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World ORT Report 2006

ISSN 1681-6447

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Educating for Life

In Russia, April 1880, Baron Horace de Gunzburg, Nikolai Bakst and Samuel Poliakov wrote to the Jewish communities asking for help in developing agricultural and artisanal skills among the hard pressed Jewish peasantry. Within the space of six months, the then astronomical sum of 225,000 roubles was raised. ORT was born.

Today, World ORT is one of the largest non-governmental education and vocational training organisations in the world. Its network of programmes, training centres and schools benefiting some 270,000 Jewish and non-Jewish students each year in some 60 countries. Since its founding, ORT has been active in more than 100 countries and has directly helped more than three million people.

A non-profit, non-political organisation, ORT's mission is to work for the advancement of Jewish people through training and education; to provide communities, wherever they are, with the skills and knowledge necessary to cope with the complexities and uncertainties of their environment; to foster economic self-sufficiency, mobility and a sense of identity through the use of state-of-the-art technology.

Through its International Cooperation programmes, ORT supports nonsectarian economic and social progress in developing-countries by providing vocational training and technical assistance.

'I know, as does every Jew, the great educational importance of ORT's work in many countries and also in Israel.'

*David Ben-Gurion,
Founding Prime Minister of the State of Israel.*

A MESSAGE FROM SIR MAURICE HATTER, President of World ORT



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Every year as I review the reports of our global activities, I marvel at the range and breadth of our operations. ORT reaches out to every continent on the planet, and thousands of people each year embark upon productive careers, equipped with knowledge and skills acquired at our schools and educational centres.

There is much to be proud of but, as always, there remains a great deal still to be done. The ORT postbag – or the electronic equivalent – is regularly filled with requests from communities asking us to help them to establish new schools or to improve existing facilities. Our own schools and institutions require continued investment to ensure that they maintain their standards of excellence and remain the schools of choice and exemplars of good practice.

The only way that we can continue to provide the level of service that we do and to respond to at least some of the appeals that we receive is to ensure that we are adequately funded now and into the future. Education does not come cheaply and quality education requires even more financial commitment. You may be reading this report because you are a donor or because you are considering becoming a donor. If you are, then this is a personal appeal to you. In these pages you will read accounts of ORT operations from Bulgaria to Brazil, from Italy to India. Each community is different, each has its own unique needs and aspirations and in each there are scores, sometimes hundreds and sometimes thousands of individuals whose lives are being changed – permanently – because they are able to benefit from an ORT education. If you are thinking of becoming part of this global rescue mission then this is your opportunity to become involved. These people, and thousands more like them, need you.

ORT operates in an increasingly sophisticated fundraising environment. Donors, quite rightly, expect full transparency and accountability, and ORT gives it to them. The lay leaders and professionals charged with carrying out ORT's programmes are at one on this: every dollar invested in ORT is a dollar well spent – and we can prove it.

Whatever your reasons are for picking up this report, I hope that you will be as inspired by its contents as I am.

During 2005, World ORT supporters throughout the world organised events to mark our organisation's 125th anniversary. I was privileged to be able to attend a number of these activities and to personally thank many of ORT's professionals and lay leaders for their dedication and support.

We look back with pride on one and a quarter centuries of achievement and look forward with confidence to a future in which we continue to provide unrivalled service to communities across the globe.

The year 2005 proved to be an exceptional year in many respects. The demand for ORT's educational services continued to grow, and a number of new educational establishments joined our network, notably in Israel, Russia, Italy, Ukraine and the Czech Republic. Graduates from these schools and educational centres will soon be joining their colleagues in filling key posts in their countries' industrial and commercial enterprises.

ORT's commitment to excellence is recognised internationally by governments and large corporations, having acquired several illustrious partners. Among these are household names such as Coca Cola, Hewlett-Packard and ExxonMobil, all of whom have selected ORT to help them to implement their corporate social responsibility and technology education programmes in the developing world. In this report you can read of the opening of science, technology and computer centres, under these programmes, from Easter Island in the Pacific to Samara in Russia.

As our President, Sir Maurice Hatter, says in his message, our continued achievement is only possible because of the support of the thousands of donors, lay leaders and fundraisers who work tirelessly to ensure that our organisation remains adequately funded. In this respect, as well, I am pleased to report that 2005 was a very successful year.

