

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



WHAT ADVA CENTER DOES

The Adva Center (founded 1991) is Israel's leading progressive think-and-do tank that envisages an Israeli society in which ALL citizens – Jews and Arabs, women and men, high and low-income persons:

- Receive high-quality public education, low-cost public health services, decent affordable housing and a robust social security system;
- Actively engage in the pursuit of social justice and gender equality.



We at Adva led the debate on social and economic inequality in Israel. Now, most everybody studies it. Unfortunately, inequality has been growing, so there is enough work for everyone.

Dr. Shlomo Swirski, Academic Director



The main product of the Adva Center consists of clear and accurate documents that analyze social, economic and political issues on the current Israeli agenda.

Adva Chair Prof. Yossi Dahan



Not only that: Adva raises new issues that then enter the public agenda

Adva Director Barbara Swirski



I am excited to see Adva Center's ongoing contribution in promoting progressive ideas in the Israeli public discourse and political arena. Proud to be a part.

Researcher at Adva Yaron Hoffmann-Dishon

The Adva Center is avant-garde, hyperactive, highly respected, and very effective

Adva Center was the first think tank to systematically examine the persistence of inequality in the Israeli public education system, the creeping privatization of social services, changes needed in arrangements for retirement savings and government policy vis-à-vis Bedouins residing in the Negev.

The Adva Center publishes dozens of reports and position papers annually, presenting cutting-edge analyses of socio-economic issues and recommendations for changes to the benefit of disadvantaged groups and middle-income families. Adva Center also participates in Knesset committee meetings and advises decision makers.

Adva Center's work has had a significant impact on shaping the public agenda, benefitting weaker population groups:

- Legislation of a comprehensive, transparent National Health Insurance Law;
- Creation of a system of mandatory savings for retirement;
- Introduction of gender auditing into the budget-making process of government ministries.

PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS

In 2018, Adva Center published 33 reports, position papers, and op-eds on socio-economic issues, including,

- **Israel: A Social Report** – Adva's flagship publication on socio-economic trends and inequality: Israel's robust economy leaves large segments of the population behind.
- Report on the income and employment of recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union: "Russians" are progressing but still have a ways to go.
- Report on central government transfers to local authorities, comparing affluent localities, development towns, Arab localities and settlements beyond the Green Line: settlements get the most.
- Gender analysis of the 2019 Budget Arrangements Law and Tax Benefits.
- Position paper blueprinting a plan for broad-based public housing.
- Position paper on a proposed law that would disadvantage students with special needs.
- Position paper on the 2019 budget of the Health Ministry: positive steps were taken but more needs to be done to preserve Israel's public health system.
- Op-ed (Hebrew): The Stealthy Widening of Inequality in Israel's Education System
- Op-ed (Hebrew): The Health System Needs an Urgent Budget Transfusion
- Op-ed (Hebrew): The Rental Market Produces Inequality





COMMUNITY ACTION WORK

Adva's bottom-up projects have educated thousands of Israelis about the issues that most impact their lives and livelihoods, motivating them to take an active part in the shaping of local, regional and national policies:

- Community action projects train and mentor citizen groups (with an emphasis on women's groups);
- Shared society projects mentor hundreds of Jewish, Muslim, Christian and Druze women to work together to advance gender equality;
- Workshops, courses and lectures impart practical knowledge about retirement savings, gender equality, affordable housing, distributive justice and much more.
- Public awareness work utilizes conventional media channels where our reports and analysis are considered top-of-the-news items (average of 400 items per year);

10 GROUPS
COMPOSED OF MORE THAN
200 WOMEN
MAKING POSITIVE CHANGES
IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

ADVA CENTER IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA

In 2018 Adva published 155 posts on its Facebook page (with 11,400 followers) focusing on different aspects of socio-economic policy. The information in these posts presented data and critical commentary regarding national policy and budgets on the following subjects: labor market, social security system, poverty, public health care system, housing situation, education system, and taxation. The posts reached an audience of half a million users, about half of whom engaged with the posts by commenting, liking, sharing, or clicking on various elements of the post. Among the posts on the Adva Center's Facebook page there were 12 videos that included media appearances of the Adva staff along with video clips produced by the Adva Center. In 2018, the total number of views of all videos on the Adva Center's Facebook page was 255,000.

