

The role of international institutions in improving the standard of living of Bedouin communities in Qalqiliya governorate

Prepared by: Nahla Zuhair Hasan Zayyat/ Ghaleb

Supervised by: Dr. Abdel Wahhab Sabbagh

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to explore the role of the international institutions in improving the living standards of the Bedouin communities in Qalqiliya governorate from the beneficiaries' point of view and to analyze how the impact of that role varies according to the demographic variables of the beneficiaries.

To achieve this purpose, the study adopts a descriptive approach to study the role of the international organizations, analyze the data and to interpret the relations among the study's variables. The population of the study is consisted of (138) Bedouin families, living in (9) different Bedouin communities in the governorate of Qalqilya, Out of study's population (37) families refused to involved in the study and they are mainly from Habla and Azzun, and the Arab southern Ramadin.

The study sample is constituting of (101) families. A questionnaire was distributed among the families to determine their views towards the role of international organizations in improving their standards of living, according to the social, economic, and developmental interventions, which are implemented by the international organizations.

The study found that the overall score for evaluating the role of international institutions in improving the standard of living of the Bedouin communities in Qalqilya a governorate was low, with an average of 2.54 of the general response rate. The evaluation degree of the role of international institutions regarding economic interventions was moderate, and the evaluation degree of the role of international institutions concerned with social and developmental interventions had a low degree of evaluation.

The study concludes a range of results, mainly: the total degree of the evaluation of the international organizations' role improving the standard of living of the Bedouin communities in Qalqilya governorate is low, with an average of 2.54 of the general response rate there are no statistically significant differences in respondents' answers due to the variables (grouping behind the wall or not - of the head of the family's gender- the marital status of the head of the family - the practical situation of the household head). The study also showed that there are statistically significant differences in respondents' answers due to variables (The name of the Bedouin community - the educational qualification - age - refugee family or not) in evaluating the role of international institutions in improving the standards of living of the Bedouin communities in the governorate of Qalqilya.

The study concluded by asking an open question: if there are any difficulties facing the families of the Bedouin communities, hindering them from improving their standards of living. The most common and important answer was the constant threat of displacement by the Israeli occupation and warnings of eviction, lack of pasture, high costs of water, lack of water collection wells, and the absence of secondary schools, as well as the hindering of

imports and exports of any materials and basic needs, except with Israeli consent regarding the communities inside the wall from the west.

Based on the results of the study, the most important recommendations of the study are the necessity of adequate social, economic and developmental interventions aiming at improving the nature of living required for the Bedouin communities, as well as the necessity of activating the role of international institutions in order to improve the standards of living among the Bedouin communities in Qalqiliya and other governorates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, through the integration of development interventions that fit the needs of the Bedouin communities and the nature of their life and culture, focusing on agricultural support, land use and livestock production. In addition, improvement of the infrastructure and provision of basic resources for education, health and the fight against poverty. Furthermore, the need to adopt the principle of partnership with all parties and target groups in the process of development planning, in order to ensure the development of policies capable of facing the threat of forced displacement of Bedouin communities, and strengthening their steadfastness on their land threatened with confiscation, which can be achieved through cooperating with various governmental, local and national parties. Moreover, this research focused on the importance of conducting extended surveys, which will help to present a more realistic picture in numbers about all the social, economic, environmental, health and educational conditions of Bedouin families.