



International Training on: Environmental Management Frameworks and Tools against Climate Change

Conducted by the Weitz Center for Development Studies within the framework of MASHAV
November 19 - December 13, 2012

Natural cycles of climate change are not a new phenomenon in the history of planet Earth. Yet, the current change in climate is a different matter - it is rapid and an outcome of human activity. As such, climate change has become a key issue in national and international agendas for development and sustainability. Climate change represents a real and immediate challenge, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) stresses: *"Climate change is not just a distant future threat. It is the main driver behind rising humanitarian needs and we are seeing its impact. The number of people affected and the damages inflicted by extreme weather has been unprecedented."*¹

The risk of serious climate change impacts suggests that urgent action is needed. This includes working in a twofold manner:

- Significantly reduce GHG emissions - Mitigation
- Adjust to present and upcoming changes in climate - Adaptation

There is increasing evidence that the overall benefits of strong and early action outweigh the costs. Therefore, various local, national, and international policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation were negotiated, adopted, and implemented. Such as, the Kyoto Protocol, Chicago Climate Exchange and the EU Emissions Trading System.

For the developing world climate change presents some specific challenges. Most commonly seen in the interface of dealing with:

- low carbon economic growth
- adaptation through enhancing ecosystem resilience and its capacity to adjust to changes
- forestry (e.g. reforestation, avoided deforestation and sustainable forest management), sustainable land management and agriculture
- mitigation, including through non-forestry activities such as fuel-switching and energy efficiency at the community level, and the use of biofuels
- enhancing education, awareness raising, information and science

The international training on *'Environmental Management Frameworks and Tools against Climate Change'* is designed to equip participants with a critical understanding of the ways and means to deal with climate change. In particular, this course is designed to expose participants to analytical, methodological and practical Israeli expertise facilitating a positive contribution to climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation in countries with which they are actively involved.

¹<http://www.unocha.org/what-we-do/advocacy/thematic-campaigns/climate-change/humanitarian-impact>

The program will introduce participants to:

- + Policies for climate change mitigation.
- + Green Growth theory and practice.
- + Local economic and social development.
- + The role of government and non governmental organizations for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- + Cutting edge clean technologies in energy, water, and soil management.

The Israeli experience

Israel has some significant experience in climate change mitigation and adaptation. This includes national and local policies for greenhouse gas emission reduction, renewable energies, energy efficiency, water management and combating desertification.

This program will provide participants with Israeli-gained knowledge and tools on the following topics:

- + Local, national and global processes and policies for climate change.
- + Green growth strategy tools and practice.
- + Novel green technologies in renewable energy with special attention to new development in solar energy.
- + Implementation of climate related strategies at urban and community level.
- + Subject related issues such as: transport planning, water management, water desalination, green building, energy conservation, etc'.
- + Desertification, agriculture and climate change.

The methodology

Participants will attend lectures in class and on-site tours, benefiting from the experience and knowledge of high-level Israeli experts and consultants. Israeli cases and practice will be discussed and exercised throughout the program. Additionally, participants will be required to formulate and present a project of interest relevant to the topic of this course. For this purpose, some pre-course work will be required. Detailed instruction will be sent to the selected participants.

Remark: Please take into consideration that the program involves daily walking on the campus as well as in field visits.

Who may apply?

The training targets professionals working in environmental management frameworks for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Typically we are looking for: policy makers working in governmental ministries; top ranking employees of local authorities; Managers of NGOs or CBOs; key individuals that hold broad responsibilities in regards to climate related issues; social entrepreneurs; and any professional that can demonstrate how this program will provide for significant impact upon their return.

Application Process

Candidates must complete the appropriate application forms (including health certificate, declaration etc.) available at the Israeli diplomatic mission in their country, or through the Internet <http://mashav.mfa.gov.il>, www.weitz-center.org. The completed forms should be

submitted to the Israeli mission in your area and sent to our office (ronit@weitz-center.org) not **later than 07 September 2012**.

Candidates must also hand in a passport photo by electronic file.

Scholarships

The scholarships includes: 25 days with full board, tuition, accommodation (double room) and meals, medical insurance (not included dental services, eye glasses, chronic illnesses and pregnancy) and transportation from/to the airport in Israel. The scholarship does not include flight tickets.

It should be taken into account when booking the flight tickets that the scholarship covers exclusively from 18.11.2012 (arrival day) to 13.12.12 (day of departure). Any liability or expense out of this term shall be entirely at the expense of the participant.

Arrival and transportation

A Taxi Company called "MONI SITON TOURS" will transport the participants to the Residence in Rehovot, Israel, where the students will stay during the training. Transportation will be free of charge only if transported by this company .

The MONI SITON TOURS counter is located after passing through Customs, in the gallery of level 1 (Arriving Passengers' hall, left staircase near gate 2, towards "Traklin Arbel".)

Medical Insurance

MASHAV will assume the responsibility of the participants' medical insurance for the duration of the course, excluding dental care, pregnancy, eyeglasses and chronic illnesses.

MASHAV and Weitz Center are **not** responsible in case of lost or stolen personal belongings.

About MASHAV

MASHAV – Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation - at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs was founded in late 1957, and is responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the State of Israel's development cooperation programs. MASHAV concentrates on human and institutional capacity building by sharing Israel's own development experience and expertise, imparting know-how and transferring innovative technologies and tested methodologies adaptable to developing country needs. MASHAV's approach is to ensure social, economic and environmental sustainable development, joining the international community's efforts to implement the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. In events of natural disasters, MASHAV also provides humanitarian assistance and participates in reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.

About Weitz Center

The Weitz Center for Development Studies is a leader in capacity building for sustainable development. Our work is dedicated to enhancing the efforts of international agencies, governments, communities, civil society and private sector organizations to achieve positive social and economic change worldwide. Towards this end, we offer high quality training and consulting services, highlighting our practical, assets-based and integrated approach to development. <http://www.weitz-center.org/>

About Heschel Sustainability Center

The Heschel Center is dedicated to building a sustainable future for Israeli society - environmentally, socially and economically - through education and reflective activism. Our strategies include leadership development, education, working with government and non-government organizations, and fostering activism and community-based projects across all sectors of Israeli society. The vision of the Heschel Center is to propel Israeli society towards social-environmental sustainability, through capacity-building, leadership development and model projects. The Heschel Center's key initiatives are: Environmental Fellows Program, Green Schools Network, GreenChange (online social network), Local Sustainability Center (see below)

About the Local Sustainability Center

The Center for Local Sustainability aims to advance the capacity for sustainability in Israeli local government by raising awareness and providing training, tools, and support networks for local government officials, advocates, architects, planners and mayors, to develop pilot projects in their communities, by: Recruiting, training and networking advocates, municipal professionals and mayors, to engage a critical mass of local governments in sustainable development; Developing state-of-the-art tools for local sustainability in municipal planning, management and legislation; Creating a support network by linking Israeli Sustainable Development initiatives and connecting them to similar initiatives in other countries. The Center's key initiatives are: Cities for Climate Protection in Israel; Zero Waste Initiative; Local Economy Initiative; Sustainable Communities Initiative.

Additional Information

Any additional information is available at:

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