

Adam Teva V'Din

2019

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE



Strategic Advocates for a Better Environment

Since 1990, Adam Teva V'Din has advocated for the rights of all Israelis to a clean and safe environment



Amit Bracha, Esq., - Executive Director

OUR VISION

A sustainable, safe and healthy environment for all Israelis.

OUR MISSION

To use the power of law, science and advocacy to reduce the burdens on Israel's physical environment, natural resources and human health.

OUR VALUES

Consideration of people's environmental rights should be integral to economic growth and development.

OUR ORGANIZATION

With a staff of 25 and an annual budget of \$1.5 million, Adam Teva V'Din is funded by philanthropic foundations and individual donors in the USA, EU and Israel. As a registered non-profit 'amutah', Adam Teva V'Din is advised by a volunteer board. Donations are eligible for tax deduction under Section 46 of the Israeli income tax code. In the USA, the Friends of Israel's Environment is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization promoting support of Adam Teva V'Din's advocacy programs.

OUR STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

Our goals are to improve environment protection, with emphasis on the human, lived-in environment:

Clean air, energy & climate change

Coastline protection

Public transport

Pesticides reduction

Recycling & waste management

Water

Our Legal Team, left to right: Tammy Gannot-Rosenstreich, Eli Ben Ari, Tal Granot Livneh, Asaf Rosenblum, Leehee Goldenberg



Adam Teva V'Din: a skilled and dedicated team, a robust professional toolbox, and a bold advocacy agenda

Litigation - Adam Teva V'Din sues powerful business enterprises that cause environmental damage and files courtroom actions when the government fails to enforce environmental laws and standards. With special standing under law to represent the public in legal cases, our litigation has secured precedents on industrial pollution, river rehabilitation, auto fuel standards, remediation of contaminated sites, and coastline protection, and protected the rights of free access of all Israelis to public beaches and municipal parks.

Legislation - Adam Teva V'Din initiates, drafts, and campaigns for environmental bills in order to catalyze parliamentary adoption of environmental laws. Most of Israel's environmental laws of the last two decades were initiated and drafted by Adam Teva V'Din, including the Beverage Container Deposit Law (1999), Coastline Protection Law (2004), Clean Air Act (2008), and the Packaging Waste Recycling Law (2011).

Planning - Adam Teva V'Din represents environmental organizations on key planning boards, including those which determine pivotal land use strategies. like the national master plan for the coastline. The National Planning & Construction Law names Adam Teva V'Din as one of four non-government agencies authorized to represent the public in planning interventions at local, district and national levels.

Science - Adam Teva V'Din's environmental scientists guarantee a solid scientific foundation to our advocacy; our in-house team provide Expert Opinions supporting our positions in the courts, in the Knesset, and before planning boards.

Policy & Strategy - Adam Teva V'Din's core advocacy programs are integrated across the board for maximum effect. Government plans, budgets and regulatory programs are monitored to ensure a strong public-interest response when, for example, officials attempt to weaken or even roll-back environmental protection frameworks.

Communications - Adam Teva V'Din's communications program informs, educates, and alerts the widest possible audience to the environmental dilemmas of the day. The press now recognizes 'the environment' as a vital, relevant current issue, and our social media program has recruited tens of thousands of Israelis as online environmental activists.

Our Specialists, left to right: Amiad Lapidot - solid waste scientist,
Yael Dori - urban planner, Dr. Arye Vanger - atmospheric scientist,
Vered Lovitch - spokesperson, Bernadette Bower - environmental health



UNDER PRESSURE: In 2019, after a year of political paralysis, the lived-in environment is deteriorating. Adam Teva V'Din is prioritizing these issues for the next government's urgent attention.

Clean air, energy & climate change - government agencies have not curbed industrial air pollution in Haifa Bay (according to the State Comptroller). The Energy Ministry is preoccupied by the new offshore gas industry at the expense of reforms to the national grid necessary to build a sustainable energy economy. Israel has paid lip service to climate change by setting (low) targets, but without adopting a coherent national strategy or legislative framework to promote climate resilience.

Coastline protection - public beaches are disappearing under new development that is reshaping the Mediterranean coastline and damaging the marine environment.

Public transport - Israel has built miles of highways but under-invested in public transport. With no viable alternative, people spend hours daily in traffic jams. New neighborhoods are going up with no provision for public transport.

Natural resources - use of water in the commercial minerals industry is shrinking the Dead Sea by 4 feet every year, without intervention by the Water Authority. Israel is dependent on water produced by vulnerable and energy-guzzling desalination industries because hundreds of water wells are closed due to contamination.

Pesticides reduction - the government ignores the typical Israeli 'salad' diet when setting pesticide exposure levels. Chemicals banned in Europe are used daily in Israeli agriculture, and Israeli kids are exposed to pesticides at every meal.

Solid waste management - despite regulatory frameworks for recycling of bottles, plastic bags, and packaging waste, Israel is recycling only 20% of garbage. Meantime, officials have no strategy for reducing compostable commercial food waste, and no regulatory framework for eliminating single-use plastics like tableware.



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Friends of Israel's Environment (FIE) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. Contributions are eligible for tax deduction. Federal ID # 58-1959151. Treasurer Evan J. Kaizer, 4182 Beck Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604.

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