW-hours in 2026.
- The installed capacity from renewable energy sources will reach at least 8 GW.
- Installation of approximately 130 slow-charging stations and 15 fast-charging stations for electric vehicles within the jurisdictions of the authorities, including industrial centers, in full compliance with all regulations.

Progress



Investment in energy infrastructure and providing assistance to around 30 authorities to expand installed capacity for renewable energy sources and promote energy efficiency.

Budget: NIS 30 M

Agriculture



Government Authorities: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Total Budgeted: NIS 86 M | NIS 90 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 63 M

Main Goals



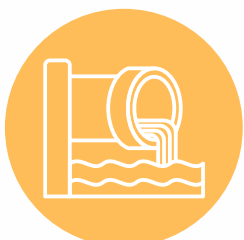
- Agricultural land and water resources preservation.
- Supplemental income sources and rural agritourism development.
- Improving the availability and consistency of agricultural product supply.
- Animal protection and welfare.

Progress



Maximizing the utilization of agricultural sector support by both the authorities and the farmers.

Budget: NIS 28.7 M



Budget approval and signing of an agreement with the Kishon Drainage and Streams Authority for the implementation of the Beit Netofa Valley project.

Budget: NIS 9 M

Fire and Rescue Services



Government Authorities: Ministry of Fire and Rescue Services

Total Budgeted: NIS 60 M | NIS 60 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 22 M

Main Goals



- The percentage of new hires from the Arab community not less than 20% of the annual workforce recruitment.
- Setting up 8 fire sub-stations and 4 stations for volunteers.
- Enhancing the outreach system and adapting it for the Arab community.
- Hiring 137 employees from the Arab community in fire departments during the program years (in various roles).

Progress



Maximizing the utilization of agricultural sector support by both authorities and farmers.

Budget: NIS 21.2 M



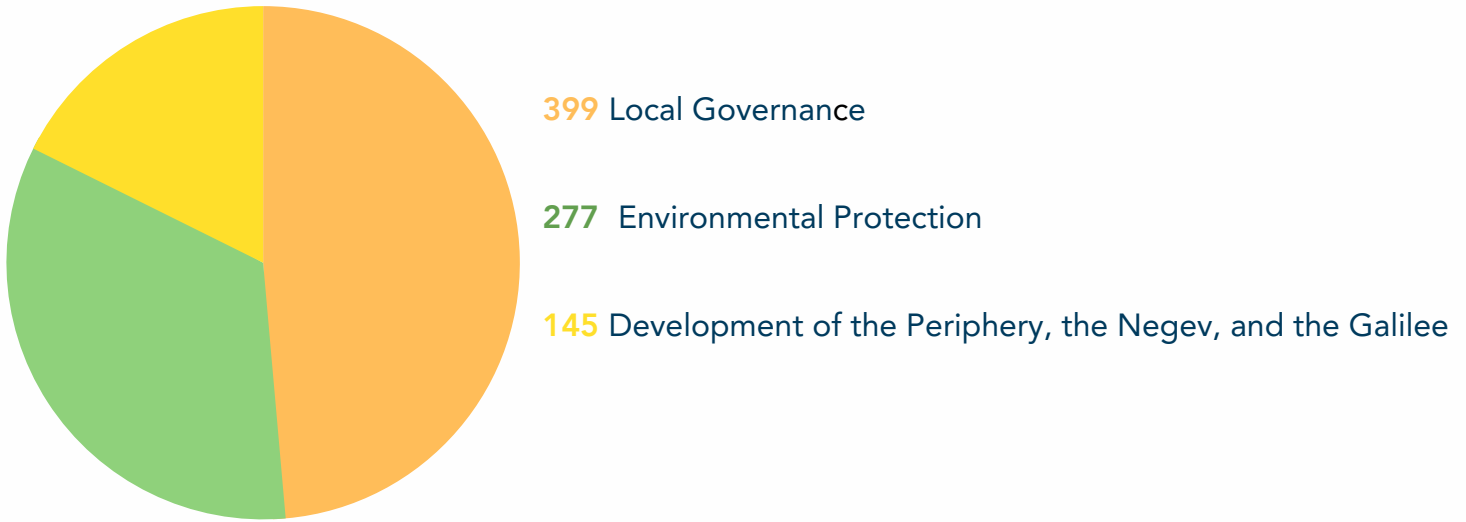
GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION 550: PROGRESS REPORT (2022)

LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES



Local Governance and Municipal Services

Budget allocation per area in 2022.



Local Governance



Government Authorities: Ministry of Interior, Economic Development Authority

Total Budgeted: NIS 270 M | NIS 1.720 B in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 399 M

Main Goals



- Enhancing the quality of services and residents' quality of life.
- Narrowing the gap in per capita government spending between Arab authorities and other authorities with a similar socio-economic profile.
- Increasing the government-funded housing capacity.
- Enhancing the organizational and managerial infrastructure and increasing the implementation capabilities.
- Improving emergency preparedness in the authorities.
- Promotion and enhancement of animal welfare.

