

General points for discussion for the experts

The experts were requested to relate to the following points:

**What do we know about the past and the present?**

1.

□ What are the salient environmental issues of the day in Israel in your field: How are these issues similar to or different from the salient issues within the global discourse? □

2.

What are developments that took place in your field in the recent past and to this day that have affected and continue to affect the environment in Israel? Can they be predicted with a high degree of certainty?

3.

What are the causal factors of these developments? Can these be anticipated? Or are they unpredictable?

4.

What current or anticipated geo-environmental developments in the world or the region (neighboring countries) (e.g., worsening drought conditions) might affect the context for sustainability within Israel?

5.

What are the current or anticipated geopolitical developments in the world or the region (e.g., increased influence of India and China in relation to the United States and Europe, peace agreement or cause for conflict in our region) and how will they affect the context for sustainability in Israel?

6.

What are the effects of these developments (2-5 above) on the environment (problems/opportunities/damage/ability to handle/withstand)? Are they subject to control by the government of Israel?

7.

What are the effects of these developments (2-5 above) on quality of life/wellbeing?

8.

Is current Israeli policy capable of dealing with the problems and harnessing the opportunity to reduce vulnerability and dangers and to develop the resilience needed to handle changes?

**What do we expect will occur in the future?**

1.

What is expected to occur in the future in your field? Please outline the possible trends and indicate what is likely to occur as a result (the best case / worst case that may be expected), taking into account the extent of certainty regarding these trends and the possibility of unexpected “shocks”?

2.

What measures should be taken in order to maximize opportunities for change and reinforce the resilience and the ability to deal with inevitable changes and unanticipated changes?

3.

What measures should be taken in order to reduce dangers/vulnerability to change and to overcome anticipated future barriers?

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