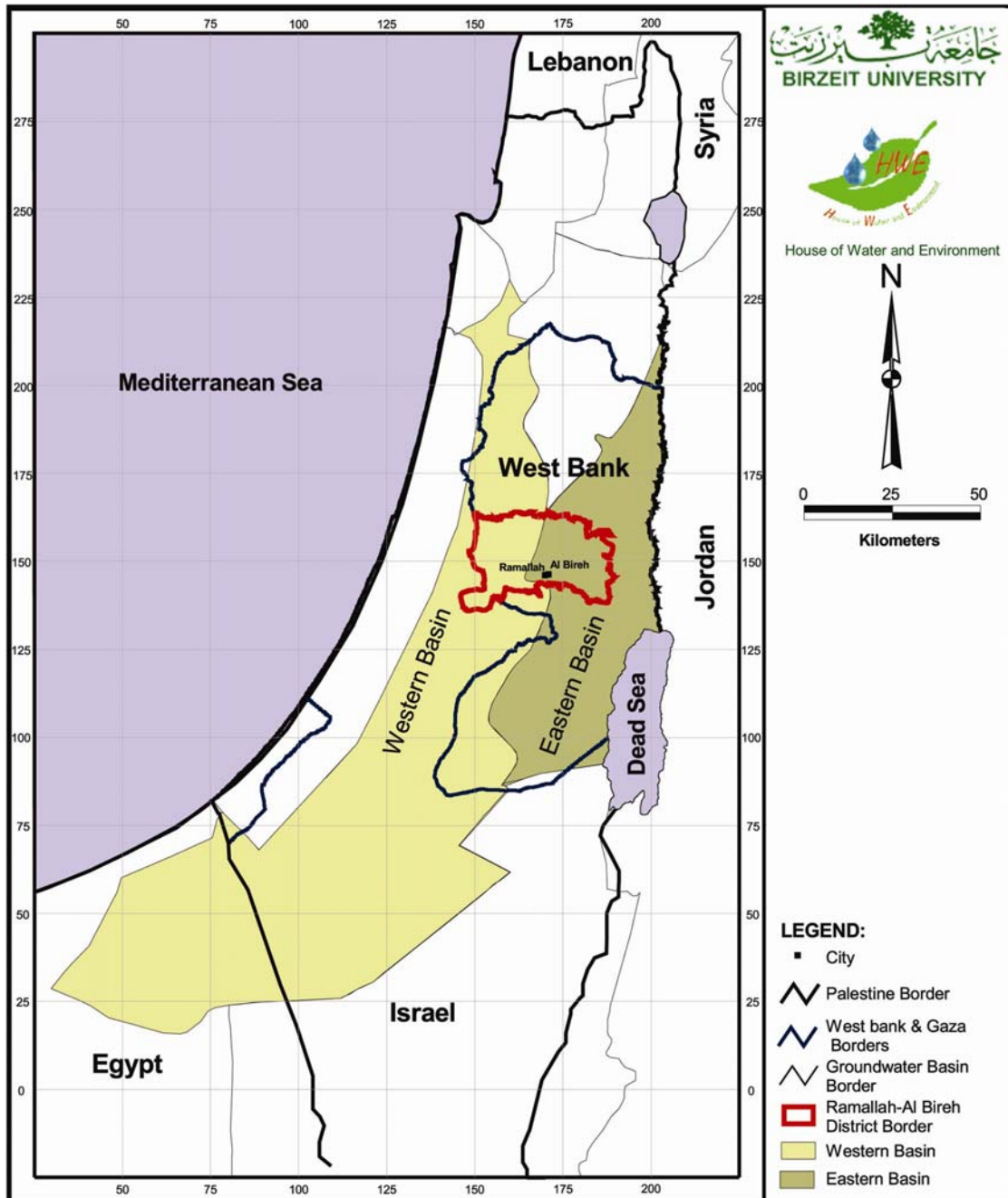


Background Document on the Water Environment of the Ramallah-Al Bireh District

“Influence of Urban Development on the Quality of Groundwater” Guidelines Design for Groundwater Protection



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Abbreviations

ARIJ	Applied Research Institute-Jerusalem
m bgl	meter below ground level
m asl	meter above sea level
ESW	Ein Samia Well
Km	kilometer
HSI	Hydrological Service of Israel
JSET	Joint Supervision Enforcement Team
Mcm/yr	million cubic meters per year
Mekorot	Israeli Water Company
mm/yr	millimeter per year
PWA	Palestinian Water Authority
SUSMAQ	Sustainable Management of West Bank and Gaza Aquifers
Wadi	Valley
WBWD	West Bank Water Department
WQMP	Water Quality Monitoring Program

1. Background and Location

The cities of Ramallah and its twin Al Bireh are located on a chain of Palestine central mountains. Ramallah-Al Bireh District is located in the middle part of the West Bank. It extends from Jerusalem district in the south to Nablus district in the north and from Jericho district in the east to the 1948 borderline between Israel and West Bank from the west, as shown in **Figure 1.1**.

