

Academic Studies:

2016 – Present **Ph.D. candidate**

The Department of Politics and Government, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. Research – A Regional Analysis of Sustainable Access to Clean Water in Siaya County, Kenya. Supervisor: Prof. Lynn Schler.

2014 – 2016 **M.A Thesis completion studies**

The Department of Politics and Government, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

2008 **Mediation Course**, and Practicum, Tel-Aviv University, Israel.

1994 – 1996 **MBA**, Marketing Major, Temple University, Philadelphia, P.A. U.S.A

1986 – 1988 **B.A** in Political Science with Honors, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

Conference Proceedings and Accepted for Publication:

- Avidar O, (2017). Halfhearted Devolution: A view of Kenya's water governance from Siaya County, Kenya. *Journal of the Middle East and Africa*. Accepted for publication, not yet published.
- Avidar O, (2016). "From Europeanization to Africanization: The Complexities of the Technological Encounter in the Colonial Era" Conference proceedings **Technology and management at the interface of cultures, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science & Technology, Bondo, Kenya** <http://repository.tudelft.nl/islandora/object/uuid:4e481a41-ec40-492d-afc4-2e99d7f30eb2?collection=research>

Awards & Grants:

2017 ASMEA – Association for the study of the Middle East and Africa, Research grant

2017 Africa Center, Ben-Gurion University, Research grant

2016 Africa Centre, Ben-Gurion University, Research grant

2015 Africa Centre, Ben-Gurion University, Research grant

Research Teams:

2018 – Present **Management Committee Substitute**, Cost Action - CA16233 Drylands Facing Change: Interdisciplinary Research on Climate Change, Food Insecurity, Political Instability.

2017 – Present – **Head of the Access to water sub-team**, Integrating Geographical Information System in Exploring Water Supply Provision, Planning and Management Challenges in Siaya County, Kenya

Professional Experience:

2010 – Present **Founder and Managing Director WaterWays Solutions Ltd. "WWS"**

WWS was founded, in light of the growing need for clean water in off grid and rural areas and the understanding that everyone is entitled to clean drinking water. Ornit, created the "Holistic Methodology to Address Water and Development Challenges in Rural Areas" enabling sustainability of projects.

2014 – Present **Lecturer in Or-Yehuda Collage** – "Doing Business in China" course

2005 - 2012 Partner, CIVC-China Israel Value Capital, Private Equity Fund

CIVC is a Chinese Technology Growth Capital Fund, focusing efforts to promote Israeli innovation and technology within our portfolio companies. To date, CIVC has achieved 6 successful IPOs.

2005 – 2012 Partner, Neurone Ventures, Venture Capital Fund

Neurone Ventures is an Israeli venture capital fund, the fund had ended its term and has 3 IPOs and 4 M&As.

1997 – 2005 Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor, of the State of Israel:

- 2005 **European Desk Manager**
- 2001-2004 **Trade Representative for the State of Israel to Hong Kong and Macau,**
- 1999-2001 **Trade Representative for the State of Israel to Qatar and Oman**
- 1998-1999 **Manager for North America Investment** and Assistant to the Director of the Investment Promotion center
- Dec 1997 **Cadet Course**

1997 Delta Three (Israel) - CEO

Delta Three Israel, a Start Up Company, I took part in the initial start-up team and became CEO of Delta Three, Israel. Delta Three - Internet Telephony, was the first company to offer Internet Telephony Phone to Phone to end-users, and was later listed on NASDAQ.

Selected Lectures:

6-7 Nov 2017 – “On the Ground Impact of the 2002 and 2016 Water Acts in Siaya County, Kenya”. Co-chair, Marcus Water day at the sixth DDD conference, Sede Boker, Israel.

19-21 Oct. 2017 – “Devolution and Water as a Human Right in Kenya’s Water Acts: Comparing the 2002 and 2016 Water Acts and Legislative Impact On-the-Ground in Siaya County”. Tenth Annual ASMEA Conference, Washington D.C United States.

6-7 July 2017 – Presenter and expert discussant in a workshop on microfinance and clean water at the university of Luxemburg.

May 2017 - “Institutional Evolution and Change in Kenya’s Water Governance”, in the annual political science association conference, Tel-Aviv.

May 2017 – “Water in Africa – Concepts and Challenges” – Bimot Africa – Tel-Aviv University

Jan 2017 – “Understanding African History and Culture - a must for doing Business in Africa” in the Unconference for social good, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

Jan 2017 – “Institutional Evolution and Change in Kenya’s Water Governance” in the Joint Conference of Young Researchers in European Studies and African Studies in Beersheba, Israel

Other Activities:

- Advisor to social impact start-ups
- Mentor to young women leaders
- Vice President and Board Member of the International Women’s forum – Israel Branch
- Board member of the Israel-Asia Center.
- Former Advisor on different government panels: MOITAL, MFA, MOF, MPM
- Volunteer with youth at risk
- Participated in the women's triathlon of Herzeliya in 2009
- Former Board Member of the Israel Coal Company
- Served as a Lieutenant in the Israeli Defense Force, Intelligence Corp.

Languages:

English - native fluent, Hebrew - native fluent