



## 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 Yeager from INPA.







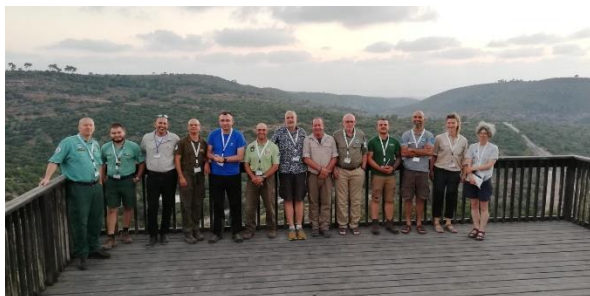
The Opening Ceremony it was an informal round table and was attended by Mr Sahul Goldstihe, INPA CEO, Mr Shuki Donitza, General Manager Law Enforcement Unity, Mr Eldad Peled, Law Enforcement Chief, Mr David Yaari, NGO representative, and Mr Ilan Yeger.







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) Practical 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 where foreigners, as thai and vietnamese work.







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.







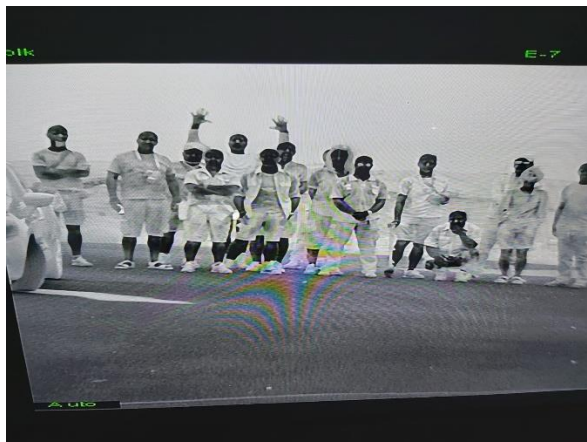
#### 7.5.) Ruins of Tel Arad – Presentation ...



.... 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 id 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."

A summary of the training course on a daily basis is following.

Ass: João Correia, 15/08/2019







## Day 1 (28/7/2019)

Accommodation at Mishmar Hacarmel Farm, at Mt Carmel NP.

Opening Ceremony it was an informal round table with the presence of Mr Sahul Goldstihe, 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.

Mr Sahul Goldstihe spoke about INPA creation and structure. Mr Shuki Donitza spoke about the four pillars of INPA's service, namely, nature, landscape, heritage and human beings. Other topics on discussion were the aspects of fight poaching, namely: monitoring, training, Intell Unity, court decision/awareness and confidence building (creating win-win situations).

## Day 2 (29/7/2019)

On this day Ilan spoke about the history of Mt Carmel NP, and explained that the park is divided into two parts, one for public use, open from 9:00 to 16:00 hours, and other is Nature Reserve with restricted access for wildlife protection.

The lectures in the classroom started with a video message from Ranger Shelton Johnson (Yosemite NP).

### Presentation in Classroom

- Ilan Yeger, Israeli ranger - General presentation on INPA, rangers action and poaching in Israel.

Topics: (a) Who we are; (b) Our team; (c) Poaching in Israel, (d) Environmental crime; (e) Fighting fires; and (f) Equipment and means.

- Eitan Malka, Israeli voluntary and retired police – Presentation on “Dealing with crime scenes and exhibits – Exhibits and evidence”. Forensic evidence collection.

Topics: (a) The ranger's main tool is the pen, yhe should take note of everything; (b) Prove to the court that the accused was at the crime scene; (c) Establish good relations with the police; (d) Ranger's first job is to know the laws of his protected area; and (e) Take pictures at the crime scene, from big to small.

- Natan Banosovic, Israeli ranger - Presentation of an arrogance story of a poacher, that led to the detection of several suspects.

- Shay Peretz, Israeli lawyer – Presentation on the legal angle of INPA.

