



For a brighter future

Annual Report 2013

הקרן החדשה לישראל
الصندوق الجديد لإسرائيل
New Israel Fund
Progress. Together.

New Israel Fund

OUR MISSION

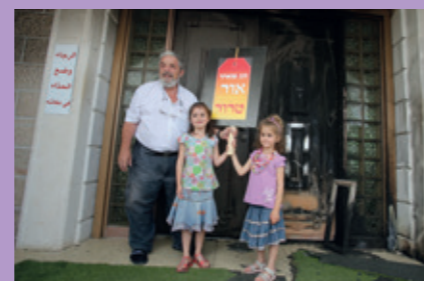
We believe that Israel can live up to its founders' vision of a state that “ensures complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants, without regard to religion, race or gender”.

ABOUT THE NEW ISRAEL FUND

New Israel Fund UK raises funds and provides support to organisations and projects in Israel while educating and raising awareness of this work in the UK. We are part of an international philanthropic partnership of Israelis, North Americans, Europeans and Australians.

Since its inception over 30 years ago, NIF has been widely credited with building Israel's progressive and vibrant civil society from scratch. In this period we have provided over £150 million to more than 800 cutting-edge organisations.

NIF continues to be a leading force advancing a more tolerant, just and democratic Israel. Our extensive presence in Israel – including a diverse staff and consultant pool of 100 people – and wide network of contacts in all sections of society, allows us to be sensitive to changing circumstances and needs and bring diverse groups together for maximum access. It also provides an unparalleled degree of supervision of grants and programmes to ensure effectiveness.



NIF believes that the best way to ensure a vibrant and prosperous Israel for all its inhabitants is by not “just” funding organisations directly but by supporting them through Shatil, NIF's capacity building arm, and also by our own community outreach and advocacy work in Israel.

In the UK through our events and projects, we provide a unique space for the community to engage with Israel and to learn about the modern Israel of today; thereby strengthening ties.

NIF continues to be a leading force advancing a more tolerant, just and democratic Israel.

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Chief Executive

Chairman's Report

Dear Friends

2013 was a successful year for NIF UK. Thanks to our supporters, we raised a record £1.7 million and we reached out to an increasing number of people in terms of events and donors.

NIF's 2013 activities appear distant when reviewed against the terrible events of now, summer 2014. However, for those committed to equality, social justice and human rights in Israel the significant achievements of 2013 continued NIF's vital work that ensures that understandable social tension at this time of national concern and the fear of the moment do not allow the forces of intolerance to flourish.

The funds generated allowed Israelis to work across the community to combat racism and to fight the appalling phenomena of ‘price tag’ revenge attacks. The increasingly powerful voice and actions of Tag Meir and our Shared Society programme brought together communities, to say no to hatred in a most practical way.

Other successes in 2013 include the growing number of Israeli citizens who are mobilizing and raising awareness of the issues of social and economic cohesion. Our work on women's rights, especially in regard to the Jewish Orthodox and Bedouin communities has continued to make a real difference. The support for those who struggle on a daily basis in terms of maintaining human rights for minority groups; be they Jewish or Arab Israelis or refugees is crucial for Israel to flourish.

2013 was the 30th anniversary year of Shatil and a time to celebrate the amazing work on the ground that only our Shatil team has made possible.

Despite this challenging time, there is much to celebrate. The UK has risen to the funding challenge; growing numbers of all sectors of Israeli society are working hard to make a difference against very difficult odds; but ultimately it is the record results of last year that bear witness to the strength and determination of NIF and its many supporters and grantees to be there when it really matters.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas Saphir".

Nicholas Saphir
Chairman NIF UK



Introduction

Over the past year, New Israel Fund and Shatil, NIF’s Initiative for Social Change has helped secure many notable achievements. Much of our work is led by inspiring Israelis including the winners of our Human Rights Awards 2013. On the next few pages we share with you their stories and provide a flavour of what has been achieved.