With the help of our professional staff, our fundraising organisations throughout the world are working – in an increasingly sophisticated and demanding fundraising environment – to ensure that our donors are encouraged to maintain and to increase their contributions and to be satisfied that their needs are being met.

In light of this, our two major US support organisations, Women's American ORT and American ORT, are working together, more and more, utilising the strengths of each, to maximise their combined contribution to the global fundraising effort – which, last year, generated more than \$24 million for World ORT.



A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT SINGER, Director General of World ORT

Still, in the US, 2005 marked five years since we began our close cooperation with the Federation system. During these five years we have seen a steady growth in Federation participation in our projects – mainly in Israel, the Former Soviet Union and Latin America; last year, alone, more than 150 missions and visits from different Federations to ORT sites took place.

We greatly value our partnerships with the Federations. Their involvement provides untold motivation for our staff in the field and, of course, their financial support is vital for the continuation of our efforts.

During 2005, our research teams in the UK and the CIS and Baltic States began working on historical projects to examine material relating to ORT's work in the 1920s and 1930s in Soviet Russia, and in the Displaced Persons Camps in post-war Europe. The first results are due to be published during 2006. As the evidence comes to light, we are seeing for ourselves just how vital ORT's role has been in ensuring the survival and growth of hundred of thousands of individuals and families. This is a mission that we are as proud to fulfil in the 21st century as we were during ORT's early years. The social and political climate is different from what it was then; the technology has certainly moved on, but the essential demand for career-based training remains, and we remain committed to delivering the best programmes wherever and whenever they are needed.



Photo: Israel Government Press Office

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon at the conference table with (from right) ORT Israel Director Zvi Peleg, World ORT Board of Directors Chairman Robert Sill, Director General Robert Singer, President Sir Maurice Hatter, Deputy President Dr Jean de Gunzburg, Executive Committee Chairman Mauricio Merikanskas, International Liaison Department Head Sonia Gomes de Mesquita.

ORT Israel, the largest of the World ORT networks, is the country's leader in technological-scientific education for middle school, high school and college students. It also nurtures students' capacity for voluntary work and philanthropic values by committing considerable resources to programmes that involve them in community projects.

ORT Israel serves the full spectrum and diversity of Israeli society – religious and secular Jews, Druze, Arabs, Bedouins, new immigrants from around the world – with some 108,000 students at ORT's 162 junior and senior high schools, industrial schools, technical and academic colleges and other institutions (a further 18,000 Students at other schools in Israel were helped by ORT programmes last year).

Between 2003 and 2005, several new schools joined the ORT Israel network: the ORT Space Technology School, which was set up at Ma'ale Adumim in cooperation with the Israeli Air Force and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, two schools (one for boys, the other for girls) in Tiberias, the Or Yehuda comprehensive high school, also in Tiberias, and the Centre for Technological Education at Beit Shean. The ORT Israel network also includes the ORT Aviv virtual school, which provides supplementary content using the Internet. In addition, ORT Israel has implemented educational programmes in another 154 schools serving more than 21,800 students.



ORT Netanya – Yad Lvovich students look at a model of the new campus.

In 2005, the Hewlett-Packard Corporation, World ORT and ORT Israel launched Israel's first digital community centre at ORT Israel's Kiryat Bialik. The project has been undertaken in partnership with the Organisation for the Economic Empowerment of Women and the Centre for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship in Haifa. The new centre will

108,000
educated and trained at
ORT Israel schools
and colleges

provide training for Jewish and Arab women in the north of the country to enable them to develop new economic and cultural opportunities.

Since September 2000, the security situation has placed a multi-billion-dollar burden on the economy. High unemployment afflicts many communities and average family incomes have diminished. Support services have been cut and social welfare budgets slashed as the government reduces the budget deficit. The impact on the country has been enormous; the impact on our students is distressing.

