



Khirbet Irtah Project

Programme Area:

Culture and Tourism

Project Number:

Pal 10

Pal 50

Award Number:

Duration:

24 months

Partner:

Ministry of Tourism and
Antiquity, Tulkarem
municipality and Al-Awqaf
Al-Islamiyyeh

Budget:

238,443.30

Donor:

USAID

Project Contact

Information

Project Manager:

Name

UNDP Programme

Manager:

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Project Office

Email:

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Project Background:

The site of Khirbet Irtah consists of a cluster of historical and archeological sites in a small area of land. At the entrance of the site, there is an Islamic shrine consisting of a small building with two floors and two domes. The lower floor of the shrine dates back to the Roman period, while the upper floor dates back to the Islamic period. Near the shrine there are four ancient Roman pools along with few Roman tombs in the rocks. At a distance of few meters, there are two traditional potteries. These potteries are still using preliminary methods of potter production, and one of them is utilizing a Roman tomb for exhibition.

Objectives:

The development project of Khirbet Irtah aimed at:

- Developing a multi-purpose (cultural, historical, religious, and recreational) park;
- Conservation of two historical edifices, renovation of two traditional pottery making, and landscape the yard in between; and
- Provide job opportunities to the people of the area.

Locations:

The site of Khirbet Irtah is located on the southern slopes of Irtah village about 3 Kms south of Tulkarem.

Products/Outputs (as of end – May 2006):

- Accumulated waste and an ugly metal structure were removed;
- three facility service small buildings were constructed;
- The two traditional potteries were renovated; the *Tannours* or the ovens were strengthened, the grounds were casted in concrete, and shadings were added. The yard, which joins the shrine with the pools, was divided into three corners; the little amphitheatre corner next to the pools, the green area corner, and the open plaza, which captured the large portion of the yard in front of the shrine.