

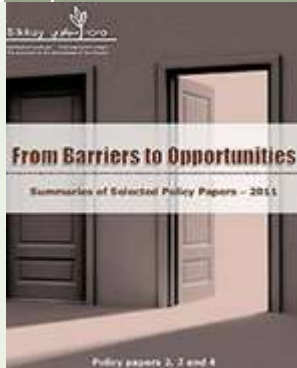


סיקוי סיקוי Sikkuy

May 24, 2012

העמותה לקידום שוויון אזרחי الجمعية لدعم المساواة المدنية
The Association for the Advancement of Civic Equality in Israel

Newsletter No. 2/12



Dear Sikkuy Friends and Supporters,

We are pleased to send you this link to the recently published English summaries of our policy papers, ["From Barriers to Opportunities - Summaries of Selected Policy Papers, 2011"](#), edited by Ron Gerlitz.

Dear Sikkuy Friends,

In this newsletter Ron Gerlitz and Ali Haider would like to share with you the newly published English language summaries of three path breaking Sikkuy policy papers. You can read about them on the right and access the summaries by clicking on the links.

In addition, I'd like to share with you three Op-Ed articles published recently in Haaretz by Ali, Ron and myself.

Ron deals with the increasingly vocal attempts to revoke the status of Arabic as one of Israel's official languages and suggests that Jewish philanthropy should take sides in this struggle in [Jewish donors can influence](#)

These are summaries of the detailed policy papers and recommendations we published in 2011:

- * The Allocation of the Welfare Ministry's Budget and Social Worker Positions to Social Services Departments in the Arab Local Authorities**
- * Land Registration in the Arab Society in Israel**
- * The Marketing of State-Owned Land for Development and Construction in Arab Communities**

Sikkuy plays a prominent role in the struggle for equality between Israel's Arab and Jewish citizens. To this end we have developed the innovative model ["From Barriers to Opportunities"](#) to identify barriers to equality and recommend practical steps to achieve equality.

Since the model was published in August 2010, Sikkuy has implemented it successfully in fields in which we have a significant ability to influence government policy and in which there is marked inequality between Jews and Arabs.

The first paper deals with the Welfare Ministry's budget and the portion of it allocated for social services in the local authorities. For a long time, Sikkuy has warned of severe inequality in the allocation of Welfare Ministry budgets to Arab communities. But until now, we have not been able to examine the unequal allocations, and more important, the precise factors that cause it. Using detailed data given to us by the Welfare Ministry and

[Israel's war on Arabic.](#)

Ali calls attention to the crisis in residential housing for Arab citizens caused mostly by successive governments of Israel's failure to allocate planning and infrastructure resources for the Arab citizens

[Housing for Arabs too.](#)

And finally, I took a look at the almost total exclusion of Arab citizens from the very vibrant discourse of public conferences in Israel [It's time to make Israel's Arabs visible.](#)

Sikkuy sees its efforts in the arena of public opinion as a vital contribution to our ongoing efforts to achieve equality between the Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel.

I hope you'll have time to read them too and comment.

Sincerely,

Carl Perkal
Director of Resource
Development
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the barriers mapping model, we have identified, for the first time, the factors that prevent the equal allocation of social worker positions and welfare budgets to Arab communities.

The second and third papers, which deal with the subject of land, map the barriers and the factors that delay or prevent the registration of ownership of privately owned land in Arab communities and the barriers that delay or prevent the marketing of public land for housing in Arab communities.

The three policy papers expose the deep causes of the unequal policy in these fields. This is an unprecedented achievement in the study of government policy toward the Arab citizens.

These policy papers do more than merely describe and analyze the situation.

They also include detailed, practical policy recommendations for equal allocations. We have called upon the relevant government ministries, together with other governmental agencies, to take the required measures immediately to allocate state resources equitably. We also call upon the heads of the Arab local authorities to take steps to remove the barriers that we found in their areas of responsibility.

The papers were presented at the Sikkuy conference in Haifa in September 2011 attended by directors-general of government ministries and the senior leadership of the Arab citizens in Israel.

We would like to thank Sikkuy's staff members and consultants who devoted their professional skills to developing the model and advancing its implementation: Maha Abu-Saleh, Michal Belikoff, Hagit Naali-Joseph, Ruth Sar Shalom and Ruth Weinschenk-Vennor.

This is also an opportunity for us to warmly thank the funders and supporters whose generous assistance made possible the publication of the policy papers, this summary and our work to implement its recommendations: The European Union, the German Federal Foreign Office, Mori and Doris Arkin, Bob and Doris Gordon, The Moriah Fund, The Alan B. Slifka Foundation and UJA Federation of New York.

We hope you'll find the time to read the summaries, and of course, we look forward to receiving your comments and questions.

If you'd like to receive a hard copy of the policy papers, please write to Carl Perkal at carl@sikkuy.org.il.

Sincerely,

Ron Gerlitz and Ali Haider, Adv.
Co-Executive Directors

<http://www.sikkuy.org.il/>

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