The two cities are 860 meters above sea level, and have a fine climate that makes them a center of tourist attraction. Al Bireh which is older and bigger than Ramallah enjoys a strategic situation on the cross – roads of the main trades.

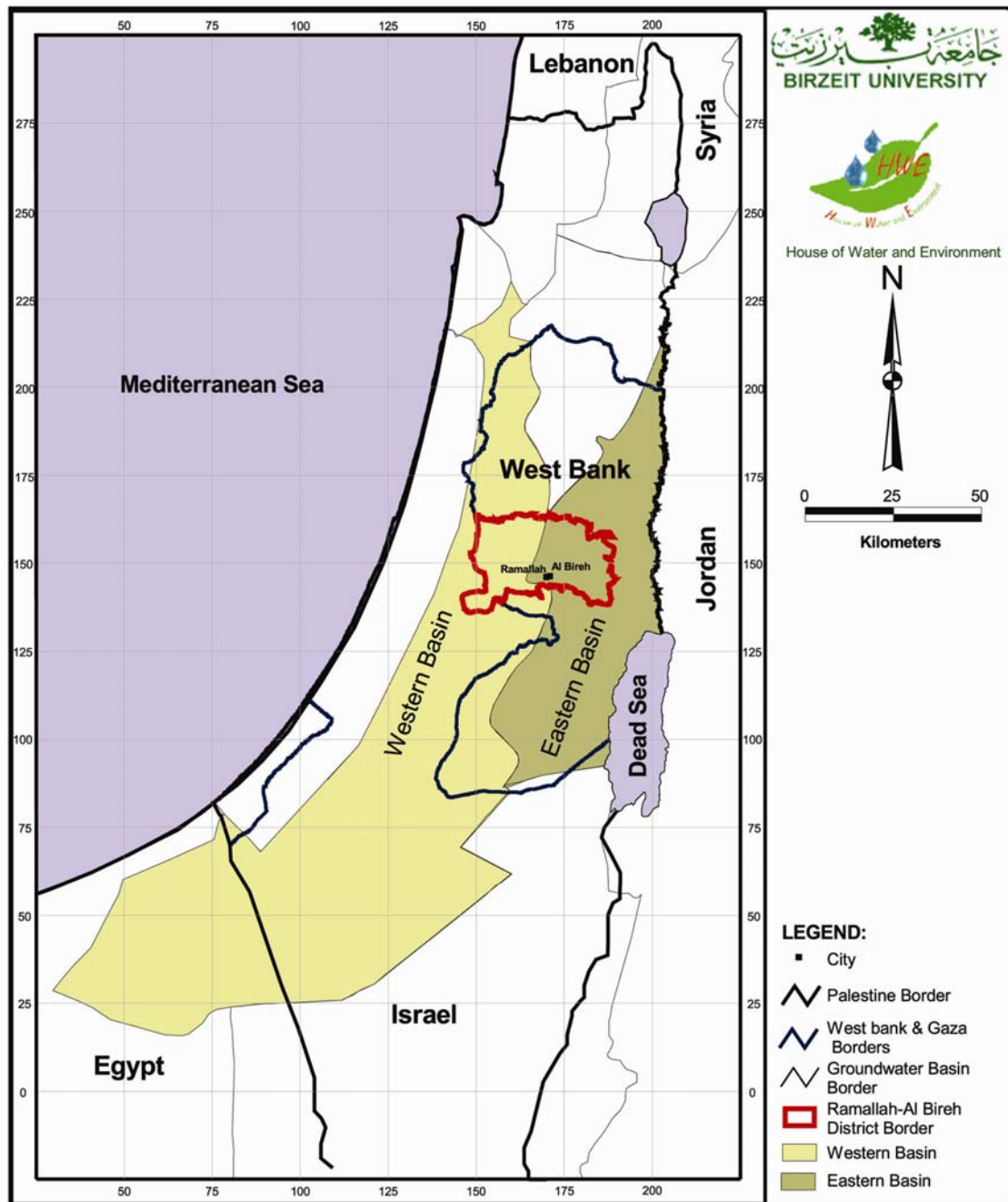


Figure 1.1 Location Map for Ramallah-Al Bireh District.



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