

Annual Review 2019



Placing the future in the hands of the next generation





Dear all

We are delighted to present to you the 2019 edition of the ORT Annual Review.

2019 has been another year of growth for the organization, as we increase the breadth and depth of our activities.

This year, students and teachers from our newly affiliated schools in Amsterdam, Bucharest and Singapore participated for the first time in our range of summer schools and educator seminars. As they return home to share their experiences, hundreds more people are benefitting from our expanded network.

Our schools, colleges and universities across the world are continuing to provide a quality education to students of all ages, giving them not only the tools to build a successful career, but also the nurturing environment for them to grow as people and as future community leaders.

Our after-school activities, from the YOUNiversity Centers of Excellence, to our Taub Young Entrepreneurship Program to our Harmatz Awards for Social Responsibility – to name but three – are providing our students with a forum in which to explore wider interests and to develop soft skills that will help them to thrive in all walks of life.

Meanwhile, continued improvements in our reporting to donors, our marketing and our communications, are helping to increase our visibility. This in turn promises to increase opportunities for funding and operational partnerships in the future.

As we enter an auspicious year for ORT and prepare for the celebrations to mark our 140th anniversary, we look forward to having the opportunity to reflect on ORT's great past and present, and to plan for a successful future.

Have a great year,

Dr. Conrad Giles
President
World ORT

Judy Menikoff
Chair, Board of Trustees and Secretary
World ORT

Avi Ganon
Director General and CEO
World ORT

WHO WE ARE

ORT is a global education network driven by Jewish values. We are passionate about unleashing the potential of young people so they can lead fulfilling lives and have a positive impact on the world around them.

Since our foundation in 1880, ORT has been transforming lives through training and education. From focusing on teaching 19th century Russian Jews essential trades and professions, we have evolved to provide 21st century skills to empower people and strengthen communities.

Our network now reaches 300,000 people a year in more than 30 countries.

We provide a combination of high-level science and technology education with strengthened Jewish identity, bridging the gap between ability and opportunity – and ensuring the continuity of Jewish life worldwide.



MISSION

Transforming lives
through training
and education



VISION

Placing the future
in the hands of
the next generation



VALUES

Pioneering Spirit, Passion,
Pragmatism, Progressive,
Perspective, Pride



WHAT WE DO

For 140 years our mission has not changed. Our efforts to serve Jewish communities around the world, to share knowledge around our network, to invest in progressive education models and to transform lives through the teaching of 21st century skills, are at the heart of everything we do.

Jewish Identity

ORT schools combine high-quality general education with formal and informal Jewish studies curricula that include Hebrew language and literature, Jewish traditions and culture, Jewish history and Israel studies. This education provides our students with a sense of Jewish identity, commitment and connection to their fellow Jews around the world.

ORT is proud of its Jewish history, values and identity, and the impact that we have had on Jewish communities since 1880.



Sharing Knowledge

The ORT family creates a sense of belonging where we can all learn from each other's passion and perspective. We promote shared experiences such as our international student programs, teacher training courses and global events including the annual ORT Day which bring our network together.

By sharing information and developing knowledge we can help our students and educators. These experiences make ORT appealing to families and give young people – especially from low-socio economic backgrounds – opportunities they would not otherwise receive.

STEM Education

We endeavor to provide the skills and knowledge young people need today in order to succeed tomorrow. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education provides a foundation for all students to understand important issues, both global and local, and to develop skills in critical thinking and problem-solving that will allow them to participate fully in 21st century life.

ORT schools, colleges and programs recognize the need to continually reassess and update their STEM curricula, investing in laboratories and equipment, and in the recruitment, retention and professional development of their teachers.