ON OUR
FACEBOOK
PAGE



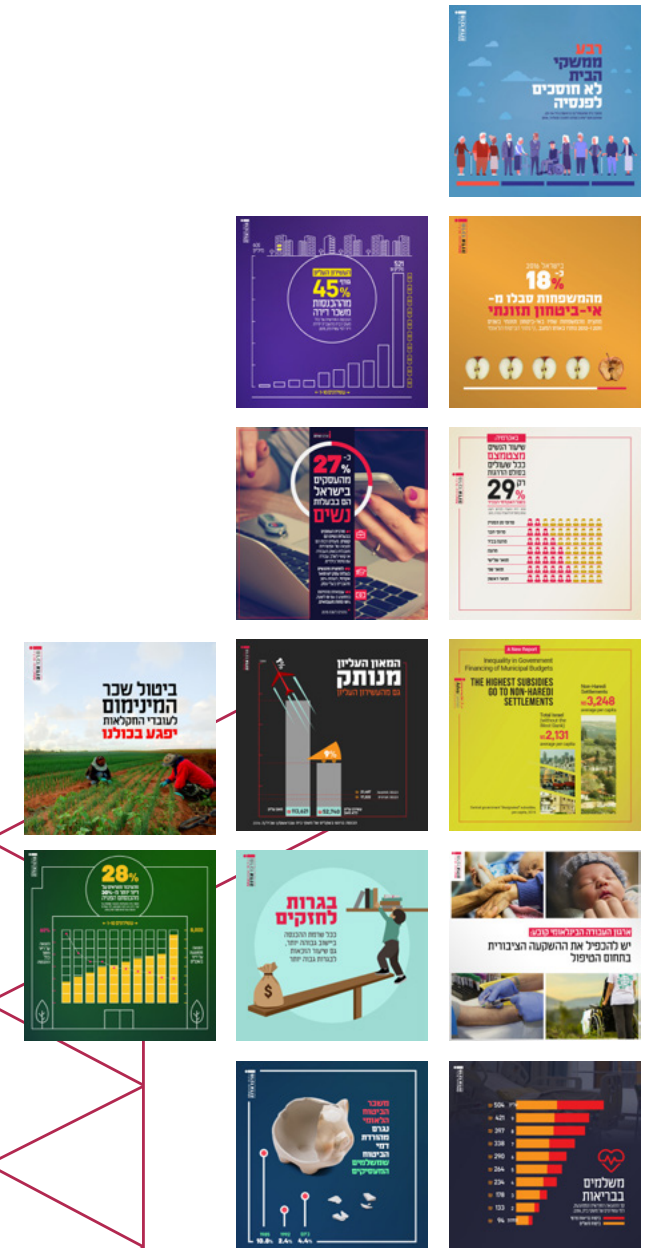
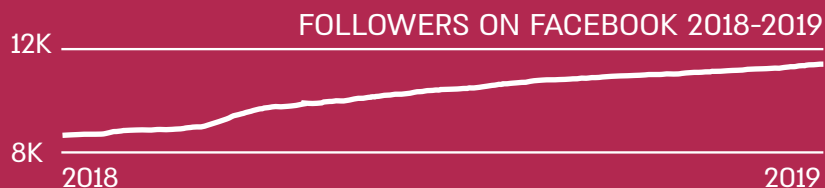
155
POSTS

12
VIDEOS

11,400
FOLLOWERS

500,000
USERS REACH

250,000
USERS
ENGAGED



ADVA CENTER IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA

Another on-line advocacy channel is the [Adva YouTube](#), on which 10 new video clips were posted. In 2018, the videos on the Adva channel received some four thousand viewings.

