

Foreign Hebrew Labor

Integrated planning of the foreign workers' dwelling as part of the living fabric of the Arava



1960s-70s

Establishing the Arava valley settlements.
Cultivation of the desert land and the practice of the Hebrew labor



1990s-present

Shifting towards an industrial agriculture leader, both locally and worldwide.
Relying on employment of foreign workers

Country / City

University / School

Academic year

Title of the project

Authors

Haifa, Israel

Landscape Architecture Program, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

4th year, thesis project B.LA

Foreign Hebrew Labor

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PERFORMATIVE NATURE

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Máster d'Arquitectura del Paisatge -DUOT - UPC

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TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	Foreign Hebrew Labor
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Title of the course	LandBasics _ Territorial Agriculture in Israel
Academic year	4th year, thesis project B.LA
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In this project I aim to create an appropriate spatial representation for the foreign workers in Agriculture in the Arava Valley in Israel. Although they comprise the majority of the population in the area, they are perceived as . temporaries, as attested by the local farmers

. In the Arava, an extremely peripheral area in southern Israel, agricultural villages were established in the 1960s-70s, as part of a national strategy of settling the land along the political borders. The agricultural villages – Moshavim - focused on advancing agriculture in arid climate and water scarcity conditions and became an industrial agriculture leader both locally and worldwide. Maintaining the agriculture industry required the employment of foreign workers; . most of whom originated from Thailand

While the Moshavim in the Arava absorbed thousands of Thai workers over the years, they are seen as a temporary sector of society because of the bureaucracy that allows each individual to remain for a period of 5 years, despite the fact that over the past 30 years they have been an extremely important and steady element in development of the valley. This concept of "temporaries" has not led to any changes in the layout plans of the Moshavim; nor did it . generate recognition for the need for suitable dwellings for the workers

In this project I research the current residential situation of the foreign workers in the Arava and present possible design plans that address the findings. I then propose a suitable living space for the workers in Kikar Sdom settlements, and a more detailed design scenario in Moshav Paran in which the workers integrated into the . moshav's social life and layout

For further information

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Consult the web page <http://landscape.coac.net/>



There are about
22,000
agricultural Foreign Workers in Israel

Most of them
originated in

THAILAND



They arrive for
a period of

years **5**

Typical housing typologies in north Thailand:

indoor space with bedrooms



An open shaded front space
for cooking, and daytime
entertainment



Avi, a farmer from Giva'at Ada
"we put a lot of effort and money
in the workers. There are many
difficulties, different mentalities,
but we believed in them"



Nikon, works in Neot HaKikar
"I got here through an agency in Thailand,
I have three children at home. we speak
everyday using skype"