Progress



Two phases of the reinforcement of the ongoing grant to Arab authorities: 14 million NIS from the 2021 budget; 200 million NIS in 2022.

Budget: NIS 340 M



Development and approval of a roadmap for an economic and organizational development plan, including infrastructure development, in Arab local authorities, along with the transfer of project planning responsibilities.

Budget: NIS 12.5 M



Signing agreements with 56 local authorities for the employment of a manager for resource and economic development in the local authorities' plans.

Budget: NIS 26 M

Planning for Jisr al-Zarqa and Nazareth



Government Authorities: Economic Development Authority

Total Budgeted: NIS 40 M in differential budgeting

Progress



Advancement of Government Resolution No. 1804 - Economic and Social Development Plan for the Settlement of Jisr al-Zarqa. The program has a budget of around 200 million NIS, including funds from GR 550, government ministries, and an extra 40 million NIS.

Budget: NIS 200 M



Following Government Resolution 550, the Authority for Economic Development promoted the decision for the development of Jisr az-Zarqa. The Resolution, developed collaboratively with relevant government ministries, was approved on July 18, 2022. The program has a budget of approx. NIS 200 M, included in GR 550 and additional budgets. It focuses on municipal capacity building, social gap reduction (with emphasis on welfare, education, and health), infrastructure development, and growth engines (including housing and tourism). It also prioritizes personal security. With government approval, the Authority established an implementation team to create a detailed work plan in collaboration with government ministries and the local authority.

Implementation capacities of Arab local authorities.



Government Authorities: Ministry of Interior, Economic Development Authority, Ministry of Finance

Progress

Report 25, led by the Ministry of Interior's Director-General, details the implementation method for this clause.

Environmental Protection



Government Authorities: Ministry of the Environmental Protection

Total Budgeted: NIS 300 M | NIS 250 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 277 M

Despite recent plans to improve environmental conditions in Arab communities, particularly regarding waste management, a gap persists in environmental quality and services compared to the majority population in Israel. Many changes were not implemented, resulting in a regression after support ended.

Main Goals:



- Develop a strategic plan to improve the environmental conditions in the Arab community.
- Increase the percentage of authorities with climate change adaptation plans to 80% by 2026.
- Expand the participation of authorities in regional environmental monitoring systems.
- Create a plan to strengthen organizational capacities in environmental areas within authorities in the Arab community.
- Enhance waste management capacities in Arab community authorities.

Progress



A joint plan was formulated by the government, local authorities, and third-sector organizations to improve the environmental conditions.

Budget: approx. NIS 550 M



Several tenders were publicized in various areas including waste management, environmental education, hazardous materials, eco building, recycling centers, urban nature, climate change, and the winners were announced.

Budget: approx. NIS 275 M

Development of the Periphery, the Negev, and the Galilee

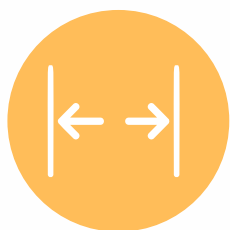


Government Authorities: Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee

Total Budgeted: NIS 520 M | NIS 185 M in differential budgeting

2022 Allocated: NIS 145 M

Progress



Projects to reduce disparities in mixed cities.

Budget: approx. NIS 50 M



Budgets for projects and programs that will lead to increased income or cost savings for the authorities: NIS 7 M in 2021 and NIS 32 M in 2022.

Budget: approx. NIS 275 M

Mixed Cities



Government Authorities: Economic Development Authority. Partnering ministries; the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Education, The Ministry for the Development of the Negev and Galilee, the National Insurance Institute (including the Youth Authority), the Ministry of Culture and Sports, the Ministry of Labor, and the Employment Service.

Total Budgeted: NIS 300 M **2022 Allocations:** NIS 46.22 M

Progress

- Promoting GR 1783, amending GR 549, the Program for Addressing Crime and Violence in Arab Society 2022-2026, managed by the Prime Minister's Office.
- Development of an urgent plan to reduce disparities and provide complementary responses to prevent violence and crime in mixed cities for the years 2022-2023, which received the validity of Government Decision dated August 29, 2022 (GR 1834).

Government Resolution 1834



On August 17, 2022, GR 1834 was approved, with a budget of approx. NIS 300 M. The decision followed extensive groundwork, including the compilation of current data, survey of needs from various local authorities, consultations with relevant civil society organizations and stakeholders, and intensive work by dedicated teams. The decision's focus areas include youth, employment, welfare, life skills education, culture, and sports. The work plans of the relevant ministries were approved by the dedicated committee responsible for GR 550, which also oversees the implementation of this resolution.

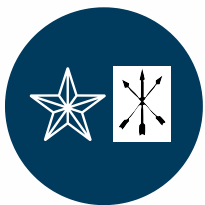
Government Resolution 1849



On September 2, 2022, the GR 1849 was put into effect. This plan instructs relevant ministries and authorities, including the Authority for Economic Development, to adopt and act upon the recommendations developed within the framework of the team that examined the barriers facing Arab businesses. These recommendations aim to improve their access to government procurement, as well as procurement within government-owned companies and public corporations.

