



together
celebrating Israel's 60 years



הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
Jewish Agency for Israel

In 1929, when the Jewish Agency was created by visionary leaders from around the Jewish world, “Israel” existed only in the context of liturgy and their dreams. It would take decades of unceasing efforts by the Jewish Agency—a “working government” literally of and by the people, but a people without a state—to realize the centuries-old longing. The modern Jewish state was not created by a U.N. proclamation, it was created by the will and determination of the Jewish people through the world’s only global Jewish partnership. On May 14, 1948, David Ben-Gurion, Chair of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, declared the State of Israel... hours later he was inaugurated as Israel’s first Prime Minister. The Jewish Agency also took upon itself a new role. Forged from both its experience and expertise—and its special relationship with the new Government—the Jewish Agency would be responsible for the cornerstones of **securing the future of a connected Jewish people with a strong Israel at its heart**: The work of aliyah to populate and strengthen the Jewish state; the work to carry Israel into the lives and hearts of Jewish communities around the world; and to carry their passion into Israel to help shape her society and destiny. We have been delivering on this promise every day of every year since. So how do we explain the transcendent power of our global partnership? You. **The Jewish people’s history-making global partnership is powered by you.**

partnering with purpose
all over the world

*Timeline reflects just a sampling of the Jewish Agency's impact throughout the decades



2008 ISRAEL PRIZE for Lifetime Achievement and Special Contribution to Society and the State of Israel. History-making work made possible through the success of your annual campaigns in Jewish communities around the world.

1930

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

1929 Jewish Agency is created as a "working government" of a people without a state.

1934 Jewish Agency Youth Aliyah begins as a rescue operation to save Jewish children from Nazi Germany. Over the next 70 years, these villages provide safe havens for more than 300,000 of Israel's most at-risk youth.

1936 Literally overnight, the Jewish Agency builds "unauthorized" kibbutzim to help secure Jewish residents; over the ensuing years 55 are built.

1934-48 In defiance of British restrictions on immigration, some 115,000 Jews escaping Eastern Europe are rescued. After the war, the Jewish Agency reaches out to deportation camps to provide relief.

Jewish Agency leads international political effort to coalesce support for establishment of State.

1948 State of Israel proclaimed by David Ben-Gurion, Chair of the Jewish Agency Executive; he then becomes Israel's first Prime Minister.

1948-51 During the first four years of its existence—while struggling for survival—Israel absorbs more than 700,000 new immigrants from Northern Africa and Eastern Europe.

1952 Knesset law passed—later formalized by a covenant with the Israeli government—recognizing the Jewish Agency's role as the global Jewish partnership between worldwide Jewry and Israel.

1950-56 Over 200 kibbutzim and moshavim are established by the Jewish Agency throughout Israel.

1960s Jewish Agency builds development towns throughout the Negev and Galilee to help absorb massive number of immigrants.

1964 Israel Education Fund, a partnership of the Jewish Agency and UJA, is launched to build public high schools and libraries in these development towns.

1967 In wake of war, Jewish Agency brings more than 7,200 volunteers from around the world to assist Israel.

1971 Jewish Agency leads struggle for Soviet Jewry and during this decade brings nearly 150,000 Soviet Jews home to Israel.

1972 Jewish Agency establishes Amigour to provide sheltered housing for Israel's most vulnerable immigrants; to date, Amigour has provided over 70,000 housing units.

1977 Launch of Project Renewal—with local municipalities, Israeli government and world Jewry—helps transform 100 disadvantaged Israeli neighborhoods.

1984 Operation Moses, the first historic rescue of Ethiopian Jewry, brings 9,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel. Efforts continue in 1991 with Operation Solomon, which airlifts more than 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel within 36 hours. Over the next 20 years, the Jewish Agency brings nearly 75,000 Ethiopian Jews home to Israel.

1989 First Jewish Agency summer camp is held in the Soviet Union providing a first-time opportunity for Jewish youth to connect to their heritage and our people.

1991 The Soviet Union collapses triggering a massive and unprecedented wave of aliyah. Utilizing the power of our partnership, over the next decade, the Jewish Agency brings nearly one million Soviet Jews to Israel.

1994 Partnership 2000 (P2K) launches as a new partnership model connecting Israeli and worldwide Jewish communities. A volunteer-driven effort designed to create mutual impact, every year 30,000 people build living bridges that span the Jewish world.