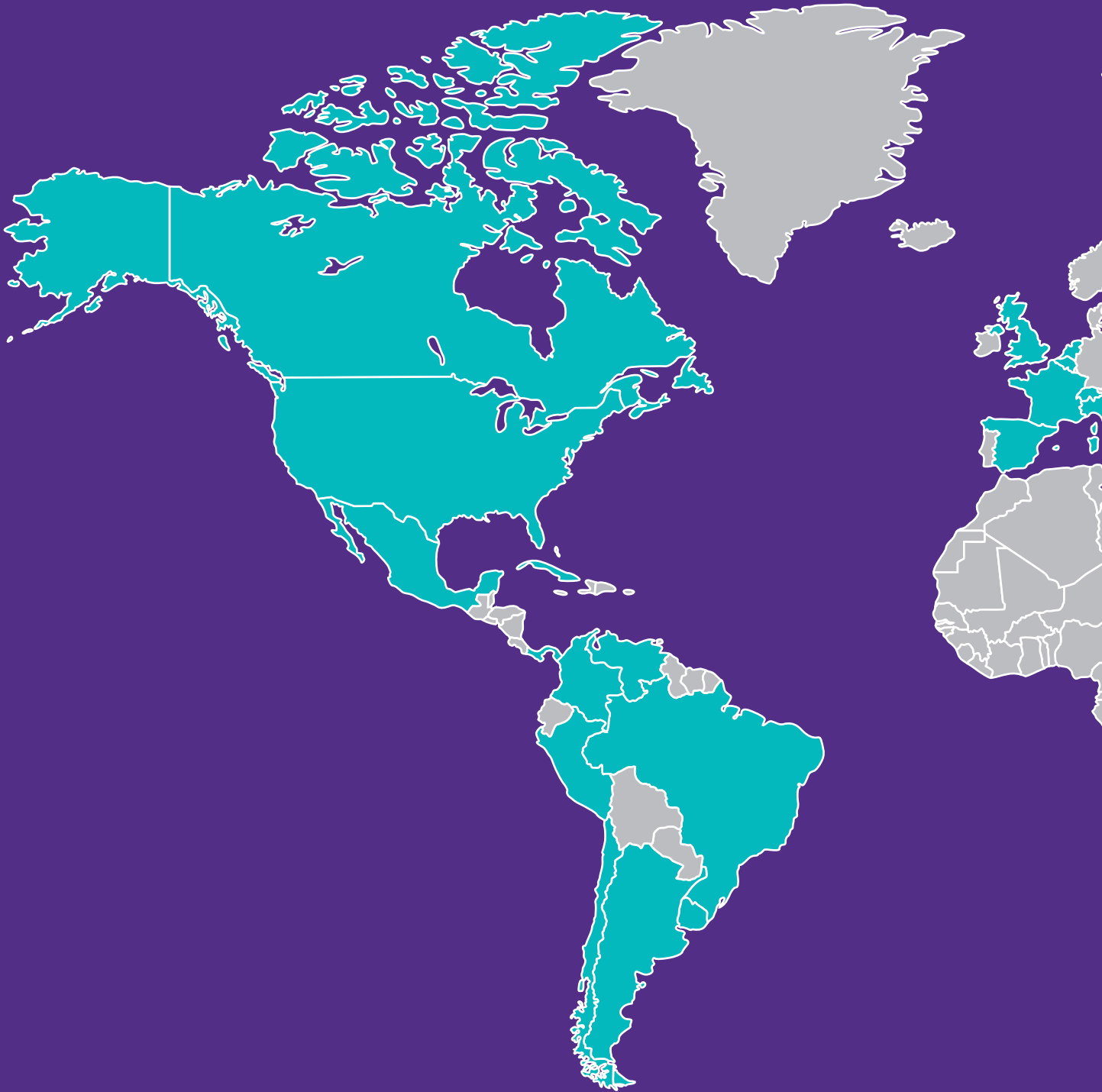


Further Education

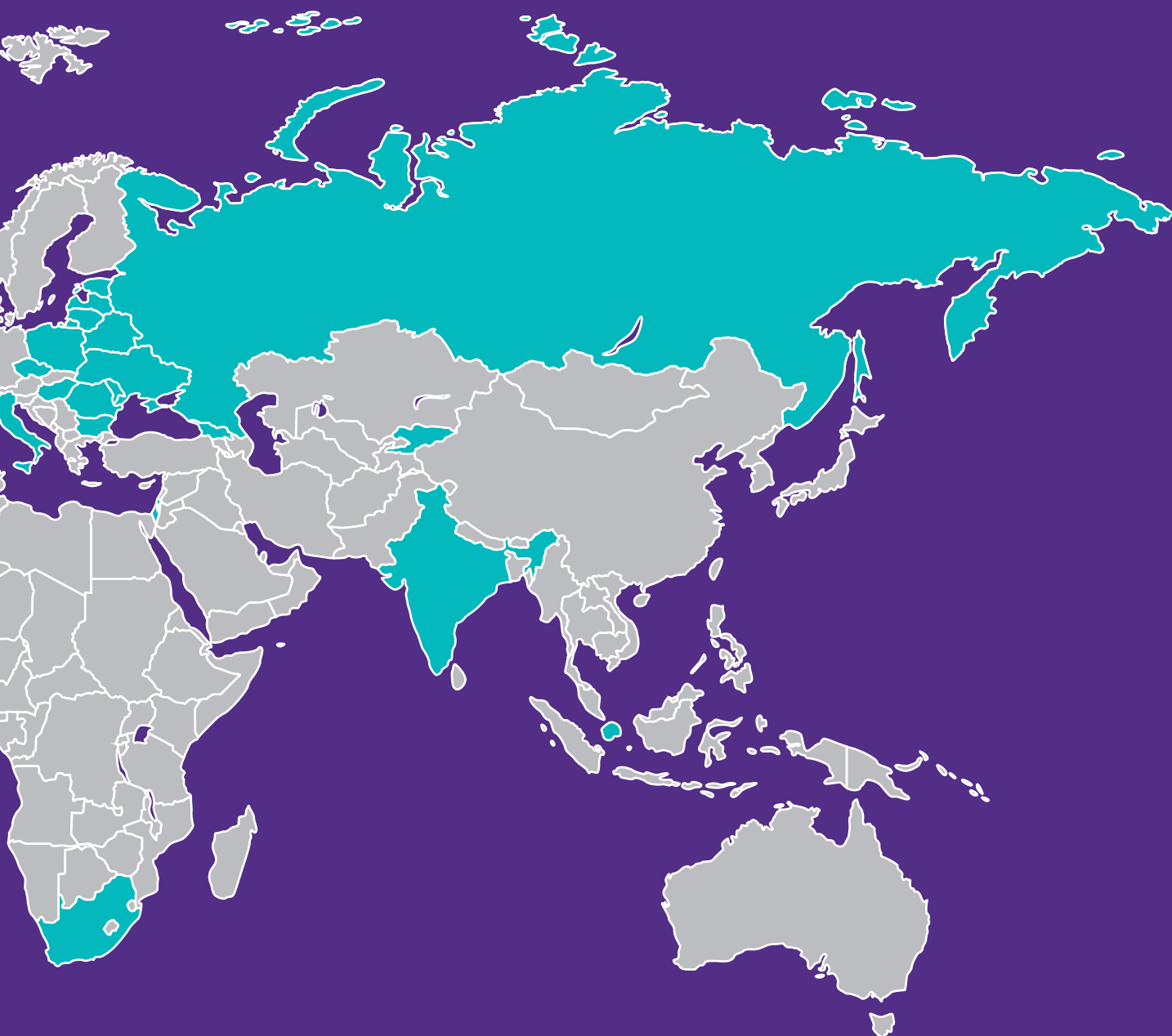
ORT believes learning is a life-long process which only begins with formal education in school. In today's employment marketplace, continuing professional development and training is becoming crucial to keep pace with technological changes in the workplace.

ORT prepares students of all ages for the contemporary workplace through the provision of further education and vocational training.

WHERE WE ARE



Our global education network reaches across borders to benefit 300,000 students, educators and community members every year in more than 30 countries. The ORT family creates a sense of belonging where we can all learn from each other's passion and perspective.



