

# Twinning Agreement

## Israeli and German Ranger Associations

Program from 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Protocol, résumés and activities

Developing and strengthening the Twinning Program between  
Israel and Germany



The freshly awarded Twinning-Agreement between Israeli and German Rangers continues with its successful work. Another delegation of six German Rangers had the privilege to visit Israel for a busy, yet informative and uniting week in the end of January 2020.

Since the start of the Twinning Project in 2017, the second exchange of German Rangers to Israel was established on the foundation of previous visits. As the program is designed to experience differing working environments and to exchange knowledge of people working 'in the field', Ilan Yeger and his colleagues from the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA) organized an intense exchange week.



By sharing knowledge about their daily work life and by discussing challenges such as increasing tourism, illegal hunting or pollution, the Rangers were able to learn from each other. Despite differences in climatic conditions and size of the protected areas between Israel and Germany the Rangers could easily understand each other's problems as their main question is always how to protect nature.

Getting involved in daily routines of their Israeli colleagues was a great benefit for the German Rangers. For example by training together with the new established marine Ranger unit at the beach of the Mediterranean Sea and supporting a night patrol in the Negev desert. Moreover discussing reintroduction of animals (such as griffon vultures and Arabian oryx) and joining a release of three Arabian oryx was one of many highlights. Overall spending time in Israel's stunning nature and exchanging ideas about conservation, the seven days of exchange were valuable to all participants.



On top of that many cultural heritages and historical sites were visited and especially the stories that were told about the persecution of Jews demonstrated the special responsibility for further intercultural exchanges between Israel and Germany.



The six German Rangers from the Bavarian Forest National Park, the Schlaubetal Nature Park, the Lower Oder Valley National Park and the Black Forest National Park were overwhelmed by the kindness of their Israeli colleagues and the effort they put in organizing an amazing exchange.



*Thank you!*

*Text and Photos prepared by the German delegation,*

*Michael Schreder, Fabian Wagner, Torsten Spitz, Christian Ehrke, Timo Pfaff and Florian Hofmann*

*Seebach, Black Forest 20<sup>th</sup> of Februar*