Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues
In 2006, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli-Arab Issues (IATF) was created by seven major American Jewish organizations* to serve as a non-partisan educator about Israel’s Arab citizens and Jewish-Arab relations for the American Jewish community.

In the fourteen years since, IATF has accompanied a growing coalition of North American Jewish member organizations around what have become some of Israel’s most dynamic and vital—while complex and challenging—developments.

As COVID-19 and political divisiveness have thrown American Jewish and Israeli societies into flux, they have also accentuated needs for connection, cooperation, and vision, and the sense of shared destinies.

The breadth and depth of IATF activities described below reflects the increasing prominence of Arab citizens in Israel’s public, economic and democratic arenas, and the increasing relevance of these issues to the American Jewish commitment to Israel.

Our work would not be possible without the partnership and participation of each of our members and is all the more impactful as a community. We look forward to continuing our educational collaboration.

Sincerely,

Brian Lurie
Co-Chair
JDC, Interim CEO

Darrel Friedman, Co-Chair
2020

*See founding members on page 12
Educational Mission and Activities

IATF raises and deepens awareness about Arab society and Jewish-Arab relations in Israel by working closely with American Jewish professionals and leadership to bring these issues to their organizations and communities.

- **Programs and Missions**
  Arab and Jewish speakers drawn from IATF’s vast professional network share first-hand insights—introductory to in-depth—across a wide range of issue areas.

- **Foundation Forum**
  Expert briefings on social and economic developments support shared learning among philanthropists and funding professionals.

- **Professional Seminars**
  Programs and trainings for Israel engagement and education professionals help them make these issues part of a more complex and constructive discourse on Israel.

- **Publications**
  From newsletters to briefing papers, a steady stream of Task Force publications puts major developments into contextualized and accessible formats.
IATF 2020 in Numbers

41
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
EVENTS, BRIEFINGS, WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, MISSIONS, TRAININGS

28
EVENT PARTNERS
REACHING DIVERSE AMERICAN JEWISH AUDIENCES THROUGH ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

64
ISRAELI SPEAKERS
FIRST PERSON INSIGHTS FROM ARAB AND JEWISH LEADERS AND CHANGEMAKERS

18
PUBLICATIONS
IN-DEPTH REPORTS, ISSUE UPDATES, POPULATION BRIEFS, NEWSLETTERS

20
SUBJECT AREAS
FACETS OF SHARED SOCIETY, ARAB CITIZEN IDENTITY, SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, POLITICAL DISCOURSE, COVID-19

74
ACTIVE MEMBERS
FEDERATIONS, FOUNDATIONS, COMMUNITY, RELIGIOUS AND ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS

JISR AZ-ZARQA: Only Arab community on the coast
Photo Credit: Golf Bravo, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3334946
Corona COVID-19: Shared Crisis, Many Realities

By March, COVID-19 brought in-person gatherings to a halt, strained organizations, and shifted focus everywhere to emergency priorities.

In Israel, the crisis underscored the interdependence of Jewish and Arab communities while accentuating resource gaps and cultural disparities.

IATF dedicated the first months of the pandemic to mapping emergency needs and response in Arab society and the implications for Jewish-Arab relations for American Jewish funders.

As the crisis became a new reality, we turned to our communal members to hear about the impact on their organizations and communities, and how our educational resources could support their changing needs.
COVID-19 Programs and Resources

ABU TLUL VILLAGE: Volunteers pack donations of food and hygienic supplies. Photo credit: Joint Emergency Situation Room of the Negev

12 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Funder Briefings
National Calls
Community Programs

Briefings with government officials, civil society leaders and medical professionals on emergency needs and response in Arab communities, the view from the medical frontlines, shared society, employment, and digital gaps. See a full list of IATF programs on page 13.

11 PUBLICATIONS

Briefing Papers
Updates and Translations

In-depth mapping papers on emergency needs and activities in Arab society, updates on socio-economic implications, and translations and summaries of reports from the field.
Educational Programs

Over the year, IATF hosted member calls, funders briefings, and partnered with dozens of Jewish organizations on in-person (pre-pandemic) and online events reaching thousands.

Participants joined discussions about Arab citizens in Israel’s general elections, economy, high-tech industry, LGBTQ movement, mixed cities, and more.

See a full list of events and speakers on p. 13

“IATF speakers brought faces and stories to the Associated’s Insight Israel Forum that demonstrate the complexity of Israel while supporting inclusive and engaging discussions in the Jewish community.”

Jeffrey M. Blavatt, Executive Director of the Insight Israel Forum at The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore

HIBA ISELAH (R) of the JDC discusses digital access and literacy gaps in Arab society on a Foundation Forum zoom call.

SIREEN NIJEEM (L), high-tech engineer, on a zoom event with the JCRC of Philadelphia about Arab women in tech Israeli after her visit was cancelled due to travel restrictions.