Argentina
Belarus
Belgium
Brazil
Bulgaria
Canada
Chile
Colombia

Cuba
Czech Republic
Estonia
France
Georgia
Hungary
India
Israel

Italy
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Lithuania
Mexico
Moldova
The Netherlands
Panama

Peru
Poland
Romania
Russia
Singapore
South Africa
Spain
Switzerland

Ukraine
United Kingdom
United States
Uruguay
Venezuela

OUR IMPACT



More than

300,000

people benefit from the ORT global network



40,000

people benefit from ORT in the FSU

Active in more than



30

countries



More than

8,000

teachers in the global ORT network



71%

reduction in dropout rates in two years at Levinson High School, Kiryat Yam, Israel



46,000 hours

of high-level STEM delivered at ORT Uruguay University



80%

students in Italy proceed to university



1,835

women took part in our adult training courses in FSU



48

high-level science and technical laboratories at ORT Uruguay University



55%

of our students from the FSU study STEM-related topics at university



700

ORT students in Italy participate in local Jewish community life



54,000 hours

of Jewish studies are delivered by

104 teachers

in our schools in the FSU, helping students and families to reconnect with their Jewish roots



5 hours a week

of Jewish studies education



85

Educators have undergone middle management training on the World ORT LEAD Program in London over the past four years



219

videos created by ORT students since 2016 to explain complex STEM topics through the World ORT STEM Communications Awards



4,600

students involved in extra-curricular STEM activities in the FSU

A student in the FSU receives on average



12 hours a week of STEM education



43%

increase in three years in matriculation rates at Kfar Silver Youth Village, Israel



11,000

students attend the ORT school in Argentina, the largest in the diaspora

57%

increase in three years in matriculation rates at Hodayot Youth Village, Israel

52%

increase in three years in matriculation rates at Levinson High School, Kiryat Yam, Israel



3,600

young people have been taught coding & robotics in South Africa



106,000 hours

of STEM-related classes are taught by

186 teachers

every year in the FSU



1,600

unemployed youth have received training and placed in one-year work placements in South Africa



59%

increase in the number of students studying the highest level of math in the past three years at Yitzchak Rabin High School, Kiryat Yam, Israel



6,000

students benefit from informal education at our after-school YOUNiversity Centers of Excellence in Israel



80%

of students would like to continue their studies in digital media after attending the World ORT Digital Skills Academy



86%

of our students from the FSU proceed to university



10,770 hours

of STEM-related classes are taught by

27 teachers

every year at CIM-ORT school in Mexico



3,500

students per year benefit from free hot meals and transportation in the FSU

ORT's education department runs a series of programs across the network, including summer schools, student competitions and awards, and teacher programs.

Our student summer schools provide the skills and practical tools needed to succeed, as well as opportunities beyond what is available in regular classroom settings. They utilize the latest educational technologies and innovative teaching methods to broaden students' horizons and experiences.

In 2019, the Ecology Summer School took place in Panama, the STEM Summer School took place in Israel, and the Digital Skills Academy ran in Bulgaria.

Among our annual competitions are the Harmatz Award for Social Responsibility – which encourages students to focus on tikkun olam projects; the Jewish Animation and STEM Communication awards – for which students explain a complicated science theme in layman's terms; and the Taub Young Entrepreneurship Program – promoting business entrepreneurship, motivating students and encouraging collaboration. It is one of the key programs run by ORT to help students transform their lives using 21st century skills.

At ORT we realize that teachers play a special role and we invest in our educators, providing them with effective tools for their work, offering professional development and giving them the flexibility to innovate.

Teachers visited London in 2019 for our Hatter Technology Seminar, which explores developments in STEM teaching and learning, and for the Wingate Leadership Training Program (LEAD) seminar, for those who have demonstrated their potential to be ORT's future educational leaders and senior managers. We also ran the annual Wand Polak Excellence Awards for teachers.

ORT Day

Thousands of ORT students and teachers around the world came together to mark ORT Day on April 10. It was a day of connection, togetherness and celebration.

Masterclasses, global competitions, social media campaigns, and a postcard exchange played key roles in uniting people.

More than 300 pictures were posted of participants making innovative variations of the ORT 'O' logo and 280 postcards were exchanged between students from Panama and Ukraine, Spain and Mexico, and Russia and France.

An interactive quiz featured 12 teams of ORT students from around the world, including from Moldova, Colombia and Estonia.



World Youth Encounter

The four-day event, jointly organized by Scholas – an international group promoted by Pope Francis – and ORT, encouraged youngsters from different societies, cultures and religions to work together, sharing their passion and knowledge to create a more peaceful world.

The event was hosted by Colegio Israelita de México ORT (CIM-ORT) in Mexico City, and 55 ORT students from nine countries took part.

More than 200 students – aged 14 to 18, visited the iconic Teotihuacan Pyramids, shared their own customs and cultures with each other, and alongside Dario Werthein – former chair of World ORT's Board of Trustees – they met Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

Robotraffic Competition

The theme for this year's robotics tournament was electric and efficient small vehicles, with more than 550 international students taking part at the tenth Nadav Shoham Robotraffic competition at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology.

The 2019 results table was dominated by ORT teams who secured four first-place victories out of a possible 26.



Growing the network with affiliated schools

It was also a busy year for new affiliations to the network:

Sir Manasseh Meyer International School (SMMIS) in Singapore has begun working with schools and educators across ORT's global family.

Also newly affiliated to the network is JSG Maimonides Secondary School in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Iris Eshel, the school principal, is overseeing a redevelopment of its approach to students gaining skills and said joining forces with ORT was a natural step: "We found the students didn't have enough research skills, they needed discipline to organize their own work, as well as skills in presentation and project management to bridge the gap between high school and higher education.

"We aimed to make sure they have all these skills earlier on in their educational career by building it into our curriculum in the first three years.

"We joined the ORT network because we look for partners always. We would like to reach out to other Jewish schools and share our knowledge. Now that we've moved on to this new curriculum this was a perfect opportunity to reach out to other schools who are going or want to do the same."

The affiliation to ORT of the Colegio Isaac Rabin in Panama City has been cherished by pupils at the school, according to academic assistant Jacqueline Joseph.

