

**Cost Action 19128 – Meeting Program
March 14th–17, Mitzpe Ramon, Israel**

March 14

Transportation from Ben Gurion Airport to Mitzpe Ramon:

- Take a train from Ben Gurion Airport to Tel Aviv Ha'Hagana
- In Tel Aviv Ha'Hagana, switch to a train from to Be'er Sheva Center
- From Be'er Sheva's Train Center, walk for a 1 min to Be'er Sheva Central Bus Station
- Take a bus to Mitzpe Ramon. Tell the bus driver where your hotel is in order to take off in the closer stop
- Note: If, due to any reason, a train from Ben Gurion Airport is not available, then take a bus to Tel Aviv Central Bus Station or to Tel Aviv Savidor. For both cases, switch there to a bus going to Be'er Sheva Central Bus Station.

20:00: Dinner in a selected restaurant (to be announced)

March 15th

Events to take place in the Mitzpe Ramon library, David Ben Gurion Av. No. 12

- 09:00–09:05: Greetings by the DSASC's Scientific Director
- 09:05–09:10: Action's agenda + goals by Vladan Ivetic
- 09:10–09:15: Welcome + schedule by Ilan Stavi

Thematic workshop

- Expert presentations (25 min talk + 5 min Q&A)

09:15–09:45: Gil Siaki, Keren Kayemet Le'Israel: *National and regional adaptation to Mediterranean climate change – Best practices afforestation in the northern Negev*

09:45–10:15: Andrej Ficko, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana: *Managing forests as social-ecological systems: the conceptual and methodological challenges*

10:15–10:45: Coffee break

10:045–11:15: Yagil Osem, the Agricultural Research organization – Volcani Center: *Patterns of primary productivity and water consumption of conifer forest ecosystems along Israel's semiarid to dry-subhumid climatic gradient: Implications of afforestation and forest management*

11:45–12:15: Eli Argaman, Soil Erosion Research Station, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development: *Soil water availability and its impact on planted forests in a semi-arid environment, northern Negev Region Israel – Ambassadors forest*

- 12:15–13:15: Lunch, the township center
- 13:15–14:30/: A short tour to the Makhtesh Ramon scenery

Working groups meeting: 14:30–18:30

19:00–21:00: Dinner, in a selected restaurant

21:00–23:00: A social events, optional activity (to be self-paid, probably requires a certain number of participants)

March 16th

08:00–09:00: Management committee meeting

09:00–18:00: Fieldtrip to key sites in the northern Negev

1. Dryland afforestation systems (Halukim Ridge)
2. The KKL nursery (Gilat)
3. The Ambassadors Forest (multi-aged, multi-species project)
4. Yatir Forest (the old *Pinus halepensis* afforestation project; the new multi-species project)

In between the stops, lunch in Be'er Sheva

Back to Mitzpe Ramon in the late afternoon/early evening

20:00: Dinner

March 17

Departure

Accommodation options in Mitzpe Ramon

There are several accommodation possibilities in the township, including hotels, Inns, etc. Some of these options are:

- Even Derech Hotel. The DSASC has special arrangement with this hotel. Please use the code **ADSSC2023** to get a discount. Access through the link: <https://www.simplebooking.it/ibe/hotelbooking/search?hid=7346&lang=en#q&guests=A,A&in=2023-3-15&out=2023-3-16&coupon=ADSSC2023>
- Ramon Suits Hotel
- Selina Desert Garden
- Spice Quarter Inn
- Desert Shade Eco-Camp
- Silent Arrow

For any question, please don't hesitate to contact me:

istavi@adssc.org, ++972-54-728-3745

Ilan Stavi