Topics: (a) Protected Areas law's; (b) Wildlife protection law; (c) Car circulation prohibition law on beaches; (d) 26 % Israeli territory is Protected Area; (e) Judges sensitization and training on nature conservation theme; (f) Creation of intell units; and (g) Rangers' procedure Manuals prepared by the INPA's lawyers (Warning's/Fine's/Crimes).







- Dr. Robert Castel, INPA Security Officer – Presentation about safety.

Topics: (a) Reality changes; (b) Order of questions when organizing an action - Why/What/How; (c) It is not possible to achieve 100% of security; (d) Security Components - People/Equipment/Policies; and (e) The institutions evolve if they reevaluate their actions.

### **Practical exercise Outdoor**

Simulation of a poaching situation with a vehicle and several tracks of dead wildlife.

1st step - Each participant looked for evidence.

2nd step – Individual presentation of evidence detected.

3rd step - Show of covert use of light powder in some participants.

4th step - Use of a trained dog to show evidence that were not detected by participants. Show the added value of using detection dogs.

5th step - Example of Ranger Work, led by Israeli ranger Shay Kabsa. (1) Have a specific work suitcase for forensic sampling. (2) Picture record of the footprint. (3) Plaster cast of the footprint. (4) Take pictures from different angles. (5) Scene layout drawing. (6) Document sheet with the clues. (7) Delivery Document. (

### **Tips:**

- A. Use of light powder in conjunction with ultraviolet rays to confirm the presence of individuals at the crime scene.
- B. Write all the steps.
- C. Be precise in hours and minutes.
- D. Empathize with the police forces.

Demonstration of use of dogs for ranger defense.

### **Field work - Night patrol**

Night poaching surveillance action, featuring night vision devices and the creation of a network of observation points. Detention of a suspicious vehicle (voluntary). Only at the end of the action, the participants were informed that this was a simulation.

### **Day 3 (30/7/2019)**

#### **Field trip.**

Visit to the Hai-Bar Carmel Nature Reserve. This space is dedicated to the raising of endangered and extinct animals of the region and possible re-introduction, as birds of prey, ungulates and salamanders. It is only possible the visit of organized groups, by appointment, and only for environmental education.







Examples of present species (scientific name): *Capra aegagrus cretica*, *Gazella gazella gazella*, *Ovis orientalis gmelini*, *Capreolus capreolus*, *Dama mesopotamica*, *Gyps fulvus* and *Haliaeetus albicilla*.

### Presentation in Classroom

- Alberto Dominici, Italian ranger – Presentation on law enforcement by Italian rangers
- João Correia, Portuguese ranger – Presentation on law enforcement by Portuguese rangers.
- Jack Black, Scotland Forest ranger – Presentation about Forest Holidays Strathclyde.
- Zoran Acimov, Romanian ranger – Presentation about Retezat National Park.
- Shelly Nahari, Yoav Lustigman and Ilan Yeger, Israeli rangers - Presentation about poaching by foreigners working in Israel, namely Thai and Vietnamese.

**Tips:** Traps near where they make their needs or where they leave the cans or bottles of drink.

### Practical exercise Outdoor

Show and explanation of different types of traps and loops.

Simulation of an illegal trap location action, where each participant looked for the traps.

### Field work

Took place a real situation of searching for traps near farm land where foreigners as Thai and Vietnamese work. They called Operation "Trouble in Paradise". Set up a four member mixed teams, led by an Israeli ranger. At the end of the action the results were discussed.

### In the evening

Visit to the Forest Department's operations center. During the visit was offered a barbecue and it was made a presentation by the Forest rangers.

## Day 4 (31/7/2019)

### World Ranger Day

The day began in Mikhmoret Beach with a snorkeling action with the rangers of the Israeli Marine Enforcement Unit, in the Mediterranean warm waters (29 to 30 degrees), and breakfast. All the participants make a support group photo for the **World Ranger Day**.

This day the Croatian ranger Lana Jelic gave an interview to an Israeli radio.







### Presentation in Classroom

- Yigal Ben Ari, Israeli ranger - Presentation in the Marine Unit center about its creation and objectives.  
Topics: Marine Unit activities: (1) Police and Supervision; (2) Monitoring; (3) Education; and (4) public information.
- Aviad Scheinin – Presentation in the Marine Unit center on “Israel Med Top Predators Project: From Planning to Action.”