A marketing campaign was prepared to promote and facilitate registration in the Yahalom - Government Procurement system, which is expected to launch soon. The campaign's goal is to encourage business owners and service providers to register and gain access to government tenders available to registered vendors.

Druze and Circassians Localities



Government Authorities: Prime Minister's Office

Progress



Efforts were made to implement a comprehensive decision aimed at fostering economic development and bolstering the Druze and Circassian communities. The progress includes the receipt and enactment of two significant government resolutions: 716 and 717. The total investment committed to these initiatives amounts to NIS 3 B.

Bedouin Localities in the Negev



Government Authorities: the Economic and Social Development Division for the Bedouin Community, within the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security.

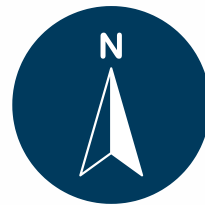
Main Goal: Addressing the unique needs of the Bedouin population in the Negev

Progress



GR 1297 was approved. The allocated investment is NIS 5.2 B.

Bedouin Localities in the North



Government Authorities: the Economic Development Authority

Main Goal: Addressing the unique needs of the Bedouin population in the North

Progress



Established monitoring committee for Bedouin communities in the North, ensuring their representation in various areas.



Government ministries were requested to report to the ongoing committee on responses and budgets allocated to Bedouin settlements as per the decision.

Bedouin Localities in the Negev



Government Authorities: the Economic and Social Development Division for the Bedouin Community, within the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security.

Main Goal: Addressing the unique needs of the Bedouin population in the Negev

Progress



GR 1297 was approved. The allocated investment is NIS 5.2 B.

Bedouin Localities in the North



Government Authorities: the Economic Development Authority

Main Goal: Addressing the unique needs of the Bedouin population in the North

GR 550 Implementation in 2023

In 2023, the Authority for the Economic Development of the Minorities Sector, in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, continues its efforts in the social and economic development of minority communities in general, particularly in line with the GR 550 plan. The ongoing implementation of the government resolution spans across various sectors and channels.

Projected activities include:

- Establishing a work plan for the budget allocation for transportation infrastructure in the years 2023-2024.
- Funding a multi-year program for higher education in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Welfare.
- Reallocation of budgetary items within relevant sections of the plan to enhance program implementation.
- Expanding the advisory and support network to overcome barriers in program execution.

Key Projects in the Framework of GR-550 in 2022

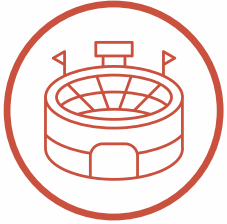


Regional Wastewater Conveyance System

Local Authority: Wadi Ara

Ministry: The Government Water and Sewage Authority

Budget: approx. ₪ 23 mln.



Stadium Construction

Local Authority: Kfar Kasem

Ministry: The Ministry of Culture and Sport

Budget: ₪ 20 mln.



Inner-city Road Construction

Local Authority: Shibli-Umm al-Ghanam

Ministry: The Ministry of Transportation

Budget: ₪ 19 mln.



Authorization of Public Transportation Routes

Local Authority: Arraba

Ministry: The Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee

Budget: ₪ 14 mln.



Cultural Center Construction

Local Authority: Tira

Ministry: The Ministry of Construction and Housing

Budget: ₪ 8 mln.



Advancement of the Tira Train Station

Local Authority: Tira

Ministry: The Ministry of Transportation

Budget: ₪ 150 mln.



Beit Netofa Valley Development

Local Authority: Beit Netofa Valley

Ministry: Agriculture

Budget: ₪ 9 mln.

Key Projects in the Framework of GR-550



Industrial Area Development

Local Authority: Mashhad

Ministry: The Ministry of Economy and Industry

Budget: ₪ 36.5 mln.

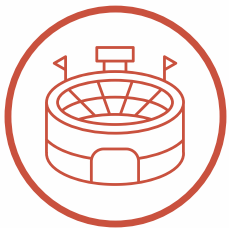


Industrial Area Development

Local Authority: Reineh

Ministry: The Ministry of Economy and Industry

Budget: ₪ 36.5 mln.



Doha Stadium Upgrade to Premier League

Local Authority: Sahnin

Ministry: The Ministry of Culture and Sport

Budget: ₪ 7.3 mln.



Swimming Pool Construction

Local Authority: Sahnin

Ministry: The Ministry of Culture and Sport

Budget: ₪ 9.3 mln.



Authorization of Public Transportation Routes

Local Authority: Umm al-Fahm

Ministry: The Ministry of Transportation

Budget: ₪ 25.5 mln.



Taibeh Terminal Road

Local Authority: Umm al-Fahm

Ministry: The Ministry of Transportation

Budget: approx. ₪ 26 mln.