



ANTI-POACHING MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT TECHNIQUES

TRAINING COURSE REPORT

Under the concept “Train the Trainers”, it took place in Israel, between 28th July to 3rd August, 2019, an International Ranger Training Course on “Anti-poaching management and enforce techniques”.

This course was a partnership between Israel Nature & Parks Authority (INPA) and European Ranger Federation (ERF), and was organized and coordinated by Ilan Yeger from INPA.



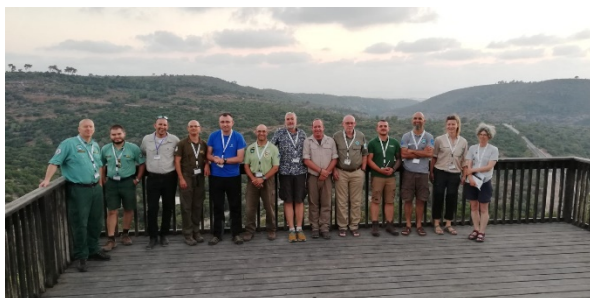


The Opening Ceremony it was an informal round table and was attended by Mr Sahul Goldstih, INPA CEO, Mr Shuki Donitza, General Manager Law Enforcement Unity, Mr Eldad Peled, Law Enforcement Chief, Mr David Yaari, NGO representative, and Mr Ilan Yeger.





There were 13 participants, representing 8 countries, respectively: Portugal (1), Romania (2), Hungary (2), Georgia (1), Croatia (2), Ireland (1), Scotland (1) and Italy (3).



The exchange of experiences, the conviviality and good mood among the participants was a constant throughout the training course.









The training course mainly covered:

1) Presentations and discussions in the classroom.





2) Individual rangers presentation.





3) Showroom's related to weapons and night vision and other equipment use by israeli rangers.



4) Pratical field exercises related to the material learned at classroom.





4.1.) Poaching situation with a vehicle and several tracks of dead wildlife



4.2.) Show and explanation of different types of traps and loops.





5) Use of dogs in the ranger work for detection ...



... and protection.





6) Accompaniment of the Israeli rangers field work, including,

6.1.) Night surveillance and control operation of vehicles suspected of poaching (simulation without prior knowledge of the participants).



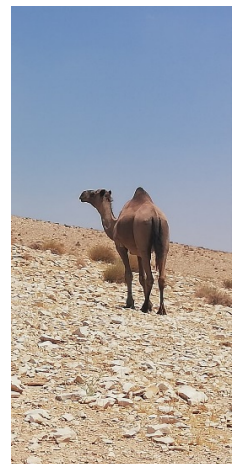


6.2.) An action of illegal loop and trapping detection in the vicinity of agricultural fields.





6.3.) An action of access road control in the Judean Desert park used by the poachers and control operation on a suspicious vehicle. By the way was observed Bedouin camps and stop to take a view of Mar Saba Monastery.





7) Field trips:

7.1.) Hai-Bar Carmel Nature Reserve – Presentation and site visit.





7.2.) Forest Department's Operations Center – Presentation ...



... and barbecue dinner.





7.3.) Laboratory of Molecular Evolution, on Rehovot Faculty of Agriculture, Hebrew University of Jerusalem – Presentation.



7.4.) ELBITE factory – Presentation, show room and lunch.



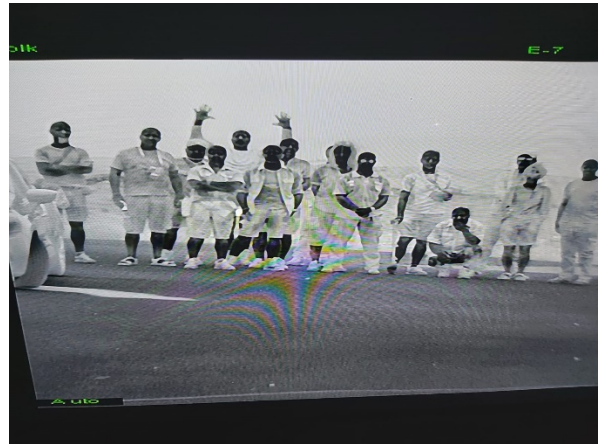


7.5.) Ruins of Tel Arad – Presentation ...



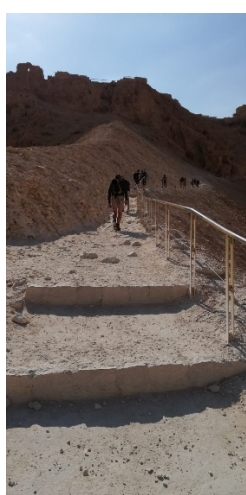


.... and night vision equipment display.



7.6.) Masada National Park and World Heritage site - Local explanation, museum and lunch.





7.7.) Dead Sea - Swim float.





7.8.) In Trotner Park have a panoramic view and explanation of Jerusalem city.





During the training course all the participants celebrated the **World Ranger Day** in the Mikhmoret Beach.



A snorkeling action took place





... and breakfast too.





A boat trip with the Marine Unit.



A visit to Marine Turtle Centre.





A presentation by guest speaker Prof. Yossi Leshem and a barbecue at night.



At the end of the course was held a small ceremony to deliver the participation diplomas to all participants, with the presence of Mr Shuki Donitza.





Logistics issues:

- All accommodation were organized by INPA, respectively: in Mishmar Hacarmel Farm, Mt Carmel NP, in Green Village and in Tel Arad.
- All transfer and field trips were provided by INPA rangers.





- The food was tasty and healthy, with lots of vegetables and fruits. Always accompanied by delicious hummus and tahini sauces and pita bread. Most meals were prepared by the Israeli rangers helped by participants. One of the meals was prepared by the Italians and was “pasta alla puttanesca”.







- To avoid creating more plastic garbage, like plates and cups, it was distributed to all participants a metal lunch box.



Financial issues.

All participants received some financial support from Thin Green Line Foundation.

Thanks to the effort and dedication of the Israeli rangers allowed a low course budget.





A big thank you to Ilan Yeger and the entire Israel Nature and Parks Authority team for this exciting course. Hopefully in the future there will be more to strengthen the park ranger family, particularly the European, and to show that we are not alone just as Shelton Johnson said.

Summarizing the course I use a metaphor given by Ilan Yeger "This is like a buffet, where each takes what is most useful for his work."

João Correia, 15/08/2019

