



STATE OF ISRAEL



Israel's Agency for
International Development
Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



CINADCO
Center for International
Agricultural Development
Cooperation
Ministry of Agriculture and
Rural Development



KKL - JNF
Keren Kayemet LeIsrael
Jewish National Fund

International Seminar on:
**Combating Desertification:
Afforestation in Arid and Semi Arid Zones**

November 1—16, 2010



MASHAV – Israel's Agency for International Development
Cooperation, **CINADCO** - Center for International Agricultural
Development Cooperation, together with **KKL** –Jewish National Fund,
invite professionals from countries which suffer from desertification
processes to participate in the International Seminar on :

**Combating Desertification:
Afforestation in Arid and Semi Arid Zones**

which will take place in Kibbutz Shefayim, Israel

from 1st -16th November, 2010

About the course

Background

Israel may be considered an ancient land with new approaches toward combating desertification. Since its establishment, the State of Israel has embraced the issues of sustainable land management by initiating public policies designed to restore, develop and manage its drylands. Israel is recognized as a country that has successfully “held back the desert”.

Yet, Israel faces the constant threat of land degradation mainly because of over-grazing, intensive cultivation and expansion of urban areas. Therefore, an integrative ecological research program supported mainly by the Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF), intends to understand natural processes together with human interactions and find the way for the long-term sustainability of the desert’s productivity and biodiversity.

KKL-JNF's major activities are afforestation and land reclamation. About 70 per cent of Israel’s forests are man-made. Some 240 million trees have been planted, almost all in semi-arid and dry sub-humid regions, transforming deserts into a savanna landscape. The introduction and adaptation of drought resistant species, as well as an intensive approach to soil and water management, are part of the tools Israel is using to “make the desert bloom”.

Aims

Combating desertification is a major challenge with which many countries around the world cope. Deforestation is often one of the most visible consequences of desertification, as well as being one of the determining and exacerbating factors. The present seminar aims to share Israel’s forestry research, development policies and action plans while enhancing an exchange of experience, taking into consideration the adaptability of methods and technologies to meet local conditions in each participant’s country.

The Program

The Seminar will include professional lectures and visits on the following subjects:

- Forestry and afforestation in Israel
- Forest establishment
- Mediterranean and arid zones forest management
- Soil conservation and rehabilitation
- Management of water resources
- R&D
- Forestry and community.

Participants will also attend the **3rd International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification** which will take place at the Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Sde Boker Campus, 8-11, November 2010.

For more information: <http://www.entersymposium.com/ddd/site/>.

Requirements

The Seminar is geared towards professionals from countries affected by drought and desertification processes. Candidates should hold an academic degree in related disciplines, and at least two years of professional work experience in related fields. Priority will be given to professional staff involved in national / regional projects, with and/or under the aegis of governmental institutions, national and/or international organizations, research institutes, universities, NGOs, etc.

A full command of English is required.

Application

Application forms and other information may be obtained at the nearest Israeli mission and at Israel's Foreign Ministry's website: <http://mashav.mfa.gov.il> (in Contact Us → Information and Registration). Completed application forms, including the medical form and the attached professional questionnaire should be sent to the relevant Israeli mission and to the CINADCO Training Center in Israel until **31st August, 2010**. Fax N^o: +972 9 959 5733 or E-mail: english@cinadco.co.il

MASHAV will award a limited number of scholarships covering tuition fees, full board accommodations (two to a room), medical insurance and transportation from and to the airport.

Scholarships do not include international airfare and per diem. Candidates residing in the European Union are not eligible for scholarships.

General Information

Location and accommodation

The Seminar will be held at CINADCO's International Training Centre at Kibbutz Hotel Shefayim, situated 20 km north of Tel Aviv near the coastal city of Netanya.

Transportation

Participants will be transported from and to Ben Gurion airport, without charge, by Tal Limousine Company, which is located on the mezzanine level at the Arrivals Hall. Participants are requested not to take any other transport company.

Clothing

The course will be held at the end of autumn. Temperatures may vary between 15°C and 30°C with probabilities of rainfall. It is therefore recommended to bring warm and light clothing, suitable footwear for field trips and swimwear.

Insurance

The participants are medically insured by a health insurance policy. This policy does **not** cover the treatment of chronic or serious diseases, dental care, eyeglasses, pregnancy and specific medication taken by the participant on a regular basis. Participants are required to bring with them their usual medication. No insurance of personal belongings like money, video cameras, laptops or jewelry will be provided.

About MASHAV

Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV) was founded in 1958 as part of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. MASHAV is responsible for initiating and implementing Israel's development cooperation programs worldwide. MASHAV aims at transferring to developing countries the expertise and technologies that have assisted Israel on its own path to development. Today, Israel cooperates with over 140 countries, providing training in Israel and abroad, and operates on-site long-term demonstration projects. MASHAV is active in fields ranging from agriculture to health and from community development to entrepreneurship. <http://mashav.mfa.gov.il>

About CINADCO

The Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation (CINADCO) is a part of the Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Since 1958, CINADCO has been in charge of the International Agricultural program conducted by MASHAV in Israel and abroad. CINADCO's activities consist of: International and country "tailor-made" courses in Israel, on-the-spot courses, long- and short-term projects and advisory missions. Israeli experts have also been sent to different locations around the world to conduct projects and to share their expertise in various aspects of agricultural production, extension and project planning. <http://www.cinadco.moag.gov.il/cinadco>

About KKL-JNF

Since its founding in 1901, the KKL-Jewish National Fund, a non-governmental organization, has been a vital part of Zionist history, achieving its goal of reclaiming the land that would become the State of Israel, and helping to develop that land into a thriving nation, while protecting Israel's environment. Over the past century, and through the support of donors around the world, the JNF has planted over 240 million trees, built over 180 dams and reservoirs, developed over 250,000 acres of land, created more than 1,000 parks throughout Israel and educated students around the world about Israel and the environment. www.kkl.org.il

For further information please contact:

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