



Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies

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Work Plan

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INTRODUCTION

The work plan for 2011 is designed for continuity with the 2010 work plan. Most of the 2010 studies will be completed in the coming year, and others in 2012. In addition, each research cluster is currently reviewing new research proposals, some of which depend on appropriate funding.

In the Jerusalem Research Cluster the following studies will be completed: Indicators of the State of Affairs in Jerusalem, Youth in Jerusalem, Master Plan for Community Services Edifices, Implementation of the Master Plan for Cultural Centers for the Ultra-Orthodox Community in Jerusalem, Kidron Valley Basin, and Card Index – Conservation of Sites. The research proposals for 2011 are in new disciplines that we have not yet, or have only partially, explored and that we have a strong interest in developing. Their implementation depends on locating appropriate funding. They include, for example, A Cultural Strategy for Jerusalem, Jerusalem and the Jewish People, Jerusalem – City of Three Religions, Israeli Policy towards Christian Churches and Communities, and The Christian World and Jerusalem.

In the Conflict Management and Resolution Research Cluster, research in two Work Groups will be completed: Jerusalem between Management and Resolution of the Conflict and The Relationship between the Arab Minority and the Jewish Majority in Israel. The Work Group dealing with Jerusalem will focus on analyzing the current situation, identifying the key milestones in negotiations over Jerusalem, examining the barriers to peace, and examining options for intermediate and final status arrangements. The Work Group dealing with Jewish-Arab relations in Israel will complete its policy paper and intends to hold roundtable meetings to consider possible implementation. Two of the proposed studies in this cluster, pending appropriate funding, are: The Management and Resolution of Conflicts in Holy Sites, and Legitimization of a Peace Policy with the Palestinians.

In the Environmental Policy Center, the following studies will be completed: Sustainability Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow; Environmental Diplomacy; Changes in the Balance of the Water as a Means of Dealing with the Problems of the Dead Sea; and The Effectiveness of the Use of the Private and Administrative

Legal Tool for Maximizing the Environmental Responsibility of Hazardous Elements. The project on The State of the Environment and Sustainability Outlook 2030 will continue through 2012.

In the Economics Unit, the following studies will be completed: TARGET (Targeted Research & Development Policy – A European Union Project) and a study focused on policy evaluation of international R&D collaboration. Two new studies will begin: The Economy of Jerusalem and Ultra-Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem and Israel.

In 2011 the production of 15 new publications will be completed, some of them in English, including the following: The Historical Basin of Jerusalem, Some Legal Issues Concerning Jerusalem, Vision for Jerusalem (Abstract), Barriers to Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, and The Museum of Tolerance in Mamilla. The book War, Peace, and International Relations in Contemporary Islam: Muslim Scholars on Peace Accords with Israel, currently available in Hebrew and English, will be published in Arabic as well. We hope that this pattern of publications in English and Arabic will continue, but it clearly depends on locating sources of funding.

In advance of the 2012 work year, we intend to propose a five-year research plan that will focus on identification of the main challenges to the strengthening of Jerusalem and on ways of overcoming these challenges. This work plan will be developed in cooperation with the Jerusalem Municipality, relevant government authorities, and the Jerusalem Development Authority.

JERUSALEM

Indicators of the State of Affairs in Jerusalem

The aim of this study is to develop indicators for the city of Jerusalem to serve as measurement tools for analyzing and monitoring the state of affairs in the city. Out of a long list of potential areas of examination, four were chosen in the first stage: population, economy and tourism, education and quality of urban life, and the environment. The indicators are intended to enable decision-makers at the municipal and government levels, professionals, and the general public to follow the processes of the city's development. Indicators are considered today a key element in urban management not only as a measuring tool but also for policy planning. Periodical reviews of the indicators will enable a long-term analysis of the level of development or decline of the city.

Conservation Policy for Jerusalem

The issue of conservation in Jerusalem is more complicated than elsewhere, both because of the plurality of sites, its diverse communities and a neighborhood structure which requires a different approach per area, and because of the concentration of most of the sites in a relatively small urban space known as the "historic city" whose borders reflect the city's borders at the end of the British Mandate era. The objective of this study is to develop and suggest a clear policy regarding the issue of conservation in Jerusalem. The study aims to propose to decision-makers possible methods of action together with recommendations for implementing an appropriate policy in this domain.

