

# Agroforestry as a Tool for the Development of Tourism and Environmental Agriculture.

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## ● Introduction

An ever green tree, important for its product found on the table of each and every family all over the world has a great importance for humanity. It's the olive tree which is a common tree between countries of the Universe.



## ● Background

Olive trees stand witness, side by side of forestry trees for many years on environment challenges, especially weather changes. Olive trees and oaks are known for being ever green trees around a year. Both trees are poorly demanding water to survive in different parts of the country. Looking to an old olive tree is enough to recognize the hard circumstances it went through which affected its appearance. Still, the stem that looks dry is very rich with oil production. Different wild plants growing at different times of the year are rich with many advantages for the humanity and could be used in producing medicines.



## Second B2B event in Jordan on Multifunctional Olive Systems Amman - March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023



- **Keywords**

Tourism, Olive trees, Oaks, Wild plants, International traditional village,





- **Methodology**

Today I am glad to introduce to you a society which has a clear vision towards bringing, as much as countries together under the same ceiling of an international traditional village, attracting their cultures, food, clothes, plants, habits and traditions, instruments, farming systems, production systems and so on.



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Moltaqa Al Wedyan Cooperative Society for Tourism and Environmental Agriculture was established in August 2022 at Saham El Kfarat, Bani-Kinannah Directorate in the northern side of Jordan on a plot of land of 21 ha to achieve such a goal.





Saham is rich with olive trees, oaks, kharoub, jawafah, grenades and forestry trees. The variety of olive trees encouraged to build mills for olive oil production. Natural soap is produced from the remaining of oil as well as olive peat for fire and heating. Jawafah crops are well known for their good quality and taste, sold at good prices. Kharoub is needed for food and medical use at a high level. Good to know that the Yarmouk Valley is rich with many wild plants that can be consumed on daily meals like thyme, khubezeh, elete and much more. Many more wild plants might be used in medicine and need to be studied and tested.





This creates the need for a lab at the place and the exchange of information in this field. Moltaqa Al Wedyan Cooperative Society is keen to open a good number of employment opportunities for women and young generation reducing unemployment among them and improve their standard of living by creating an income for them. On the other hand, we will be calling people to enjoy their times at different activities like using the zip line adventure, riding horses, enjoying their meals from the traditional kitchen at a big tent or in the open air, going through different walking paths, attending some events and activities like a wedding party, musical party and visit the butterfly open air exhibition. Also, they can enjoy watching stars by telescope during the night time.





Having the land with many activities will be an attractive place for local and international people to enjoy their times in the open air zones, to be close to nature and life of simplicity. We will have wooden cottages with one or two or three bed rooms for those willing to sleep over there and spend more than one day. From this place, people can visit Um Qais, Gwalbeh; see the lake of Teberiad, Nazareth, Sour and Sida.



- **Specifications**

Moltaqa Al Wedyan Cooperative Society will offer people a high level of service 24/7 with unusual activities. We intend to create a touristic hub for people locally and externally from different countries. Moreover, to have an environmental agriculture hub for those interested in studying plants of all kinds.



## ● Impact

Many positive impacts are expected as a result of this project:

1. Social life will be affected positively by mixing with different nationalities.
2. Exchange of knowledge in different fields between local and foreign people.
3. Women and young generation will have new employment opportunities improving their income and life circumstances.
4. Increase the foreign currency stock which will support the imports trade balance finance.





- **Filled gaps**

1. Cottages will fill the lack of sleeping places like hotels and furnished apartments.
2. Introducing new fields of investment at Saham.
3. Improve services at Saham like, roads, water, transportations, supermarkets and malls, medicine, farming systems, foreign exchange shops, touristic companies...etc.
4. Locate Saham on the international and local maps as a destination for environmental agriculture and tourism.
5. Assign walking paths to get closer to nature and get rid of negative energy.



## ● **Limitations:**

1. Some rules and regulations delay for approvals sometimes.
2. Lack of expertise in some specialties
3. Need for special instruments.
4. Lack of finance at a certain stages.



- **Next steps/Potential extension**

- Use of alternative power system to save energy.
- Invite the international community to take part in the international traditional village.
- Explore international experience with such activities.
- Upgrade our services to match with high standard visitors.
- Fulfill suggestions by visitors.
- Make tourism and environmental agriculture the concern of people.
- Additional activities to be added.





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**Find out more**

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