The participants were divided into 2 groups, while one group visited the Marine Turtle Centre, the other took a boat trip id ranger of Marine Unit. The visit to the Turtle Center was guided by Yaniv Levi who talked about the history of each turtle and the captive breeding project.

Trip to and accommodation in Green Village.

### Presentation in Classroom

- Prof. Yossi Leshem, Senior Researcher – Presentation on bird migration, including prey and other large birds, and about the cooperation project with tower owls.

**Keyword:** Cooperation

**Tips:** Large birds need thermals to migrate because they cannot accumulate large amounts of fat.

- Dr. Noam Leader, INPA – Presentation about “Applying New Technologies for Conservation, Monitoring and Manegement in Israel.  
Topics: The use by the Israeli rangers of “CYBERTRACKER” APP for field data collection. INPA made adaptations and created the “CYBER RANGER”
- João Correia, ERF representative – Presentation about the International and European Ranger Federations.
- Laszlo Lontay and Mihaly Toth, Hungary Rangers – Presentation on National Park Rangers in Hungary.

Topics: National Park Rangers (State rangers), Municipality Rangers and Ranger service.

### Night

Celebration of **World Ranger Day** with barbacue dinner.







### **Day 5 (1/8/2019)**

Trip to Laboratory of Molecular Evolution, on Rehovot Faculty of Agriculture, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

- Prof. Gila Kahila – Presentation on “Wildlife DNA Forensics in Israel.”

Topics: It is important to collect wildlife sampling on the field to create a forensic database for wildlife identification.

#### **Tips:**

- A. In Israel, in poaching cases, the rangers has one year to be filed in Court, including the gathering of evidence and the prosecution.
- B. Every contact leaves a mark.
- C. NCBI (USA) one of the largest genetic database in the world.

Visit to ELBITE factory, the night vision and other equipment supplier. The visit was guided by Mr. Asaf Mahlebe and they offered lunch at the factory canteen to all participants.

#### **Presentation in Classroom**

- Ori Laniel, Israeli ranger - Presentation on “Wildlife trade & maintenance supervision unit – Law Enforcement Division”.

Trip to and accommodation in Tel Arad.

Walk to the ruins of Tel Arad Judahite fortress. Mr Ilan Yeger was our guide. In return witnessed a demonstration of the use of night vision equipment by the ELBITE Company.

### **Day 6 (2/8/2019)**

Visit to Masada National Park and World Heritage site. The visit was guided by the Israeli Ranger Mair Orbach who explained the history of Israel and the site. Visit to The Masada Museum using the audio guide.

Trip to and swim (float) in the Dead Sea. Return to Tel Arad.

#### **Presentation in Classroom**

- Gavrilas Benone, Romanian ranger – Presentation about Calimani National Park.







**Conclusion talk id Mr Shuki Donitza and all participants. There was a little ceremony of awarding the diplomas of course participation.**

#### **Presentation in Classroom (cont.)**

- Penny Bartlett, Ireland ranger – Presentation about Illegal Hunting in Ireland.
- Dario Rogic and Lana Jelic, Croatian rangers – Presenation on Nature Protection in Croatia.

#### **Tips:**

- A. Use of camera traps to catch the poachers.
- B. Training and use of dogs to detect turtle nests

#### **Night**

Dinner at pub “Muza” In Arad city.

#### **Day 7 (3/8/2019)**

Journey through the Judean Desert to Jerusalem, in pick up trucks 4x4 and ATV's. By the way was observed Bedouin camps, carried out an autostop operation on a suspicious veicle, and stop to take a view of Mar Saba Monastery. In this last place it occurred a histroric explanation by Ilan Yeger.

Arrive to Staff Office of Arqueology, at Monastery of St. Euthymius, to take a lunch and a little rest.

Then we go to Trotner Park to get a panoramic view of Jerusalem city.

Farewelles and departure time to the Tel Aviv Airport.

