

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies



Nature Knows No Borders



מכון הערבה

Arava Institute

معهد وادي عربة

Our Mission

Our mission is to create a world-class environmental teaching and research institute at Kibbutz Ketura, which will:

- Prepare future Arab and Jewish leaders to cooperatively solve the region's environmental challenges
- Maintain high academic standards.
- Deliver teaching and trans-boundary research opportunities at the highest quality and level to students from the Middle East and from all over the world
- Play a leading role in research, conservation, environmental protection and sustainable development in the region.
- Generate capacity for conciliation and cooperation in the Middle East, in order to transcend political boundaries and achieve positive environmental change





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Arava Institute for Environmental Studies (AIES)

Academic Programs



Arava Program

- One or two semesters
- Undergraduate studies

Minor Program

With the Ben-Gurion University

Minor in Environmental Studies

Arava Internship Program

Gain practical and applied experience in environmental research

Masters Programs

With the Albert Katz School for International Studies (AKIS), Ben-Gurion University, Sede Boqer, Israel

- Masters in Desert Studies, Environmental Studies Specialization
- Masters in Hydrology

Two year program – one year at AIES, one year at AKIS, Sde Boqer, masters degree from Ben Gurion University of the Negev



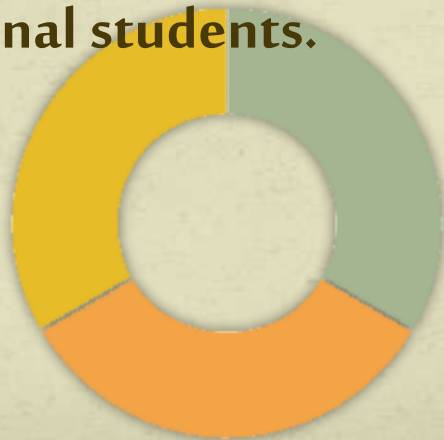
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Who comes to the Arava Institute?

We aim for a program made up equally of three groups: 1/3 **Jewish Israeli**, 1/3 **Arab (from Israel, West Bank, Palestine and Jordan)**, and 1/3 **international students**.





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Interdisciplinary Program

Environmental Sciences

- Renewable Energy
- Environmental Science
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Biodiversity
- Ecology
- Eco-Health



Environmental Policy and Ethics

- Transboundary Water Management
- Environmental Ethics
- Environmental Policy
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Economics



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Nature is our classroom

From a walk to our on-site **experimental orchard** to a multiday water trip in **Israel, Jordan, and the West Bank**, students learn from our unique surroundings.





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Peace Building & Environmental Leadership Seminar (PELS)

Developing Cultural Awareness, Peace-Building and Democracy for Environmental Leadership in the Mideast



- Leadership skills for effective conflict management, communication, and environmental campaigning
- Informed perspectives on the Middle East and environmental politics
- Cultural respect and understanding
- A strong sense of shared community



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Arava Institute Research

Center for Transboundary Water Management

Dr. Clive Lipchin, Director

Center for Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation

Dr. Mahmoud Huleihil, Director

Center for Sustainable Desert Agriculture

Dr. Elaine Solowey, Director

Long Term Social & Ecological Research

Dr. Elli Groner, Director

Arava Center for Sustainable Development

Dr. Shmuel Brenner, Director





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Center for Trans-boundary Water Management (CTWM)

Dr. Clive Lipchin, Director CTWM

- Pre-Feasibility Study on Water Conveyance Routes to the Dead Sea
- Besor River Monitoring
- Grey Water in the West Bank and Desalination in Gaza
- Water Tri-national Policy Conferences
- Water Professional Training and Cross Border Study Tours





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Center for Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation (CREEC)

Dr. Mahmoud Huleihil Director CREEC

Courses and research as part of the regional strategy to be:
The Silicon Valley of Renewable Energy in the ME

Current Research

- Hydrogen production in cars
- Bio-digesters for Bedouin Communities
- Technological challenges to PV in the Arava – Heat and Dust studies
- Solar energy validation station

Academic Program

- One or two courses each semester
- Masters degree in “Energy and the Environment”





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Center for Sustainable Desert Agriculture (CSA)

Dr. Elaine Solowey, Director CSA

- Search for crops that can be grown in marginal and arid areas using underutilized water resources
- Crops to combat desertification
- Study of biblical plants native to southern Israel and Jordan
- Study of native herbs that have medicinal properties





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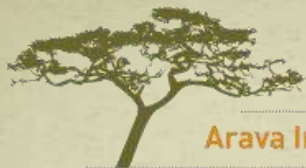
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Long Term Social & Ecological Research (LTSER)

Dr. Elli Groner, Director LTSER



- Long Term Social & Ecological Research station in the southern Arava.
- Israelis, Jordanians and researchers from around the world
- Acacia tree monitoring
- Integration of Bedouin women in the economy



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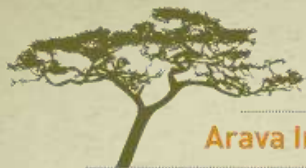
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Arava Center for Sustainable Development (ACSD)

Dr. Shmuel Brenner, Director ACSD

- MASHAV Development Courses: Renewable Energy, Water Management, Sustainable Agriculture, Nature Conservation
- Extension Services
- Applied Research





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AIES Research Park



Capital Nature AIES Solar Energy
Technology Validation Center



Methuselah, the Judean date palm
grown from a 2,000-year-old seed
found at Masada



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Alumni Projects

Youth Environmental Education Peace Initiative (YEEPI)

High-school students learn about environmental citizenship from AIES alumni trained in environmental education and social-change advocacy.



BioGas project at Susya Village

Israeli alumnus Yair Teller and Palestinian alumna Abeer Abu Sara are working in the Palestinian village of Susya introducing clean energy, grey water, and environmental awareness to off-grid Palestinian communities in the West Bank.

Arava Alumni Peace & Environmental Network (AAPEN)

This AIES alumni community serves as an incubator and a forum for exchange of ideas, supporting alumni in finding projects, partners and funding for new initiatives.





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Alumni Stories



Manar Saria, Israeli Arab, Fulbright Scholar PhD candidate at Syracuse State University "Being at the Arava totally brought a change to my life," she said. "This was the best gamble I ever took."

Amélie Joseph, from France, last semester's Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) intern, reflected on her experience "I realize now that I gained confidence in my ability to be the change that I want to see in the world."



Noa, Israeli, said: "Growing up here – everything is separated. At the Arava we are together and we can have a connection. Once you start you cannot go back."

A person is captured in mid-air, jumping over a rocky cliff. The person is wearing a white t-shirt and light-colored pants. The background is a vast desert landscape with rolling sand dunes and a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

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