RON GERLITZ, Director of aChord, on an IATF call about Arab discourse and responses to the unity government.
Educator Trainings

IATF’s work with major Israel education partners continues as each navigates ongoing uncertainties about travel, campus, and community life.

- **Birthright**: Training days adapted for Zoom were held for 80 Israeli guides.
- **JAFI Shlichut Institute**: Powerful in-person seminars in January and March were followed by speakers and resources integrated into online trainings.

“The need for more nuanced discourse about Israel is greater than ever, and the content presented by IATF has been one of the keys to achieving it.”

**Shelley Kedar**, Founding Director, The Shlichut Institute, Jewish Agency For Israel
In 2020, IATF briefing papers covered Urban Planning—behind many barriers to Arab economic development—and the COVID-19 emergency response.

Posts, columns, updates, newsletters, report summaries and translations, kept members up-to-date on priority issues like the rise in violent crime, Arab responses to the unity government and annexation discourse, government budgets for Arab society, and more.

See IATF publications here.

SAKHININ: Wide sidewalks and ample parking are part of recent main street improvements. Urban development is a serious challenge for Arab cities, which are built on mostly private land and predate urban planning. See IATF report. Photo credit: Avivit Hai.
## 2020 Financials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carryover</td>
<td>50,311</td>
<td>54,846</td>
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<td>Dues</td>
<td>573,967</td>
<td>479,433</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>450</td>
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<td>630,373</td>
<td>534,729</td>
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<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>543,763</td>
<td>462,456</td>
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<td>Program</td>
<td>20,639</td>
<td>2,655</td>
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<td>Overhead</td>
<td>11,932</td>
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<td>576,334</td>
<td>474,111</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESERVES</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**KFAR-QASEM: Interior (top) and exterior (bottom) of ‘Klika’, the first government funded co-working hub in an Arab city est. 2019. Photos: Kfar-Qasem municipality**
### IATF Executive Committee

**Co-Chairs**
- Brian Lurie
  President, Caroline and Brian Lurie Philanthropic Fund*

**Committee Members**
- Kenneth Jacobson
  National Director, Anti-Defamation League*
- Michael Hirschhorn
  President of the Trustees, The Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation
- Malcolm Hoenlein
  Executive Vice Chairman, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations*
- Alisa Doctoroff
  Member-at-Large

**Staff**
- Liron Shoham
  Executive Director
- Michelle Herrera
  Operations Manager
- Ilan Fathi Amit
  Content Expert and Israel Representative
- Erica Shaps
  Programs and Resources Manager
- Ido Yahel
  Researcher / Writer

**Executive Committee Members**
- Darrel Friedman
  Interim Chief Executive Officer, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee*
- Howard Sohn
  Chair and Executive, Fohs Foundation
- Jeffrey Solomon*
  Senior Advisor, Chasbro Investments, The Karev Foundation
- Daniel Sokatch
  Chief Executive Officer, New Israel Fund*
- Rebecca Katz-White
  Planning Director, UJA-Federation of New York*
- Roni Rubenstein
  Member-at-Large

*Founding members
IATF Members

The Abraham Fund Initiatives
Alan B. Slifka Foundation
Alfred and Hanna Fromm Fund
Ameinu
American Friends of Hand in Hand
American Friends of Hebrew University
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
American Society of the University of Haifa
Anonymous
Anti-Defamation League
Arnow Family Fund
Caroline and Brian Lurie Philanthropic Fund
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston
Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations
Family Charitable Funds
Diane and Guilford Glazer Philanthropies
Fohs Foundation
Friends of the Daniel Centers for Progressive Judaism
Jonathan Russo and Deborah Grayson
Gimplich Family Foundation
Givat Haviva Educational Foundation
Greater Miami Jewish Federation
Hadassah
Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life
Jacob & Hilda Blaustein Foundation
Jewish Agency for Israel
Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore
Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor
Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta
Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City
Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
Jewish Federation of Greater San Antonio
Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle
Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit
Jewish Federation of Rhode Island
Jewish Federation of St. Louis
Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Funders Network
Joseph and Harvey Meyerhoff Family Charitable Funds
The Korey Foundation
Klarman Family Foundation
Koret Foundation
Marcia’s Light Foundation
Mimi and Peter Haas Fund
Morningstar Foundation
Naomi & Nehemiah Cohen Foundation
National Council of Jewish Women
New Israel Fund
One8 Foundation
Schusterman Family Foundation
Social Venture Fund for Jewish-Arab Equality and Shared Society
The Charles H. Revson Foundation
The Hadassah Foundation
The Lucius N. Littauer Foundation
The LunArt Fund
The Russell Berrie Foundation
The Schocken Foundation
T’ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto
UJA-Federation of New York*
Union for Reform Judaism
United Jewish Federation of San Diego County
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Wils Family Foundation
Youngstown Area Jewish Federation
Carole Zabar

