



Coordination of the **Agricultural Research In the Mediterranean Area**

DESCRIPTION OF NATIONAL Agri-Med RESEARCH SYSTEM

(Programmes and capacity)



Funding scheme

Funding Organizations	Funding area*	Budget € year 2008
■ MOARD	R&D projects, R&D centres, Agriculture & Rural development	42.000.000
■ BARD	R&D projects, Agriculture & Rural development	6.000.000
■ JNF-KKL	R&D projects, R&D centres, Agriculture & Rural development	2.000.000
TOTAL		50.300.000

Research capacity

Research Institutions considered in the report	Agri-med area annual budget (full cost in €)	Human resources in Agri-med area (total N. scientists)
■ The Agriculture Research Organization (ARO)- Volcani center	40.000.000	570
■ The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem	12.000.000	155
■ Peripheral R&D centers	7.000.000	102
TOTAL	59.000.000	827



The agri_Med research structure in the country

The Chief Scientist Office of The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOARD), is responsible for the policy-making and strategy of the governmental-related public agricultural research and development (R&D), and to direct, mediate, finance and control its activity.

MOARD is interested in funding research projects so that their results may be used by the agricultural community, and therefore the know-how resulted from these projects is public domain and available to every one. The research reports are kept in the libraries of all Israeli.

MOARD Chief Scientist's major goals are to identify agricultural problems in which knowledge gaps exist, to determine research goals aimed to bridge such gaps, to fund such research activity and to monitor research performance. As a funding agency, MOARD issues every year a Call for Proposals for Collaborative Research Projects in agriculture. Financial support is given by approving grants through these open calls for research programs within ministry units as well as to universities and other research centres.

Agricultural research in Israel is funded mainly by three bodies: (1) The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOARD) via its Chief Scientist Office which manages and funds three major programmes: National Central Fund for Agricultural Research & Development (average annual budget: 7.1M EU), Target-Oriented Applied Projects (average annual budget: 2.2M €) and Agricultural Industry-Oriented Projects (average annual budget: 0.2M EU). (2) The US-Israel Bi-National Agricultural Research and Development fund (BARD) (average annual budget: 6M €). (3) The Jewish national Fund (JNF) which funds mainly forest management and conservation programmes (average annual budget: 0.32M €). Other small funding bodies are associated to the Farmer's Union and support specific crop and livestock-directed R&D (total budget of about 20 independent funds, for all crops and livestock produced in Israel, is ~4M €). All programmes which are managed and funded by these bodies are national, except for those related to BARD which is bi-national.

Priorities

- To ensure continuous supply of fresh agricultural products for the local market at cost-effective prices for both consumers & farmers
- To encourage population of the rural peripheral areas by providing means for adequate income (e.g. 50% increase of exported fresh crops in the last 5 years)
- To act for preservation of the open areas and of ecological agriculture

Main research thematic area/programmes

- Crop production and protection
- Plant genetics, breeding and biotechnology
- Animal production & health
- Ornamental
- Fishery and aquaculture
- Water and soil management
- Climate change
- Forestry
- Post harvest
- Agricultural engineering and precise agriculture
- Rural Development
- Agricultural economics.



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Future perspectives in the Agri-Med research

- ✓ Agricultural solutions for the global warming
- ✓ Facing the global food security crises
- ✓ Implementing agricultural biotechnology to improve plant and animals
- ✓ Desertification; Aquaculture and Fishery
- ✓ Developing precise agriculture
- ✓ Biodiversity preservation
- ✓ Promoting joint projects

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