

Naama Sadan, PhD

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EDUCATION

2019-2024 PhD, Geography Department and The Advanced School of Environmental Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Dissertation: The Role of Local Education Offices in Advancing Environmental Education in Schools: A Micro-Institutional Approach
Supervisors: Prof. Eran Feitelson -The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Prof. Oren Pizmony-Levy - Columbia University, NY

2018 M.A. Thesis: Department of Geography and the Advanced School of Environmental Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Advisor: Prof. Eran Feitelson *cum Laude*

2012 M.teach, curriculum planning, Oranim College of Education *Summa Cum Laude*

2009 B.A. in Psychology and Geography, The Hebrew University, *Magna Cum Laude*

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

2025-2027 Postdoctoral Researcher, Graduate School of Education,
Affiliate, Ardoin Social Ecology Lab, Stanford

SHORT ACADEMIC CERTIFICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

2019 Compassionate Systems Thinking Framework for Educators Certification Program,
MIT, MA

2020-2022 Visiting Student Researcher, Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies,
University of California, Berkeley

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Policy Implementation
- Environmental and Sustainability Education
- Institutional Change
- Ritual
- Social Network Analysis

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

In Review Ecorituals: A Comparative Study, Templeton Foundation Grants
(Postdoctoral Scholar, Co-Lead Author)

2021-2024 The Hebrew University Presidential Scholarship, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2020-2024 Amiran Fellowship for Outstanding Research Students, Ph.D. award, Geography Department, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2021-2023 The Hebrew University Data Science Scholarship, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2021-2023 The Walter H. Annenberg American Studies Program scholarship, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2021-2022 The Havruta program scholarship for leading research groups, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2020 The Advanced School of Environmental Studies Excellence Scholarship, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

2019 NAAEE William B. Stapp Scholarship for potential future leaders in the field of environmental education, NAAEE, USA.

2019 The Jerusalem Botanical garden prize for innovation in sustainability education (with Naama Grosman-Kuba).

2017-2019 The Israel Ministry of Education Grant for Learning Teachers.

2017-2018 The Jerusalem Municipality Grant for Policy Research in Service of the Community.

2015-2018 The Ministry of Education Grant for Initiatives in Education for Creating and Leading a New Curriculum of Education for Sustainability at the Hebrew University High School

2013 The Ministry of Education Prize for First-Year Teachers

2009-2010 Dean's Choice list: the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Sadan, N. (2024). Overcoming organizational fragmentation in environmental education—the networking role of local education offices. *Environmental Education Research*, 1-22.

Sadan, N. (2023). Examining Local (E)Quality of Environmental Education Services to Schools Using Social Network Analysis. *Proceedings of the 2023 AERA Annual Meeting*.

סדן, נ., אלקהר, א., (2022) יזמי מדיניות בשדה: כיצד משנות תאוריות המדיניות החדשנות את הבנת שדה החינוך הסביבתי, אקולוגיה וסביבה.

Sadan, N., & Alkaher, I. (2021). Development and formation of ESE policy: learning from teachers and local authorities. *Environmental Education Research*, 27(2), 192-216.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Sadan, N., & Feitelson, E. (in press). Environmental education in schools and universities: Awareness building and interdisciplinary training. In P. K. Sikdar & S. Mukherjee (Eds.), *Navigating sustainability: Strategies and solutions for businesses in emerging and developing nations*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN REVISION

Sadan, N. "Local Centralization and Network Governance: Exploring the Impact of Network-Form Transition on Capacity Building in Schools"

MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW

Sadan, N., and Reid, A. "Reconnecting Non-Secular Ideas and Environmental Education"

Sadan, N., Mayse, A., Ferguson Irlanda, C., Ardoine, N. M., Lavole, O. "It's Not (Just) About Content: Reimagining Academic Conferences for Relational Sustainability Research"

Rein, Y., Falco, F., **Sadan, N.** "Local Socio-Ecological Initiatives; A Conceptual Model"

Sadan, N. "Teachers as Institutional Entrepreneurs: Teacher Training, Social Capital, and Advancing Environmental Education at Schools"

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Sadan, N., Mayse, A., Pikhala, P. "Ecorituals - What They are and Why they Matter." In prep for Ecosystems and People.