In cooperation with the Jerusalem Municipality and the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Foundation

Tourism Development in Jerusalem

Jerusalem has great tourism potential, which to date has only been partially exploited. Cities with far fewer tourism sites, landscapes, or attractions and with a much less exciting history manage to attract significantly more visitors and

tourists. The objective of this study is to analyze the present state of affairs in the city with regard to tourism (domestic and foreign) and pinpoint the impediments to a more substantive increase of tourism to Jerusalem. The study will pay special attention to the level of development of current tourist sites and the functioning of the array of tourism support services. It will also examine the possibility of increasing the range of tourist activities in the city, the need for additional hotels and their potential locations, the necessary transport infrastructure, and the identification of points of attraction, among other issues.

Youth in Jerusalem

The mayor of Jerusalem has assigned top priority to cultivation of the city's youth. This study aims to establish a current and reliable database on youth in Jerusalem – age, residential preferences, migration patterns, employment details, quality of living, family status, education, and more. The research will address patterns of change, their effects on the city, and more. Based on data analysis, it will include charts, graphs, maps, and a concise analysis of the quantitative data.

Implementation of the Master Plan for Cultural Centers for the Ultra-Orthodox Community in Jerusalem

This project aims to implement the proposals of the Master Plan for Cultural Centers for the Ultra-Orthodox Community in Jerusalem and to update the recommendations regarding provision of land for these centers. (The Master Plan was written by JIIS and submitted to the Municipality in 2007.) For these purposes, a municipal team will be established with the participation of JIIS researchers alongside the Municipality's director-general as well as representatives of its Religious Culture Unit, Planning Administration, Finance Department, Culture and Leisure Administration, and Strategic Policy and Planning Unit. The team will examine the Master Plan's proposals and their compatibility with the urban plans being pursued within the Municipality. In addition, potential designated locations for the proposed centers will be examined.

Commissioned by: The Jerusalem Municipality

Migration to and from Jerusalem

Since the early 1990s, Jerusalem has registered a negative migration balance (the number of people leaving the city for other localities in Israel has been higher than the number coming from other localities in Israel to live there). This phenomenon has important negative implications for the city. The study aims to learn about the characteristics of people who leave and of those who move to the city and the underlying factors motivating them. In addition, the study will formulate recommendations on how to reduce the negative migration and, simultaneously, attract new residents.

A Cultural Strategy for Jerusalem

This study will formulate a policy tool for examining and implementing a successful cultural strategy to enable the transformation of Jerusalem into an international cultural city. It will generate guidelines for identifying and directing the cultural development policy of bodies interested in investing in culture, such as policy makers, philanthropic foundations, and non-governmental organizations. A number of successful cases elsewhere in the world will be examined, and the processes of policymaking and implementation that turned these cities into successful cultural centers will be analyzed. In addition, the study will examine the cultural policy being applied in Jerusalem, the availability and variety of culture found today, and the city's cultural strengths.

Kidron Valley Basin – Preparation of Master Plan

The Kidron Valley basin extends from the municipal confines of the city of Jerusalem through the Judean desert to the Dead Sea. A cluster of historic, cultural and religious sites that rank among the most important in the Middle East lies within the confines of the basin. Nevertheless, the basin has suffered from longstanding neglect and there is a need for an overall, sustainable program that will reinforce its economic, cultural and historic potential. The project addresses all of the hazards that exist today in the basin area and, in parallel, propose targets for the conservation and cultivation of the area's historical and cultural resources, with the aim of establishing the basis for the basin to be recognized as a world

heritage site. In 2009, the JIIS formulated recommendations for a conservation and development policy for the upper part of the Kidron Valley basin (published in English in 2010). The ongoing research aims to broaden and deepen the study of the Kidron Valley and suggest an overall planning policy in the area between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea.

In cooperation with the Dead Sea Drainage Authority

Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem

The JIIS annual Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem provides some 200 tables and graphs presenting up-to-date information on territory, climate, population, migration, standard of living, work, industry, services, construction, transport, tourism, education, culture and sport, health, social welfare, communications, public order, religion, municipal budget, etc. This year, a new chapter was added on the metropolitan localities of Jerusalem, with the intention of upgrading the chapter in the future to a separate yearbook on those localities.

In cooperation with the Jerusalem Municipality and the Jerusalem Development Authority

Jerusalem Facts and Trends

This complementary publication to the Statistical Yearbook examines and analyzes Jerusalem's present situation as well as changing trends and developments in the city over the years.