Community Kitchens
is a women’s social enterprise initiative which provides meals to school children and addresses food security, local economic development and job creation (as well as bringing Jewish and Arab residents together). The Hura Community Kitchen provides 6,100 meals per day to elementary and kindergarten children and employs 16 women.

Israeli Children
The organisation Israeli Children campaigns on behalf of children of migrant workers who were born, raised, educated and know nothing but Israel. In 2013 they achieved great news with 221 families receiving legal status to remain in Israel.

Itzik Dessie
Itzik is a leading advocate for the Ethiopian community in Israel. He was the first Ethiopian-Israeli to qualify as a lawyer and has since been championing better legal support and communal services.

Itzik founded Tebeka in order to address the legal needs of the Ethiopian-Israeli community. Born in Ethiopia, Itzik made Aliya in 1984 at the age of 13, reaching Israel after a long and arduous journey through Sudan.

Itzik receiving a NIF Human Rights Award



Achievements for the Ethiopian-Israeli Community
The Ministry of Education reversed its decision to close schools where more than half of the pupils are Ethiopian-Israelis and instead adopted an approach based not on the percentage of Ethiopian pupils but rather on their achievements. Shatil led efforts to bring the Ethiopian-Israeli community together to advance employment and housing opportunities. The list of localities where young couples are eligible to receive increased mortgage support was expanded.



Working towards freedom and equality

NIF has helped deliver some significant steps towards greater freedom and equality in Israeli society. In 2013 there were a number of landmark victories not least in tackling gender segregation and promoting religious freedom.



An End to Gender Segregation

After a continued effort by NIF to halt the regressive and demeaning trend of gender segregation within public spaces and discrimination against women in public services; Minister of Justice Tzipi Livni announced steps would be taken to ensure appropriate legislation to be enacted. Attorney General Yehuda Weinstein instructed the government to stop the exclusion and segregation of women in the public sphere, following a campaign by NIF and its grantees.



Achievements

- The law raising the minimum age of marriage in Israel to 18 safeguarding thousands of Palestinian Israeli girls.
- In April, a precedent-setting ruling, decided as a response to the continual arrests and harassment of NIF grantee Women of the Wall, held that the Orthodox authorities do not have a monopoly on determining how Jews pray at the Kotel.
- Following a legal struggle by IRAC, at the end of 2013, the government announced that it will allow rabbis from the Reform and Conservative movements to serve as state-salaried community rabbis.
- NIF grantee Ne’emanei Torah V’avodah prevented gender segregation in primary schools in 6 towns last year.

Mickey Gitzin
Mickey founded Israel Hofsheet in 2009 and is now its Executive Director. It is the only Israeli grassroots movement whose mission is to promote freedom of religion and Jewish pluralism in Israel encouraging all forms of belief and practices held by the Jewish people to be accepted and supported by the state.

Mickey and his team have inspired thousands of Israelis in various campaigns on issues of freedom of choice.

Mickey receiving a NIF Human Rights Award



NIF is supporting new grassroots groups such as Social Guard, Hama’abara HaLo Nehmadim and others, which have emerged from the 2011 social protest movement to give voice to public engagement on socio-economic and accountability issues.



Building bridges together

NIF has always been at the forefront of building a shared society for all Israelis. 2013 was a critical year for this endeavour with our work, at both the national and local levels, tackling racism and promoting voices of tolerance.

Kicking Racism Out of Football

Our Kick Racism out of Israeli Football (KRO) programme celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2013. It continues to monitor racism in stadiums and promote tolerance and greater sporting behaviour. This year was marked by a 25% increase in the number of fans condemning expressions of racism and violence at matches. KRO's community work included a conference on tolerance in football in Jerusalem and supporting neighbourhood leagues which bring Jewish and Arabs kids together.

At the pre-match ceremony before the State Cup Final, KRO arranged that 300 Jewish and Arab children held hands around the pitch. The Final is the largest event in the Israeli sporting calendar and dignitaries including President Shimon Peres supported the ceremony.