Through the Goralnik Institute for the Enrichment of Teaching and Learning and the Moshinsky Centre for Research and Development, ORT Israel is constantly examining ways to improve the pedagogical level of teachers and raise student achievement. To this end, several major system-wide projects and educational programmes have been launched:

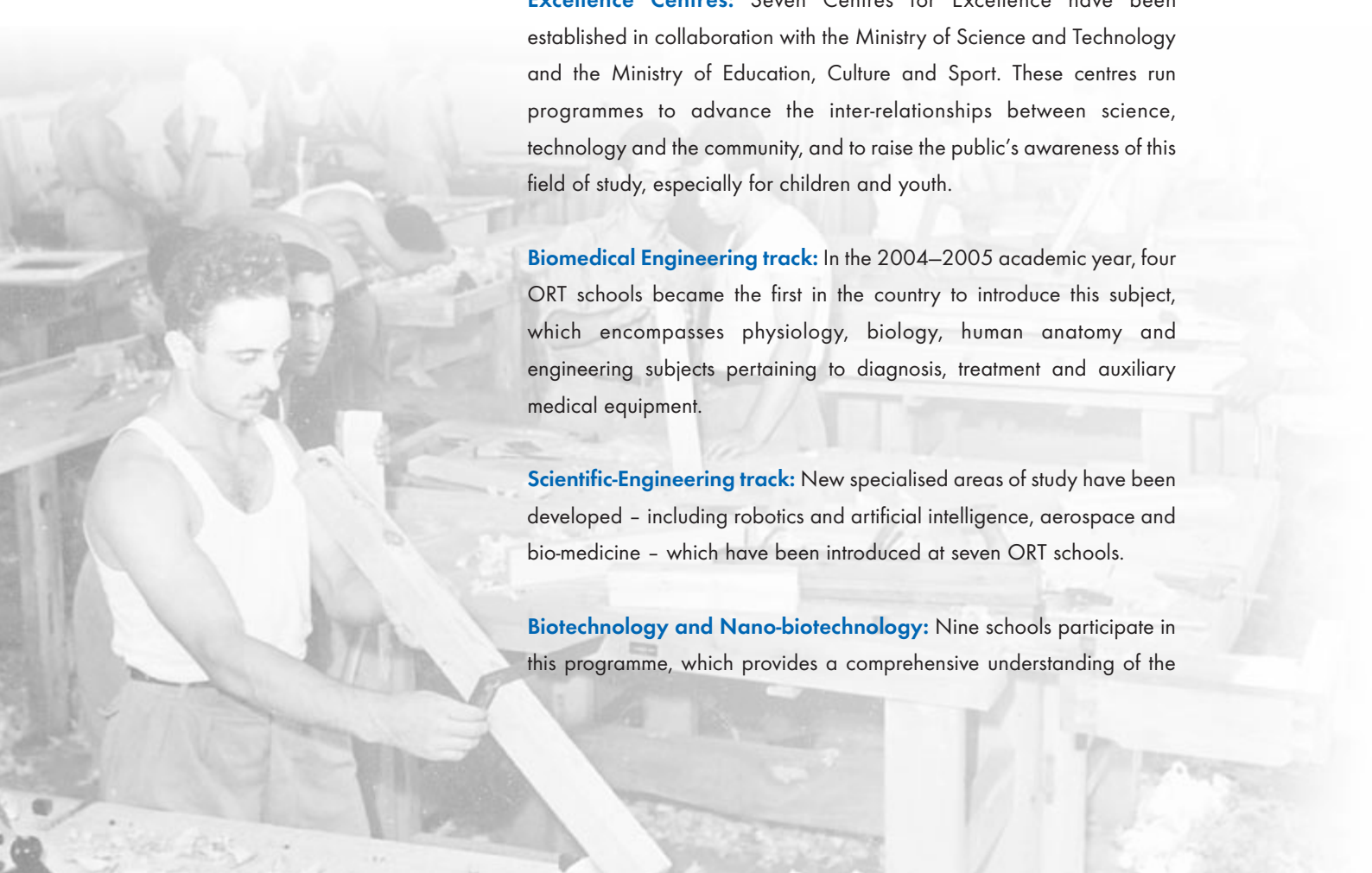
ORT Academics Classes: Participating students begin studying university level courses in the 10th grade and graduate with a science degree in the 13th grade or an engineering degree in the 14th grade from the Haifa Technion, from ORT Braude College in Karmiel, or from one of the collaborating universities – Tel Aviv, Bar-Ilan, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Ben Gurion University.

Excellence Centres: Seven Centres for Excellence have been established in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport. These centres run programmes to advance the inter-relationships between science, technology and the community, and to raise the public's awareness of this field of study, especially for children and youth.

