IBSAR, Nature Conservation Center for Sustainable Futures

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Introduction

Established in 2002, IBSAR is an interfaculty center with a mission to promote the conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity in arid and Mediterranean regions by providing an open academic platform for innovative research and development.

IBSAR’s objectives are to link biological, ecological, social, economic, and cultural disciplines to generate new knowledge and publish information that is useful to society and that provides it with direction and tools for effective nature conservation and use. It achieves these objectives by:

- Conducting basic and applied research.
- Fostering collaboration among different sectors.
- Guiding policy and legislation.
- Exploring and developing economic opportunities for the sustainable use of biodiversity.

Membership and Governance

ibsar consists of volunteers committed to collaborative learning and discovery. Membership includes AUB faculty and staff members and other scholars whose interests focus on Biodiversity and Nature related issues. ibsar is a platform for scholars at all stages in their careers and from all parts of the world to exchange ideas and information. ibsar members take part in Center seminars and activities as well as provide assistance to researchers and students. These individuals are categorized as Members, Associates, Assistants, Affiliates, Volunteers, Interns or Friends of ibsar.

The Center is managed by a director and three committees whose members are appointed by election. The mission and objectives of these committees have been designed to ensure diversity and synergism within the center:

The Advisory Board is responsible for giving advice on ibsar’s vision, projects, programs, and future directions. It is also responsible for promoting ibsar to the general community, and to public and private Institutions, as well as helping and facilitating fundraising.

- The executive committee is responsible for coordinating the work of the center and providing guidance to its committees. It is also in charge of fundraising.
- The research committee is responsible for the cultivation of research activities, and encourages those leading to patentable innovations.

In addition to coordinating with the appropriate University administrators and an International Advisory Board, ibsar works with the business community, with governments and NGOs at the national, regional, and international levels.