The purpose of this document is to highlight the curriculum for a proposed course in “Rural Water Development.”

The benefits of such a course are threefold. First, it will expose students to global water issues and equip them with a perspective that takes into account the realities of these issues. While many of the United Nations’ Millenium Development Goals, specifically to reduce by half the proportion of people who live on less than a dollar a day, and of those who go hungry, seem to be failing, more attention is being given to the global water and food crisis. Three of every four people in developing countries live in rural areas—2.1 billion people living on less than $2 a day and 880 million on less than $1 a day[1].

For these populations, clean water is often a luxury and disease, food insecurity and poverty often hold them in a vicious cycle. For example, water-related disease is the #1 killer in Africa; more people are dying from water-related disease than from AIDS and cancer combined in these countries. This course will investigate global water problems and how water development can address these issues. This is an important and we argue essential part of any water management education.

Currently, the water resources program at BIDR (and anywhere else in Israel) does not deal with these types of problems. We are convinced that exposure of our water resources/hydrology graduate students to the water-related problems that are facing billions of people living in rural areas in developing countries is essential. We believe that ZIWR, being the largest water research institute in Israel, should lead the efforts of exposing Israeli students to the water problems in rural areas in developing countries.

Second, the course proposes to link the strengths of ZIWR and Israel in water management experience overseas. This will broaden the horizon of the students and encourage the expansion of water development technology and know-how behind the traditional confines of the classroom. Specifically, guest lecturers from various Israeli institutions will share their real-world experience with the class.

While this course is novel for the ZIWR, similar courses are springing up in various universities overseas. Specifically, the University of Nevada-Reno, University of Colorado-Boulder and University of Notre Dame have developed similar courses to engage students with global water and poverty. Other universities, such as Stanford and Cornell, are already working together with NGO's in different countries as part of their graduate students' projects.

**Curriculum:**
The course consists of 10 to 11 classroom lectures of 2 hours each. Three to four guest lectures will present different points of view regarding water problems in developing countries.

**Classroom lectures:**

**Week 1**  
Rural Water: Overview

**Reading:**  

UN Millenium Development Goals  
www.un.org/milleniumgoals

**Weeks 2 and 3**  
Rural Water and Agriculture

**Reading:**  


Guest Lecture: Danny Ariel, Africa Operations, Head, Netafim

**Week 4**  
Rural Water and Health

**Reading:**  

**Week 5**  
Rural Water and Poverty

**Reading:**  

**Week 6**
Rural Water and Developing Countries

**Guest Lecture: Dr. Tamar Golan, Ben Gurion University of the Negev**

**Reading:**

**Team Today and Tomorrow: Monthly Update**

**Water for All, International website.**

**Week 7**
Rural Water and NGO’s (or What are the Solutions?)

**Reading:**

**Week 8**
Rural Water and Government

**Guest Lecture: Such as from MASHAV OR Someone from TAHAL**

**Week 9**
Rural Water Development: Hand-drilled Boreholes and Hand-dug wells

**Weeks 10 and 11**
A focus on a target county (change every year)

**Reading:**
According to the country to be selected