Fighting Extremism Together

The Tag Meir (Light Tag) Forum responds to extremist Price Tag attacks. It brings together 40 diverse organisations to express public solidarity with victims of attacks – Arabs, human rights activists – which are often perpetrated by extreme settlers. It mobilises within 48 hours of attacks by meeting victims and holding public events. Its work has been recognised in the Knesset and it is developing educational resources for schools with the Ministry of Education.



Invisible Communities

In 2013 NIF worked with Jewish and Arab residents of Carmiel and Nazareth Illit, where despite having a large Arab minority population they are not classified as mixed cities, to ensure equality in housing and education to build bridges between residents.



Amal ElSana Alh'jooj

For Amal's incredible work she has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, together with 1,000 other social activists.

Amal grew up and is active in the Bedouin community and at just 17, established the first Bedouin women's organisation to improve the status of women in a patriarchal society. Amal founded AJEEC (the Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation).

Amal receiving a NIF Human Rights Award



This year significant emphasis was given to ensuring equality for Bedouin citizens in the Negev. In the wake of the decision to approve the Praver-Begin Plan to resettle tens of thousands of Bedouin citizens, the struggle against its implementation was a top priority for Arab civil society in Israel.

Making change a reality with Shatil



Celebrating 30 Years of Shatil Success

In 2013, Shatil celebrated its 30th Anniversary. Shatil is NIF's Initiative for Social Change, providing training, support and building connections for our grantees. To celebrate, over 200 change-makers came together for Shatil's International Conference, "People Making Change a Reality: Building Civic Power". Shatil also marked the occasion by releasing a series of videos celebrating its impact on social change.



The New Israel Fund
Initiative for Social Change

2013 Select Achievements

In May 2013, working with Shatil, the Coalition Against Racism launched "ReLevant", a Russian-language website providing commentary on current events and establishing a pluralistic dialogue.

In December, Shatil also launched a Russian-Speaking Experts Bank, aimed to proactively increase representation of diverse Russian-Israeli voices into mainstream Russian and Hebrew media work.

Shatil 30 in Numbers

- Number of coalitions Shatil established or guided: **83**
- Number of training programmes Shatil conducted: **1,275**
- Numbers of organisations whose work was affected by Shatil: **5,000**
- Number of laws, bills, and amendments Shatil influenced: **500**
- Number of kilometers that Shatil consultants and organisers travelled to reach grassroots organisations and communities in the periphery: **3,000,000,000**

Today:

- Number of consulting hours offered per year: **13,000**
- Number of organisations receiving private Shatil consulting services each year: **400**
- Number of coalitions receiving Shatil consulting services each year: **10**
- Number of training programmes and seminars conducted each year: **90**
- Number of participants in trainings and seminars each year: **2,500**
- Number of visits to Shatil's web site every month: **180,000**

NIF in the UK

New Israel Fund brings today's issues in Israel alive for the UK community. In 2013 our focus was on connecting our community to those creating positive change in Israel through our events and our new initiatives including Vote for Change.

Vote for Change

NIF's online Vote for Change competition gave people the opportunity to engage with grassroots organisations in Israel through voting on which organisation should receive the £1,000 prize fund. The competition profiled issues as diverse as refugee rights and agunah (Jewish divorce).

Two Vote for Change competitions were run in 2013, attracting 1,874 people to vote and almost 6,000 visits to the Vote for Change website.



Events Programme

Our 2013 events year started off with our sold-out Israeli elections evening. Other highlights came from the opportunities we gave the community, whether in synagogues, public events, or our supporters' homes to hear some of the most inspiring voices from Israel. Speakers included Dr Gadi Gvaryahu, the founder of the Tag Meir coalition and Rotem Ilan, the founder of Israeli Children. Through our events and speaking we are growing the reach of NIF and we are proud to work with a diverse range of communities and partners. The year ended with our participation at Limmud, led by NIF International Council Co-Chair, Talia Sasson.

Special Activities

The English Football Association hosted a delegation of NIF community activists who use football to build bridges. The trip marked ten years of our ground-breaking Kick Racism Out of Israeli Football (KRO) initiative. The delegation met with leading figures in English football and were honoured with a high-profile reception hosted by the Israeli Ambassador and FA Chairman David Bernstein, at which speakers included Alistair Burt, the Foreign Office minister.

