

During 2005 training activities in Israel were held at MASHAV extensions and affiliated professional study centers, which provide the technical skills and personnel to conduct the courses. Following is a review of their activities:

CINADCO – Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation

The Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation (CINADCO), of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, is MASHAV's main professional and operational institution in Israel for international agricultural development cooperation. CINADCO's activities focus on key issues and topics in agricultural development facing rural and peri-urban communities.

CINADCO'S MAIN PROFESSIONAL FUNCTIONS:

- ◆ Human resource development.
- ◆ Transfer of know-how in different agricultural and resource base conditions.
- ◆ Professional and operational support for agricultural demonstration programs and projects.
- ◆ Professional and consultancy services for various agribusiness development projects.
- ◆ Long-and short-term overseas consultancy missions.
- ◆ Joint research and special programs on agriculture-related subjects.

CINADCO's activities take place in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and CIS Republics, the Middle East and Latin America. Activities are conducted in English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and other local languages. In its aim to transfer the expertise and technologies that have assisted Israel in its own path to agricultural and rural development, CINADCO draws upon the development



Course on Design of Pressurized Irrigation Systems, CINADCO

experience and professional skills of experts in the Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, universities and other institutes in Israel.

A professional and operational network has likewise been developed with international institutions, organizations, and NGOs, aimed at enhancing networking and development cooperation.

CINADCO's training courses and seminars in Israel are conducted at two campuses:

1. **CINADCO Headquarters in Beit-Dagan** in cooperation with the Agricultural Research Organization, Volcani Center (ARO). These activities are conducted mainly by the researchers and lecturers of the ARO and are designed for professionals and researchers from the academy, extension services and government institutions focusing on agricultural R&D subjects.
2. **CINADCO Training Center at Shefayim** conducts international training courses focusing on a wide range of agricultural topics for professionals, decision makers, senior extension staff, and leading farmers.

During 2005, 25 international courses and 10 country tailor-made training activities were implemented at CINADCO's two campuses. The total number of participants in the international and tailor-made national training activities combined reached 700, compared to 568 participants in 2004 (an increase of 10%). The average is about 22 of participants per course.

The themes covered in the international courses program in 2005 were: Irrigation; Water re-use; Water-soil and Environment; Livestock Production and Veterinary Public Health; Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Agri-business and Rural Development; Vegetables in a Controlled Environment; Integrated Pest Management and Methyl Bromide Alternatives; Post-harvest Practices.

The R&D Workshop on the Promotion of Methyl Bromide Alternatives to comply with its Phase Out was successfully held in December 2005. This is the second time this Workshop has been conducted. Among the participants was the Regional Manager of the UNEP Program for Methyl Bromide Phase Out as well as representatives of other international organizations.

CINADCO Training Center at Shefayim implemented the first Irrigation Training for Ethiopian professionals within the framework of the recently signed 3-year Cooperation Agreement between Ethiopia, the USAID and MASHAV.

The Irrigation and Fertigation Demonstration Unit located near CINADCO's Training Centre at Shefayim was upgraded in 2005 with new equipment granted by

various companies already represented in the unit, as well as by new companies. Currently, a small greenhouse is under construction.

The Training Center at Shefayim also serves as a focal point for visitors and delegations. During the year, some 21 delegations were received at the Training Center. As part of the promotional process for the agricultural convention "Agritech 2006", some 50 international agricultural journalists came to Israel on a visit organized by the Export Institute and visited the CINADCO Training Center as well.

CINADCO's Training Center at Shefayim continued during 2005 with the tradition of the international folklore evenings. During the year four folklore evenings were organized by the CINADCO staff. These events were attended by all of the international course trainees as well as by MASHAV and CINADCO officials and participants from other MASHAV training centers.

The training program indicates an increase in training activities and trainees following the decline experienced during the years 2001-2003.