A third channel is the [Adva Center website](#), on which all Adva reports and position papers are posted. It hosted on average 180 visitors per day, with a daily average of 418 page views.

A fourth channel is a monthly newsletter in Hebrew, with 2,150 subscribers, and a quarterly newsletter in English, with 350.

Public education courses are publicized and marketed on-line.

10
NEW VIDEOS
ON YOUTUBE

180
VISITORS
PER DAY
ON OUR
WEBSITE

2,500
SUBSCRIBERS
TO OUR
NEWSLETTER



What I like best about my work at Adva is the combination of research, advocacy with decision makers, and field work with women. Advancing gender mainstreaming of public policy and budgeting requires finding different ways to show that the implications of policy for women and men are different.

Valeria Seigelshifer,
Coordinator of Gender Equality Projects



"CHERCHEZ LA FEMME" IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET OF ISRAEL

Adva Center Consulted with the Ministry of Social Equality to Implement Historical Decision: National Budget of Israel to be Gender Audited

A gender audit provides insight into how resources are divided between women and men, and to what extent this division meets the needs and priorities of women and men, girls and boys. In acknowledging that the state budget – the most important tool for distributing resources – is not neutral, but has different repercussions on men and women, a gender audit of the budget represents a national strategy for promoting the status of women and narrowing gender inequalities in society.

In 2018, the budget books of government ministries for fiscal 2019 contained chapters devoted to a gender analysis of their budgets. Adva Center gender experts performed analyses of the work of each ministry, followed by recommendations for improvements needed, sent to directors-general. During the year, Adva experts presented lectures to budget and planning officials from a variety of ministries in a workshop organized by the Authority for the Advancement of the Status of Women. They also held consultations with officials in 8 ministries, participated in Knesset committee meetings, and presented a workshop for officials in the Ministry of Health.

This innovative process was set in motion by the Adva Center 14 years ago, with the establishment of the Women's Budget Forum.



1 // Participating in public committees

2 // Writing influential position papers

3 // Dialoging with government ministries

4 // Assisting locally based groups

ADVA CENTER ADVOCATES:

In 2018, Adva Center's work for a more just Israeli society included:

Leading a coalition to protect poor women from harmful changes in social security.

The result: Finance Ministry and Knesset seeking a solution.

Advocating for a broad-based public housing program, with the Forum for Public Housing.

The result: Housing Ministry promises to create more public housing (not yet fulfilled).

Working with Coalition for Special Education on behalf of children with special needs.

The result: Marginal changes; more work ahead.

Promoting full implementation of government plan to counter violence against women.

The result: More monies allocated to counter violence against women.

