

Annual Report 2013

What it does

How it works

Where it works

How many



What Adva Center Does

The Adva Center was founded in 1991 for the purpose of providing independent monitoring of social and economic developments in Israel. It is still one of the few non-governmental sources of such information. In some areas, like the monitoring of budgetary policy, it is the only source of information and analysis that is completely independent and non-partisan.

Adva Center annual reports have gained wide recognition as “top-of-the-news” essential information, and their findings and conclusions are broadcast over the radio and discussed on TV programs with the highest ratings. The information and analysis in Adva reports are sought after by politicians, policy makers, NGOs, academic teachers and researchers, and municipal authorities. Adva is routinely approached by all of the foregoing for information, consultations and second opinions. Adva Center position papers may elicit disagreements, as policy papers are bound to do, but the academic standards to which they adhere are universally acknowledged to be of the highest level.

Independent monitoring of policies and policy outcomes is a long-range, multi-annual unglorious undertaking requiring persistence, perseverance, and consistency. In this sense, it is neither fashionable nor sexy. But it is an essential component of the democratic process.



Adva Center reports and position papers provide the basis on which Adva's other strategies are built:

- Advocacy work
- Popular education
- Community-based projects for disadvantaged groups

The beneficiaries of the Adva Center's activities include all persons living in Israel: women and men, Arabs and Jews, low and middle-income persons, old timers and new immigrants, migrant workers and Israeli workers.

The target groups of Adva Center work include decision makers, leaders of non-profit organizations, media people, teachers, and researchers.



The Adva Center is recognized within Israel by NGOs, government officials, the mass media, and academic institutions as an expert on socio-economic policy.

The social protest movement begun in the summer of 2011 focused on many of the issues raised by the Adva Center: inequality in the public education and public health systems, the privatization of public services, inadequate housing assistance, tax cuts that resulted in reduced social spending, and the large financial burden shouldered by the middle class.

Adva Center served as the “teachers’ teacher” for many of the experts behind the activists, who in the past participated in courses conducted by Adva.

In addition, Adva Center provided consultations on budget and employment issues for the leadership of the protest.

The work that the Adva Center does centers on matters like:

- The degree of in/equality in public education, public health, the housing market, the public transportation system, employment practices, and more;
- Gender justice, especially regarding women and the economy;
- The social implications of the national budget;
- Citizen participation in local budgeting;
- How macro-economic decisions affect ordinary citizens.



The Adva Center is known for the quality, clarity and accuracy of its reports:

“...The analyses of the Adva Center, which are credible and reliable, make a significant contribution to one’s understanding of the processes of economic stratification going on in Israel. It is a pity that Adva researchers do not have a larger budget.”

Sever Plotzker,

Senior Economic Analyst, *Yediot Aharonot*
newspaper, December 19, 2011.



Adva Center reports serve many purposes

- They serve as resources for media people;
- They are to be found on the curriculum of most college courses dealing with Israeli society;
- They are utilized by NGOs to frame their arguments and promote their causes;
- They are utilized in anti-discrimination appeals to Israeli courts of justice;
- They serve to educate future political leaders about Israeli society and the needs of the various social groups within it;
- They stimulate public debate on equality and social justice issues.

Adva Center is respected by the government, the mass media, and Israel’s NGO community.