OVERSEAS TRAINING PROGRAM IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Overseas Training Program more commonly known as On-the-Spot or Mobile Courses is an integral part of CINADCO's overall training program, within the framework of MASHAV. The motto of these courses and/or workshops is partnership and sharing with host country professionals in a teaching and learning venture for the mutual benefit of both sides. Training activities are usually based on a team of two Israeli agricultural experts carrying out the courses in collaboration with local counterparts. The courses are tailor-made to meet specific local needs and requirements, thus helping to address particular problems. The Overseas Training Program includes 68 different subjects pertaining to agriculture and rural development, with the aim of reaching a wide range of professionals and development managers including field operators, leading farmers and managers, scientists, executives and decision makers of the agricultural and rural sector. In 2005, a total of 50 mobile courses were held in more than 14 countries around the world involving more than 2,500 participants.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

This activity focuses on the joint regional cooperation program with the assistance and development agency DANIDA of the Government of Denmark. The program includes Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Israel

and Denmark. Some of the main topics of the program are: low-cost food for ruminants; small ruminants; irrigation using saline water; agriculture in arid regions; post-harvest treatment and marketing; and aquaculture. The program is managed by a joint Steering Committee. The activities involve training courses and publication of professional materials for the different topics of the program. The agreement for regional activity with DANIDA was renewed for a period of five years.

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCY MISSIONS

In 2005, 34 short-term consultancy missions were conducted in 17 countries. The topics included a wide range of agricultural and technology-related topics such as: field crops; flowers; nurseries; vegetables; dairy husbandry; apiculture; small ruminants; green house technologies; irrigation; and others.

DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

This program involves the planning, implementation and in-country technical support of development and demonstration agro-technology projects. These activities are conducted and managed by on-site Israeli agricultural experts operating on long-term missions. During the report period, five experts were chosen by joint MASHAV/CINADCO selection committees to serve on long-term missions in the following countries:

China: Demonstration and training project on crops in open fields, greenhouse technologies in Western China; and demonstration and training project on dairy farming management and extension.

South Africa: Establishment of demonstration plots in villages using family irrigation systems.

Ethiopia: This is a newly signed 3-year Integrated Cooperation Agreement Program between Ethiopia, USAID and MASHAV focusing on Livestock, Water and Irrigation Biotechnology and Planting Material.

Philippines: Establishment of an extension support system in agriculture.

OTHER PROJECT INITIATIVES

Joint training program with JIACA in Egypt; Project Development in Azerbaijan in the field of olives and general agriculture with OACE; Working expert group for promoting development of agro-technology projects in Azerbaijan; Promoting development of organic farming in Moldova. The program is based on implementation through public/private partnership, and was presented as a pilot in an international financing forum in Brussels.

DELEGATIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

During 2005, CINADCO organized and hosted some 30 agriculture-oriented delegations for Ministries of Agriculture and Foreign Affairs from abroad. The activities included meetings and visits both at CINADCO Headquarters at Bet-Dagan, the training centers, ARO research facilities, and various agricultural field trips.

The Joint Israel Egypt Agriculture Steering Committee: Renewal of the joint agricultural activities with Egypt, held in Cairo in July 2005. Topics raised included: Extension; Research and Development; Efficient use of water; Increased agricultural production; Desert agriculture; Veterinary Care; Plant Protection; Animal Husbandry, Aquaculture and more. As a result of the renewal of the Joint Steering Committee activities, joint training programs with Egyptian begun in 2005.

Convening of a joint meeting on Agriculture with the Ukraine.

women from all over the world (ministers, members of parliaments, judges, NGO chairpersons, educators and journalists) to gather together and discuss a theme of international importance. Such conferences provide a forum for dialogue and exchange of experiences among women at the policy-making level, enabling them to examine culturally rooted constraints, to call for greater government/NGO collaboration and for improving women's access to training, credit, networks and technology.

MCTC cooperates with a number of governmental and non-governmental organizations, international aid agencies, the World Bank, international women's organizations (Soroptimist International, Women's Mediterranean Forum, International Council of Women) and United Nations specialized agencies such as ILO, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNECE and UNDP.

Demonstrable impacts on Gender Issues, (as reported by some Ministers in the cooperating countries) may be attributed to the ceaseless efforts of heads of women's organizations and NGOs who have attended MCTC programs and implemented the knowledge and experience gained. These include an increase in the number of appointments of women to decision-making positions; professional training programs for women in a number of countries, with emphasis on entrepreneurship and credit for women; initiation of programs for human rights education, the prevention of domestic violence, education for peace, and legislation prohibiting gender-based discrimination in the workplace. The year 2005 included the following activities:

- ◆ During 2005, a record number of 623 professionals attended 22 activities at the Center; 74% of these were women.
- ◆ 27 On-the-Spot Workshops were conducted in 16 different countries and 1,208 participants attended

The Golda Meir Mount Carmel Training Center

The Golda Meir Mount Carmel Training Center (MCTC) was established by MASHAV in 1961, specializing in gender issues and women in development. During the past four and a half decades, MCTC's activities have continued to expand, while it has maintained its original emphasis on human resource development, training women and men towards sustainable development for their communities.

