# Israeli Technology Advances Key Agricultural Techniques

Because Israel is 60 percent desert, its farmers and agricultural scientists have long focused on expanding both the yield and quality of crops, as well as making agriculture more efficient overall. The world's first surface drip irrigation system was developed in the 1960s at Kibbutz Hatzerim near Beersheba. Similarly, Israeli scientists have developed genetically modified, disease-resistant bananas, peppers and other crops that are expanding the world's food supply and helping to keep prices down around the globe.

# Women Play a Vital Role in Israeli Society

Unlike any other Middle Eastern countries, women are at the forefront of many aspects of Israeli society. Women have played an integral part in the founding and flourishing of the state. Regardless of religion or ethnicity, all women in Israel enjoy equal rights, protections under the law and opportunities to succeed and contribute to society. Women have long held important academic posts and leadership positions in government and served alongside their male counterparts in the defense of the state.

#### Israel Contributes to a Cleaner World

In an era of booming populations, shrinking resources and environmental degradation, Israel leads the world in such critical fields as solar power generation and seawater desalination. Israel's cutting edge technologies promise to improve the health and living standards of hundreds of millions across the globe, while making industry more efficient and minimizing the environmental impact of human activities.

### Israeli Doctors Develop Life-Saving Treatments and Drugs

Throughout Israel's history, Israeli doctors, scientists and researchers have produced countless medical advances. Whether achieved through independent research or joint projects with the United States, the medical discoveries made by the Jewish state are improving the lives of millions of Americans and others around the globe.

#### Israeli High-Tech Developments Used Around the World

Israel's high-tech civil innovations have left an important mark on homes, offices and businesses around the world. This includes the first internet phone software, online chatting

program, online streaming video, the Intel and Pentium M processors for laptops, and Amazon's e-reader Kindle technology.

# Israel Shares Expertise Globally

Israel has shared its expertise to improve the lives of millions of people worldwide. From the natural disasters that struck Japan and Haiti, to drought-stricken nations in Africa, Israel has sent experts abroad to help countries in need. Equipped with firsthand knowledge of the challenges that resource-poor countries face, Israel has strived to provide other countries with the assistance they need to develop and grow. Israel sent experts abroad to teach developing nations such skills as how to upgrade medical facilities, improve schools and coax crops from arid land. Today, Israel has one of the most extensive foreign assistance programs in the world for a nation of its size.