Sadan, N., Mayse, A., Berry, E., Zukerman, D., Mylus, B., Budette, J. "A Fourth Frame: Applying the Humanities to Environmental Management." In Prep for Ambio.

Torres, R., **Sadan, N.**, Mayse, A., Ardoin, M. N., Fukami, T., Dirzo, R. "Indigenous Peoples and Reconnecting to Place; Design Principles for Educational Programs." In prep for the Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences.

Ferguson Irlanda, C., O'Connor, R., Basaraba, A., Naggea, J., Green, K., Wirth, C., Hing, C., Toledo, C., Lobo, R., Poulos, M., Guillot-Wright, S., Urteaga, J., Mayse, A., Obinegbo, O., Berkowitz, D., Lukacs, H., Lu, F., Luccioni, M., Caddell, S., Gawde, P., Gould, R., Bell, A., **Sadan, N.**, Zheng, C., Pacheco, P., Gómez-Andújar, N., Mylius, B., Parker, Q., Xu, J., Torres, R., Burrow, P., Meyer, A., Closek, C., Colburn, L., Singeo, A., LaBeaud, D., Forsyth, J., Basurto, X., Franz, N., Ardoin, N. "Opportunities for institutions to lead transformative change in support of equitable community research partnerships in sustainability. In Prep for Nature Sustainability.

Bowers, A., Wyman, N., Wheaton, M., **Sadan, N.**, Ferguson Irlanda, C., Ardoin, N. M. "Fostering Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Faculty Experiences Integrating Social Sciences in Sustainability Programs." In prep for Sustainability Science.

Yeghonian, A., **Sadan, N.** "Ecoliteracy Evaluation at the Local Level; A Voluntary Sustainability Standards Framework". In prep for Environmental Education Research.

POLICY AND TECHNICAL REPORTS

Sadan, N. [Environmental Solutionary Teachers Fellowship, Program Evaluation Report 2015-2022](#), San Mateo County Office of Education, CA, 2022

Amy Frame, Katie Beck, Lori Kiesser, Naama Sadan, and Andra Yehogian. [Environmental Literacy County Office of Education Leadership Case Studies](#). San Francisco: California Environmental Literacy Initiative, 2022.

Yeghonian, A., & Sadan, N. [Environmental Literacy and Sustainability Initiative \(ELSI\) Annual Report](#), San Mateo County Office of Education, CA, 2021.

Sadan N., (12/2019) Israel's Environmental Education Profile, in: GEEP- *Global Environmental Education Partnership index* - <https://thegeep.org>

PUBLIC FACING PUBLICATIONS

Sadan, N., (2025) *Leadership Through Retreat: A New Perspective on the Book of Esther*, [The Lerhaus](#).

Sadan, N., (2024) *The King Mother Bekol Libenu; The Call of Our Hearts, High Holidays Machzor Companion, Sviva*

Sadan, N., (2024) *Asseret Yimei Teshuva Bekol Libenu; The Call of Our Hearts, High Holidays Machzor Companion, Sviva*

Sadan, N., and Kapnik-Ashar, H., (2023) *“Spirituality as an Experience of Opening: A Jewish Feminine Orientation to Spirituality,”* [Sources](#).

Sadan, N., (2023) *“Pedagogy Of The Word: Jewish Writing Practice For Increased Wellbeing”*, [M2 website](#).

הרשמי-סמט, הויה וצד, נמה (2023) [פנים בפנים: מקווי לירושלים](#), צירופים חדשים" גליון מבית ישיבת

שי"ח יצחק

LEADING AND ORGANIZING ACADEMIC RESEARCH

2025-2027 Leading team: “Reframing Conservation: Cultural, Artistic, and Spiritual Approaches to Sustaining Biodiversity.” A Stanford-funded global studies research workshop focused on innovative approaches to biodiversity conservation.

2023-Present Co-Chair “Religion, Ecology and Environmental Ethics: A Case Study for the Applied Humanities,” Leading a research project funded by a seed grant from the Stanford Changing Human Experience Initiative.

2021-2023 Team leader data-science discovery project: “Equity in Environmental Education – Network Analysis”. Data Science [Discovery Project](#) is a matching program for real-world data research and data science undergraduate students at the University of California, Berkeley

2021-2022 Co-Chair, Conference on Environmental Conflict and Cooperation ([CECC](#)), University of California, Berkeley.