"To be part of the ORT network has helped us enormously. Our engagement in ORT activities including seminars, workshops and academic camps allows us to strengthen our technology and science curricula and reinforce our position as a leading school here. We share the same values as the network and we are committed to educate for a better world. We are very proud to be part of this great network of institutions."

Jacqueline Joseph

The Colegio Isaac Rabin team who travelled to Mexico for the Scholas event returned home "astonished".

Ms. Joseph added: "Luis Ruiz was the teacher and he said to me that everything was spectacular – the logistics and the cultural events. The students cherished the moment and the meeting was a great experience, totally unforgettable."

Students also participated in the STEM Communication Awards and learned a lot from their fellow competitors around the world.

Teachers and students from the affiliated Sándor Scheiber School in Budapest, Hungary, have also been taking part in training courses and educational programs run by ORT.

FORMER SOVIET UNION & EUROPE

With a presence in countries from the Atlantic to the Black Sea, ORT provides numerous opportunities to contribute to and benefit from its educational and training programs.

Our schools, colleges and courses in France, Spain, Italy, the Baltic States, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan serve tens of thousands of students every year.

These and other educational programs are made possible by the enthusiasm and idealism of hundreds of devoted supporters. We have fundraising organizations in Belgium, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.



Friendly debate at international tournament

Three 10th grade students (Evgeniya Gavrillova, Vasilisa Kriger and Emilia Gyulasaryan), from the Moscow ORT Technical School 1540 became the first Russian team to take part in the Parliamentary Debate World Conference (PDWC) competition in Japan in February.

"The trip provided opportunities for the serious exchange of opinions in a spirit of friendly competition with other students from around the world, thus developing the students' abilities to consider the future global society as well as fostering lifelong friendships."

Darya Papina, ORT English Teacher



Pesach celebrations with a 104-year-old alumnus

Ahead of Pesach, a 104-year-old former pupil led celebrations at a special Seder for alumni of the ORT Tallinn Jewish School in Estonia. Mr Genovker was among more than 150 former and current ORT students and teachers at the event, which also marked the school's 95th anniversary.

During the celebration, alumni discussed their own children and grandchildren, some of whom are now studying at ORT schools themselves and participating in ORT programs worldwide.

Federations visit Vilnius

Members of the Jewish United Fund of Chicago (JUF) and Jewish Federations of North America toured Vilnius, Lithuania, in September and visited the Sholom Aleichem ORT School.

School representatives explained the Hebrew studies and the STEM education program, which has seen the school ranked as one of the best in the city and helps attract non-Jewish students who go on to become advocates for the Jewish community. A discussion circle followed with school alumni and parents of current students.

The success of the school has been made possible thanks to the excellent partnership between the local government, the local Jewish community, ORT and its supporters – especially our anonymous donor, the JFNA, Chicago Federation and ORT Chicago.



Witnessing ORT's impact

British radio host and journalist Nick Ferrari travelled to Israel for the first time in September to prepare for ORT UK's annual dinner.

The broadcaster saw the huge impact of ORT's work on students at the Kfar Silver Youth Village and later wrote: "I was expecting a conventional school. What I wasn't expecting was greenhouses, cow sheds, chickens and goats! One minute these children are milking cows, the next they're learning about quantum physics in the classroom.

"The campus is tremendously high-tech. The idea is that the kids have a vocational training option that will guide them towards economic independence. What struck me was that the ones who struggled in the classroom came alive when they were with the farm animals.

"All the kids had individual stories to tell of how they arrived at the Youth Village. A lot of them are from Russia, the former Soviet Union and Africa. But there was a tremendous kinship. All were absolutely determined to better themselves and make the most of the opportunity.

"Being in an open space liberates you not just physically and emotionally but intellectually too. The trip delivered more than my greatest hopes."



World ORT Kadima Mada, our operational arm in Israel, had an exciting year of new opportunities across its network of six high schools, three of which are attached to youth villages and all of which have a high proportion of students from low socio-economic backgrounds. The network now embraces more than 2,100 students and almost 400 teachers throughout Israel's periphery.

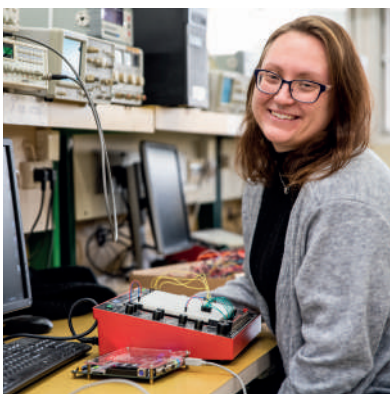
At the 11 YOUNiversity Excellence Centers, offering 45 different STEM courses, more than 6,000 students and 95 instructors work to provide specialist informal education with innovative technology in small group sessions.



Educational investment continues

The municipality of Kiryat Yam – where World ORT Kadima Mada has been investing in the educational system for more than a decade – was acknowledged with a prestigious education award. Only five municipalities in the whole country won the award.

There were further awards for our Kiryat Yam schools, Levinson and Rabin, which both won Ministry of Education awards for outstanding schools in the 2018-19 school year. They were acknowledged not only for academic achievement, but also socio-economic factors, and the schools' teachers receive additional pay in recognition. Levinson High School was also recognized by the Ministry for its outstanding work with students of Ethiopian background, who have an impressive 88 per cent Bagrut eligibility rate.



At Beer Sheva College of Technology, 125 students benefitted from the Ashbal program which encourages young men and women from Bedouin communities in the Negev to receive education and training in technology in order to help them enroll in tech industries in the region.

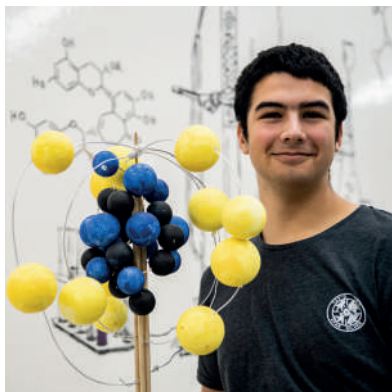
Thirty percent of the students this year were women, and every participant passed qualifications in English, Math and Hebrew before beginning the course. Every student receives a scholarship and free transportation, and after graduating many find work in the industry in the Negev.