2002 Jewish Agency establishes Fund for Victims of Terror in response to Intifada. Emergency support continues in 2006 during the second war in Lebanon.

2004-06 Jewish Agency launches MASA, Youth Futures and At Home Together—innovative programs that leverage the support of the Israeli government, business leaders and society in path-breaking partnerships with worldwide Jewry.

2008 TOGETHER, CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL.

partnering with purpose
all over the world

We believe that a strong Jewish future requires a strong Israel at its heart. And nothing is more important toward that end than aliyah.

Together, in 60 years, through the success of annual campaigns in Jewish communities around the world, we've brought more than 3 million Jews home. Our unparalleled experience has shown us how vital aliyah is in building a strong Jewish state. That task is not over. Israel in the 21st century continues to be embattled on all fronts—external and internal—and it is clear that the existential challenges to the modern Jewish homeland are far from over. Israel's very future and its character will be shaped by the actions we take today. At this next critical stage of building a modern, Western-style democracy based on Jewish values, aliyah will continue to be the source of Israel's strength.



together
securing Israel's future



Bringing more Jews to explore life opportunities in Israel We continue to innovate in approaches that can maximize aliyah from all parts of the world. The fact of the matter is that behind the larger-than-life numbers, aliyah is a uniquely personal experience. That's why we encourage potential new immigrants to visit Israel for an up-close and personal look at the incredible range of possibilities. Participants on our Jewish Agency pilot trips explore vocational and professional opportunities; they visit neighborhoods and, for families, explore the variety of educational frameworks for children. **The goal is to help pave the way for aliyah and successful integration within Israeli society.**

Accelerating successful integration of new immigrants

At the Jewish Agency, we are committed to accelerating the successful integration of all new Israelis. For those with extraordinary needs, our absorption centers provide intensive support through a “first home” environment—giving them the personalized attention and tools they need to achieve independence. In addition, the Jewish Agency provides a range of truly unique integration frameworks, such as our *Kibbutz Ulpan* for young adults. For new immigrants moving directly into communities, our national *At Home Together* program recruits Israeli families and businesses as volunteers to “adopt” newcomers during their first two years in Israel—connecting new immigrants to a powerful community-wide network of support. Whatever it takes, at the Jewish Agency we support new immigrants each step of the way.



We believe that Israel will always reflect the collective best efforts of the Jewish people.

Together, over 60 years, we have built communities where there was desert, schools where there was sand. We have reached deep into the heart of disadvantaged communities to promote opportunity ... from Project Renewal to Partnership 2000, connecting you directly with the people of Israel. Through the work of building Israel together, we've given shape and meaning to our peoplehood. It will take that same global force of commitment to confront the challenges in Israel today. The impact of the continuing cycle of political violence has further isolated Israel's social and geographic periphery. Increasing gaps in social, economic and educational advantage are marginalizing more and more Israeli families and children. Israel in the 21st century will mirror our ability to create truly transformative impact for at-risk youth and communities. The Jewish Agency for Israel is leading the way.



together
meeting Israel's challenges



Bridging gaps for Israel's at-risk youth YOUTH FUTURES, a Jewish Agency national initiative, is leading the way to new opportunities for at-risk youth through an innovative, holistic, community-wide response. Young social change activists living in the Negev and Galilee serve as trustees for each child, working with professionals to develop personalized approaches to meet each child's needs. The goal is to bridge critical gaps—educational, social and extracurricular—in order to dramatically increase the number of youth who reach their potential. Harnessing the partnership of Israeli philanthropists in a collaborative model with worldwide philanthropic partners, we're transforming lives of risk into opportunity for at-risk youth. And together, we will literally change the face of Israeli society.

Transforming Israel's periphery

Today, communities in Israel's geographic and social periphery are at a critical turning point. The Jewish Agency has launched vital programs in the Galilee and the Negev to develop resources with the capacity to create a new socioeconomic reality. We are encouraging business initiatives through small business loans and working with young communities of social change activists to help bring new residents to the periphery.

Partnering Israel's people with worldwide Jewish communities

Through the energy and commitment of our partners, the Jewish Agency's Partnership 2000 (P2K) has become the paradigm for successfully partnering global Jewish communities directly with Israeli communities. In each of our 45 partnerships connecting over 550 communities, we are building living bridges into the Jewish future.