Master Plan for Community Services Edifices

Jerusalem, Israel's largest city, is characterized by a diverse human mosaic and communities that differ from one another in terms of religion, culture and socioeconomic status. The population complexity creates a broad spectrum of needs in areas for which the Jerusalem Municipality's Community Services Administration is responsible. Despite the plurality of problems and range of services that must be provided, the service networks lack suitable buildings for

their special needs. In addition, the city does not have an overall plan that lists the number or lack of buildings and areas of land slated to cater to future needs. The master plan encompasses the areas of responsibility of the Community Services Administration in Jerusalem: social welfare, public health, immigrant absorption and employment. The plan will analyze the present situation and map the users of the systems for which the Administration is responsible for the next two decades, and develop alternative solutions while evaluating predicted urban and demographic trends.

In cooperation with the Jerusalem Municipality

Card Index – Conservation of Sites

To date, two general conservation lists have been drawn up for the city of Jerusalem. In addition, there are urban building plans that are earmarked for conservation of specific sites and urban building plans for neighborhoods with buildings and sites slated for conservation. The aim of the project is to draw up a comprehensive, up-to-date, computerized conservation list for the city of Jerusalem and make it into a statutory list. A team from JIIS has been selected to carry out an updated study of buildings for conservation in the neighborhoods of Mea Shearim, Zichron Moshe, Achva and Yegiya Kapayim.

Commissioned by: The Jerusalem Municipality

Jerusalem and the Jewish People

Jerusalem has been the historical and spiritual capital of the Jewish people, the subject of their prayers, and a religiously sought destination for thousands of years. In current times Jerusalem is also a focal point for the Jewish people, as expressed in a variety of ways. The JIIS is interested in initiating policy studies to explore the link between Jerusalem and the Jewish people and examine ways that this link could help strengthen the city, enhance its role in galvanizing Jewish identity throughout the world, and contribute to the relationship between Jews and Jerusalem, specifically, and between Jews and Israel, generally.

Jerusalem – City of Three Religions

This research aims to propose tools and methods for strengthening the status of Jerusalem as an “international city,” using the key resource that sets it apart from all others – its holiness to the three monotheistic religions and its rich and unique history. The research will propose ways of reinforcing religious ties to the city and making it a global destination for pilgrimage and religious journeys while, simultaneously, seeking ways of defusing tensions among the various religious and communities.

Israeli Policy Towards Christian Churches and Communities in Jerusalem and Northern Israel

Research undertaken in recent years by JIIS has revealed that Israel’s approach to Christian affairs is highly problematic. Matters of authority among the various bodies responsible for the churches and Christian communities in Israel are unclear, and many issues thus fall “between the cracks.” Despite the great importance and significance of Jerusalem in the eyes of the Christian world, and despite the church leaders’ strong influence on decision makers and world opinion, this crucial and sensitive issue has been relegated to the bottom of the Israeli government’s list of priorities. The issue usually makes headlines only around special events, such as violent clashes in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, visa problems, or a papal visit. The bureaucratic and legal obstacles that thwart efforts on behalf of local Christian churches and communities are often based on fear of setting a precedent that would inspire Muslim or Jewish action one way or another. This study aims to develop a sound and more appropriate municipal and government policy on Christian affairs both in relation to Jerusalem (including tourism and pilgrimage) and in relation to Christian Arab communities in the Galilee.

In cooperation with the Jerusalem Center for Jewish-Christian Relations

Processing of Census Data

Data from the census conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics provide a correct quantitative information infrastructure to the end of December 2008.

The census data give a broad, complex picture of the city as compared to the country in general and other cities. The objective of the study is to process these data so as to construct an up-to-date profile of the city and basis for developing indicators to examine the state of affairs of the city. Special attention will be given to the Mayor's emphasis on the following subjects: youth, employment and income, education and housing. The census data have immense value because of their exactness and the details they provide, representing a basis for all future estimates. Processing of the data has special importance in light of the fact that it parallels the end of the former Mayor's term of office and the beginning of Nir Barkat's tenure. It can therefore serve as a basis for measuring and evaluating the city's development vis-à-vis the Mayor's goals.

Architecture in Jerusalem City Center

The study, which will be published as a book, deals with the history and development of the city center from various aspects: historical, urban, architectural, environmental, social and ethnic. The study will describe the city center's historical-urban-architectural development process, analyze these processes and draw conclusions regarding recommended methods of tackling its urban renewal. The book will be published in a similar format to *The German Colony and Emek Refaim Street and Jaffa Street – Biography of a Place, Story of a City*, and will include hundreds of photographs, illustrations, drawings and maps.