Of the highest achieving students at Beer Sheva College of Technology last year, 30 percent were women.

The innovative Tefen Entrepreneurship Hub in the Galilee was established. It became the first hub of its type in Israel's northern region and attracts businesses and new economic activity.

World ORT is part of the hub's steering committee and Avi Ganon said:



"We have helped develop Israel's northern region in difficult periods of war, and we continue now to develop the field of science and technology education in cooperation with the Tefen Local Council and the Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee."

Industrial inventors from the Western Galilee region will be able to learn how to develop, promote and bring their ideas to fruition at the hub. The facility incorporates training rooms, ad-hoc work spaces and meeting rooms equipped with the latest digital technologies, tools and devices.

It was no surprise, therefore, that when Ariel Mishal, CEO of Israel's Ministry of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee, spoke at ORT UK's annual dinner in London in November, he praised the work of World ORT Kadima Mada and its efforts to improve the educational opportunities available to children living outside central Israel.

"We picked Kadima Mada for a reason. They gave the best offer of how to give the children the best opportunities, the best instructors."

Ariel Mishal, CEO of Israel's Ministry of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee



Looking to the future with the Anières Elite Academy

The Anières engineering and technology scholarship program in Israel continues the work which took place at ORT's institute of the same name in Geneva, Switzerland, between 1946 and 1996.

The program provides equal opportunities for talented teenagers from around the world to become the next generation of scientists and engineers. There are around 180 students in grades nine to 12 enrolled in the program at the WIZO Nahalal Youth Village.

Another 72 Anières graduates have gone on to the Technion this past year, with others now studying at Ben-Gurion University, Hebrew University and other institutions.

This is the fifth year of participation in the RoboPhysics program in co-operation with the Department of Electrical Engineering at the Technion and Ministry of Education. It is an academic course which counts towards electrical engineering degrees. This year, 45 Anières students at the Youth Village are taking part. Among other program collaborations are the aeronautics program with the Technion's Aerospace Engineering Faculty and Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, and a sports aviation course.

The coming year promises to be one of emphasizing giving students a better understanding of their future; looking closely at admissions processes and requirements for the Technion, the IDF and hi-tech companies such as Rafael; and a recruitment drive for potential students from Russia and Ukraine alongside Na'ale and the Jewish Agency.

Daria Levitan is a graduate of the Anières Elite Academy and now studies at the Technion. She opened her own educational business in June – a center teaching mental mathematics. It already operates on five sites in the north of Israel, teaching 70 children aged five to 12 a method of math in which the youngsters do quick mental arithmetic.

[continued next page](#)



Daria says the method – which is part of the school program in China, Japan and Korea – improves concentration and memory as well as math skills.

Daria feels the centers offer an opportunity for her to give back to the community in the same way that the Anières program supported her in moving from Russia to Israel.

Her experience on the program was, she said, “the best time of my life” and was spent alongside those who understood her. Thanks to Anières she began taking part in competitions in Israel similar to those she had enjoyed in Russia.

One of the most exciting moments in Daria’s career was when a six-year-old girl came to her and said she loves her classes. She imagines that in 20 years she will see her students doing great things in society.



Success on the global stage

World ORT Kadima Mada students participated in national and international competitions in debate, diplomacy and robotics, with the RoboActive 2096 team from Dimona travelling to Michigan, US, and winning The Engineering Inspiration Award at the 2019 World Robotics Competition.

This award is given to a team that promotes social initiatives that inspire the local community and others from the science, engineering and technology fields. They also received a scholarship from NASA to finance their participation fee in the 2020 competition in Texas.



Transforming
lives through
training and
education

NORTH AND LATIN AMERICA

From elementary schools to universities, ORT works in eight countries in Latin and South America. Around 11,000 students benefit from the ORT Argentina complex in Buenos Aires – the biggest Jewish school in the diaspora. In Mexico City, the CIM-ORT school provides a high quality general and Jewish education to its 1,000 students, and its staff take part in ORT programs around the world. Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Panama, Peru and Uruguay are home to a series of ORT schools, universities, affiliates and other programs. And in North America, ORT America and ORT Canada provide vital fundraising activities.



Start-Up Challenge

One of the leading new additions in the northern hemisphere was the series of STEM summer camps run in the United States.

More than 700 students aged six to 13 were introduced to the vibrancy of Israeli innovation when the Start-Up Challenge, led by a professional team from World ORT Kadima Mada, travelled to six camps.

Through problem-solving, creative thinking, teamwork and tournaments, campers learnt about critical 21st century skills, built robots, experienced virtual reality, and understood coding, biology, physics and chemistry through hands-on experiments.



"The project was a perfect example of how ORT reaches across borders to benefit students, educators and communities – in this case uniting educators and experts from Israel with youngsters in the US."

Avi Ganon, World ORT Director General & CEO

California Teenager's Tzedakah Project

Jewish day school student Karen Glenn dedicated a school project to researching ORT's work, and then followed up her efforts by visiting World ORT Kadima Mada projects in Israel later in the year.

"I chose ORT because it has had a tremendous impact on education, especially in Israel, and because of its many years of experience. The most interesting thing was when I realized how many projects and programs it has, and how incredible each one is."

Karen Glenn





Innovation and creativity bring success for Mexican students

Students from the Colegio Israelita de México ORT (CIM-ORT) school in Mexico City continued to shine. In February the school unveiled an innovative urban garden at its site, encouraging healthy eating and a better understanding of the environment.

"I can water and care for plants, see how they grow and eat them. It's very good because I live in an apartment and I do not have this opportunity anywhere else."

CIM-ORT Student



A team of students from CIM-ORT also secured victory in the 2018-19 World ORT Taub Young Entrepreneurship Program thanks to an innovative power bank creation. Their 'Re-Charge' device can be placed on a supermarket trolley allowing users to charge their phone and benefit from real-time offers from leading brands while doing their shopping.

Members of the winning team went on to take part in an international entrepreneurship competition in Israel.