We believe that no matter where we live in the Jewish world, we all share equally in securing the Jewish future. For 60 years, we have worked together to make Israel a living part of Jewish communities around the world because *Am Echad* is the heart of a secure Jewish future. But with each passing decade, the challenge of connecting the next generation has become infinitely more complex. We have to ask ourselves the tough questions today: What will a Jewish future look like that is comprised of isolated individuals who acknowledge their Jewish cultural identity but have no engagement with Jewish community? That in no way feel part of a global Jewish family? How sustainable is the transcendent power of the Jewish people to move forward into the future without a belief in the value of peoplehood? We're not just asking, we're creating solutions. Using the power of Israel itself, the Jewish Agency is leading the way to connect the Jewish world's next generation through powerful, transformative experiences.



together
connecting the next generation



Bringing young Jews to experience Israel We provide a range of formative Israel experiences to tens of thousands of young Jews from around the world. Through our Israel Experience subsidiary, and as a full partner in birthright israel, we provide positive short-term experiences—proven gateways into Jewish life and a crucial first step. MASA then takes this journey to the next level. This innovative initiative spearheaded by the Jewish Agency, in partnership with the Government of Israel and worldwide Jewish communities, promotes long-term programs in Israel with a wide array of program providers. MASA's vision: Ultimately 20,000 young Jews, ages 18-30, will come to Israel every year for at least five months of studying, volunteering and internship programming opportunities—**an experience with the capacity to transform an entire generation into tomorrow's leaders.**

Bringing Israel into Jewish communities around the world.

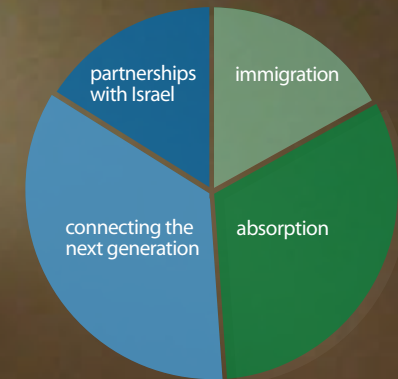
At the Jewish Agency, we are reaching out with innovative, energetic strategies and working with our global partners to deepen community engagement with Israel. From Argentina to Australia, North America to the former Soviet Union, strategies tailored for each community. Every year in the FSU, thousands of youth participate in transformative Jewish Agency camps; each summer, young Israelis serve as counselors to bring Israel into the North American Jewish camping experience. To ensure communities have access to the highest quality Israel-centered education, the Jewish Agency employs a two-pronged approach: Inspiring educators from Israel go into communities to add value to existing resources; Jewish educators and young adults from around the world participate in education, leadership and in-service professional development programs.





How your support is making an impact

-  Aliyah: Strengthening Israel through immigration and absorption
-  Partnering the Jewish world with Israelis to effect transformative change
-  Connecting the Jewish world's next generation with Israel and peoplehood



As the one and only global Jewish partnership, the Jewish Agency has brought the Jewish world together since 1929 to do the impossible.

Building the State of Israel, bringing 3 million Jews home. **Sixty years of making history together.** But does anyone think the issues we face today are any less monumental? **Think again.** The challenges we face today are complex and the solutions certainly not easy. Of course, neither were those that faced generations before us. The good news is one more thing we've learned along the way: When we partner with purpose, anything is possible.

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2008 Israel Prize Winner. As Israel's largest and most effective nonprofit, the Jewish Agency is the leader in partnering the people of Israel with communities and donors worldwide to meet Israel's 21st century challenges. The Jewish Agency is supported by founding constituent partners: Keren Hayesod, United Jewish Communities and Jewish federations around the world; and primary funders: Keren Hayesod, United Jewish Communities and major Jewish Federations in North America, International Fellowship of Christians and Jews.

Find out more about how you can make an impact:

☎ 212 339.6048 ✉ ask@jewishagency.org jewishagency.org/thinkagain

Students return to Danziger High School in Kiryat Shmona after the second Lebanon war. The girls on the cover and tens of thousands like them spent the next year getting 'back on track' through the Jewish Agency's *A New Tomorrow* program.