In cooperation with the Keshet Foundation, the Bracha Foundation and the Jerusalem Development Authority

EVALUATION STUDIES

Science at Their Fingertips

A formative and summative evaluation study for a unique physics curriculum for junior high schools. The Bloomfield Science Museum in Jerusalem and Hebrew University's Youth Science Center joined together in planning and implementing this project.

In cooperation with the Jerusalem Foundation

Promoting Women's Health in the Third Age in the Community

A formative and summative evaluation study for the Women's Health Center project at Hadassah and the Legacy Heritage Fund. The project seeks to work towards promoting the health of underprivileged elderly women residents of the lower-class Katamonim neighborhood in Jerusalem, by setting up and training a network of volunteers who operate the project and work with them.

In cooperation with the Hadassah Medical Organization

Green Schools

This study evaluates a project that would place the issue of water recycling on the environmental curricula of Jerusalem schools. The project is an initiative of the Jerusalem Foundation in cooperation with Jerusalem's Education Administration, the Green Network, and others.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION RESEARCH CLUSTER

Jerusalem Work Group: Jerusalem between management and resolution of the conflict

JiIS has been studying the city's political future since the mid-1990s. The aim of this Work Group project is to present policy-makers with reliable, up-to-date information on demographic, social and political trends in East Jerusalem and formulate alternatives for the intelligent management of the city today and in preparation for future agreements. In 2010, the Work Group conducted a simulation of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations with 25 experts representing the various sectors and political interests involved. The aim of the game was to evaluate existing trends and create new ideas that could help promote an agreement in Jerusalem. In 2011 the team's conclusions will be published.

Work Group: The Relationship between the Arab Minority and the Jewish Majority in Israel

The issue of the relationship between the Arab minority and the Jewish majority in the State of Israel is on the national agenda. The aim of this project is to formulate a new model for Jewish-Arab relations entitled: "From Alienated Affiliation to Joint Citizenship." The multidisciplinary work group, comprising a dozen experts, has authored a policy paper which offers a new perspective on the status of Israel's Arab citizens. This document proposes a number of innovations relating to the following issues: the constitutional status of this minority group, joint citizenship, rights and obligations, appropriate representation, definition of the "Jewish State," participation in government, national service, implementation mechanisms and monitoring of the issue of equality, responsibility of the Jewish and Arab leadership for inclusive discourse and legitimacy.

In cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Liberty

Conflicts over Holy Sites

Numerous studies have been conducted at the Institute on the subject of conflicts over the holy sites. The aim of this study is to examine the issues that arouse violent clashes over the holy sites and to identify, from a comparative perspective, ways of reducing the violence and resolving these forms of conflicts. The study is based on special collaboration between Israeli and Palestinian researchers and is characterized by a multidisciplinary approach that integrates theoretical insight into a number of areas, among them, the geography of sacred places, conflict settlement (including history and politics), and urban landscapes. The study will cover, among other things, the following issues: the role of the holy sites in the escalation of conflicts and in their transformation from political to religious conflicts; the role of religious figures in ethno-national conflicts in the construction of meaning imparted to the holy sites and the influence of the construction process on the intensity of the conflict; conflict-resolution strategies for the holy sites – arbitration decisions, courts, negotiations, third party involvement and economic incentives. The project will include research work in the Israeli-Palestinian context alongside a comparative study of conflicts from other areas in Asia and Europe, while examining theoretical hypotheses and assumptions based on empirical cases.

Legitimization of a Peace Policy with the Palestinians

The need for legitimization of a policy of peace has its origins in the sudden and dramatic transition from conflict to peace, a transition that requires changing political stances, confronting uncertainty, taking risks, and balancing the complexity of values embodied in the tangible and non-tangible concessions needed for peace. The cumulative experience of peace with Egypt, the Oslo process, and the disengagement plan serve to highlight the centrality of this issue to peace processes. These issues are particularly important when public and political support for the transition from war to peace and, specifically, for the concessions necessary for peace are lacking. This study will explore the critical role of political and public legitimacy for a peace process with the Palestinians that includes conceding lands, dismantling settlements, and evacuating settlers. The

study will explore the legitimacy needed among various publics, the difficulties in securing legitimacy, and the conditions and strategies necessary for doing so.

