



Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

משלחת האיחוד האירופי למדינת ישראל

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Press release

EU Delegation to Israel holds event with Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs highlighting EU's Twinning and TAIEX programmes

Representatives of numerous Israeli government ministries and of the EU Delegation to Israel gathered at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today at an event highlighting the role of two key EU programmes for cooperation at governmental level – Twinning and TAIEX.

The aim of Twinning projects is to upgrade the administrative capacities of the public administration of the EU's partner countries through training and support for structural reorganisation. Twinning projects can also support the approximation of laws, regulations and quality standards to those of EU Member States. These are long term projects in which teams of professionals work in cooperation with their Israeli counterparts. One of the aspects of Twinning projects is the role of a Resident Twinning Adviser from an EU Member State who works in the offices of the Israeli ministry.

Since 2007, 10 Twinning projects have been held in Israel in the fields of data protection, transport, equal employment opportunities, telecommunications, veterinary services, statistics, environmental protection and rural development.

TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument) is a short term tool to achieve the approximation of Israeli and European legislation by means of seminars, workshops and study visits. So far 80 TAIEX activities have been held in Israel on subjects ranging from "human trafficking" to "intelligent transport systems." At the event, representatives of the ministries of agriculture, communications and education as well as the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics presented their successful experiences in participating in Twinning and TAIEX projects.

In his remarks, Lars Faaborg-Andersen, EU Ambassador to Israel said : "We profoundly believe that these exchanges should be encouraged. They illustrate the essence of EU-Israel relations and our common values and willingness to integrate our economies and standards in a unique and concrete way. This is also a true partnership in which the EU side learns as much as the Israeli side."

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