2020-2024 Led Prof. Eran Feitelson’s doctoral students’ environmental policy research group.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

Sadan, N. “The Eco-Rituals Library Project.” October, 2025 (accepted) National Sustainability Society, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Sadan, N. “Harnessing the Power of Rituals for Environmental Education.” October, 2025 (accepted) National Sustainability Society, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Sadan, N. “Bridging the Gap: Fostering Collaboration Between Non-Formal Environmental Educators and Schools for Eco-Literacy.” October, 2025 (accepted) National Sustainability Society, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Allison, E., Baugh, A., Berry, E., Chapple, C., Dowler, C., Mayse, A., Schnytzer, J., **Sadan, N.**, “Religion, Ecology and Environmental Ethics: A case Study for the Applied Humanities.” ISSRNC, June, 2025, Santa Barbara.

Sadan, N. "Enabling Change in EE: Training Teachers as Entrepreneurs", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 53rd annual Conference, November, 2024, Pittsburg.

Sadan, N. "The Potential of Religious and Spiritual Education for Environmental Change", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 21st annual Research Symposium, November, 2024, Pittsburg.

Mayse, A., Tirosh-Samuelson, H., **Sadan, N.**, Watts Belser, J., Schnytzer, J., Arnstein, M., "Just Religion?: New Perspectives on Jewish Studies, Environmental Ethics, and Ecology", American Jewish Studies (AJS) 55th annual conference, December, 2023, San Francisco.

Sadan, N., Mayse, A., "Religiously and Culturally Rooted Environmental Education", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 52nd annual Conference, October 2023, (online).

Sadan, N. "Examining Local (E)Quality of Environmental Education Services to Schools Using Social Network Analysis", American Educational Research Association (AERA), May 2023, (online).

Pizmony-Levy, O., Copeland, T., McDermott, M., Verschueren, C., **Sadan, N.** "Improving Environmental and Sustainability Education: Research, Practice, and Partnerships", Comparative International Education Society (CIES), February 2023, Washington DC.

Sadan N., and Kodryb D. "Dynamic Conceptualizations of Change: Euro-American, Case-Based Perspectives", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 19th annual research symposium, October, 2022 (online).

Sadan, N. and Yeghoian, A. "When "formals" and "non-formals" collaborate for a change- a network model", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 51st annual Conference, October 2022, (online).

Sadan N, Mayse A., Rock, B., "Reclaiming western spiritual traditions to advance youth environmental leadership", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 51st annual Conference, October 2022, (online).

Sadan N., Falco F., Rein Y & Schechnick M. "Can we talk to each other? the case of local environmental initiatives", 2nd Conference on Environmental Conflict and Cooperation (CECC), June 2022, Berkeley, CA.

Sadan, N., "Environmental education as an institutional change", ReGenEd research group for Doctoral students in the field of Environmental Education, University of Waikato, December, 2021, (online).

Sadan. N., Gibson. L., Pizmony-Levy. O., Gan. D., Busch. K. C., "Network Theory: Methodologies That Focus on Connections", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 18th annual research symposium, October, 2021, Online.

Sadan. N., Mayse. A., "We Need Better Theory: It's Time to Talk About Religion", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 18th annual research symposium, October, 2021, Online.

Sadan. N. "Conceptualizing Environmental Education as Institutional Change", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 18th annual research symposium, October, 2021, Online.

Frame. A., Yehgoian. A., Sadan. N., "Leadership Case Studies: County Offices of Education's Early Environmental Literacy Coordinators", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 50th annual Conference, October, 2021, Online.

Mayse. A., **Sadan. N.**, "Reconnecting to Place: Religion, Indigeneity, and Land ethics", North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 50th annual Conference, October, 2021, Online.

Sadan. N., Yehgoian. A., "If We Serve the Underserved, Who Don't We Serve?" North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE) 50th annual Conference, October, 2021, Online.

סדן, נ., אלקהר, א., פיטלסון, ע. "ישום חינוך לקיימות מנוקדת המבט של יוזמי מדיניות בשדה: העיר ירושלים במחקר מקרה", בנס האגודה הישראלית לאקולוגיה וסביבה, يول', 2021.

Sadan. N., Alkehbar, I. "Those who take responsibility make the rules", ESE initiatives and the actors who lead them, Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) conference, Seattle, April, 2021.