"It was amazing to live through the journey of transforming an initial idea to a business project. We learned about the business world and started to understand how big the area is and all it takes to make an efficient business model. YEP gave us the tools to be better prepared for our futures and helped us understand that there is still so much we can learn."

Alexa Polichuk, CIM-ORT Team Member

Tikkun Olam Mission to Cuba

CIM-ORT students travelled to Cuba on a second Tikkun Olam mission, delivering goods and medicines to members of the island's Jewish community.

The group of 20 students and two teachers delivered a variety of items donated by members of Mexico City's Jewish community.

During their stay, the Mexican students celebrated Simchat Torah with the Cuban community, visited the Holocaust museum and distributed items among elderly people at a local community center.

It is hoped the trip will become an annual visit.



Recognition in Uruguay

Professor Charlotte de Grünberg, Director General of the Universidad ORT Uruguay, received a special mention at the 30th awarding of the Jerusalem Prize in Montevideo in December.

The Jerusalem Prize is awarded each year to outstanding figures in Uruguay who support the cause of Jewish people. It recognizes those people who have worked for the full validity of human rights and peaceful coexistence between peoples.

Upon receiving the special mention, Prof. de Grünberg spoke about the central role that education has always played in the Jewish community, and about ORT's 140th anniversary and life-changing work in Uruguay and around the world.

Empowering
people and
strengthening
communities
since 1880





Bridging
the gap
between
ability and
opportunity

ORT's work in South Africa empowers teachers and improves literacy in townships, encourages budding entrepreneurs and provides job search skills and guidance. Hundreds of people in South Africa today find jobs and build their own businesses thanks to ORT. South Africa's leading Jewish schools – the King David Schools – were affiliated to ORT in 2018.

After providing decades of vocational training for communities in India, ORT has now expanded further across Asia with a new affiliate school in Singapore.



New arrivals

Following its affiliation to the ORT network in May, the Sir Manasseh Meyer International School (SMMIS) of Singapore contributed teachers to our education programs for the first time.

Sarifah (Sara) Abdul Kadir, a physical education (PE) and art teacher, took part in the World ORT Hatter Technology Seminar in London which focused on makerism. She found the experience "really hands-on and interactive, and that made the learning process faster instead of just sitting and listening to the trainers deliver their program... it definitely benefited me as a person".

At the LEAD Seminar in November, her SMMIS colleague Maire Clapham, a Grade 5 Literacy Lead teacher, travelled to London to learn more about leadership.



Pumped up: ORT breaks new ground

ORT continued its work across Africa, including developing new opportunities in Burkina Faso. A team of ORT-backed trainees took part for the first time in a UNESCO-funded course on water provision in the country, learning a range of hydrology skills in Ouagadougou.

The ORT group included three trainees from Burkina Faso and three from Senegal. The three-week course for 30 specialists was part of a UNESCO program dedicated to providing global access to water.

A year of progress for ORT South Africa

Students took part in global programs such as Scholas and our summer schools and teachers joined our training programs, including staff members from the affiliated King David High School Linksfield in Johannesburg.

Jodene Pereira, a technology teacher, travelled to London to join the Hatter Technology Seminar which focused on bringing Maker Culture into schools.

"It was amazing to see what other schools are doing with their Makerspaces and it was an honor to present what we do here at King David. We all left feeling enriched, inspired and completely ready to use our knowledge that we gained and bring it back to our schools to continue to take Maker Culture to the next level."

Jodene Pereira

At ORT SA Cape in Cape Town, more than 1,500 teachers were trained in 2019, and more than 46,500 children were reached by the organization through programs including robotics and coding classes which develop 21st century skills.



Bringing ORT together

The 2019 Board of Representatives meeting held at ORT House in London in May was one of the highlights of the year, with delegates attending from countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and North and Latin America.

Sessions ranged from expert presentations on the importance of student mental health and wellbeing to demonstrations from ORT students and alumni, and procedural discussions about the organization's work.

The Board of Representatives meeting featured a gala dinner honoring Sir Maurice & Lady Irene Hatter. Sir Maurice was president of the organization for four years from 2004 – but his influence has spread over decades of dedication and the couple are renowned across ORT's global network for their efforts.



On the run in London

In April, Imharan Yosef led Team ORT's London Marathon performance with an astonishing 2hr 29min finish, placing him 69th out of the 42,000 amateur runners. The ORT runners were taking part to raise funds for the global education network's Kfar Silver Youth Village, near Ashkelon, with the intention of raising funds to restructure the athletics program. Avi Ganon finished in 4:31:36. A semi-seasoned marathon runner, he said running the streets of London had been "the experience of a lifetime".

Alumni Network marks past, present and future

Over the past 140 years, hundreds of thousands of people have graduated from ORT institutions and courses. We believe our strong alumni community has great potential to help establish new connections and networks for ORT graduates, as well as to actively promote ORT's values and mission throughout their professional and social networks.

In 2020 our goal is to reach out to ORT graduates and expand the ORT Alumni Network. It is two years since the establishment of our alumni community online and the platform – ortalumni.org – encourages students and supporters of ORT to connect and engage with each other. The platform provides access to an exclusive ORT alumni database and opportunities for mentoring and professional development, job searches, networking and events.

Our next target in what is hoped will be a breakthrough year for the ORT Alumni Network is to host alumni-to-alumni webinars and workshops and to increase engagement throughout our international network.

We are looking for global alumni ambassadors to engage with their local schools and communities, as well as to contribute to developing content for the online community. Contact shoshana.kandel@ort.org





Praise for ORT's work

World-leading inspirational speaker, executive coach and leadership expert René Carayol MBE was among those to highlight the importance of ORT's work during the past year.

Preparing for ORT's Future Leadership program, on which he will present a series of podcasts, Mr Carayol said: "I've known ORT for some time now and it's been a real privilege. What's special about it is that it goes beyond everything you could ever imagine – it's beyond age, it's beyond gender, it's beyond faith, it's beyond race. It brings an eclectic group of people together and gives them something really special."



Ambassador Danny Danon, Israel's permanent representative to the United Nations, also spoke about his experience of working with ORT.