Since MCTC opened its doors, some 12,500 women and men from Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East have been trained in socio-economic issues within its programs. Thousands more have participated in On-the-Spot (OTS) courses on different continents.

Its practical training activities, designed for middle-level professionals, supervisors and planners, illustrate a fundamental commitment to the **Millennium Development Goals (MDG)**, which all United Nations Member States have pledged to meet by 2015. With their emphasis on poverty eradication, gender equality and women's empowerment, the MDGs are entirely in harmony with MCTC training activities, which center on three main spheres: **Community Organization and Development, Early Childhood Education, and Microenterprise Development** - all with an emphasis on **gender issues and the contribution of women to development**.

Every two years, an International Conference for Women Leaders is held at MCTC to enable high-ranking



Course on Media Strategies for Social Change, MCTC

these activities, 58% of them women. Many of these had their expenses covered by the cooperating organizations.

- ◆ Several new courses and workshops have taken place in 2005 as a result of positive feedback received from past-participants, regarding their success in the implementation of methodologies, technical and management skills gained from MCTC courses, and the transfer of knowledge acquired in Israel to colleagues in their organizations. These are *Entrepreneurial Training as a Means of Employment for Youth, Frameworks for Regular Education and Special Needs and Young Children at Risk*.
- ◆ The highlight of 2005 was our biennial International Women Leaders Conference that took place in September on ***Migration and Gender Issues within the Millennium Development Goals***, organized in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Center for International Migration and Integration (CIMI/JDC). Our Guest of Honor was Ms. Rachel Mayanja, the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women. Twenty government ministers, many MPs and professional women from the academic, legal and scientific world participated, as did senior officials from international organizations and UN specialized agencies, including UNODC, INSTRAW, the World Bank and the IOM. The conclusions and recommendations that ensued in the form of the **Haifa Declaration** will be brought to the attention of a high level dialogue of the UN General Assembly by Ms. Mayanja in 2006, with the aim of advancing migration and gender issues within the context of the debate on the MDGs. The full report of the Conference proceedings is being disseminated by MCTC and IOM through UN specialized agencies and international and national organizations throughout the world.
- ◆ As a direct consequence of our 23rd International Symposium for Women Leaders in 2003, on *Women's Voice in Conflict Resolution and Peace Building*, we have been holding Seminars at regular intervals, to bring Palestinian and Israeli women together, to create dialogue and to discuss possible ways of cooperation leading towards education for peace. During 2005, some 250 Palestinian and Israeli Arab and Jewish women took part in these events and we hope to strengthen this network in 2006.
- ◆ The continuation of our dialogues with Palestinian women and youth and the number of people that have met 'face-to-face' under MASHAV auspices as a result is welcomed and encouraged. We hope to strengthen the links established, in the hope that

ways will be found to enable more 'people-to-people' dialogue seminars to take place.

- ◆ Opportunities to disseminate information on MASHAV and the international cooperation program of Israel arose when the MCTC director and staff attended international conferences at the United Nations 49th Session of the Commission of the Status of Women, to appraise Beijing + 10; the 6th Congress of the Women's Mediterranean Forum in Italy; the Young Americas Business Trust Seminar and the Young Entrepreneurs of the Americas Forum in Argentina, and a Conference on the Elderly in Mexico.
- ◆ MCTC has continued its strong collaborative relationship with the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT), developing training programs for young entrepreneurs in Latin America and the Caribbean, with governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations to help young people overcome poverty, following policies and priorities set by the Presidential Summits of the Americas. Since 2002, our programs have been used with more than 8,000 young people and teachers in twenty-five countries and adapted in a variety of local settings. In 2005 YABT-MCTC-MASHAV cooperation expanded through additional specialized workshops that will target the Business Labs training methodology to agribusiness, tourism, and for preventing juvenile delinquency.
- ◆ Papers produced by MCTC have been published by international organizations such as Women's Mediterranean Forum and UNECE, recognizing our reputation in the field of Women in Development.
- ◆ Successful cooperation with UNESCO in Nepal, Save the Children Fund Norway in Ethiopia and Women of China Magazine in on the spot activities all resulted from fact finding missions to the Center, or from visits to the local organizations by the MCTC staff.