Sadan. N. "Shaping our "Obligation" - The Case of Local Governments", 49th annual Conference, North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE), October, 2020, Online.

Sadan. N. "Iceberg Models, Systems thinking and Implementing models for change in local government". California Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (AEOE) Conference, May, 2020, Online.

Sadan N. "Environmental and sustainability education as an "institutional work"." The HSSA Workshop on "New Challenge and Opportunities in Education Research, Practice, and Policy". The University of California, Berkeley, March, 2020, Online

Sadan, N. "Education for Sustainability in the Holy City- Jerusalem." 16th annual Research Symposium NAAEE- North American Association of Environmental Education, October, 2019, Lexington, KY

Hartley J. M., Armstrong A. K., Bowers N., Hecht M., Hunter R. Jackson, S., Lawson D. A, **Sadan N.** "Professional Development Workshop for Graduate Students or Early Career." 16th annual Research Symposium NAAEE- North American Association of Environmental Education, October, 2021, Lexington, KY

INVITED LECTURES

"EcoRituals- What They Are and Why They Matter"? (2025) **Ben Gurion University** Environmental Humanities Seminar, Invited by Prof. Itay Marinberg.

"Environmental Education Local Organizational Fields" (2025) **The Center for Sustainable Futures, Columbia University**. Invited by Prof. Oren Pizmony-Levy.

"Jewish Feminine Mysticism and Ecology" (2024) as part of the: Spiritual Ecologies: A Day of Reflection on Theology, Contemplation, Education and Activism, **The institute of Jewish Spirituality and Society**. Invited by Prof. Ariel Evan Mayse.

"Environmental Education and Religious Education in Israel and in the USA" (2021), religion and environment seminar, **University of California, Davis**, Invited by Dr. Yael Teff-Seker.

"Street Level Policy Entrepreneurs in Environmental Education" (2021), **the Technion** environmental education academic group, Invited by Prof. Tali Tal (With Dr. Iris Alkaher) "Ecology and Religion in institutions in Israel" (2020), Religion, Ecology and Environmental Ethics seminar at **Stanford University**, invited by Prof. Ariel Evan Mayse.

"Connecting research and action in environmental education" (2019), **the Israeli Forum of Environmental Education Research**.

"Systemic Thinking and Innovation through Environmental Education" (2019), **The R&D department, the Israel Ministry of Education**.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer for the Environmental Education Research Journal,

Reviewer for the Climate and Development Journal,

Reviewer for the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) conference,

ACADEMIC TRANSLATION FROM ENGLISH TO HEBREW

Mayse, Ariel Evan. "Where Heaven and Earth Kiss: Jewish Law, Moral Reflection, and Environmental Ethics." *Journal of Jewish Ethics* 5.1 (2019): 68-110. (2021)

Polen, Nehemia. "Miriam's Dance: Radical Egalitarianism in Hasidic Thought." *Modern Judaism* (1992): 1-21. (2022)

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Environmental and Sustainability Content Developing and Program Consulting

- | ESE consultant: ESE program developing and implementing for Ten Strands: environmental literacy policy for California, The Israeli Ministry of Education R&D department, The Jerusalem Municipality, האגודה לקידום החינוך, Various Schools k-12.
- | Online course developer (Urban Environmental and Sustainability Education) for the Jerusalem professional development center (מרכז פס"ה ירושלים) (2019-2020).
- | Research Assistant for Dr. Ayala Zur, "quantitative methodology" course, Oranim College (2012)

Teaching, Project Developing and Teachers' Mentoring

- | Teacher at the San Mateo County Ecoliteracy Initiative Teacher Training program (2020-2023)
- | Teacher's mentor at the Mendel Institute for Education, Jerusalem, Israel (2015-2017).
- | Teacher and a teacher's mentor at the David Yellin Teacher's Seminar and at Mechon Kerem Teacher Seminar, Jerusalem, Israel (2014-2018).
- | Planning Together a Sustainable Future: Whole School Initiative program manager for the Ministry of Education gifted and outstanding student's department. (2015-2018)
- | High-school teacher; the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Secondary School, Geography Teacher, Class Educator (2012-2018).
- | Teacher; "Havruta": Beit Midrash of extended Jewish studies program for medical students at the Hebrew University (2012-2015)

Additional Certifications: Permaculture garden designer (Bet Ya'ar, Israel, 2014)

Languages: Hebrew, English