

Regional Agricultural Program

The Regional Agricultural Program, in which Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinian Authority participate, with Denmark as the initiator and main supporter, is well into its second five-year phase. The program is comprised of six main subjects of agricultural development and is governed by a semi-annual steering committee with representatives of all partners.

This unique program is being carried out under the sponsorship of the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), and encompasses a number of topics in the field of agriculture: small ruminants, dryland agriculture, saline and marginal water resources, post-harvest technology and marketing, and aquaculture. The program was established in 2000, and has been successfully carried out even during times of regional tensions. It includes on-site and regional training programs, meetings between experts, joint applied research and participation in international conferences.

During 2008 courses were conducted in Israel on Quality Standards of Fresh Products, Reclaimed Waste Water and Milk Processing for women, and 13 meetings of partner experts were held, as were 2 meetings of the Program's Steering Committee.

Egypt

Trilateral Cooperation: Egypt-Israel-Japan

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in March, 2006 between MASHAV, Japan's International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR) of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on a Japan-Israel joint training program for Egypt. The purpose of the training is to support the "Mubarak Program" by providing agricultural courses in arid and semi-arid areas for extension officers and graduate settlers in newly reclaimed lands of the Program. Agreed minutes signed by the three parties in March 2006 call for four courses annually for three years (2006-2008). Additional courses under this trilateral agreement have been decided on by a trilateral steering committee. Some 80 participants took part in four courses during 2008. Additional 80 Egyptian participants took part in the long standing bilateral training program.

Jordan

Awassi Dairy Sheep Farm

In cooperation with Jordanian partners, MASHAV helps operate a farm in the Karak region for intensive sheep's milk production and processing. The project involves introduction of advanced strains of the local "Awassi" sheep to the country, which provide approximately four times the milk yields of indigenous sheep. The project includes over 400 sheep, a milking parlor and a state-of-the-art mini-dairy for milk product manufacture donated by MASHAV and involves training activities and short-term consultancies.

Commercial Beekeeping Project

MASHAV runs, in cooperation with Jordanian partners, a beekeeping demonstration project near the city of Irbid. The project involves upgrade of local bee stock, research and development and training and demonstration activities geared at introducing improvements to the local beekeeping sector in the northern Jordan Valley. Further plans include extension and training activities for local bee keepers.



MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA



Egypt

PARTICIPANTS IN ISRAEL 174
Agriculture 174

ON-THE-SPOT COURSES 2
Agriculture 2
TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS 70

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCIES 3
Agriculture 3



Jordan

PARTICIPANTS IN ISRAEL 100
Agriculture 100

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCIES 11
Agriculture 10
Medicine and Public Health 1



Morocco

PARTICIPANTS IN ISRAEL 1
Agriculture 1

Palestinian Authority

PARTICIPANTS IN ISRAEL 148
Agriculture 40
Education 1
Gender Issues 26
Small and Medium Enterprises 61

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCIES 1
Agriculture 1