Repetitive elements in foreign workers housing



The # of foreign
workers in each
settlement



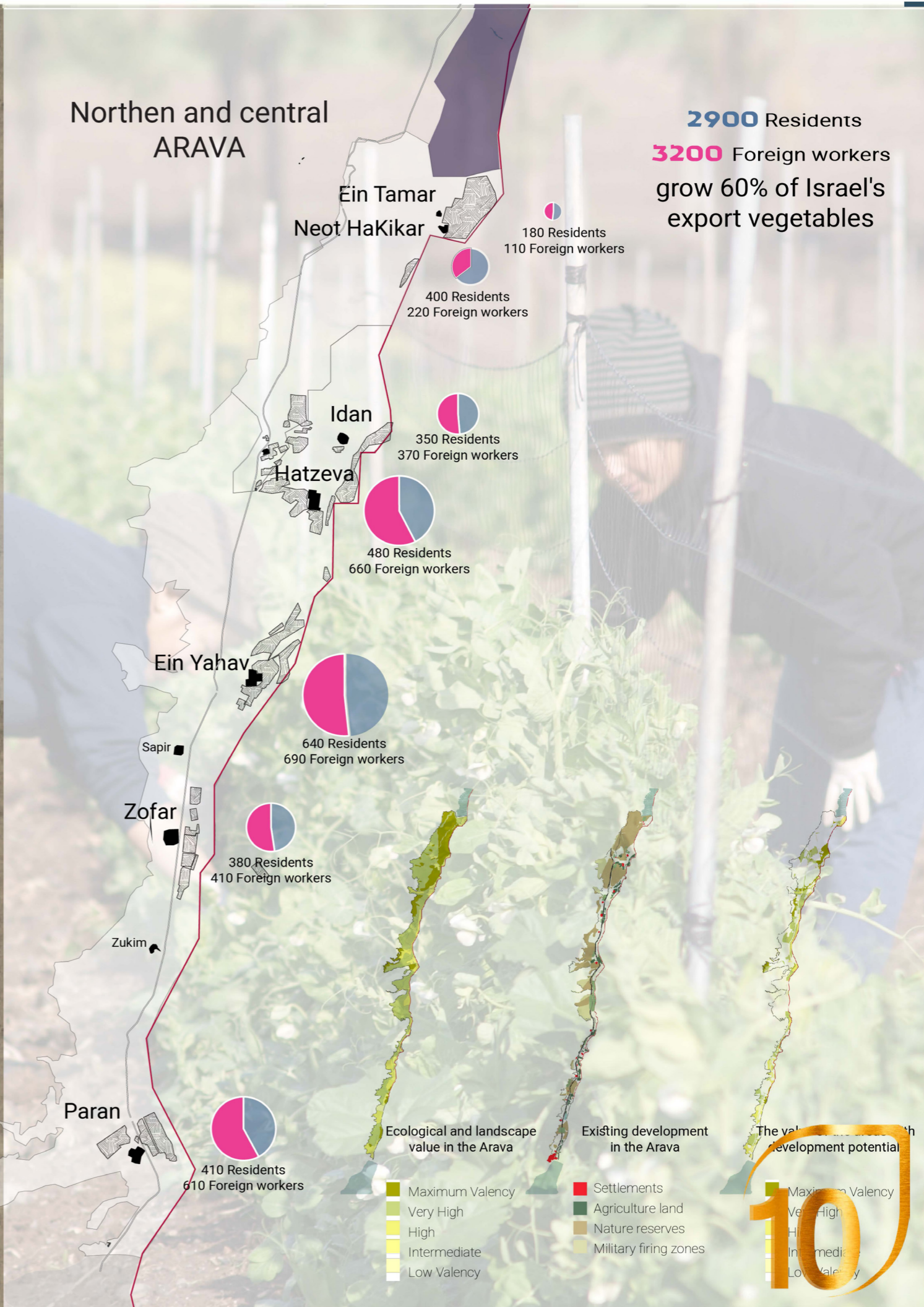
• 20 → • 686

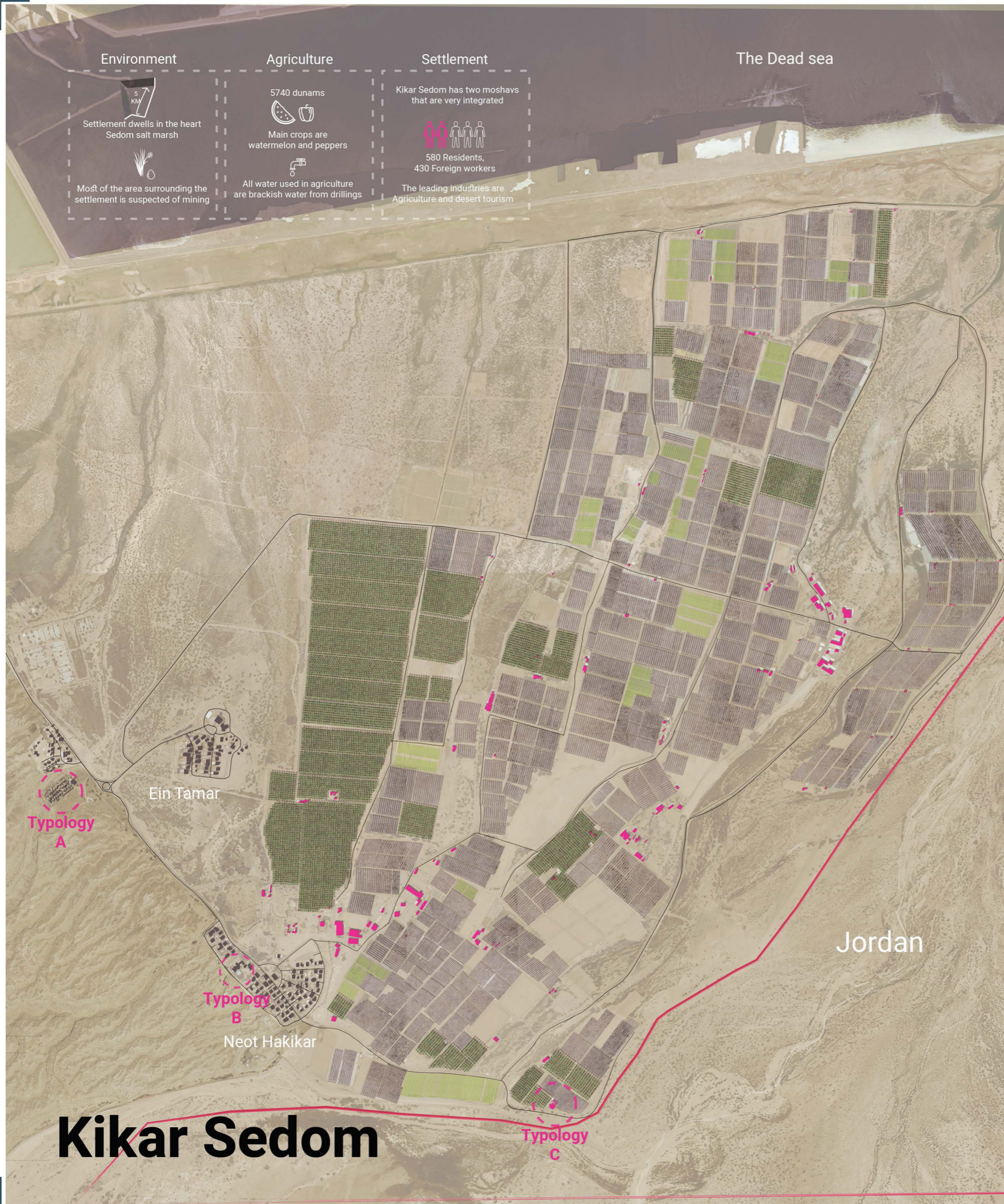
The % of foreign
workers out of total
population



• 0.1% → • 65%

Northern and central ARAVA





Environment

5 KM
Settlement dwells in the heart of Sedom salt marsh
Most of the area surrounding the settlement is suspected of mining

Agriculture

5740 dunams
Main crops are watermelon and peppers
All water used in agriculture are brackish water from drillings