NEGEV: Unrecognized Bedouin village. Roughly 100k Bedouin live in villages not connected to infrastructure due to a longstanding land dispute with the state. Photo credit: By Neukoln, “Unrecognized Bedouin village,” CC BY-SA 3.0
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 30</td>
<td>COVID-19 Emergency response in Arab Society. With Rasool Sa’ada, Maoz and Aiman Saif, National Council of Arab Mayor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 5</td>
<td>“You Can’t Ask That! Israeli Arabs.” With Mohammad Zoabi DC area Congregations Shaare Torah and Har Shalom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>Arab Women in Israel’s High-Tech Industry. With Ifat Baron, founder of Itworks, and Sireen Nijeem, Arab Engineer, JCRC and NextGen of Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 24</td>
<td>Peer Zoom: Digital Gaps. With Dr. Asmaa Ghanayem, In-Digital, Jesse Rosenblit Digital Israel, Mira Zohar Sebin and Hiba Iselah, JDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 7</td>
<td>Covid-19 in Israel’s Arab Communities. With Gheda Abu Jaber and Mohammad Darawshe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>Birthright Guide Training Day. With Dalia Fadila of Q Schools and Desert Stars students, Taglit-Birthright - Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 14</td>
<td>Coronavirus on the Medical Frontlines: A Bedouin Doctor’s Perspective. With Dr. Yasmeen Abu Frahia, JCRC Boston, Boston Partners for Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Israel’s Arab Society: Update on Needs, Activities &amp; Philanthropic Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis. With Nihaya Daoud, Ahmed Al Sheik, Kher Albaz, and Batya Kallus, JFN and SVF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>The Second Wave in Israel’s Arab Society: COVID-19 on the Medical and Community Frontlines. With Dr. Fahed Hakim, Nazareth Hospital and Nidal Othman, Dep Mayor, Tamra, Greater Washington Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 5-9</td>
<td>UJA-Federation of New York allocation committees briefing. With Ahmad Alsheikh, director of the Galilee Society</td>
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<td>May 6</td>
<td>UJA-Federation of New York</td>
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<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>25 Years After Rabin’s Assassination: Arab-Jewish Relations in Israel. With Mohammad Darawshe, Givat Haviva. Milwaukee Jewish Federation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 4-5</td>
<td>UJA-Federation of New York Mission, UJA’s Shared Society Committee and Shared Paths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 20</td>
<td>A Complex Identity: Arab Citizen’s and Israel’s Jewish and Democratic Balance. With Mohammad Darawshe, Givat Haviva. The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 17</td>
<td>COVID-19 in Arab Society: New Realities, Old Disparities in a Shared National Crisis. With Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi, Director of Friends of Poriya Medical Association The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 11</td>
<td>“Partners in Fate, Partners in Government”. With Founder and director of the campaign, Shir Nosatzki, Social Venture Fund for Jewish-Arab Equality and Shared Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 2</td>
<td>Birthright Guide Training Day. With Dalia Fadila, Q Schools and Desert Stars students, Taglit-Birthright - Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 8</td>
<td>Shared Society and COVID-19: New Opportunities to Strengthen Arab-Jewish Relations? With Dr. Arsalan Abu Much, Sheba Medical Center, and Edan Ring, Sikky, Israel Action Network, JFNA</td>
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<td>Nov 10</td>
<td>COVID-19 in Arab Society: New Realities, Old Disparities in a Shared National Crisis. With Ghaida Rinawie-Zoabi, Director of Friends of Poriya Medical Association The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 18</td>
<td>High-Tech Integration: Status and Priorities for National Workplan Proposal. With Revital Duk and Sami Saadi, Co-CEOs of Tsoten, Natan Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 12</td>
<td>Arab Citizens in Israeli Politics: Government Crisis and Recent Escalations. With Fida Na’ra Tabony, Mahpach-Taghir and Ron Gerlitz, aChord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 23</td>
<td>Peer Zoom: Arab Unemployment Figures. With Dr. Gal Zohar, Head of Research and Policy at the Israeli Public Employment Services (IES)</td>
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<td>Dec 1</td>
<td>Task Force Annual Meeting: The Year in Israel’s Arab Society. With Eran Singer, Dr. Nihaya Daoud, Aiman Saif, Afif Abu Much, Zvi Eckstein, Marwan Tawawkho, Nawz Batson, Avi Ben Assayag, Rima Shamhoum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>Training for JAFI Shlichim. With Shirin Natour Hafi, Or Scientific High School, JAFI Shichit Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 1</td>
<td>Lese Center for Living Judaism at Central Synagogue. Jimmy Taber and Miriam Awadallah, The Abraham Initiatives, Central Synagogue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 23</td>
<td>Arab and LGBTQ in Israel: How Tahini is Sparking a National Conversation. With Hila Peer, Aguda, Khader Abu Saif, A Wider Bridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 7</td>
<td>Other Israel Film Festival Screening of A Common Goal. Moderated discussion with Erica Shaps</td>
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