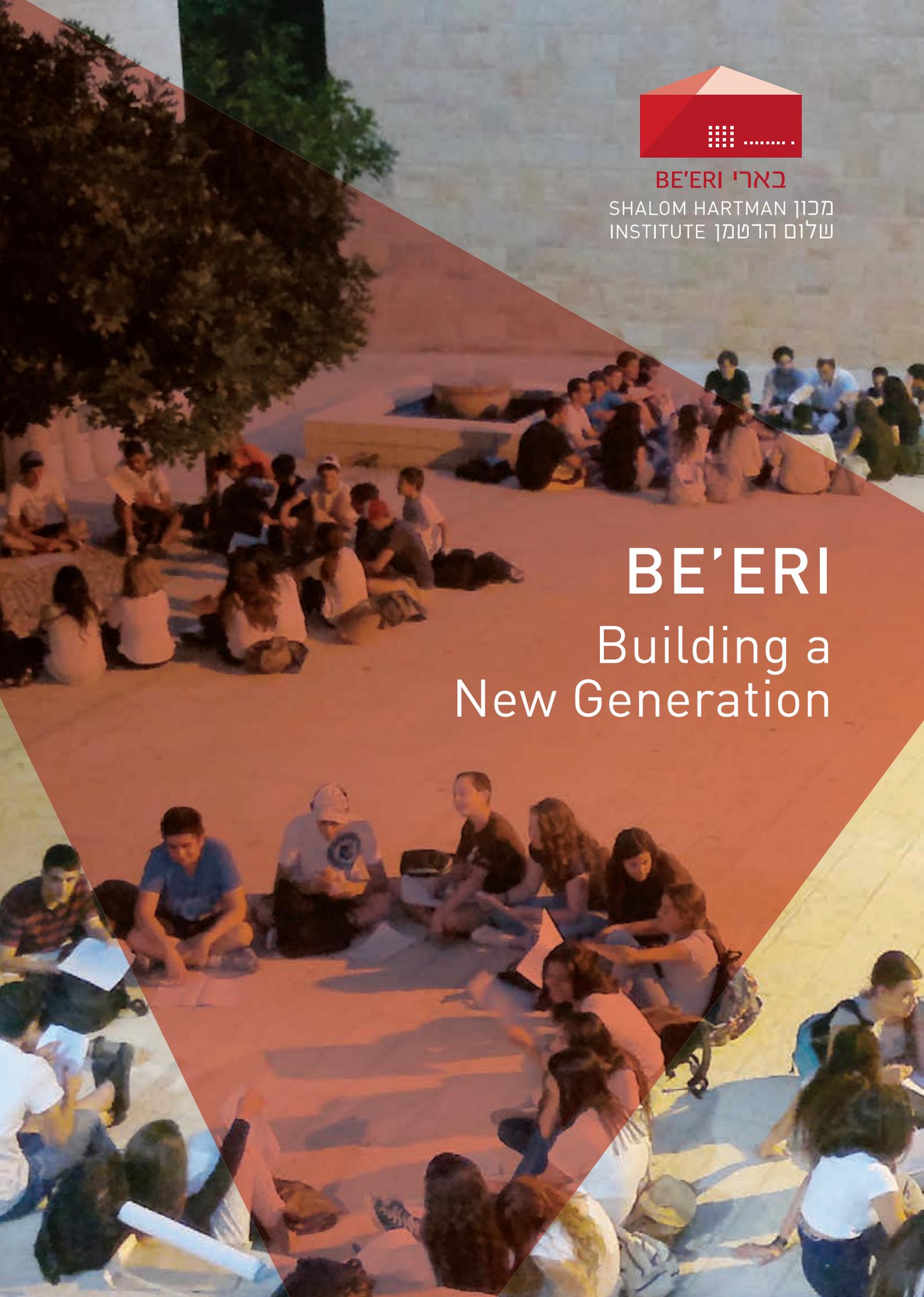




בארי BE'ERI
מכון שאלום הרטמן
SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE

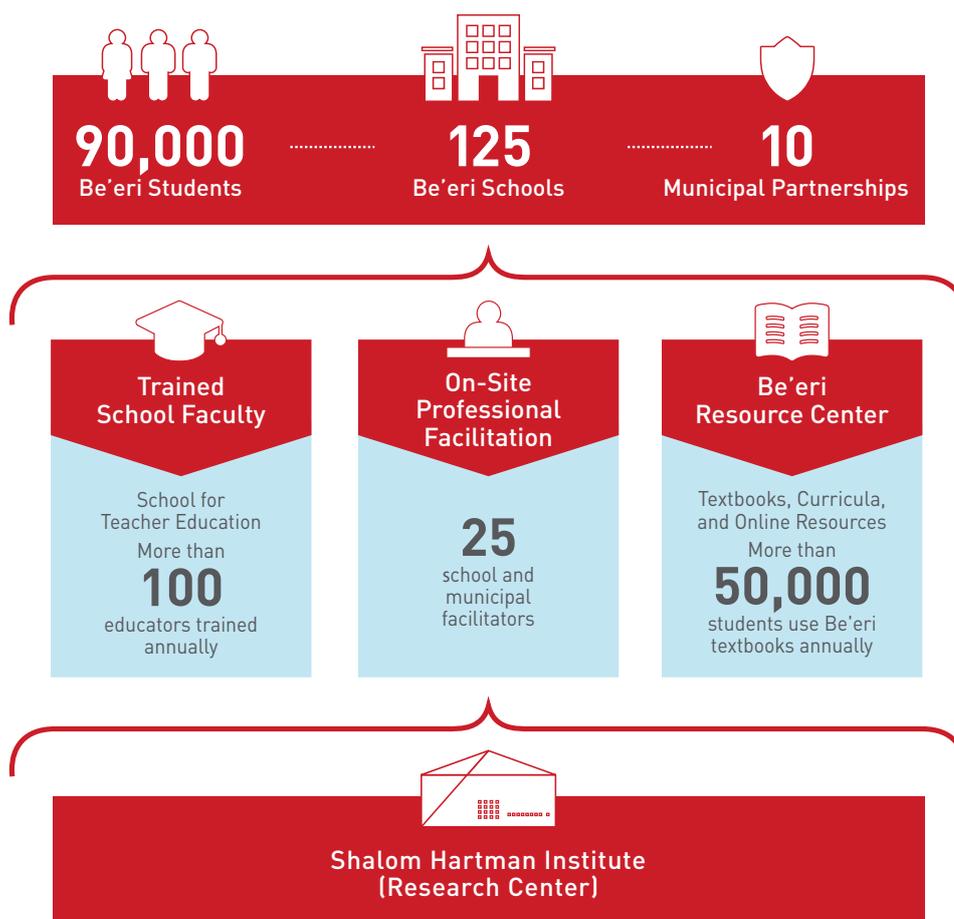
BE'ERI

Building a New Generation



The Be'eri Ecosystem

Be'eri influences students and teachers through a holistic combination of components:



On the Horizon

The quality of Be'eri's training, resources, and programming, combined with the wide reach of the program, has earned the program recognition and a leading reputation among national and municipal decision-makers. Be'eri's strength and presence have brought the program to a tipping point from which Be'eri is now ready to use its strong base and influential voice to push *Tarbut Yisrael* to the next level. This includes accelerated training for formal and informal educators, expanded student leadership training, and the establishment of new national and municipal partnerships to influence government and community change agents.

New initiatives include:

- **Be'eri-Israel Scouts Partnership Program for Jewish-Israeli Identity**
This program is the result of a significant decision by the leadership of the Scouts movement to develop a new educational program that places Jewish-Israeli identity as one of its main pillars. The partnership creates programmatic initiatives focusing on Jewish pluralism, Jewish-democratic values, social action, and leadership training that will empower Israeli youth to translate Jewish values into action. The program moves the pluralistic Be'eri text-based approach to Judaism beyond the classroom, imbuing participants with a greatly enhanced sense of mission and an understanding that they are an integral part of a nation, heritage, culture, and purpose.
- **Min HaBe'erot Initiative for Jewish-Arab Coexistence Education**
Min HaBe'erot promotes coexistence in Israel by bringing together Jewish and Arab educators in northern Israel to study traditional Muslim, Christian, and Jewish texts and to address issues related to their shared background as citizens of the State of Israel. This joint study strengthens personal identity, social and moral values, and mutual respect. Through the program, Be'eri will work with the entire educational faculty in partner schools, as well as directly with students, to transform coexistence education into a meaningful part of the curriculum and the school culture, leading to a joint commitment to create a unified citizenship in Israel.

