



Drylands, Deserts & Desertification

The 5th International Conference

November 2014



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
Ben-Gurion University
of the Negev

The Blaustein Institutes
for Desert Research



[Link Here to Conference Event](#)



Welcome to the 5th International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification

The International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification (DDD) has emerged as an important global gathering of scientists, practitioners, industry, government, CSOs, international development aid agencies and other stakeholders from over 60 countries concerned about land degradation in the drylands, and their sustainable use and development.

The program combines plenary lectures and panels, parallel sessions, workshops, field trips and social events, providing an opportunity to consider a range of theoretical and practical issues associated with combating desertification and living sustainably in the drylands.

The 5th DDD conference will focus on *Healthy Lands - Healthy People* and will consider natural and anthropogenic processes, and the interactions between drylands and people in and around them. Additional sessions will be held considering a broad range of topics associated with sustainable living in the drylands and means to address desertification, as well as land-based adaptation to climate change.

WIRELESS CONNECTION ON CAMPUS

The account details are as follows:

Username: **guestddd**

Password: **uC7kmndi**

In order to connect to the wireless network, please follow the following procedure:

1. Connect to the wireless network called WL_GUESTS (this is a non-secure network)
2. After connecting, surf to any site using your browser (make sure that your browser is not set to work with the proxy server on the browser)
3. On the screen that will appear, choose OK.
4. On the next screen, enter the username and password listed above.
5. After identification, all the network and internet services will be available to you.

Please note that during lunch breaks, the George Evens Family Auditorium will be closed and it will not be possible to remain in the building at these times, in order to access the computer facilities therein.

Meeting & Sitting Area:

Participants are invited to take a few minutes to relax in between lectures, as well as interact with fellow participants at the faculty lounge (previously known as the KKL meeting & sitting area) and in the adjacent Tent Café. Refreshments & pastries will be available at coffee breaks only. There is wireless connection at this site.



Lunch Vouchers:

If you have registered for "lectures only" and would like to buy vouchers for lunch at a cost of 50 NIS a meal (25 NIS for students), please approach the registration/information desk by 10 am each day.




Monday, 17 November, 2014 - Opening Day

08:00-09:00	Registration & Reception						
09:00-10:30	<Evans> Greetings and Opening Plenary Keynote Address: Prof. Colin MacDougall, Flinders University, Australia on " <i>Healthy Lands- Healthy People</i> "						
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break						
11:00-12:30 PS1 parallel sessions:	<Evans> Afforestation in Drylands (I)	<Old Administration> Remote Sensing (I)	<Water Inst.> Public Health (I): Climate Change and Health	<Classroom 1> Cook Workshop: Bio-Climatic Design of Buildings	<Classroom 2> Environmental Education (I)	<Bio 32> AgroEcology (I)	
12:45-14:45	<p>Bus tours and outdoor lunch (Pre-registration required.)</p> <p>Tour I: Ben-Gurion's desert home: visit to Israel's first Prime Minister's kibbutz home</p> <p>Tour II: Rock art in the desert</p> <p>Tour III: Avdat ancient agriculture (Spanish, Russian only)</p> <p>Tour IV: Bedouin culture and traditions</p> <p>Tour V: Wadi Karkash (hiking shoes needed)</p>						
15:00-17:00 PS2 parallel sessions:	<Evans> Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (I)	<Old Administration> Remote Sensing (II)	<Water Inst.> Public Health (II): Infectious Diseases	<Classroom 1> Onsite Waste Collection	<Classroom 2> Environmental Education (II)	<Bio 32> AgroEcology (II)	<Bio 136> Ecohydrology of Dryland Landscapes
17:00-17:30	Coffee Break						
17:30-18:45 PS3 parallel sessions:	<Evans> Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (II)	<Old Administration> Remote Sensing (III)	<Water Inst.> Public Health (III): Ecosystem Services and Health	<Classroom 1> Carbon Footprint	<Classroom 2> Cook Workshop: Sustainability in the Built Environment: Israeli Case Studies	<Bio 32> Climate Change	
19:00-20:30	<Evans> Selected Posters Mini-Presentations and Cook Prize Ceremony in Honor of Mr. Luc Gnacadja						
20:30-22:00	< Agriculture Building Lobby > Welcome Reception and Poster Session						