Settlement

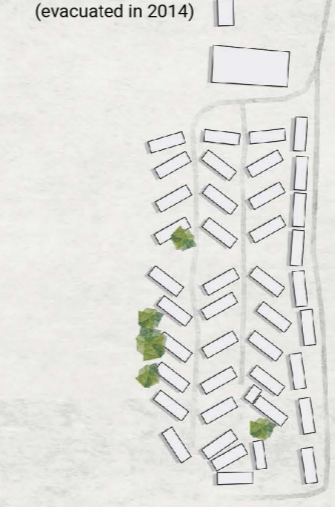
Kikar Sedom has two moshavs that are very integrated
580 Residents, 430 Foreign workers
The leading industries are Agriculture and desert tourism

The Dead sea

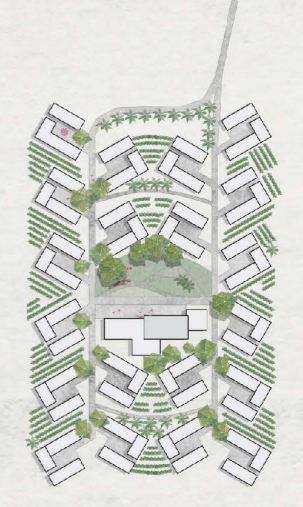
Jordan

Kikar Sedom

Housing Typology A- Trailer camp

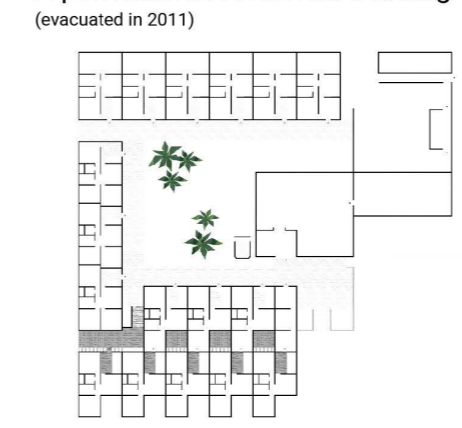


Current condition
Temporary buildings outside moshav Ein Tamar



Planned Situation
Planning with a Thai workers program while maintaining a footprint and existing principles