The Aharon Ofri International Training Center

The Aharon Ofri International Training Center was established in 1989, as a MASHAV extension, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. Since its inception, the Center has focused its activity on educational fields that contribute to regional and human resource development.

The Ofri Center's program includes a variety of subjects targeted to educational staff, directors, supervisors and decision-making people in the field of education. The

Center's focus is on three fields deemed essential to economic development and society building:

- ◆ **Science and Technology Education**
- ◆ **Community Education**
- ◆ **Educational Management**

The Center's courses deal with a wide range of topics, including: Science and Technology Education; The use of I.C.T in Education (The Internet and e-learning in Schools); Curriculum Development and Study Planning; Educational Technologies including the use of frontal and advanced teaching tools; Adjusting Teaching Methods and Didactic Materials; Community Education and Educational Initiatives; Environmental Education; Prevention of Drug Abuse; Democracy and Civic Education; Migration and Integration for Development; Special Education; Education for Gifted Children and Excellence in Education, Teacher Training and ; Education System Design and School Management; Higher Education Systems; Media and Visual Communications.

The Center directs its activities towards both the formal and informal educational frameworks, while focusing on target populations such as field workers and senior decision makers. The Center cooperates with educators, principals, local and regional educational supervisors, heads of municipal and regional educational departments, curriculum planners, senior administrators, lecturers and university staff. These professionals are considered to be agents of change, thus transferring the experience and knowledge acquired in Israel to members of the educational community in their respective countries.

The Aharon Ofri Center offers courses in English and Spanish as well as providing for MASHAV on-the-spot courses held in partner countries in a variety of educational subjects. The on-the-spot courses are organized under the auspices of the host countries themselves, following contacts with local Israeli experts.



Course on Learning Technologies in Education, Aharon Ofri Center

The Center provides single-country tailor-made courses and seminars in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations from different countries. Week-long International Seminars and Symposia take place biennially on educational development themes of current interest for governments, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations.

The Ofri Center works in full cooperation with the Ministry of Education in Israel and is connected with governmental and non-governmental organizations, international aid agencies (USAID, OAS, IDB, GIFRID, WBI), and United Nations specialized agencies such as UNESCO, UNICEF and other organizations like CIMI.

During 2005 the Ofri Training Center conducted 6 international courses and 7 tailor-made programs at the request of cooperating organizations. In addition, the Center experts conducted 5 on-the-spot courses in Angola, Turkey, Russia and Ecuador. Over 521 professionals from various countries participated in these courses.

Among the Ofri Center activities during 2005 were:

- ◆ **International Courses:** Educational Systems – Management and Leadership (English); Special Education (Spanish); Learning Technologies in Education (English); Curriculum Development and Study Planning (Spanish); Special Education (English); Education for Science and Technology (Spanish).
- ◆ **Tailor-made Courses:** “Gifted Education” for school teachers from Korea; “Training of Trainers - HIV antiretroviral therapy” for Medical Staff from Ethiopia (In Collaboration with Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Hadassah Hospital, Tel Hashomer Hospital and I-TECH Ethiopia CDC-US); “Excellence in Education” for Principals, Vice principals and Heads of Education Departments from Singapore.
- ◆ **On-the-spot Courses:** “Educational Supervisors Training – Inspection, Supervision and Administration,” **Angola**; “Learning Technologies in Education,” **Turkey**; “Security of Educational Institutions,” **Russia**; “Curriculum Planning and Education for Values,” **Ecuador**.

The Weitz Center for Development Studies

The Weitz Center for Development Studies is a non profit NGO engaged in training, planning, consulting and research for local and regional development planning in Israel and, within the framework of MASHAV, in the developing world.

More than 4,000 professionals from developing countries have taken part in the Weitz Center training programs, based in the internationally recognized "Rehovot Approach" to Integrated Regional Development Planning, which aims at the eradication of poverty and the promotion of social-economic development of rural areas. The "Rehovot Approach" has been adapted and implemented in many less developed areas of developing countries. The methodology views the region as the basic unit for development and planning.