Another highlight was our co-screening of 'The Gatekeepers' at which Ami Ayalon, the former head of the Israeli secret service, spoke.



In 2013 we reached 3,000 people through our events and speaking opportunities. We held 31 events and spoke at 22 other events.



‘Our Human Rights Awards Dinner gives us the opportunity to honour outstanding leaders who are working to make Israel a better and more just society. With them NIF is paving the way for a better tomorrow.’

Jeanie Horowitz, Chair NIF Human Rights Awards Committee



NIF's New Generations Group is a space for those in their 20s looking to engage with Israel. New Gen held a range of events from meetings with Israeli activists to our high-profile concert with up-and-coming Israeli singer, Ester Rada.

Financial Statement 2013



Israel Project Grants
Expenditure 2013 by Theme (Total £929,686)

- Shatil 11%
- Civil & Human Rights 33%
- Religious Pluralism & Tolerance 4%
- Social & Economic Justice 35%
- Environment 17%

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2013	Total 2012
	£	£	£	£
Contributions	884,080	768,178	1,652,258	1,278,934
Investment Income	349	–	349	233
Total income	884,429	768,178	1,652,607	1,279,167
Israel Project Grants	213,919	715,767	929,686	831,287
UK Educational Programme Expenditure	257,138	9,498	266,636	270,347
Cost of Generating Funds	117,138	–	117,138	121,665
Governance Costs	9,329	–	9,329	10,678
Total Resources Expended	597,524	725,265	1,322,789	1,233,977
Surpus/(deficit) for the Year	286,905	42,913	329,818	45,190

In 2013 additional contributions in the amount of £38,019 were received by NIF US directly from UK donors.

Note: The full audited Annual Report and Accounts are available to view on our website.
A full list of grantees is available on our website.

Looking to the future

Adam Ognall, Chief Executive



Since its founding, NIF has played a critical role in developing and supporting Israeli civil society organisations that have made a significant impact on the lives of all Israelis. From the first rape crisis centres onwards, NIF has worked on the cutting edge of social change.

Now we are ready to take bold new steps, using our knowledge, expertise and resources to effect innovative social change in Israel. Our recently launched 3-year strategy sets up an interlocking set of initiatives that are urgently needed to meet the major challenges that Israel faces today.

We are committing significant resources to create a much stronger set of organisations that cut across individual issues we address and work to unite civil society. NIF has identified and developed a set of initiatives focused on building precisely the kind of progressive infrastructure needed. We have also identified partners for expanding our constituency and empowering our base of supporters in Israel.

Together this is all orientated towards Building UP towards power and influence, Reaching OUT to new constituencies, and Focusing IN by concentrating resources for impact.

The strategy addresses some of the most important questions facing those Israelis committed to the values enshrined in Israel’s Declaration of Independence: How do we change Israelis’ day-to-day lives for the better, e.g. by promoting citizens’ voices at the local level? How do we build bridges to new constituencies, e.g. by reaching Mizrachi communities in ways that emphasise shared values of inclusion and justice? How do we mobilize the next generation, e.g. by refining training and engagement to create progressive leadership?

We look forward over the coming months to sharing with you details of these new initiatives and how they strengthen our existing work. This is a long-term strategic investment and NIF is committed to continuing to support these efforts to create impact.

This is about high-impact work that will help us realise the Israel that we dream about – the Israel envisioned by the founders of the State and enshrined in the Declaration of Independence.

How you can help

The New Israel Fund is a powerful engine for change in Israel. It is also a network of people around the globe who work together in common purpose. When you join together with NIF – as a donor, volunteer, advocate or activist – you help make change possible.

- Make a contribution
- Attend NIF events to learn, and to meet those leading change in Israel
- Sign up for NIF UK’s monthly e-newsletter and follow us on Twitter and Facebook
- Visit our projects in Israel

You can donate easily and securely online at www.newisraelfund.org.uk, by phone or post.

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Progress. Together.