He said: "ORT is bringing Jewish education and STEM education – you are closing the gap. When I bring ambassadors to Israel they talk to me about agriculture, desalination, technology. That's why what you're doing in ORT worldwide is so important – we need the future engineers. Israel is a start-up nation but will not remain so without preparing the next generation.

"You are very involved through Kadima Mada in great projects in Israel. Today with innovation and technology Israel can support many developing countries. You are supporting STEM projects all around the world and in Israel. Thank you for your involvement – you are making a real difference."

He hailed ORT for "making a real difference" as a leading STEM education organization and compared it to Israel's reputation as a start-up nation.

Ambassador Danon was speaking at a major donors' reception in New York in October.



Looking forward to 140 years of transforming lives

For 140 years, ORT has been at the heart of education in the Jewish world, transforming lives through training and teaching. We will continue to keep the heart beating in order to strengthen people and communities worldwide.

We are planning to spread this message in 2020 and hope to inspire a new generation of supporters and donors. We will energize the network's sense of belonging and lay the foundations for another 140 years of transforming lives and providing opportunities for socio-economic mobility.



A new online resource

The launch of our new ORT website in the summer brought the organization's fresh branding to the site and included redesigning sections on our pillars, mission and vision and saw updates to the pages which review our global work.

Welcome to ORT!

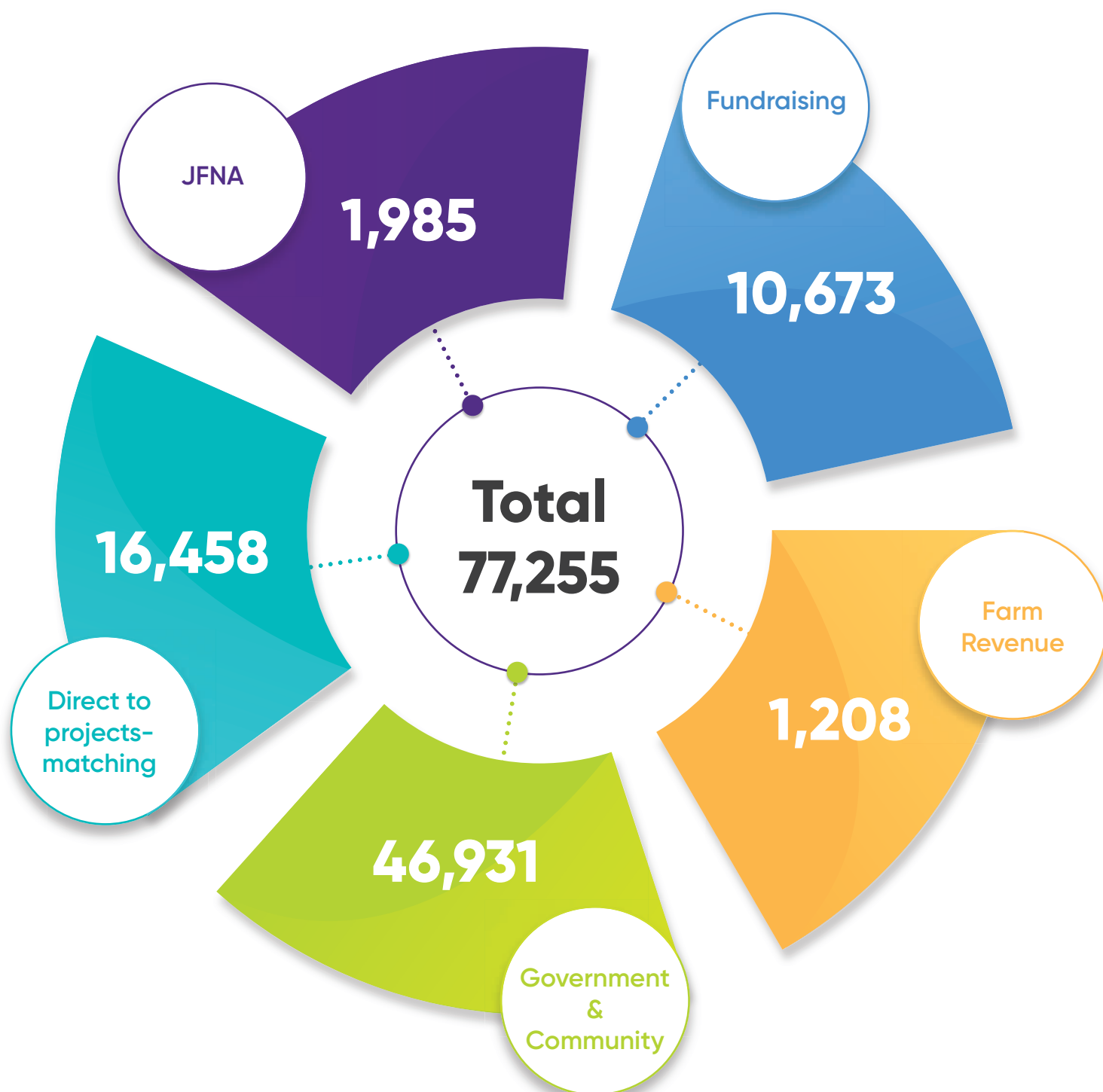
Among the new arrivals to the network this year were Aviezer Segal, new CEO of World ORT Kadima Mada in Israel; Barbara Birch, new CEO of ORT America; and Valerie Abitbol as Executive Director of ORT Montreal in Canada.