Additional areas of specialization include:

Integrated Rural Regional Development Planning; Sectoral Planning and Integration; Income Generating Activities in Rural Areas; Sustainable Services Delivery for Rural Areas; Local Economic Development; Rapid Appraisal; Project Identification and Formulation; Development of Rural Tourism; Entrepreneurship Promotion.

During 2005, the training and capacity building activities of the Weitz Center for Development Studies included 4 international courses and 8 Seminars held in Israel, reaching a total of 211 trained professionals from 44 Countries. The Weitz Center courses are interdisciplinary by nature, and participants are professionals in the fields of agriculture, economy, sociology, civil and industrial engineering, and more.

The courses included: Tourism as a Tool for Local and Regional Development (in English 50 day course); Income Generating Activities in Rural Areas (in English 25 day course); Local Economic Development (in Spanish 50 days); Development Projects in Rural Areas (in Spanish, 25 days).

Three workshops were organized for high ranking officials of the Argentinean Federation of Municipalities (FAM) who visited and surveyed many projects, sites and institutions involved in economic development of Israel. Collaboration with FAM is ongoing and additional activities will be carried out during 2006.



Course on Developing Projects in Rural Areas, Weitz Center

One workshop was organized for the senior management of the Agricultural Bank of India (NABARD). The intensive itinerary included visits and tours to many agricultural and economic sites and meetings with decision-making personnel in Israel.

Two workshops in Arabic were organized for professionals and officials from Jordan. The programs included lectures and study visits. The field trips were designed to enable participants to be acquainted with projects that could be of relevance to the situation in Jordan.

Two workshops were organized for high ranking officials from Nigeria. The itinerary included visits to many projects, sites and institutions involved in economic development of Israel.

The Weitz Center also conducted an On-The-Spot course titled "Integrated Rural Development, Project Formulation and Rural Tourism Projects" in Cameroon. The participating professionals were tutored and trained on the approach and methodology of project formulation and tourism projects planning within the IRD framework.

In September 2005 the Weitz Center relocated to its new building, located within the complex of the Hebrew University Faculty of Agriculture. The new premises include both offices and classrooms equipped with state of the art audio-visual equipment.

The Israel Agricultural Research Organization - Volcani Center

The Agricultural Research Organization (ARO) is the research arm of Israel's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. ARO is responsible for planning, organizing and implementing the greater part of Israel's



Participants in the R&D in Postharvest Practices Course, Volcani Center

agricultural research effort. ARO is concerned with the solving of current problems in agricultural production and providing for future improvements, through the introduction of new products, precise technologies and modern equipments.

While encompassing the full range of agricultural research activities, ARO, located at the Volcani Center campus in Bet-Dagan, near Tel-Aviv, focuses in particular on arid zone agriculture, enabling Israel - a country short of all the resources required for agriculture - to achieve among the highest levels of agricultural output in the world.

Among ARO's areas of special expertise are: agriculture under arid conditions; agriculture on marginal soils; irrigation using effluent and saline water; crop cultivation in protected environments; freshwater fish farming under conditions of water shortage; minimization of produce losses through use of latest pest control and post-harvest storage methods; breeding and development of new strains of crops and domestic animals better suited to the adverse conditions which already exist in many parts of the world, and which are likely to become even more prevalent in the future.

The Unit for International Cooperation (UIC) of the Agricultural Research Organization (ARO), The Volcani Center, administers fellowships for individual researchers and scientists wishing to undertake individual training in one of ARO's laboratories, under the supervision of a specialist researcher. The fellowships are normally for periods from 3 months up to 2 years. While the ARO does not itself finance the fellowships, the UIC is able to direct applicants to possible sources of funding and if required may facilitate contact between a specific applicant and an appropriate research supervisor.

The UIC also helps incoming trainees with pre-arrival arrangements, and provides advice and assistance for the duration of the training period, if required.

In 2005, MASHAV activities in cooperation with the ARO-UIC and CINADCO, the Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation, included the following courses: R&D in Postharvest Practices; R&D of New Concepts in Integrated Pest Management; Agriculture and the Environment: Practices and Processes in Soil and Water; and a workshop on Promotion of Methyl Bromide Alternatives to Comply with its Phase Out.

