



# Drylands, Deserts & Desertification

## The 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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<br>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<br><b>PS1 parallel sessions:</b> | <Evans><br>Afforestation in Drylands (I)  | <Old Administration><br>Remote Sensing (I)   | <Water Inst.><br>Public Health (I): Climate Change and Health       | <Classroom 1><br>Cook Workshop: Bio-Climatic Design of Buildings | <Classroom 2><br>Environmental Education (I)  | <Bio 32><br>AgroEcology (I)  |   |
| 12:45-14:45                                  | <p>Bus tours and outdoor lunch (Pre-registration required. )</p> <p><b>Tour I:</b> Ben-Gurion's desert home: visit to Israel's first Prime Minister's kibbutz home</p> <p><b>Tour II:</b> Rock art in the desert</p> <p><b>Tour III:</b> Avdat ancient agriculture (Spanish, Russian only)</p> <p><b>Tour IV:</b> Bedouin culture and traditions</p> <p><b>Tour V:</b> Wadi Karkash (hiking shoes needed)</p> |  |   |  |   |                              |   |
| 15:00-17:00<br><b>PS2 parallel sessions:</b> | <Evans><br>Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (I)   | <Old Administration><br>Remote Sensing (II)  | <Water Inst.><br>Public Health (II): Infectious Diseases            | <Classroom 1><br>Onsite Waste Collection                         | <Classroom 2><br>Environmental Education (II)   | <Bio 32><br>AgroEcology (II) | <Bio 136><br>Ecohydrology of Dryland Landscapes |
| 17:00-17:30                                  | Coffee Break  |  |   |  |   |                              |   |
| 17:30-18:45<br><b>PS3 parallel sessions:</b> | <Evans><br>Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (II)  | <Old Administration><br>Remote Sensing (III) | <Water Inst.><br>Public Health (III): Ecosystem Services and Health | <Classroom 1><br>Carbon Footprint                                | <Classroom 2><br>Cook Workshop: Sustainability in the Built Environment: Israeli Case Studies | <Bio 32><br>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>                 |  |   |   |  |   | UNCCD  |
| 10:30-11:00 | Coffee Break   |  |   |   |  |   | Note: starts at 10:30   |
| 11:00-12:30 | <Evens><br><b>PS4 parallel sessions:</b><br>Rethinking Agricultural Technologies             | <Old Administration><br>Public Health (IV): Environment, Health and Social Justice in Arid Areas | <Water Inst.><br>Soil & Land Restoration (I)                      | <Classroom 1><br>UNCCD Workshop: Sustainable Land Management (I)                          | <Classroom 2><br>Deserts & Drylands in Ancient Literature and Archaeology (I)  | <Bio 32><br>Mathematical Aspects of Desertification       |      |
| 12:30-15:00 | Open Campus stations concluding at authentic Israeli picnic lunch...                         |  |   |   |  |   |   |
| 15:00-16:30 | <Evens><br><b>PS5 parallel sessions:</b><br>Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (III)         | <Old Administration><br>Nutritional and Food Security  | <Water Inst.><br>Soil and Land Restoration (II)                   | <Classroom 1><br>Cook Workshop: Bio-Climatic Urban Design in Hot-Arid Regions             | <Classroom 2><br>Geological Aspects of Desertification                         | <Bio 32><br>Desertification in Mongolia                   | <Bio 136><br>Public Health Workshop I   |
| 16:30-17:00 | Coffee Break   |  |   |   |  |   |   |
| 17:00-18:30 | <Evens><br><b>PS6 parallel sessions</b><br>Desert Agriculture Drip Irrigation (IV)           | <Old Administration><br>Family Planning in the Drylands  | <Water Inst.><br>UNCCD Workshop: Sustainable Land Management (II) | <Classroom 1><br>Cook Workshop: Sustainability in the Built Environment: Around The World | <Classroom 2><br>Deserts & Drylands in Ancient Literature and Archaeology (II) | <Bio 32><br>Dryland Landscapes as Pattern-Forming Systems | <Bio 136><br>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<br>PS7 parallel sessions                        | <Evens><br>Building Economic Resilience in the Drylands                                  | <Old Administration><br>Water Management Challenges in the Drylands    | <Water Inst.><br>UK, Israel and Drylands Symposium<br> | <Classroom 1>                   | <Classroom 2><br>Climate History, Drought and Desertification in the Ancient Near East (I)   |
| 10:00-11:30<br>PS8 parallel sessions                        | <Evens><br>Women and Economic Changes in Rural-Arid Regions                              | <Old Administration><br>Kidron River Restorations                      | <Water Inst.><br>UK, Israel and Drylands Symposium<br> | <Classroom 1><br>Desert Ecology | <Classroom 2><br>Climate History, Drought and Desertification in the Ancient Near East (II)  |
| 11:30-12:00   | Coffee Break   |  |   |                                 |  |
| 12:00-13:30<br>PS9 parallel sessions                        | <Evens><br>The Role of the International Community in Supporting Sustainable Development | <Old Administration><br>Community and Technology in Project Wadi Attir | <Water Inst.><br>UK, Israel and Drylands Symposium<br> | <Classroom 1>                   | <Classroom 2><br>Climate History, Drought and Desertification in the Ancient Near East (III) |
| 13:30-14:30   | <Evens><br><b>Concluding Session and Announcement of UNCCD-SPI Resolutions</b>           |  |   |                                 |  |
| 14:30   | Sandwiches on the go...  |  |   |                                 |  |
| <b>Conference Ends</b>                                      |  |  |   |                                 |  |
| 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                           |
|--|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Tour I</b><br>Desert Architecture in the Negev & the Wadi Attir Project | 8:00 AM   | 4:00 PM*    |                                   |
| <b>Tour II</b><br>Afforestation (KKL Israel)                               |  7:30 AM | 5:00 PM*    | Possibly direct to Bedouin Dinner |
| <b>Tour III</b><br>Hydrology and Advanced Water Technologies               | 8:00 AM   | 6:00 PM*    |                                   |
| <b>Tour IV</b><br>Agriculture in Drylands - Drip Irrigation                |  8:00 AM | 4:00 PM*    |                                   |
| <b>Tour V</b><br>The Route Towards Mine & Mining Rehabilitation            |  7:00 AM | 6:00 PM     | Direct to Bedouin Dinner          |
| <b>Tour VI:</b><br>Public Health Tour                                      | 8:00 AM   | 4:00 PM*    |                                   |
| <b>Tour VII:</b><br>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 *<br>22:00/23:00 | 20:30<br>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:<br>Conference Chair                        | +972-52-8795754  |
| Prof. Arnon Karnieli | Conference Chair and<br>Poster Session & Contest Chair                   | +972-52-8795925  |
| Mrs. Dorit Korine    | Event Coordinator  | +972-52-3541375  |
| Ms. Samara Bel       | Guest Coordinator  | Onsite or at<br><a href="mailto:desertification@bgu.ac.il">desertification@bgu.ac.il</a> |
| Mr. Eyal Alexander   | Mashabim contact person and<br>Mashav course contact person              | +972-50-6393303  |
| TBA                  | Ramon Inn contact person   | TBA  |
| Ms. Dana Meir        | Field School, University<br>Guesthouse & B&B<br>accommodation assistance | +972-52-4438086  |





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