



# Water Sustainability Program Distinguished Speaker Series

*In conjunction with*

The Sally & Ralph Duchin Campus Lecture Series  
of the Arizona Center for Judaic Studies



## Triumph or Tragedy? A Brief History of Water Management in Israel

**Speaker: Dr. Alon Tal**

Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology  
Jacob Blaustein Institutes of Desert Research  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

Wednesday, November 13, 2013 • 3:30 – 4:30 pm  
UA Center for Creative Photography Auditorium  
Refreshments outdoors 4:30 to 5:00 pm

During Israel's brief sixty year history, its idiosyncratic water policies have evolved, and can boast several impressive accomplishments: agriculture yields have increased 20-fold while fresh water utilization has actually dropped. Israel leads the world in recycling of sewage and produces desalinized water cheaper than any other country. But there are growing signs that question the sustainability of present strategies. This lecture will consider where Israel's water management has been, where it needs to go and what it means for dryland states like Arizona.

**Bio:** Dr. Tal has been described as Israel's leading environmentalist. His research interests have focused on water sciences, desertification, and its environmental impact on human activities and his career has been a balance between academia and public interest advocacy. From 2010 until 2013 he was co-chairman of Israel's green party - "the Green Movement". He is presently a visiting professor in the Center for Conservation Biology at Stanford University where he is completing a book on Israeli demographic policy.



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