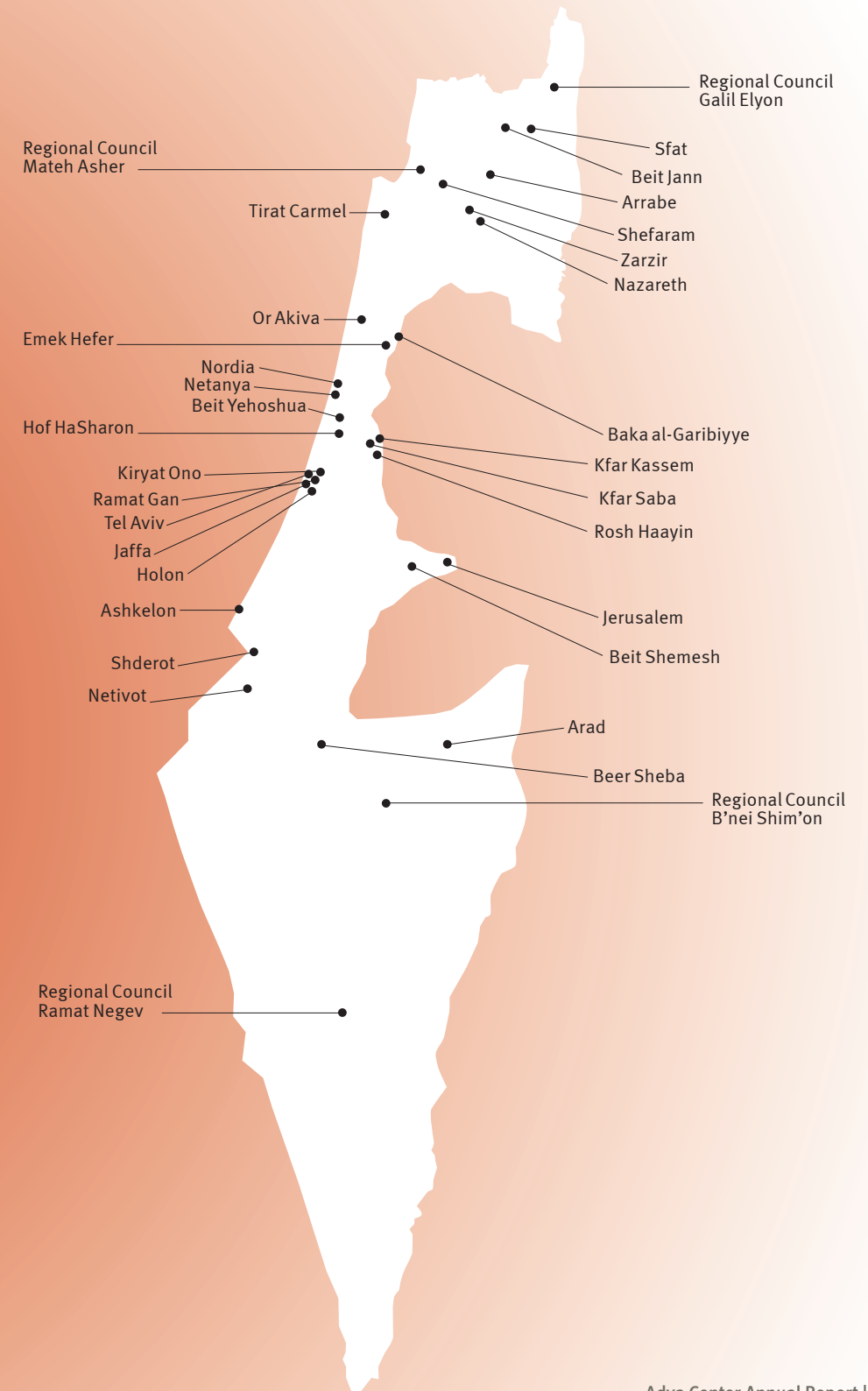
Adva Center staff and board members are in high demand as lecturers and panelists at public events and forums.

How does Adva Center work?

Adva Center

- Publishes annual reports on public policy issues;
- Produces special reports on disadvantaged groups;
- Disseminates position papers on socio-economic policies and pending legislation;
- Posts video films to make its findings and conclusions easy to grasp;
- Provides the mass and social media with analysis and background information;
- Engages in advocacy work to promote its recommendations;
- Offers consultations to cabinet members and executive officials;
- Makes itself available to non-profits for information and consultation;
- Works in coalition with other advocacy organizations to promote better public policies;
- Conducts courses for aspiring community activists on how to understand and influence the local budget;
- Mentors women to become active in their local communities;
- Serves as a source of inspiration for young people.

Where did the Adva Center work in 2013?



How Many?

Adva Center
in Figures

Adva Center's work starts with public policy analyses and in-depth socio-economic reports:

In 2013 Adva published 23 reports and position papers, among them:

- Annual Report on Socio-economic Trends: *Israel: A Social Report – 2013*
- Annual Report on Labor Statistics
- In-depth Report on the Shrinking of the Middle Class in Israel
- 8 Budget Reports
- 5 Reports on Gender Issues



In 2013, Adva posted 25 video films connected with its reports.

- Adva Center's reports receive extensive media coverage.

