



Preventing marine and water pollution and restoring rivers



Treating life-threatening hotspots



Treating municipal, industrial and agricultural waste



Reducing air pollution from transportation and industrial sources



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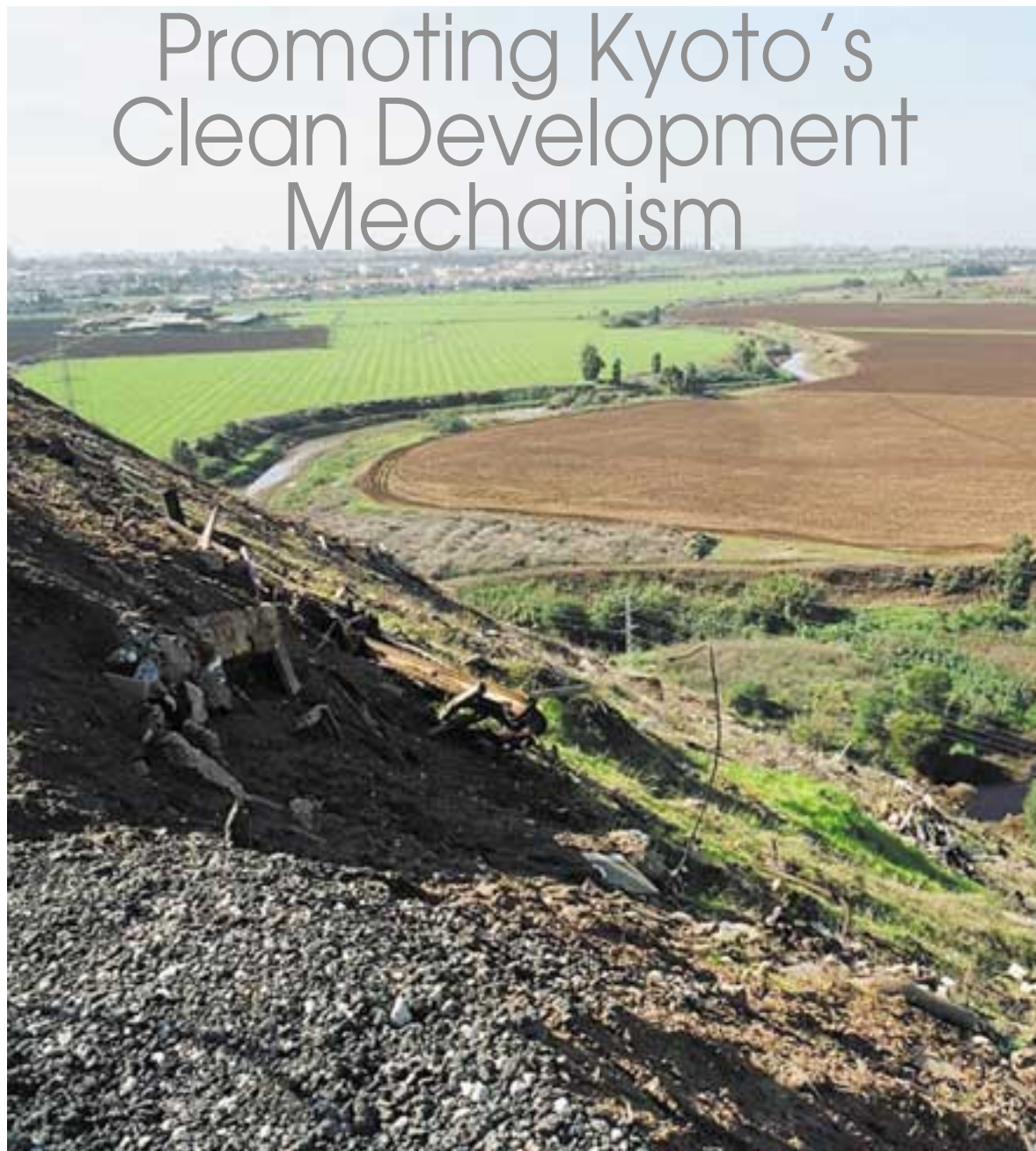


Catalyzing economic growth and national interests through sustainable development



Developing tools for improving service and professionalism

# Promoting Kyoto's Clean Development Mechanism



## The CDM market in Israel has begun to awaken

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is one of two project-based flexible mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol. Its dual goals are to promote sustainable development in developing countries and to allow industrialized countries to earn emissions credits from their investments in emission-reducing projects in developing countries. Emission reductions are expected to be real, measurable and additional to what would have occurred in the absence of the project.

Israel, which is classified as a non-Annex I country under the Climate Change Convention, ratified the Kyoto Protocol in February 2004 and soon afterward created a Designated National Authority (DNA), under the ministerial responsibility of the Ministry of the Environment but with representatives from numerous government and public bodies. The main function of the DNA is to determine whether the proposed CDM project complies with sustainable development criteria.

▶ A view from the shut-down Hiriya landfill where waste is being transformed into biogas.



### CDM Opportunities in Israel

Although numerous opportunities for the implementation of CDM projects in Israel exist, the waste treatment and energy sectors provide especially attractive investment opportunities. For example, although Israel has made major strides in its waste management over the past decade, closing down 77 large waste dumps and replacing them with state-of-the-art central landfills, only a few of these sites extract and utilize methane. Since the contribution of

methane emissions from the decomposition of solid waste is very significant, this sector offers major potential in reducing greenhouse gases. Similarly, emissions from the energy sector may be reduced through greater energy efficiency and use of renewable energy. It is no wonder, therefore, that the first large-scale CDM projects which have been submitted to the NDA for preliminary approval include proposals for the construction of methane gas collection and flaring systems in two closed landfills and an energy efficiency project in the cement production sector.

According to Ms. Lyora Goren, who coordinated the project in 2004, the CDM market in Israel has definitely begun to awaken. As a result of Israel's ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, establishment of the NDA and global awakening in preparation for the entry into force of the Protocol, interest in this market has grown substantially. Israel provides a fruitful ground for potential investors due to its technological and scientific expertise, including its wide experience in the field of clean technologies, its transparency and open access to a wide range of data, and the stability of its government. Categorized as a developing country under the Convention, but with the advantages of a developed country, it offers favorable conditions for the implementation of CDM projects with minimal risk.

*Editor's Note: The Ministry of the Environment's English website provides a host of information on CDM in Israel, including forms, sustainable development indicators, and lists of Israeli companies or organizations which are seeking investors in the framework of the CDM.*

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▶ Wind farm at Alonei Habashan  
Photo: Ilan Malester