Forming a Pluralistic Jewish-Israeli Identity

The Be'eri Program for Jewish-Israeli Identity Education trains educators, creates innovative curricula, and partners with local and national change agents to provide a pluralistic, content-filled approach to *Tarbut Yisrael* (Jewish heritage studies) that resonates with students in secular Israeli high schools. Be'eri transforms the way countless Israeli students, teachers, and government and community leaders lay claim to their Jewish-Israeli identity.

The mission of the Be'eri Program is to:

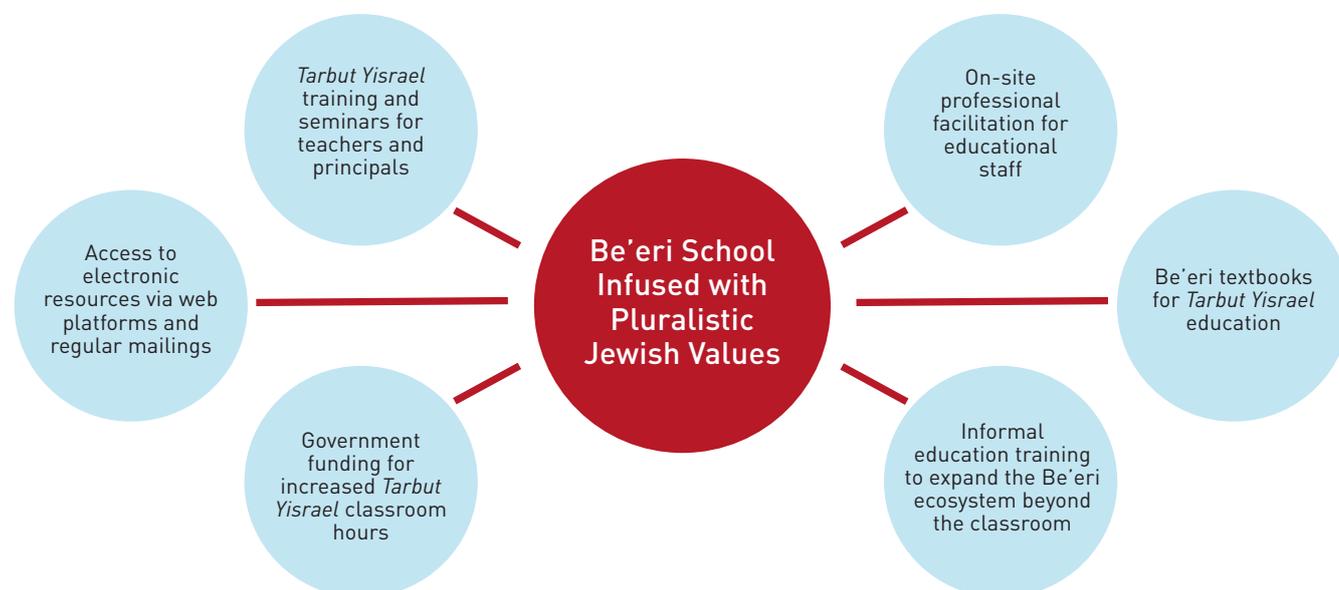
- **Expand the breadth and depth of pluralistic Jewish-Israeli identity education** among Israeli youth attending secular public high schools.
- **Introduce Israelis to a multifaceted approach** to Judaism that is meaningful and relevant to their daily lives, enabling them to form a positive Jewish-Israeli identity.
- **Present Jewish-Israeli culture** in a manner that can help Israelis who are not religiously observant to form a pluralistic worldview that will enable them to deal with the challenges of living in a diverse Jewish-Israeli democracy.
- **Continually develop innovative formal and informal educational methodologies** that encourage educators, students, and parents to create a new school culture and take Jewish values-based social action.



