

California-Israel Global Innovation Project

Financing Global Solutions



Mission

Our mission is to overcome worldwide barriers to economic growth and security by synthesizing the complementary strengths of Israel (the Startup Nation) and California (the Scale-Up State), by leveraging joint initiatives in water management, health services, agritech, energy efficiency, and cyber security.

The Jerusalem Institute's Milken Innovation Center is the hub organizing, managing, and strengthening networks that are leading to research and development collaborations, financial innovations, and practical, ready-to-go solutions.

Timeline

- May 2016 - Milken Institute Global Conference Panel on implementing sustainable water solutions in California
- April 2016 – Water and Agritech demonstration and clearinghouse proposal by Office of Policy Management, California Governor's Office
- March 2016 – White House announcement and roll-out of LA Incubator project for Israeli water and energy companies
- March 2016 – NewTech and Israel Export Institute water business exporter conference – training and update
- March 2016 – Water innovations from Financial Innovations Lab featured at 2016 AIPAC Conference in Washington, DC
- January 17, 2016 – Water policy workshop convened by Hoover Institution at Stanford University
- October 16, 2015 – [WATEC 2015 Conference](#) in Tel Aviv
- July 13, 2015- Water Lab held in Jerusalem
- June 30, 2015 – Global Fellows commence internships in Jerusalem
- March 16, 2015 - Global Health Lab held in Jerusalem
- Jan-May 2015 – Innovation training at Hebrew University, University of California – San Diego
- May 2014 – Milken Global Conference [panel](#) on the MOU implementation
- Summer 2014 – First Global fellows group in Israel
- March 2014 – [MOU](#) signed

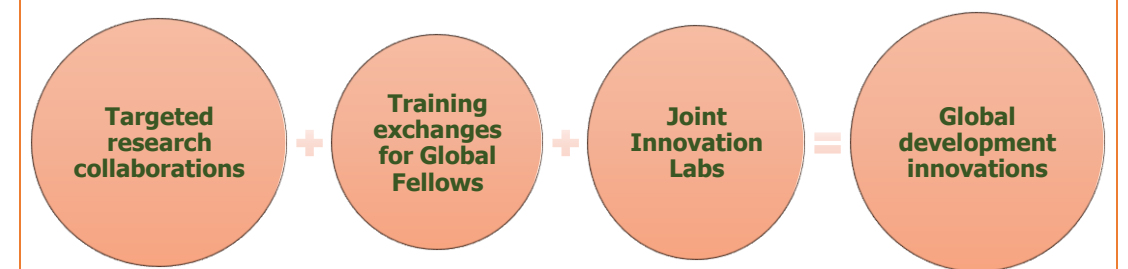


Caroline Hernandez at WATEC 2015 Panel on California and Israel - Water/Energy Nexus

Partners

- The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation
- Blum Capital Partners, LP
- Jacobs Investment Company LLC
- Leichtag Foundation
- Arison Investments
- Mitchell R. Julis
- Netafim
- University of California – Berkeley
- University of California – Los Angeles
- University of California – Irvine
- University of California – San Diego

Method



Upcoming events

- Global Fellows to arrive in Israel in June 2016 for internships in water, agritech, and energy
- California policy leadership visit to Israel to review agritech and water policy initiatives and opportunities in June 19-24, 2016
- Financial Innovations Lab – Agritech Innovations between Israel and California – June 23, 2016
- Water technology business trade mission to California, June 27, 2016.
- LA Incubator to host first round of Israeli water technology companies for “bootcamp” about how to enter the California market – July 2016

Outcomes

- Israeli companies conducting new business in water technology sector in California, including Aqwise, IDE, Netafim, Amiad, Ayyeka, CropX, ToxSorb, Altantium, and others.
- Using proposals from the Water Financial Innovations Lab, policy leadership group led by the California Governor's Office have launched a working group to adjust existing farm and municipal financing programs to encourage the adoption of water saving technologies among California's municipal water districts and farms.
- The Center held a Financial Innovations Lab on New Models for Financing Water Sustainable in California on July 13, 2015 in Jerusalem. Over 75 Israeli and California government, investment, and technology leaders attended the Lab. The Lab is leading to the development of key project and financial initiatives to demonstration performance-based solutions for municipal water systems, commodity crop agriculture in California's central valley, and R&D pilot projects focusing on water, agriculture, and energy systems. [Report](#) released in April 2016.
- Global Health Lab in March 2015 with 40 key life science professionals and policy makers develop a roadmap to bring new sources of capital to finance the commercialization of health technologies in Israel and California. The Lab is leading to scalable solutions to finance orphan drugs using innovative financial techniques.
- Six global fellows participated in internships in Israel. The California-based fellows participated in water and technology development projects at Netafim, Our Crowd, Israel Venture Network, and with the Milken Innovation Center.

Op-eds and Blog Connections

- [Israeli Companies Make Headway in California Water Industry – July 26, 2015](#)
- [UCSD Rady School - Fellows blog – 2014 - 2015](#)
- [Solving California's Drought Crisis, Globes, December 12, 2014](#)
- [California-Israel partnership can create global change, San Diego Union-Tribune, July 31, 2014](#)

Press releases and clippings

- [Big names share big ideas at Milken Conference, Jewish Journal, May 2016](#)
- [Solutions to California's Water Crisis from a Half a World Away \(Special NBC Investigative Report\)– October-November 2015](#)
- [Water, Water Everywhere and Plenty to Drink, December 2015](#)
- [Israel, a Water Superpower, is Helping California Fight Drought – YNET – July 23, 2015](#)
- [How Israel Defines Drought – Christian Science Monitor - June 21, 2015](#)
- [Netanyahu Offers to Help Brown Manage California Drought, Bloomberg Business, March 6, 2014](#)

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Work plan

