



MASHAV - Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation



**The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment, Division for International Studies**

FEEDING THE FUTURE: FOOD SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY IN TIMES OF GLOBAL CHANGE

February 3 – February 27, 2014

MASHAV is the Hebrew acronym for the Agency for International Development Cooperation, a department established 50 years ago in Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. MASHAV is responsible for designing and implementing Israel's international development programs, carried out in Israel and in partner countries.

In cooperation with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Faculty of Agriculture – MASHAV's only academic affiliate – we are pleased to announce the opening of a training and capacity building program entitled Feeding the Future: Food Safety and Technology in Times of Global Change. The course will be held in Israel at the Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment, Division of International Studies in Rehovot.

RATIONALE

In numerous countries around the world, a significant portion of the population suffers from malnourishment. Raising more indigenous crops with higher levels of nutritious protein (for example, in Kenya, this would include the grains amaranth and cowpeas)* is one strategy to address food security. However, even a sufficient supply of a nutritious crop may not sustain the population if the safety of the food is compromised.

Improperly treated crops and unsanitary handling, as well as intentional and accidental poisoning, can threaten the food supply. There is a need for appropriate measures to ensure safe and sanitary conditions in all steps of the chain of supply and trade; from cultivating and harvesting the crop to processing, packaging, shipping, and storing food.

OBJECTIVES

The program's objectives are:

- To provide participants with management skills for confronting hazards and threats in the food industry.
- To critically evaluate the nutritional quality of food, and gain awareness of potential health hazards during the cultivation, processing, packaging, handling, transportation, and storage of food.
- To discuss emerging trends for improving the safety and sanitation of food sources from the participants' countries.
- To adopt protective actions to minimize contamination of food in the participants' region.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

This program's topics of study will include:

- Risk Management in Food Cultivation and Production
- Water Handling in the Food Industry
- Beneficial Aspects of Functional Foods
- Dangers Inherent in Cultivating Crops
- Food Management: Quality Assurance and Quality Control
- Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points: Implementation in the Food Industry
- Environmental Management in the Food Industry
- Food Evaluation

STUDY CONDITIONS

- Classes will be held at the Faculty's Rehovot campus, where there are laboratories, advanced research equipment and the central library of Agricultural Science.
- Around-the-clock computer access will be provided, and computers will be used extensively.
- We recommend that participants who own a personal computer bring it with them for their own convenience.
- Scientific material and homework will be assigned and graded.
- Professional field trips will be held.
- Full attendance is required.
- We reserve the right to make changes in the academic program.

COURSE COMPLETION

Each participant will prepare a seminar presentation, which will be reviewed and graded. It should apply knowledge acquired during the course to a topic in food safety. Participants are advised to bring with them digitalized data relevant to their countries, especially on food legislation. On completion of the course and fulfillment of its requirements, participants will receive certificates.

REQUIREMENTS

Candidates interested in attending this program require:

- M.Sc. degree or higher in biology, biotechnology, environmental sciences, food technology, or agriculture from a recognized university. A detailed record of studies and copies of degrees must be included with application forms.
- Documentation of academic studies conducted in English OR a TOEFL score of at least 89 on the internet-based scale OR an internationally recognized equivalent. The language of instruction is English, Therefore, participants whose native tongue is not English, must furnish proof of proficiency in this language.
- Professional experience in the field is recommended (at least 3 years).
- Basic knowledge in microbiology and human physiology and/or nutrition.
- An official certificate of good health signed and stamped by a doctor.
- Two letters of recommendation are required from the candidate's place of work or university.

COST AND APPLICATION

Scholarships are available from MASHAV (see below) to cover the fee for study. The scholarship covers tuition, board, lodging and travel in Israel required for the purposes of the program of studies. This fee does not include travel costs to and from the home countries or incidental expenses.

Application forms may be obtained from the nearest Israeli diplomatic or consular representative or can be downloaded from the website of the Israel Foreign Ministry, MASHAV Study Programs at:

<http://www.mashav.mfa.gov.il/MFA/mashav/Courses/Pages/default.aspx>

Completed applications MUST be sent directly to the Israeli representative in your country by December 26, 2013. In addition, please send a copy of the forms in PDF format and **not** JPEG to the Faculty by email to: randyl@savion.huji.ac.il .

ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR PARTICIPANTS

ACCOMMODATIONS: Single bedroom accommodation in a shared apartment will be provided in our fully equipped guest house on campus. Meals will be provided. Both laundry (on campus) and dry cleaning (in town) are at the participant's expense.

WEATHER: The weather in Israel during the winter months varies, approximately 10-22° C. There may be some sunny days where light clothing is appropriate, but it might also rain and be cool. Participants are requested to bring clothes suitable for outdoor activities including a warm jacket and comfortable walking shoes. We also recommend that you bring some light sweaters, long-sleeved shirts, a raincoat and an umbrella.

INSURANCE: Participants are insured for medical care during their stay in Israel. This does not include pre-existing conditions and /or major dental care. Personal belongings are not insured, and are the responsibility of each individual.

Participants who take regular medication must bring enough medicine for the duration of the course. Participants who wear glasses are advised to bring a spare pair. We recommend that hand luggage include basic toiletries and a change of clothes for the first day or so. These should be carried separately in case of delay in baggage delivery. Participants will not receive any allowance or pocket money. Please bring money for out-of-pocket expenses.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION: Those accepted to the course will supply flight details to their local Israeli representative and to us. Upon arrival in Israel, the participant will pick up his/her luggage. After passing through customs, the participant will enter the arrivals terminal and walk towards the left. Go up the escalator to the first floor. On the left, behind the car rental counters, you will see a counter of a company called MONI-SITON. This is a special taxi service, which has a list of expected arrivals. Go to the counter and tell them your name, country and that you're attending a course at the Faculty. You will be taken to the Faculty of Agriculture, Rehovot, free of charge. This service is pre-paid.

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE ANY OTHER FORM OF TRANSPORTATION!

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

This 25-day course is truly a joint venture. Involved in its implementation are:

Academics: Under the auspices of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment. **Academic Coordinator:** Dr. Zippora Gershon.

Administration: The Faculty's Division for International Studies in cooperation with the Division for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MASHAV).

MASHAV

Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, known as MASHAV in its Hebrew acronym, was founded in 1958 as part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is responsible for initiating and implementing Israel's development-cooperation programs worldwide. MASHAV aims at transferring the expertise and technologies, which have assisted Israel in its own path to development, to other countries. Today, Israel cooperates with almost 140 countries, providing training in Israel and abroad, operating on-site demonstration projects, and building medical infrastructures in partner countries. MASHAV is active in fields ranging from agriculture to medicine and from community development to entrepreneurship.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was opened in 1925, preceding the establishment of the State of Israel by more than two decades. The University was designed to be a world class institution of higher learning and research. Today, the Hebrew University comprises seven faculties, 15 schools, some 60 research centers, a student body of about 23,000 and a tenured-track faculty of some 1,500. One third of its enrollment is at the M.Sc. and Ph.D. level.

THE ROBERT H. SMITH FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD & ENVIRONMENT

The Hebrew University's Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment was established in 1942 in Rehovot, a city at a distance of some 55 km from the main campus of the University in Jerusalem. The site was chosen with considerations of its climate and soil conditions. It is the only agricultural institution of higher education in Israel offering university degrees.

The Faculty's Division for International Studies was established in 1986. One of its aims is to expose academic graduates from abroad to post-graduate programs, giving them insight into the achievements and research of Israel in general and of the Faculty in particular, expanding their knowledge in specific fields and creating opportunities for international cooperation.

COMMUNICATION

Further information relating to the subject matter of the course may be obtained from:

Division for International Studies

Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment

P.O. Box 12

Rehovot, Israel 76100

Tel. 972-8-9489509, or 972-8-9489511

Fax. 972-8-9470171

Website: <http://departments.agri.huji.ac.il/externalstudies/index.php>

Director: Ms. Miri Ben-Haim

Program Administrator: Ms. Randy Lang

E-mail address: randyl@savion.huji.ac.il

***Source:**

Roberts, J. (September 2, 2009). Solving Kenya's food crisis, one indigenous crop at a time. Daily Climate News and Analysis. Retrieved from <http://solveclimate.com/blog/20090902/solving-kenya-s-food-crisis-one-indigenoucrop-time>