

SHALOM CLUBS

MASHAV maintains contact with its former course participants through its network of more than 70 Shalom Clubs worldwide. These clubs serve as a forum for MASHAV alumni to participate in professional and social activities. Members are invited to attend local lectures by skilled experts, to exchange ideas and to organize technical cooperation and humanitarian assistance as well as holding cultural functions. Among the many activities that have been organized by Shalom Clubs in their home countries have been workshops on professional topics ranging from AIDS education to business management, organization of events to raise funds for local charities, mobilization of club members to donate their professional services for community development and humanitarian activities. Members of the Shalom Clubs play an integral role in determining the focus and scope of programming of their clubs.

Here follow some examples of Shalom Club activities in 2008:

Philippines

The Shalom Club, Philippines (SCP) celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. SCP acquired its legal status in July 1998 under the Philippine laws that govern private corporations, and is a registered Volunteer Organization with the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency of the National Economic and Development Authority. Guided by this organization's vision, the Club's mission and primary objective is to promote peace through volunteerism. The theme chosen for this year's anniversary celebration is Institutionalizing the Role of SCP in Philippine Society, via the "Ambassadors of Peace" Program.



"Share a Lunch Project" in action: Israeli Ambassador to the Philippines Zvi Aviner-Vapni (center, last row); Deputy Chief of Mission Yaniv Revach (center, second row); Shalom Club president Zenny Ubaldo (standing, third from left); and fellow Shalom Club members during the event.

Presently, Shalom Club Philippines has 639 members, active in 27 local chapters. One of the Club's latest activities, organized jointly with the Israeli Embassy in the Philippines, was the "Share a Lunch and Gift" project, which included distribution of hot meals to destitute children.

Cote d'Ivoire

Shalom Club members and distinguished guests gathered at the residence of the Israeli Ambassador in Cote d'Ivoire, H.E. Daniel Kedem, to present the



design plans for the new Shalom House which is being built in Abidjan. Established in 1960, the Shalom Club in Cote d'Ivoire has over 700 members, all of them graduates of MASHAV's professional training courses.



Paraguay

The Shalom Club, Paraguay organized an impressive event to commemorate Israel's 60 years of Independence. Club members, representatives from



Amisrael (The Cultural Association of Friends of Israel), and distinguished guests joined together for the “Great March for Peace,” a colorful walk through the streets of the capital, Asuncion, which ended with a festive gathering at the Ñu Guazu Park. Among the respected guests was the Vice-President of the Republic, Federico Franco, who mentioned his recent visit to Jerusalem, and expressed his commitment to peace and friendship.

Also present were Israeli Honorary Consul to Paraguay, Max Heber; Dr. Eduardo Zaracho, president of Amisrael; representatives and members of B'nai B'rit; representatives from the Cultural Institute Israel-Paraguay; and many more.

Peru

The Shalom Club, Peru members organized a large “Medical Campaign” in May 2008 in a local elementary school, as part of the events organized to commemorate the Independence of the State of Israel at 60. Shalom Club members arrived at the school in the District of Comas and organized helpful, healthy activities for both parents and children, including a healthy breakfast, general medical attention, distribution of medicines, eye-sight check ups, psychological and legal counseling and beauty treatments. The National Police Corps was also present, and its members organized an impressive Canine Show.

A large team of club members, together with the Israeli Embassy staff, coordinated the successful event at which many distinguished guests were present, including the Israeli Ambassador to Peru H.E. Walid Manzur; and the president of the Shalom Club, Peru, Ms. Luzmila Canal.



Celebrating 50 Years of MASHAV

MASHAV, the Center for International Cooperation of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was created in late 1957; only 10 years after the country gained its independence, reflecting the commitment of the Jewish State to work together with developing countries around the world. Since then, thousands of professionals have participated in MASHAV programs carried out both in Israel and abroad.

To commemorate 50 years since its establishment MASHAV has designed an exhibition comprising 23 panels depicting its programs and vision for international development cooperation. MASHAV's exhibition will be displayed at Israeli Diplomatic Missions around the world in English, Spanish, French and Russian.



Shalom Magazine

for the Alumni of MASHAV Training Courses is published once a year in English, Spanish, French, Russian and Arabic, and is sent to all MASHAV's courses former participants around the world. The magazine is a strong link between MASHAV and its graduates worldwide, addressing the many issues that lie at the core of development.



MASHAV's Official Website focuses on international development cooperation issues in general and the ongoing activities of MASHAV in particular, providing access to all MASHAV publications. The

website at: <http://mashav.mfa.gov.il> is part of the overall Internet framework of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