“This was the first time in my life that I was exposed to this way of thinking and these types of ideas....I always thought that there were only three ways to express Jewish identity: to be a secular atheist, to believe in God but not observe the commandments, or to be Orthodox. Through the Be'eri program I encountered something new.”

— Adi, High School Student, Tel Aviv

The Be'eri resource center provides comprehensive support for Israeli high schools:

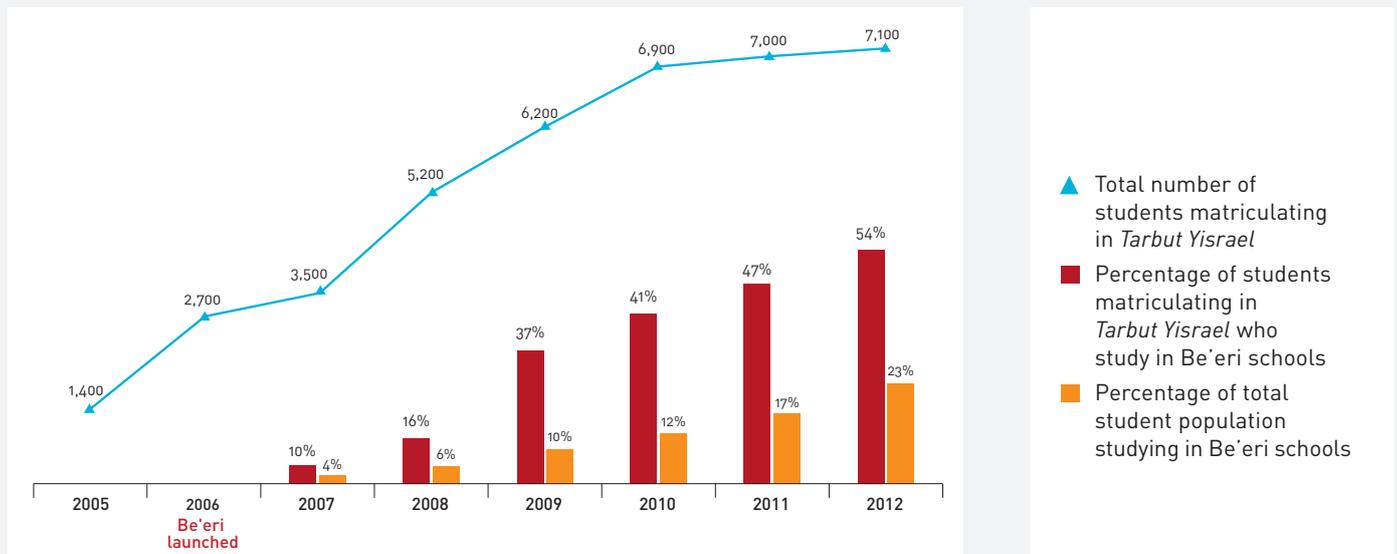


Transforming the Israeli Educational Landscape

The Be'eri program has been central in strengthening *Tarbut Yisrael* in the secular Israeli educational system. Prior to Be'eri, Jewish-Israeli identity education in secular high schools was minimal. Since its inception, Be'eri has grown to become the largest and most influential Jewish-Israeli identity education program in Israel.

Since 2011, *Tarbut Yisrael* has been a formally recognized discipline in Israeli middle and high schools and a compulsory subject for all students in grades 7-8. To meet the need for curricula on this new subject, Be'eri has developed Ministry of Education-approved *Tarbut Yisrael* syllabi and textbooks for students in grades 7-12.

Be'eri Impact on Jewish-Israeli Identity of High School Students



- Since Be'eri's establishment in 2006, the number of students studying *Tarbut Yisrael* in grades 10-12 (in which the subject is not mandatory) has more than doubled among all public high school students.
- Most of the growth is derived from students in Be'eri schools: In 2012, 54% of students who studied *Tarbut Yisrael* in grades 10-12 attended Be'eri schools, though students studying in Be'eri schools made up only 23% of the overall Israeli public-school student body.