Housing Typology B- A permanent residential building

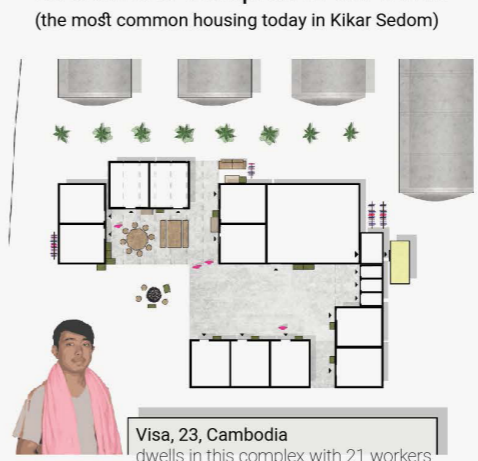


Current condition
The "fortress" compound designed with a cooperative ideology by architect Nachum Zolotov served the first settlers in Neot Hakikar



Planned Situation
permanent neighborhood that would serve the needs of the workers, containing a public area in the center, and can adapt to living in a desert climate

Housing Typology C- Residential complex in the fields



The complexes are in a distance of 0.5-5 KM from the settlements. They are usually by a packing house, and serve about 20 workers



Planning proposal for creating a green axis connecting residential complexes and developing the program along





Environment

Settlement dwells in Paran Wadi
 100 KM
 The settlement is located about 100 km north of Eilat

Agriculture

6000 dunams
 Main crop is peppers
 All water used in agriculture are brackish water from drillings

Settlement

Established in 1971, and began as Moshav and kibbutz hybrid
 410 Residents
 610 Foreign workers
 The leading industry is agriculture for export

Current condition (North wing)

Current condition

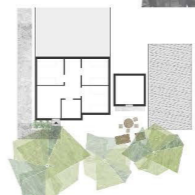
Typical Typologies - Residency in internal plot
 (Each farmer takes care of his workers housing)

Sheer Family grow flowers & onions
 12 foreign workers



Aviran family grow peppers & dates
 6 foreign workers

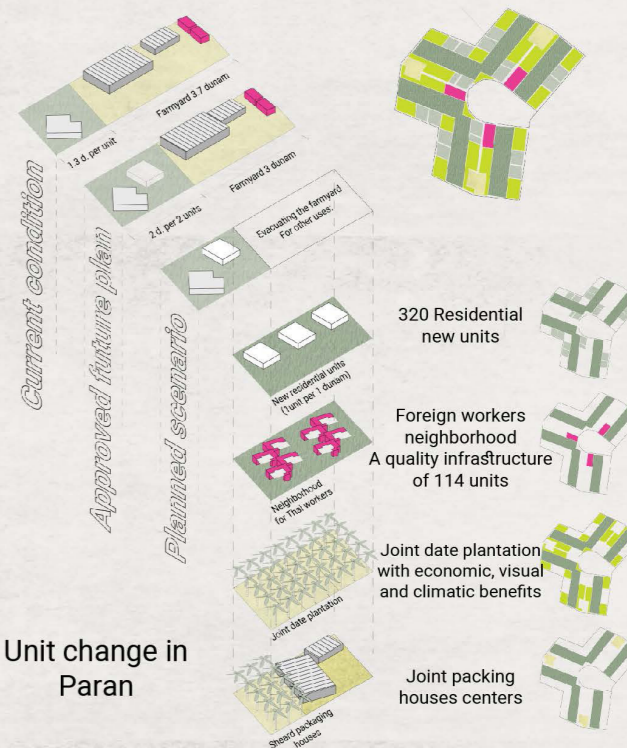
Choi, 30, from Thailand



Works for Aviran family, lives in this compound with 5 other workers

Planned scenario
 The Moshav's Agriculture Association Revival

Planning future expansion for Paran while preserving the existing footprint and cooperative and productive ideology



Unit change in Paran

Planned scenario
 The Moshav's Agriculture Association Revival

Moshav Paran

Foreign workers neighborhood