The Hebrew University's Faculty of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Quality Sciences

The Faculty of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Quality Sciences is the only institute of higher education in Israel offering university degrees in agriculture and is also home to the only Schools of Nutritional Sciences and of Veterinary Medicine. Established in 1942, the Faculty today has a student body of 2,300 students.

The Faculty offers academic programs leading to B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Agriculture, B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Nutrition, and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. The Faculty also offers through its Division for External Studies international short-term postgraduate courses on various agricultural subjects, and a Masters of Science in Agriculture degree program and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Plant Sciences and/or Nutritional Sciences, all of which are conducted in English for foreign students.

Four international postgraduate courses were conducted in the year 2005 in which participants received MASHAV scholarships. They are: Food Management; Ruminants: Meat Production & Management; Aquaculture: Production and Management; Groundwater Exploration and Water Resources Exploitation and Conservation.

The Faculty's teaching and research activities continue to play a central role in advancing agriculture to strengthen the Israeli economy, while training tomorrow's scientists and agriculturists; protecting and rehabilitating the environment, while increasing food production and reducing world hunger; mobilizing agriculture to meet human health needs and improving the quality and purity of agricultural products; and sharing the benefits of Israeli research and innovation with other nations.



Course on Groundwater Exploration, Water Resource Exploitation and Conservation, Faculty of Agriculture

Some of the Faculty research achievements and innovations include methods of drip irrigation and fertigation; tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables bred with long shelf life, improved taste and disease resistance; returning the fragrance to flowers; intensive arid-zone agriculture; soil solarization - a nonchemical method of controlling soilborne plant diseases; green-farming techniques - use of natural biofertilizers and biocontrol by biofungicides and parasitic insects - to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers, fungicides and pesticides; recycling technologies for waste-water reclamation and composting of solid municipal and agricultural wastes; using plants to purify water polluted by heavy metals.

Research at the Faculty has improved and increased yields of fruits, vegetables, grain crops, flowers and cotton; helped overcome problems of pest damage and soil contamination; led to the most efficient use of water for agriculture; produced ground-breaking innovations in irrigation techniques; helped develop Israel's annual flower export from almost nil in the 1960's, to its current status as one of the largest exporters of flowers in the world, and much more.

It is our anticipation that participants will enrich their respective countries with new scientific knowledge and research approaches as well as establishing a basis for future research cooperation between the participants and the researchers at the Faculty.

Tel Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine School of Continuing Medical Education

Established in 1988, the International Postgraduate Training Program in Medicine is a joint program of MASHAV and the School of Continuing Medical Education at the Sackler Faculty of Medicine of the Tel Aviv University.



Postgraduate Training Course in Medicine, Sackler Faculty

The program offers an eleven-week individualized training program to qualified and experienced physicians. The training is undertaken in the physicians' chosen specialized field of interest, in affiliated departments of medical institutions in the greater Tel Aviv area. The entire program is conducted in English. Basic instruction in emergency medicine and primary life support (ACLS) is also part of the curriculum, as well as an Internet Workshop (medically oriented). We also provide a few Hebrew lessons in order to teach the trainees some basic daily vocabulary.

The participants take an active part in the daily routine of the departments and in conferences, seminars and congresses that take place in Israel during their stay. The doctors are also taken on tours of the country and are invited to social activities that are specially organized for them. The physicians are encouraged to identify a bilateral research project of mutual interest to the hosting department and their home medical system.

Courses begin in autumn, winter and spring. The participants receive a temporary license to practice medicine from the Ministry of Health, as well as being covered by malpractice insurance and health insurance for as long as they are enrolled in the program. Upon successful completion of the training program, a graduation certificate is awarded.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev - The Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research (BIDR), The Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies

The Blaustein Institutes at Sede-Boqer are a research organ of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and the Israeli national institute for scientific exploration of the desert. They are also a designated Access to Research Infrastructure (ARI) of the European Union. The



The Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research

institutes have been a MASHAV extension since 1989.

The Blaustein Institutes deal with a wide scope of desert research issues:

- ◆ Desert Environment and its Sustainable Development (Ecology, Environmental Physics)
- ◆ Combating Desertification
- ◆ Desert Populations
- ◆ Development of Livelihood for People in the Desert (Biotechnology, Desert Agriculture, Water Resources and Water Desalination, Solar Energy, Desert Architecture and Regional Planning, Resource Economics).