Be'eri Management Team



Dani Elazar, Vice President of the Shalom Hartman Institute and Director of Be'eri, joined the Shalom Hartman Institute in 2008. Prior to joining SHI, Dani served as the Executive Director of Yachad Modi'in. Dani formerly served as treasurer and finance director of Alvarion, a publicly traded NASDAQ entity. Dani holds a BA in Economics and Management from Bar-Ilan University and is a graduate of leadership programs at the Mandel School for Educational Leadership, the Maoz program, and the Gvanim program.



Ariel Picard, Educational Director of Be'eri, has a doctorate in philosophy from Bar-Ilan University and conducts research in contemporary Jewish law. He was ordained as a rabbi by the Israeli Chief Rabbinate. His most recent book, *Halakha in a New World: Rabbinic Discourse in Modern Society*, was published by the Shalom Hartman Institute in 2012.



Rani Jaeger, Director of the Be'eri School for Teacher Education, is pursuing his doctorate at Bar-Ilan University in the interdisciplinary program of Culture and Hermeneutics. Rani is one of the founders of Beit Tefilah Israeli, a secular synagogue in the heart of Tel Aviv. He spent a year at Paeideia, the European Institute of Jewish Studies in Stockholm, Sweden, where he was scholar in residence.

Be'eri School for Teacher Education

Be'eri responds to the growing need for trained *Tarbut Yisrael* teachers through its School for Teacher Education, the largest and most intensive *Tarbut Yisrael* teacher training program in Israel. Based in Jerusalem, with regional branches in Be'er Sheva and Karmiel, the school annually trains more than 100 classroom teachers, informal educators, and school principals from across Israel in intensive Ministry of Education-certified programs. Hundreds of additional educators are trained through shorter seminars and unique programs.

The school aims to:

- Impart in-depth *Tarbut Yisrael* knowledge to educators through disciplinary and interdisciplinary methodologies.
- Develop a pluralistic and democratic Jewish-Israeli identity discourse among *Tarbut Yisrael* educators.
- Provide pedagogic tools for *Tarbut Yisrael* instruction.
- Inspire teaching faculties in schools to promote educational agendas that focus on Jewish identity education.

“Studying at the Be'eri School for Teacher Education really affected me on a personal level. Studying at Hartman gave me something that was previously missing in my relationship with Judaism and tradition.”

— Sigal, Participant, Be'eri School for Teacher Education



National and Municipal Partnerships

Be'eri partners with a range of influential government and private agencies that together with schools play a significant role in educating Israeli youth. These partnerships ensure that Jewish-Israeli identity is reinforced through daily life beyond the classroom.

“We have benefited from first-rate professional facilitation, attention to the unique needs of the city, educational leadership, and great creativity in responding appropriately to the needs of our different institutions. I am pleased that this strategic partnership, aimed at advancing this crucial municipal and national priority, has come to be.”

— Hefzi Zohar, Deputy Mayor of Be'er Sheva

Be'eri partners with:

- **The Ministry of Education (MoE):** This joint venture positions Be'eri as a leading government partner for Jewish educational activities, including curriculum development, certification of Be'eri textbooks, certification of trained teachers, and seminars for MoE facilitators and superintendents. Be'eri leverages this partnership to strengthen *Tarbut Yisrael* education in schools throughout the country.
- **Municipal governments:** These partnerships support custom-designed formal and informal Jewish-Israeli identity education in schools and through citywide activities in a way that addresses a city's particular needs and demographic composition. Be'eri partners with ten municipalities.
- **Informal education organizations:** These partnerships promote the penetration of a pluralistic approach to Jewish identity beyond the confines of the classroom, empowering Israeli youth to translate values into action.

About the Shalom Hartman Institute

The Shalom Hartman Institute is a pluralistic center of research and education deepening and elevating the quality of Jewish life in Israel and North America. Through our work, we are redefining the conversation about Judaism in modernity, religious pluralism, Israeli democracy, Israel and world Jewry, and the relationship with other faith communities.

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