



Agricultural Technologies Technologies, Policies, Strategies and Support Systems

A professional tour organized by the Weitz Center for Sustainable Development

The Israeli experience



Israel is located on the Mediterranean Sea. Half of the country is characterized by arid and semi-arid lands; however, throughout the decades Israel developed its lands thanks to the most updated technologies.

The country is well known for its innovative irrigation systems. Among other water saving technologies in agriculture, Israel holds the world's highest waste water recycling rate as over 80% of its waste water is treated and reused for irrigation and alternative uses.

At the same time, Israel's agricultural sector is characterized by intensive production systems which promote advanced technologies in the entire agricultural sector. Additional innovations in crop quality upgrading and variety extension, as well as in greenhouse or plant nursery development have led to enhanced productivity. Israel shelters experimental farms or lands where agricultural research is conducted.

The professional tour is designed to demonstrate solutions developed in Israel for improved agricultural production. In addition to introducing the participants to new technologies, we will investigate the integration of national policies with local interests and examine how to utilize local assets for the development process.

Learning objectives



This seven days professional tour is based on successful experiences gained in agriculture in Israel. This tour will enable participants to gain knowledge and experiences regarding:

- Technological innovations for agriculture upgrading;
- Irrigation systems, equipment and management support;
- Support systems for small and medium enterprises for agricultural development;
- Value chain upgrading and income generation;
- Community Asset Based Development framework for rural revitalization.

Program



The exposure visit program can be discussed and tailor-made to better suit the group's requirements.

The program is based mainly on site visits which include meetings with government and municipal officials, NGO's and private sector. Seeing on-site

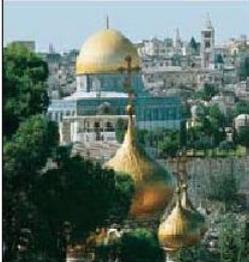


projects and being exposed to first-hand experience learnt which can be implemented in development projects.

Includes a visit to: "International Fresh Produce Summit & Exhibition".

This major international exhibition of fresh agriculture produce, "FreshAgroMashov", is one of the pivotal international meetings in the world of dynamic trade in agriculture as well as an international contingent of the parties involved in the agricultural industry: www.agro.mashovgroup.net.

Visits to Holy Sites



Israel holds in its territory sites considered sacred by the three great monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. During the professional tour, participants will tour the ancient streets of Jerusalem and the stunning scenery surrounding the Sea of Galilee, going back to biblical times, connecting with the deep spirituality of the sites and taking away an unforgettable experience.

Who can participate?

The training targets decision and policy makers working in governmental ministries, specifically in the field of rural development, environment, agriculture and resource management, planning and economics. Employees of local authorities in the relevant fields, representatives of rural association, managers of cooperatives, NGOs or CBOs and key workers of private sector businesses which operate in the field.

The professional tour includes:

- Field visit and professional meetings;
- Pickup from airport and complete transport to accommodation & meetings;
- Entrance to sites and locations;
- Professional guides;
- Health Insurance;
- Half Board pension (Breakfast and lunch);
- Accommodation in 4 star hotel in the city center of Tel Aviv;
- Tourism to Jerusalem and Nazareth

For a tentative program, further information and cost estimates, please

contact: Ms. Adi Dishon: adi@weitz-center.org

Telephone: 972-8-9474111; Fax: 972-8-9475884

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