A number of MASHAV sponsored programs are conducted at the Blaustein Institutes, in the interest of promoting international collaboration by bringing research scientists and students from all corners of the world to the Sede-Boquer Campus.

During 2005, MASHAV and Blaustein Institutes continued their cooperation through the M.Sc./M.A. study program of BIDR's Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies as a joint venture advertised by MASHAV throughout the world.

The Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development – NISPED

The Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development (NISPED) focuses on the role of civil society – the voluntary, people-centered, non-governmental groups and organizations – in furthering conflict resolution and sustainable human development and in working effectively with governments and international institutions to these ends.

NISPED serves as a center for education, training and project development in societies undergoing

fundamental processes of transformation. These processes include transition from conflict to conflict resolution; from poverty and dependence to selfhood and social advance; from dictatorship to democracy and economic freedom. NISPED conducts courses, seminars and workshops for leaders, activists and trainers drawn from relevant civil society and government bodies.

NISPED operates through its three divisions: INCEP-SME: The International Center for the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises; ICECOS: The International Center for Cooperative Studies and AJEEC, the Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation. Courses are conducted in partnership with MASHAV and with other bodies including the International Cooperative Alliance, the ILO, He'atid - South Africa, the Economic Division of the Israeli Embassy in Nigeria, Palestinian NGOs and others.

In 2005 NISPED conducted two international courses with MASHAV: Non-formal Education for Peace: Training Leaders of Youth and Student Organizations; and Comprehensive Training for Development: Linking Vocational and Entrepreneurial Education; as well as two tailor-made courses especially designed for Palestinian participants.

Rambam Medical Center – The Teaching Center for Trauma, Emergency and Mass Casualty Situations

The Teaching Center for Trauma, Emergency and Mass Casualty Situations is located at the Rambam Health Care Campus, the only Level One Trauma Center and tertiary care hospital in the north of Israel, serving a population of 1.5 million people.



Non-formal Education for Peace, NISPED



Developing and Organizing a Trauma System, Rambam Hospital

The philosophy of The Teaching Center is to share the knowledge accumulated at Rambam Medical Center and in Israel in the last 50 years concerning the organization of a trauma system, mass casualty situations and resuscitation.

Since 1999, The Teaching Center has organized and successfully delivered in cooperation with MASHAV a yearly international course for physicians and nurses entitled "Developing and Organizing a Trauma System". Some 132 participants from 48 countries have participated in these courses. At the end of the course, participants present a model for the establishment of a trauma system in their countries.

Over the years, participants from Costa Rica, Portugal and Thailand have succeeded in developing a trauma system in their countries. Due to their exposure to the Israeli system and their personal efforts, a change which improves the local trauma system was made and, as a result, the treatment of patients in these countries was also improved.

In addition to the international courses, the Teaching Center organized international workshops, seminars for medical staff from various countries, consulted and assisted in developing trauma systems in several countries, and its lecturers have been invited to make presentations at international conferences.

The Kaplan Academic School of Nursing

The year 2005 saw the conclusion of the five-year specialization program for the Empowerment of

Community Nurses in Uzbekistan. The aim of the joint MASHAV-USAID/CAR program was to enrich the community nurses with advanced knowledge in areas of study such as management and leadership, community assessment, the nursing process and its application to their field of expertise, interventional techniques, and programs for promoting health and preventing disease.

The courses have been successfully running over the past five years bringing senior nurses from the various rural areas of Uzbekistan to Kaplan Academic School of Nursing for a month long program and sending instructors from the school to those nurses' communities for onsite evaluation of the application of learned knowledge and further training. In 2005, two such courses took place at the Kaplan School in Israel, and two courses were given in Uzbekistan on Administration and Leadership.

In addition to the training activities, a conference was held in October 2005 in Tashkent upon the conclusion of the program.

Over 375 Uzbek nurses have received advanced training through Israel's Hebrew University's Kaplan School of Nursing and the Beilinson Medical Center's Dina Academic School of Nursing, as well as in on-the-spot nursing courses in Uzbekistan.

Dina Academic School of Nursing

The Dina Academic School of Nursing, established in 1936, is located on the Beilinson Campus of the Rabin Medical Center, Petach Tikva. It is the largest academic nursing center of Clalit Health Services.