OUR YEAR IN PHOTOS



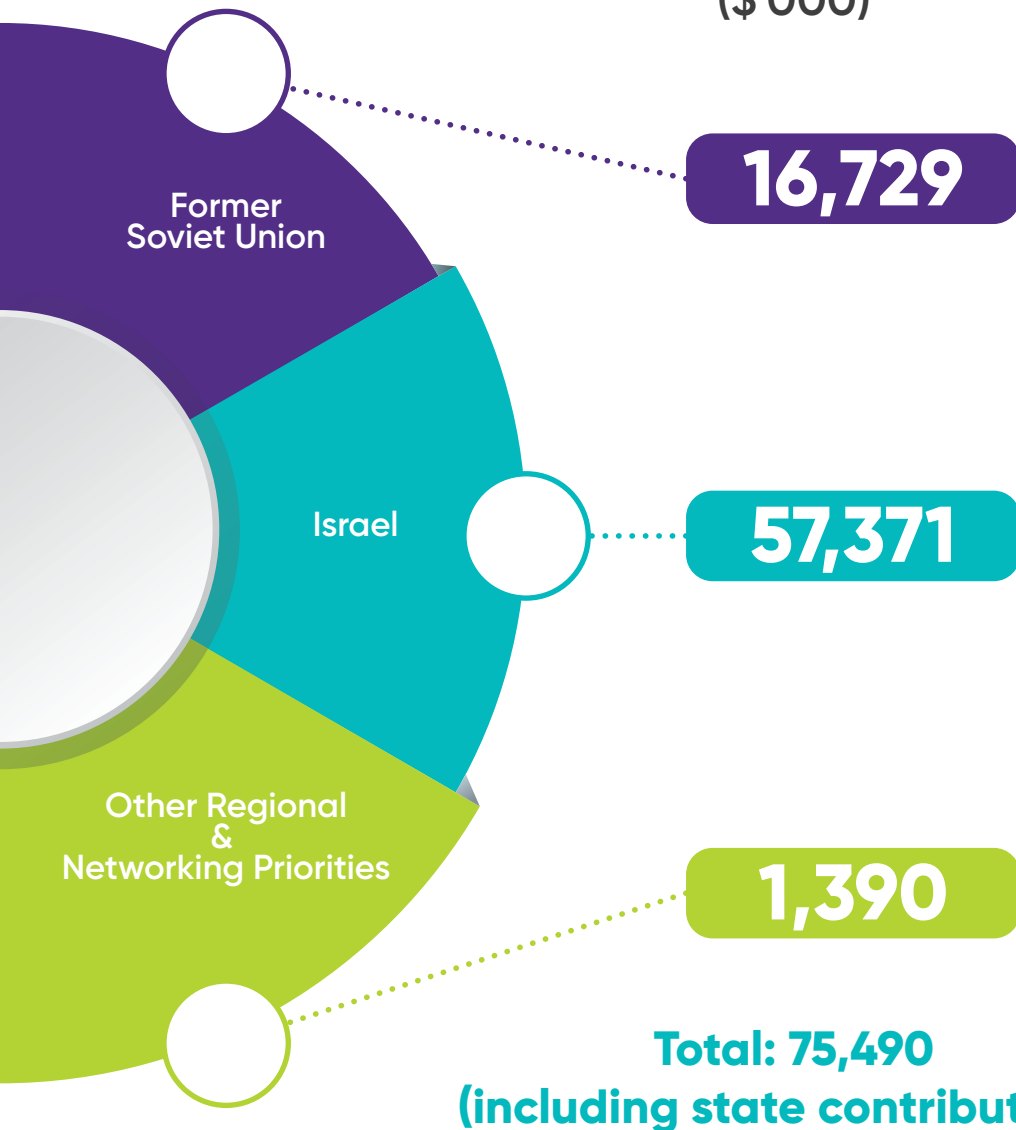


Revenue Analysis
(\$'000)

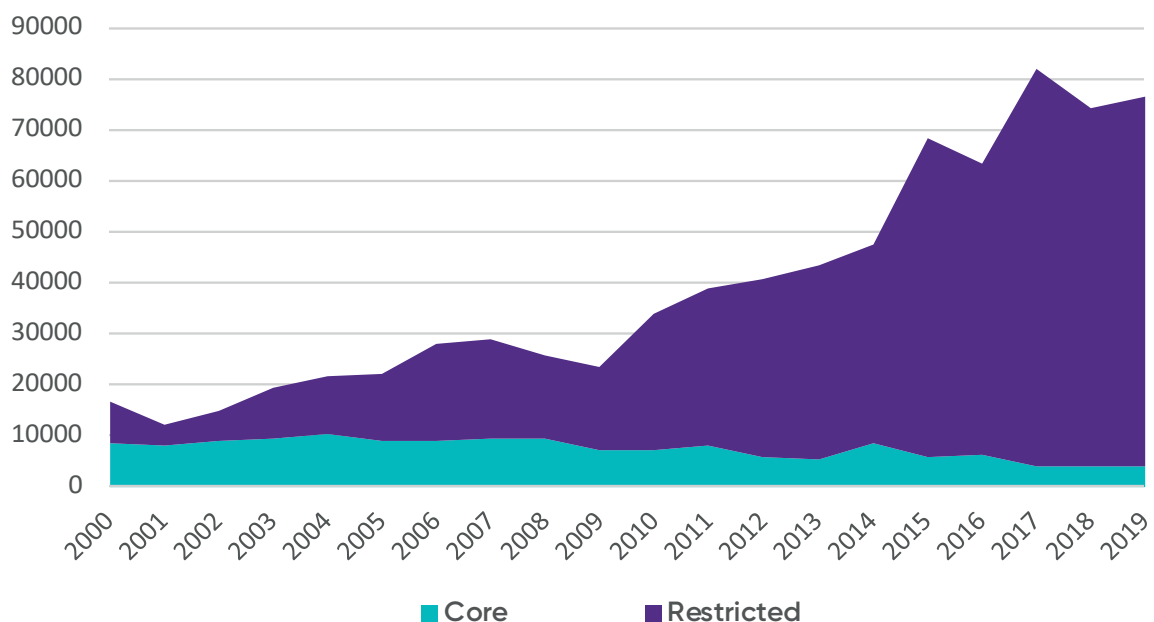


Delivery Costs = 0.2% of expenditure
Overheads (excluding property) = 4.8% of expenditure

Regional and Networking Priorities (\$'000)



Core and Restricted Fundraising



The background is a solid teal color. A large, semi-transparent purple circle is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the teal background and the text.

**Thank you to our
friends, donors, the
Jewish Federations of
North America and our
1880 Society members
who have supported
us in 2019**

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ORT Impact
Through
Education