Tuesday, 18 November, 2014

08:00-09:00	Registration						
9:00- 10:30	<Evens> <i>Land-based Adaptation to Climate Change – a UNCCD-SPI Session</i>						
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break						Note: starts at 10:30
11:00-12:30 PS4 parallel sessions:	<Evens> Rethinking Agricultural Technologies	<Old Administration> Public Health (IV): Environment, Health and Social Justice in Arid Areas	<Water Inst.> Soil & Land Restoration (I)	<Classroom 1> UNCCD Workshop: Sustainable Land Management (I)	<Classroom 2> Deserts & Drylands in Ancient Literature and Archaeology (I)	<Bio 32> Mathematical Aspects of Desertification	
12:30-15:00	Open Campus stations concluding at authentic Israeli picnic lunch...						
15:00-16:30 PS5 parallel sessions:	<Evens> Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (III)	<Old Administration> Nutritional and Food Security	<Water Inst.> Soil and Land Restoration (II)	<Classroom 1> Cook Workshop: Bio-Climatic Urban Design in Hot-Arid Regions	<Classroom 2> Geological Aspects of Desertification	<Bio 32> Desertification in Mongolia	<Bio 136> Public Health Workshop I
16:30-17:00	Coffee Break						
17:00-18:30 PS6 parallel sessions	<Evens> Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (IV)	<Old Administration> Family Planning in the Drylands	<Water Inst.> UNCCD Workshop: Sustainable Land Management (II)	<Classroom 1> Cook Workshop: Sustainability in the Built Environment: Around The World	<Classroom 2> Deserts & Drylands in Ancient Literature and Archaeology (II)	<Bio 32> Dryland Landscapes as Pattern-Forming Systems	<Bio 136> Public Health Workshop II
19:00-20:00	Israeli Dinner and Folk Dancing (Midreshet Ben Gurion)						
20:30	Optional activities: pub opens at 10pm, looking for scorpions, coffee at a local family home						

Thursday, 20 November, 2014

07:00-08:00	Optional: Bird Watching / Tagging				
08:30-10:00 PS7 parallel sessions	<Evens> Building Economic Resilience in the Drylands	<Old Administration> Water Management Challenges in the Drylands	<Water Inst.> UK, Israel and Drylands Symposium 	<Classroom 1>	<Classroom 2> Climate History, Drought and Desertification in the Ancient Near East (I)
10:00-11:30 PS8 parallel sessions	<Evens> Women and Economic Changes in Rural-Arid Regions	<Old Administration> Kidron River Restorations	<Water Inst.> UK, Israel and Drylands Symposium 	<Classroom 1> Desert Ecology	<Classroom 2> Climate History, Drought and Desertification in the Ancient Near East (II)
11:30-12:00	Coffee Break				
12:00-13:30 PS9 parallel sessions	<Evens> The Role of the International Community in Supporting Sustainable Development	<Old Administration> Community and Technology in Project Wadi Attir	<Water Inst.> UK, Israel and Drylands Symposium 	<Classroom 1>	<Classroom 2> Climate History, Drought and Desertification in the Ancient Near East (III)
13:30-14:30	<Evens> Concluding Session and Announcement of UNCCD-SPI Resolutions				
14:30	Sandwiches on the go...				
Conference Ends					
15:00 Departure of buses to Beersheva, Tel Aviv and Airport					



Sede Boqer Campus Map

- George Evens Family Auditorium
- Old Administration Building
- Hydrology Seminar room
- Classroom 1
- Classroom 2
- Faculty Lounge (KKL Building)
- French Associates Institute
for Agriculture and
Biotechnology of Drylands
- BIDR Administration Building



Wednesday, 19 November 2014 Field Trip Day

Pre-registration for the selected excursion is required

Program is tentative and subject to changes.

Tour	Departure Time	Return Time	Remarks
Tour I Desert Architecture in the Negev & the Wadi Attir Project	8:00 AM	4:00 PM*	
Tour II Afforestation (KKL Israel)	 7:30 AM	5:00 PM*	Possibly direct to Bedouin Dinner
Tour III Hydrology and Advanced Water Technologies	8:00 AM	6:00 PM*	
Tour IV Agriculture in Drylands - Drip Irrigation	 8:00 AM	4:00 PM*	
Tour V The Route Towards Mine & Mining Rehabilitation	 7:00 AM	6:00 PM	Direct to Bedouin Dinner
Tour VI: Public Health Tour	8:00 AM	4:00 PM*	
Tour VII: AgroEcology Study Tour	8:00 AM	4:00 PM*	