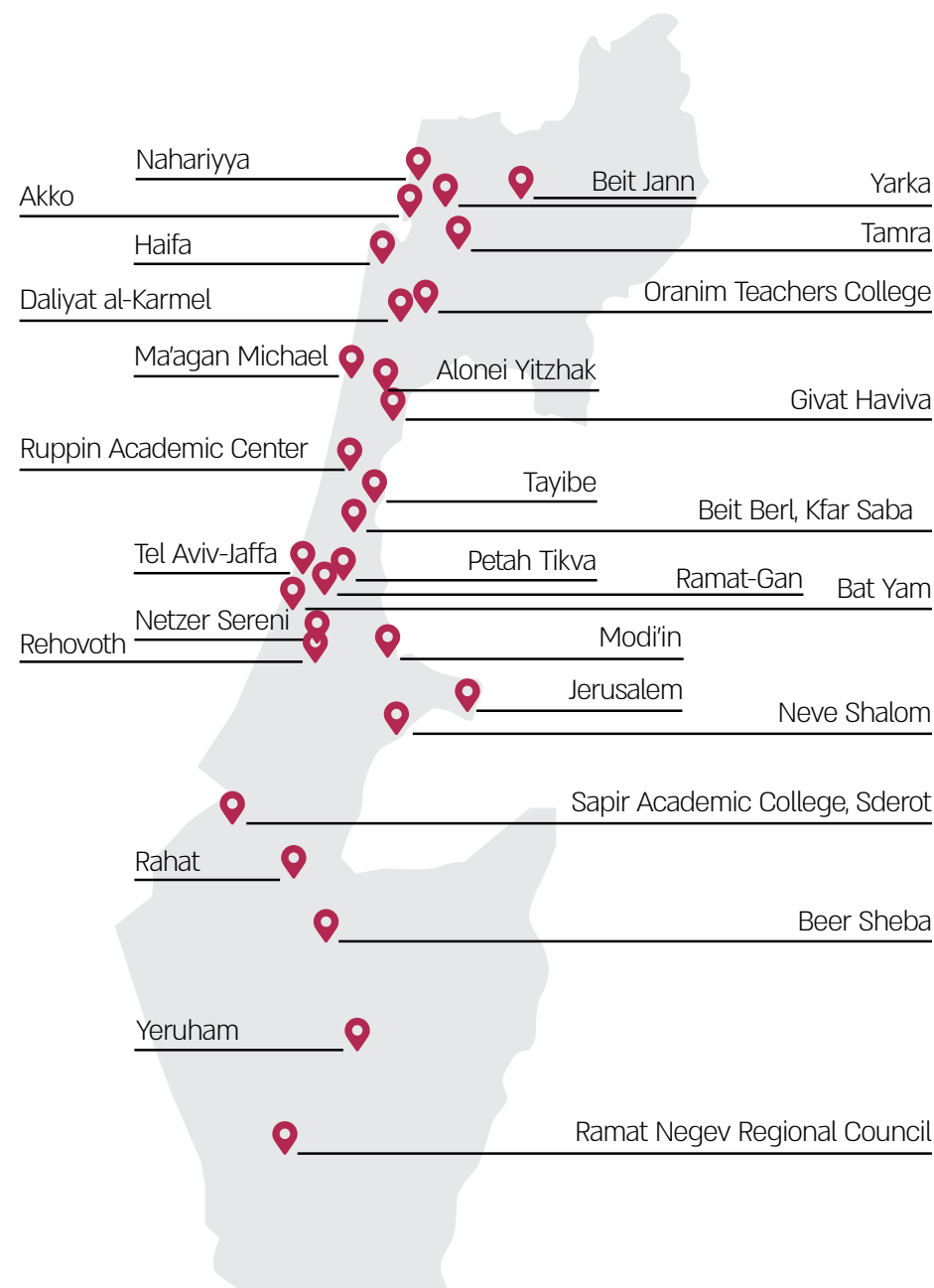
Advocating against privatization of the public health system.

The result: Health Ministry officials made changes to limit privatization.

Mentoring a group of Jewish & Arab women to advocate for more opportunities for Negev businesses.

The result: Still in progress.

WHERE DID THE ADVA CENTER WORK IN 2018?



THE WORK IN 30 LOCALITES IN ISRAEL INCLUDED:

85 lectures/workshops on:

- Socio-economic trends in Israel;
- Budgeting from a gender perspective;
- Gender mainstreaming worldwide;
- The Israeli economy: Between a market economy and a welfare state;
- Trends in the Israeli labor market;
- Women in the labor market and gender pay gaps;
- Inequalities between center and periphery in Israel;
- Inequality in the schools and higher education system;
- The Occupation: Who pays the price?

Clients included:

- Government ministries and agencies;
- Local authorities;
- Institutes of higher learning;
- Schools and youth movements;
- Non-profits;
- Local activists.



