

“Where Is Innovation Policy Going? Toward a Research Agenda”

Workshop Summary

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Dr. Leo Bakman, Israel Innovation Institute

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The workshop convened at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem under the auspices of the Halbert Centre for Canadian Studies. Participants Prof. Janice G. Stein, Prof. Amalya Oliver, Dr. Leo Bakman, Prof. Gili Drori, Prof. Joseph Wong, Prof. David A. Wolfe, Prof. Anita McGahan, Prof. Morris Teubal, Prof. Dan Breznitz, Prof. Shiri Breznitz, Prof. Joe Lampel, Dr. Anat Gofen, Prof. Steven Popper, Dr. Gayil Talshir, Evgeniya Mogilevskaya

The group brought together experts of innovation and policy from Canada (U of Toronto), Israel (Hebrew University), Israel Innovation Institute, City University, London and the Rand corporation, CA from different disciplines (International Affairs, Sociology, Business, Geography and Policy) to explore together new directions for innovation policy in Israel.

The sessions addressed the future of innovation policy and development of a research agenda. The presentations (Appendix 2) were designed to maximize discussion and interaction, continuing throughout breaks and meals.

The final session was in the form of a field trip to two Bedouin villages to explore possible collaboration in advancing the Bedouin community as a global innovation center for healthcare. Participants agreed that the basic questions were well addressed with much interesting and useful insights. A draft is being prepared of the Workshop's theoretical outcomes and working framework to develop and further these outcomes. The participants' comments and future contributions may generate a more elaborate treatment of the issues. Pursuing the practical implications, work is underway on a proposal for a Bedouin innovation center in Hura which will be shared for comments and recommendations, with the expectation for global impact.