Course on Pediatric Nursing, Dina Academic School

In March 2005, a course in pediatric nursing was given to community nurses from Uzbekistan at the Dina Academic School of Nursing in cooperation with MASHAV. This was the last group participating in a five year program which was a collaborative effort between the Uzbekistan government, MASHAV and Clalit Health Services.

The Israel Meteorological Service

The Regional Meteorological Training Center (RMTC) is a joint enterprise of MASHAV and the Meteorological Service. Recognized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as a training center providing postgraduate training in applied meteorology, the



Workshop on the Application of Climatic Data in Agriculture, Renewable Energy Utilization and Environmental Protection, Israel

RMTC has trained thousand of meteorologists, agronomists and hydrologists from developing countries. The center provides training in Israel and abroad. In addition, it provides consultancies to meteorological services and undertakes research activities in applied meteorology and agrometeorology. During 2005 the RMTC held an International tailor-

made Advanced Workshop on The Application of Climatic Data in Agriculture, Renewable Energy Utilization and Environmental Protection.

The Center for Cooperation and Advancement

The Center for Cooperation and Advancement (CCA) was established in 2003. The CCA activities are conducted in Russian, in partnership with MASHAV and in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental international organizations (USAID, IOM, Soros Foundation, the World Bank, and UNDP among others).

The CCA focuses on societies undergoing deep processes of transformation: from centralized to free markets economies, from political dictatorship to democracy, from poverty to social and economical advance. The programs are application-oriented: Participants learn to combine theory and reality by developing creative thinking and finding both traditional and modern applicable answers. The training courses and workshops aim to develop a mechanism of "self-doing" by adapting the methods learned in Israel to the realities of the participant's home country. The CCA training activities focus in the following areas: NGO's in Civil Society; Leadership in Democratic Societies; Women's Leadership in the Civil Society; Transition to a Market Economy; Promotion of Small Scale Businesses; Innovation and Entrepreneurship; The Role of Mass Media in Civil Society; Media Strategies for Social Changes.

In 2005, over 243 professionals from 15 countries participated in 2 international courses in Israel, 1 on-the-spot course in Bulgaria, and 10 tailor-made courses especially organized for Lithuanian, Russian and Ukrainian organizations.



Workshop on Mass Media in Areas of Conflict, CCA, Israel

IPALAC – The International Program for Arid Land Crops

The International Program for Arid Land Crops (IPALAC) celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2005. MASHAV has been supporting IPALAC, an initiative designed to promote sustainable agricultural productivity in the semi-arid and arid regions of developing countries, since its inception. IPALAC was conceived at the Institute for Agriculture and Applied Biology of the Ben Gurion University of the Negev. The reason for the creation of this program was the realization that massive crop transfer, the main thrust for agricultural development in the temperate and tropical regions of the world, had bypassed the arid and semi-arid regions. In 2005 the MASHAV-IPALAC collaboration included the following activities:

- ◆ The joint African Market Garden project between MASHAV and the John Paul II Foundation continued. The Jean Paul II Foundation is a Vatican-affiliated organization whose role is to contribute to human development in 9 French-speaking countries of West Africa. Towards the end of 2002 a cooperation agreement was signed between MASHAV and the Jean Paul II Foundation with regard to implementing IPALAC projects in the field.
- ◆ In 2005 fifty African Market Garden (AMG) units

were installed by the project. This special low-pressure drip irrigation system for horticultural production for smallholders was jointly developed by IPALAC, MASHAV's extension CINADCO (The Center for International Agricultural Development), and Israeli irrigation manufacturer Netafim. This brings the total number of AMGs installed by this project in 8 Sahelian countries, to 280.

- ◆ An impact analysis of the first attempt to disseminate the AMG in Niger in 2002/03 was carried out. It was found that whenever dissemination was carried out with the support of responsible NGOs, the adoption rate was almost 100 percent. When the systems were disseminated to individual farmers the rate of adoption was 60 percent. These are exceptionally good results indicating the suitability of this new technology to the local conditions.
- ◆ MASHAV sponsored two Regional Mobile Courses on Vegetable Seed Production and Storage, and Tree Propagation and Cultivation. IPALAC has been introducing and screening a large number of open-pollinated vegetable varieties, searching for those that are suitable for the hot Sahelian climate. The course on Vegetable Seed Production was an integral part of this activity, helping to ensure that as appropriate varieties are identified, their seeds can be produced locally.



MASHAV/Jean Paul II Project in Niger