In addition, **Two courses on Gender Mainstreaming**, in cooperation with the Social Involvement Program for students at Tel Aviv University, Sapir College, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

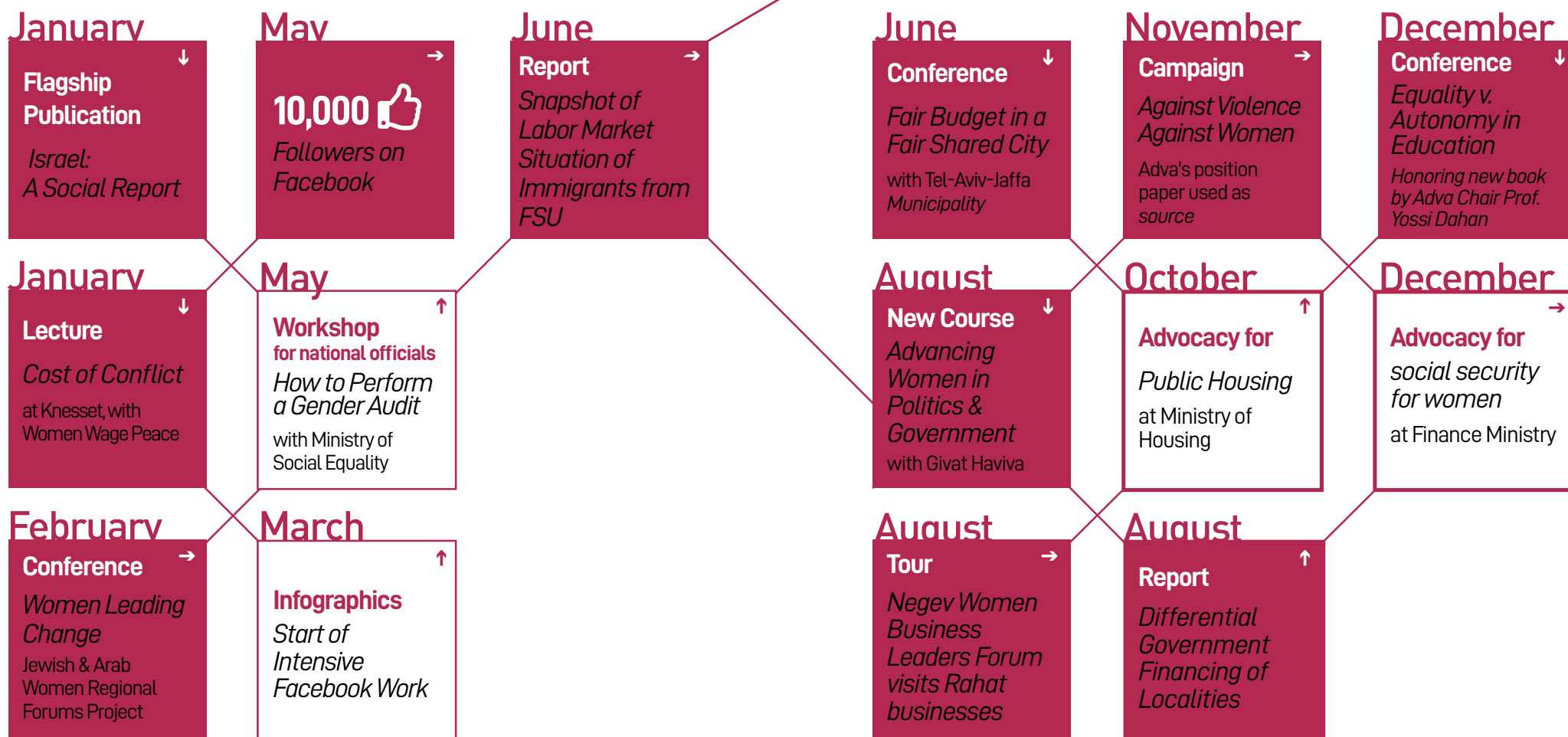
Course on Social Economics and Gender Mainstreaming **for Jewish and Arab women aspiring to decision-making positions**, in cooperation with the Department of Gender Equality at Givat Haviva; workshops for WePower and other organizations encouraging women to run for public office. **The goal: adoption of a feminist agenda on the part of aspirants.**

Regional community action project:

- Included participants from 3 Jewish and 3 Arab localities, organized into
- A national action group working for the benefit of women and girls.



A TASTE OF WHAT WE DO 2018



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