



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



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## **Mainstreaming Poverty - Environment Linkages into Development Planning January 9 to February 2, 2012**

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**(Re-issuance of course planned for January 2011)  
Conducted by the Weitz Center for Development Studies**

Integrating environmental, social and economic dimensions is essential to achieve sustainable development. The contribution of environmental management is well acknowledged to improved public health and living conditions, to economic development and to the social resilience of communities. However, for poor population in developing countries it is often critical.



The environment provides natural resources for provision of food, water or fuel which poor communities in developing economies rely on disproportionately for their basic needs. Poor communities also depend on the environment to generate incomes from agriculture, fishing and tourism. They are also more vulnerable to natural disasters which threaten their livelihoods and undermine food security. Moreover, poor people are more vulnerable to health risks. Finally, the economic development of communities and regions is directly and indirectly affected by the quality of the environment. In this light, a more sustainable management of the environment and natural resources contributes directly to poverty reduction, sustainable livelihoods and pro-poor growth.

Understanding the linkages between poverty and environment and integrating these into planning and development mechanisms such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and MDG strategies, as well as local development strategies, are key steps to achieving more sustainable use of natural resources. To that extent, the UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI) is a global UN program that supports country-led efforts to mainstream poverty-environment linkages into national development planning.



Israel has accumulated practical knowledge and experience in key areas such as agriculture and land preservation in arid and semi-arid areas, water and irrigation technologies for development, integrated pest management, forest management, combating desertification and dry land development, waste management and the use of waste for

agriculture and economic development, renewable energy – technologies and its utilization for development, improving livelihoods, resilience, health and economic development of poor communities.



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In co-operation with  
**UNDP-UNEP POVERTY-ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE**  
Initiative Pauvreté-Environnement PNUD-PNUE  
Iniciativa Pobreza-Ambiente PNUMA-PNUD



The seminar is aimed at improving participants' understanding of the mechanisms linking poverty and environment; and providing them with tools to mainstream Poverty-Environment linkages into local and regional planning and development processes.

**The seminar will enable participants to benefit from:**

- + UNDP-UNEP PEI methodology and practical experience in mainstreaming poverty-environment linkages into national planning and development
- + The Israeli practical experience in development under harsh environmental conditions
- + Support in adapting PEI and Israel's experience into local conditions
- + Sharing experience with colleagues and peers

The seminar involves presentations and discussions, field visits, exercises, and formulation of a small scale project through which participants will be able to assimilate the seminar's materials and adapt it to local conditions.

The seminar will cover **three main areas**: (1) Mainstreaming poverty and environment and integration of linkages into development planning; (2) Environmental aspects with potential for improving social and economic development; (3) Tools for strategic planning and local development. Within this framework we will focus on:

- + Understanding poverty-environment linkages and their impact on the livelihoods and resilience of regions and communities
- + Methodologies and tools for mainstreaming poverty-environment linkages into national and sector-based planning and development
- + Lessons learnt from PEI experience in Africa on making the case for poverty-environment mainstreaming, influencing budget allocations and its work in the agriculture sector
- + Approaches to local development – assets-based integrated development and strategic planning as a framework for action
- + Lessons learnt from the Israeli experience in agriculture and land preservation in arid and semi-arid areas, water and irrigation technologies for development, integrated pest management, forest management, combating desertification and dry land development, waste management and the use of waste for agriculture and economic development, utilizing renewable energy for development, land-use planning and environmental assessment, local economic development
- + Crisis management and community resilience development



**Selection of candidates**

*The seminar targets professionals, officials and policy-makers from national and local governments, local and national development organizations and institutions, as well as social entrepreneurs from Sub-Saharan African states; who are involved in agriculture (including fishery and forestry) development,*

environment management and conservation, local and national planning and development, poverty reduction and community and economic development.

Participants must submit **prior** to the seminar:

- + A short abstract of a project (maximum 500 words) they wish to formulate throughout the seminar (please note that only 5-6 projects will be select to be developed in small groups)
- + A short presentation on poverty-environment linkages in your respective country or local area
- + A passport photo by electronic file

Further instructions will be sent in advance to the selected participants.

### **How to apply?**

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>, and [www.weitz-center.org](http://www.weitz-center.org). The completed forms should be submitted at the Israeli mission in your area and sent to our office ([ronitshp@netvision.net.il](mailto:ronitshp@netvision.net.il)) not later than the morning of December 2, 2011 .

### **Scholarships**

**The scholarship include: 25 days with full board, tuition, study visits, transportation from/to the airport in Israel and medical insurance (excluding dental care, pregnancy, eyeglasses and chronic illnesses)**

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: **Participants have to take into account to book flight reservations for the dates** :  
: **covered by the scholarship (arrival January 8-9 and departure February 2). All** :  
: **expenses or liabilities beyond this term shall be covered entirely by the** :  
: **participant.** :  
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### **Arrival and transportation**

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

The MONI SITON TOURS counter is located after the customs, at the gallery of floor 1 of Arriving Passengers' hall. Use the left automatic staircase near gate 2 to the gallery hall and look for "**TRAKLIN ARBEL**".

### **Insurance of personal belongings**

MASHAV, Weitz Center and the "Reisfeld Residence" are not responsible in case of lost or stolen personal belongings.

### **Additional Information**

Any additional information is available at:



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**Division of Training**

**and International Cooperation**

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