In 2013 we counted 375 media exposures, of these:

- 33 on Radio
- 18 on TV
- 128 in the printed media
- 196 in internet media

Adva Center's reports and media exposures result in decision makers coming to Adva for consultations:

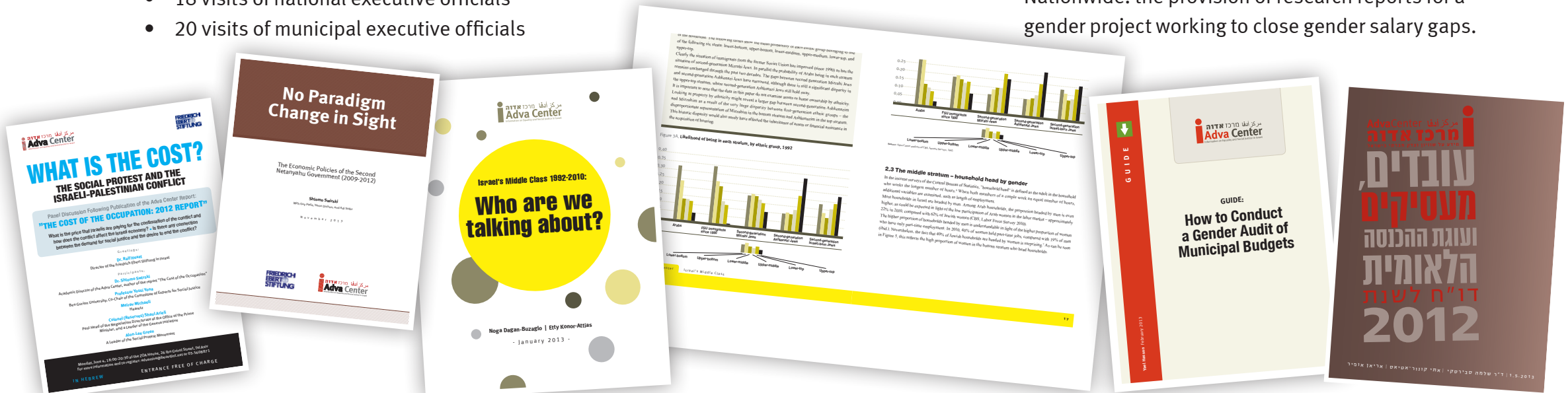
- 12 visits of Cabinet members and legislators
- 18 visits of national executive officials
- 20 visits of municipal executive officials

Adva Center reaches out to ordinary citizens throughout the country by offering courses on Israeli society and economy and by mentoring them to become active citizens in their communities.

Half of Adva's outreach and advocacy activities center on women and gender equality issues; they involve work at the national, regional and local level.

In 2013, the Adva Center initiated and provided the leadership for 3 gender projects, and it was a partner in a 4th gender project.

- At the local level: a community action project involving 7 women's groups from 10 communities;
- At the regional level: the creation of a Negev Forum of Mayoral Advisors on the Status of Women;
- Nationwide: the development of a social enterprise to provide gender services to local authorities in Israel;
- Nationwide: the provision of research reports for a gender project working to close gender salary gaps.



In 2013, Adva's advocacy work urging a gender audit of the national budget bore fruit: the Finance Ministry set up a national committee to examine how this could be done, with the Adva Center serving in an advisory capacity.

- Adva Center reaches out to the North and the South of Israel by conducting lectures and workshops for varied audiences:

In 2013, the Adva Center held 150 educational events, in which 3,500 persons participated.

- Adva Center serves as a source of inspiration for social activists and NGO leaders:

In 2013, the Adva Center provided consultations for 150 social activists and NGO leaders.

More Adva Center figures

- Adva Center is in its 23rd year
- Adva Center has a modest budget, which it utilizes efficiently: \$600,000 in 2013
- Adva Center has a dedicated staff of 14
- Adva Center has 5 volunteers who contribute professional skills
- Adva Center has a teaching staff comprised of 6 regular staff members and 15 external lecturers and facilitators
- Adva Center has a stable, dedicated Board of Directors and Audit Committee



Adva Center is supported by individuals, by foundations, and by income-producing activities:

- New Israel Fund
- Jacob & Hilda Blaustein Foundation
- Heinrich Boell Foundation
- Dafna Fund
- Friedrich Ebert Foundation
- European Union
- Ford Israel Fund
- Hadassah Foundation
- CORDAID
- Jewish Women's Foundation of New York
- Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation of Greater Washington, DC
- MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
- National Council of Jewish Women
- Rosa Luxemburg Foundation
- Zabar Family Foundation



Contributions can be made,
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