Uncertainty and Risk Taking in the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process

This study posits that transition from war to peace brings policymakers and the public face to face with complex problems that challenge the decision-making process. Although some of these problems surface in other situations (such as crisis or war), they are particularly salient during transition from war to peace, that is, during the process of formulating and implementing a peace policy. Problems of uncertainty and risk taking during a peace process are extremely difficult. The uncertainty is fundamentally linked to a lack of reliable and adequate information regarding the terms of transition and, specifically, the likelihood of the peace process progressing in the desired direction. Although eliminating this uncertainty is impossible, reducing it somewhat is possible as long as policymakers are willing to take the risks necessary to advance the process. This study will explore the problems related to uncertainty and risk taking in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and will propose approaches to dealing with them.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CENTER

Israel Sustainability Outlook for 2030

The project “Israel Sustainability Outlook for 2030” aims to create a framework for long-term environmental policy for Israel – a roadmap for sustainability based on indicators of sustainability. The rationale underpinning this project is that policymakers should be attuned to likely developments, familiar with those directions in which they seek to take policy and those they wish to avoid, and able to identify the critical moments that require intervention in order to seize an opportunity, minimize risk, or avoid crisis. The product of this project will be a policy paper intended primarily for government members but useful for decision makers at various levels and shapers of public opinion, as well as the organizations that influence them. This document will represent the first stage of an ongoing process and will be updated regularly. The project comprises five components: (1) An information database for indicators of sustainability; (2) A knowledge base of expert opinion; (3) Scenario building: generating scenarios for the future of the environment in Israel in 2030; (4) Formulation of policy packages: promoting a methodology for the formulation of policy packages and their application to Israel’s environmental context; and (5) Sustainability Outlook 2030 for Israel – the integration of the previous components into a strategic approach to promoting sustainability in Israel for the year 2030.

This is a joint project of the Environmental Policy Center, the Ministry of Environmental Protection, and is supported by a philanthropic fund.

Sustainability Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

The issue of indicators has drawn attention in recent years following the OECD requirement to produce annual reports on the state of the environment as a basis for environmental policy. The Environmental Policy Center has special expertise in this field and has produced a range of relevant studies (Indicators for Sustainable Development in Israel – Stage 1, and Stage 2, Local Authority Sustainability).

10 indicators were analyzed and 13-15 indicators are currently under analysis. The analysis will focus on apparent trends in Israel (1990-2010-2030) and on a

comparison of trends in OECD countries. The analysis will serve as an information base for assessing the state of the environment in Israel and as a basis for the 2030 Sustainability Outlook for Israel.

Environmental Diplomacy: Analysis of Negotiations on Environmental Issues – Recommendations and Ways of Conducting Future Environmental Negotiations with Countries in the Region

Since the early 1990s, a number of negotiations have been held between Israel and countries in the region on environmental issues. The aim of this study is to learn from the experience of negotiations held in the past and gain insights into how to improve the conduct of future environmental negotiations. The intention is to help professionals in identifying in advance, to the extent possible, the obstacles and stumbling blocks, as well as the difficulties and opportunities, and to improve environmental and diplomatic achievements. The study will document several case studies of negotiations on environmental issues.

Environmental Peacemaking – Review of the Literature and Development of the Field

The connection between environmental issues, conflict resolution, and peace has been on the international agenda for over two decades. The review of the literature will focus on the “Environmental Peacemaking” approach which assumes that the environment has inherent qualities that suit the role of conflict resolution, and that the environment in itself can help reduce the intensity of a conflict and serve as part of the resolution process. The review will also propose ways in which this approach can support and contribute to peaceful conflict resolution.

Incorporation of Environmental Considerations in the Decision-Making Process – Planning Institutions in Israel as an Example

This study will explore processes of transformation and innovation in environmental policymaking and policy implementation within Israel's planning institutions. It will review relations between the parties involved and the assimilation of changes in the course of decision making and policymaking in five cases (the power station in Hadera, the Marina in Herzliya, fish cages in Eilat, the trans-Israel highway, and the antenna in Tzoran). It will examine the effectiveness of planning institutions using the following indicators: environmental benefit, consistency, level of knowledge, interaction, and implementation. The research is intended to support institutional transformation for innovative governance and to provide environmental organizations with effective tools to promote institutional change.

The Effectiveness of Private and Administrative Legal Tools for Promoting Environmental Liability

The study will examine how to promote environmental liability of governmental, public, and private entities through private and administrative law in Israel, with a comparison to models from other parts of the world and to recommendations of the OECD. The study will examine the extent of use and implementation of liability mechanisms in Israel, including an analysis of the barriers faced by a party attempting to impose environmental liability on a private or governmental body.