*There will be a bus at 5:45 pm, for joining the other groups for the Bedouin dinner

Morning Shuttle times to Sede Boqer are as follows (departure times):

From	Monday, Nov. 17	Tuesday, Nov. 18	Thursday, Nov. 20
Beer-Sheva	7:45	7:45	7:30
Mashabim	8:20	8:20	7:40
Ramon Inn	8:15	8:15	7:45

Evening Shuttle times from Sede Boqer are as follows:

To	Monday, Nov. 17	Tuesday, Nov. 18	Thursday, Nov. 20
Beer-Sheva	19:00*	19:00*	15:00 also to Airport
Mashabim	19:00 * 22:00/23:00	20:30 22:00	--
Ramon Inn	22:00	20:30	--

* No conference dinner if taking this bus. Actual times may differ. Please confirm at the information/registration desk.

In addition to the free buses, Metropoline buses stop in Midreshet Ben-Gurion (where the Sede Boqer Campus is located) and travel both to Beer-Sheva (northbound, stopping at Mashabim on the way) and to Mitzpe Ramon (southbound). The trip costs roughly 15 shekels (less than 4 dollars). For more details, please approach the registration desk. Taxis are not available on site but can be ordered for you (at least a few hours in advance by the conference staff).

Internet Connection & Computer Services

Wireless connection is available in the Evens Auditorium and lobby area and in the conference café area, using a code as detailed herein. There will be a printer available in this main hall, for your convenience. Unfortunately, there is no wireless connection in the accommodation area.

Optional early-morning activity:

On some days there is an optional early-morning activity that is open to participants, at no extra cost. The activities vary depending on your accommodation. In order to ensure participation, you should register by 5 pm of the preceding day with the local conference representative. Please approach the registration/ information desk for more details and for registration.

Accommodation and keys to your room:

Most conference participants will lodge at the Field School and the University Guest House. If you have not yet checked-in, and have questions about the check-in process, please approach the conference representative at the registration/information desk.

Please note that regular check-in time is at 2 pm and regular check-out time is by 10 am. **Therefore, please make sure on the morning of your departure, to take your belongings with you and properly check out of your hostel/ guest house.** Limited storage facilities are available in the vicinity of the conference venues and there will be a conference vehicle available to take luggage from the accommodation area to the conference halls at about 8:30 each morning. Please coordinate with the organizers at the registration/information desk.

Supplies, Banking and Shopping

The “commercial center” of Midreshet Ben-Gurion (where the Sede Boqer Campus is located) has a supermarket (with an indoor cash withdrawal option), post office (with some limited banking options) and some shops. Please check at the registration desk for more details.

Additional and larger commercial facilities can be found at the nearby towns of Mitzpe-Ramon, Yerukham and, of course, metropolitan Beer-Sheva. Please check at the registration desk for more details.

General Advice:

The Sede Boqer Campus is located amidst beautiful scenery. If you are lucky, you will notice herds of ibexes wandering in the area... However, we recommend that you do not wander off very far into the desert alone. Distances in the desert are difficult to judge, and flash floods on rainy days in this area are extremely dangerous and unpredictable. We certainly do not want to have to conduct a search for anyone in the Negev...

Still have a question?

The Conference Secretariat is here to help! Please approach the registration/ information desk for more details and answers to your queries. For each accommodation location, there is a conference contact person that can assist you or further direct you if a problem arises.

After conference hours, if your problem has not been resolved, and in particular, in cases of emergency you may always call the relevant person from the following list:

CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Position	Phone number
Prof. Isaac Meir	Conference Chair	+972-52-5506730
Prof. Alon Tal	In the absence of Prof. Meir: Conference Chair	+972-52-8795754
Prof. Arnon Karnieli	Conference Chair and Poster Session & Contest Chair	+972-52-8795925
Mrs. Dorit Korine	Event Coordinator	+972-52-3541375
Ms. Samara Bel	Guest Coordinator	Onsite or at desertification@bgu.ac.il
Mr. Eyal Alexander	Mashabim contact person and Mashav course contact person	+972-50-6393303
TBA	Ramon Inn contact person	TBA
Ms. Dana Meir	Field School, University Guesthouse & B&B accommodation assistance	+972-52-4438086