Biomedical Engineering track: In the 2004–2005 academic year, four ORT schools became the first in the country to introduce this subject, which encompasses physiology, biology, human anatomy and engineering subjects pertaining to diagnosis, treatment and auxiliary medical equipment.

Scientific-Engineering track: New specialised areas of study have been developed – including robotics and artificial intelligence, aerospace and bio-medicine – which have been introduced at seven ORT schools.

Biotechnology and Nano-biotechnology: Nine schools participate in this programme, which provides a comprehensive understanding of the



nature of applied science by integrating biology, chemistry and engineering. In 2004-2005, a specialisation in nano-biotechnology was developed that focuses on the integration of nano-biological structures in electronic devices and the development of future nano-biotechnological applications.

Mechatronics Track: An innovative technological field combining knowledge from electronics, computers, and mechanics as well as scientific and engineering principles.

LIBAM: This programme, known by the acronym of its Hebrew title *towards complete matriculation*, provides extra study for students with academic difficulties in order to improve their performance in matriculation exams. The programme is operated by ORT Israel for the Ministry of Education. Some 7,000 students in 75 schools (20 of them ORT schools) participate.



Photo: Itzik Ben Malki/Ha'areiz

A class in progress at ORT Yigal Alon, Yokn'eam, Israel.

PELEORT: Known in English as the Schools Plus Programme, is an extended school-day project that provides a safe and comfortable after-school environment, and a meal, for students from families in distress and from socio-economically deprived backgrounds. Some 900 students in more than 20 schools participate in this programme which gives them the opportunity to achieve their potential.

Mesigim 14+ (Reaching 14+): ORT's 11 industrial schools participate in this project, which is operated in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Employment. The number of students who have achieved at least 14 credits in their matriculation exams has increased by 25 percent since 2003 thanks to this project. www.ort.org.il

27,000+

ORT students in the
CIS and Baltic States

RUSSIA

UKRAINE

MOLDOVA

BELARUS

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

KYRGYZSTAN

ORT renewed its operations in the CIS and Baltic States (the Former Soviet Union) in 1991, more than 50 years after its activities were forced to close there. In 1993, ORT opened one school in Moscow and one in St. Petersburg (the city in which the organisation was founded in 1880). Today, twelve years on, ORT coordinates operations in Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania and Kyrgyzstan: 53 projects in 32 locations serving more than 27,000 people.

In the sphere of formal education, ORT cooperates with 22 schools, vocational training schools and colleges in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Latvia, Lithuania and Kyrgyzstan in which Technology Centres are, or will be, established. In addition to providing technological education, ORT now operates the Heftsiba project in 15 Jewish schools. The Heftsiba project is the programme initiated in 1992 under which Israel's Ministry of Education has been permitted to provide formal Jewish education in Jewish schools in the former Soviet republics. The Heftsiba project is a partnership between local governments, ORT, the Ministry of Education of Israel and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

ORT KeshetNet is a joint project of World ORT and the Jewish women's programme Project Keshet. ORT KeshetNet provides training opportunities for Jewish women through a network of ICT centres. The 15 centres provide unemployed and underemployed women with free access to computer training and significantly increases their employment opportunities in a highly competitive labour market. ORT also provides technical and educational support to the Beth Khana Jewish women's college in Dnepropetrovsk. www.ort.ru

RUSSIA

Moscow's education authority has effectively recognised ORT's high standards by amalgamating three new vocational colleges into the Moscow ORT Technology College. The colleges, which specialise in commercial management, catering, and leatherwork and furrier skills, have some 900 students aged between 15 and 20, and bring the total number of students at the newly enlarged ORT college to more than 1,800.

The Moscow ORT Technology College, which opened in 1996, continues to offer courses in fashion design, media, graphics and photography. Since 2000 it has also hosted the Vocational Training Centre (VTC), which offers courses especially for the Jewish community.

In the 2004-2005 academic year, the ORT Moscow Vocational Training Centre (VTC), sponsored by the Carole and Geoffrey Lawson Foundation,



trained some 2,500 people – bringing it to a landmark more than 10,000 for the four years of its operation. The curriculum comprises ICT courses and Jewish Studies. Students are taught on a modular scheme, with each module lasting between one and three weeks.