Changes in the Water Balance to Cope with Problems of the Dead Sea: An Assessment of Possible Solutions

The construction of a "Water Conveyance" is a project promoted by the World Bank to further peace between Israel and Jordan as a solution to the problem of the lowering of the water level of the Dead Sea.

Further to the Dead Sea policy paper (issued 2006), an interdisciplinary team of researchers (geology, ecology, hydrology, and economics) will examine the implications to Israel of setting up a “water conveyance” between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea, with particular emphasis on economic interests. The aim of the study is to examine alternatives for and to a “water conveyance” for achieving the same objectives.

The research will be guided by a steering committee that will include, among others, representatives from government and from environmental organizations.

ECONOMICS UNIT

TARGET (Targeted R&D Policy) – A European Union Project

Many states invest vast resources in research and development. Israel is ranked in first place in the rate of investment in R&D relative to the GDP, but experience accumulated around the world shows that these investments are not the product of an informed and targeted procedure based on clear policy, and therefore do not fulfill their full potential nor are they as efficient as they could be. The goal of the study is to create a state model for choosing the focus of investment in R&D. JIIS is a partner to this international study, which is conducted in cooperation with five other states: France, Scotland, Lithuania, Slovenia and Galicia (Spain). The institute's staff is focusing on studying Israel's investment in biotechnology research and development. In December 2010, a final draft of the Toolkit was presented to policymakers, and received positive feedback; the Finance Ministry has noted it in the proposed R&D budget for 2011-12.

International collaboration in R&D

The study is intended to perform policy evaluation of international R&D collaborations. It examines the state's objectives in joining such collaboration programs, and the expectations of the Israeli companies taking part in them and the barriers facing them. An evaluation is also done of bilateral agreements, the EUREKA program in particular. The study is carried out in cooperation with the European Union, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor, the Chief Scientist, the Israel Export Institute and DMATIMOP (Israeli Industry Center for R&D).

Work Group: Ultra-Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem and Israel

The issue of integrating the ultra-orthodox into Israeli society is on the national agenda. In 2009, the JIIS published a study, "The Ultra-Orthodox: Fearing for Their Future," which examined the positions of this sector on the acquisition of

academic education and identified the main barriers it faces in joining various academic study tracks. The study's recommendations were accepted by the Israeli government, which initiated a scholarship project for encouraging the ultra-orthodox public to pursue higher education. To date, hundreds of scholarships have been granted in the context of this project. A follow-up study is needed in order to examine the issues involved in integrating members of this community who have a higher education (including vocational high school education) into the workforce and to identify the relevant barriers, such as social barriers of the ultra-orthodox or the employers, barriers related to availability of work, barriers related to the type of training given to ultra-orthodox and to the quality of training, and others. The study will also offer a policy framework for dealing with these barriers. It will cover quantitative and qualitative aspects, drawing on interviews with many ultra-orthodox who have assimilated into the workforce.

Eco-STEP Project (Strategic Targeting of Eco-innovation Policy)

The Eco-STEP Project is a designated part of the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The project aims to formulate a systematic conceptual framework with respect to the government policies necessary for promoting eco-innovation. It will focus on three policy issues: green public acquisition, waste and pollution; international cooperation; and investments and trade. This project requires self-education and the transnational cooperation of various bodies as well as the formation of relevant networks and the steady exchange of information through these networks. It will be based on conclusions drawn from the TARGET project and will provide a "road map" whose purpose is to identify the key figures in the various fields, to create cooperative networks among them, and to assist policymakers in promoting eco-innovation. The project is based on a consortium that includes six entities (public bodies and research and academic centers) from England, Spain, Slovenia, Scotland, and Israel. The Economics Unit coordinates the project jointly with the Environmental Policy Center on behalf of the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

In cooperation with the European Union and the Ministry of Environmental Protection

The Economy of Jerusalem

A set of economic criteria needs to be created in order to evaluate economic activity in Jerusalem and the region and enable a review of long-term change. In the framework of this project, these criteria will be designed as an effective tool for establishing and analyzing regional economic policy; they will be reassessed every six months. In parallel, a number of qualitative and quantitative studies will be undertaken, to be appended to each of the external reports (one or two subjects to be covered in each report). These studies will address a wide range of economic issues, directly and indirectly, such as the issues related to employment of ultra-orthodox, the relationship between culture and economics, evaluation of business programs and centers, analysis of economic issues in the Arab sector, and so on. The studies will be “short” in essence, with the principal objective of providing a reliable database for discussion and determination of the need for an in-depth study of the issue.