In April 2005, the ORT Technology Centre at the Jewish School No. 12 in Kazan, capital of the Republic of Tatarstan, celebrated its fifth anniversary. The school, which has approximately 500 students, is the second largest inclusive Jewish school in the CIS and Baltic States after Jewish school No. 144 in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, which also hosts an ORT Technology Centre. The ORT Technology Centre in Kazan was founded with the financial support of British ORT and British donors.

St. Petersburg saw the official opening of YESOD, a major Jewish community centre established by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, in which World ORT will operate a new Vocational Training Centre, funded by the Carole and Geoffrey Lawson Foundation. The Centre will have the capacity to train some 1,500 adults per year in job-related skills. It will also provide computer support for Jewish education, Internet access and act as a hub for distance learning provision.

The ORT de Gunzburg Technology Centre at Jewish School No. 550 which opened in 1995, was refurbished and enlarged in 2005 as part of World ORT's Regeneration 2004 programme. The school now ranks first in computer facilities and has gained the reputation as one of the city's top Jewish schools. With a full-time student body of 460 six to seventeen-year olds (and a further 500 part-time students), ORT de Gunzburg's curriculum combines the educational requirements of the Russian authorities with cutting edge technological education and an all important Jewish syllabus.



**Fashion design students,
Moscow ORT Technology
College.**

In April 2005, ORT opened an ICT centre at the Jewish Community Centre in Yekaterinburg, in collaboration with the local Jewish community and the Or Avner organisation. The aim of the project is to popularise the use of ICT in study, work and communal life. In addition to developing the concept, ORT purchased and installed hardware and software, and provided teaching manuals. Some 290 people are currently being trained at the centre.

UKRAINE

ORT programmes at Jewish schools in Ukraine are carried out as joint projects with the Israeli government, the Jewish Agency and the local education authorities. The past year has seen a deepening of relations between ORT and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education resulting in several state schools adopting ORT methods in the study of technological subjects.

The Kiev ORT Technology Lyceum was established as a part of ORT's Regeneration 2000 programme and was made possible through the support of Shirley and Milton Gralla and the Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation. Currently, the Lyceum has 268 students and is among the schools that will benefit from ORT's project Regeneration 2004, through the generous support of Ron Barron, to ensure its continued success.

The ORT Technology Centre in Odessa was inaugurated in September 2005 at school No. 94, the biggest, and the only, secular Jewish school in the city with 426 students. Earlier in the year, the school was officially renamed the ORT School No. 94 specialising in Hebrew and Informatics, Odessa.

The ORT Technology Centre at Jewish school No. 144 in Dnepropetrovsk offers its 642 students in-depth training in various technological fields, from basic modelling, design and programming to web design, computer animation and multimedia presentation. The ORT Technology Centre was



ORT Kharkov Technology Centre, Ukraine.

established with the support of Angelica Berrie and her late husband Russ, Eduardo and Leticia Azar, and Jean and Terri de Gunzburg.

ORT operates in Kharkov at the ICT Studio, which was established in 2001 in cooperation with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and the Weinberg Foundation on behalf of Women's American ORT. Some 450 students now use the Studio's facilities. Courses in Jewish studies are available as well as ICT: students of all ages study Hebrew and use computers to learn about Israel and the wider Jewish world through the Internet. ORT opened a new computer laboratory at the Lyceum of the International Solomon University (ISU) in cooperation with the Kharkov branch of the university. The laboratory is currently used by some 200 students.

The ORT-Alef Jewish Gymnasium in Zaporozhie currently has 322 students. Thanks to the sponsorship of British ORT, a state-of-the-art technology centre opened at the school in February 2005. The centre has prompted the design of special curricula and the introduction of new classes at the school, as well as providing a venue for the training of mature students.

The ORT Technology Centre at the Jewish school in Kishinev was opened in state school No. 22 in 2001 and now has a roll of more than 400 students. The centre was sponsored by The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, in conjunction with the Rochlin Foundation. Within three years, it became the leading school in Moldova, was placed entirely in the hands of ORT and renamed the Kishinev ORT Herzl Technology Lyceum. The school website hosts the ORT Intellectual Club, which provides all ORT students in the CIS and Baltic States with an opportunity to participate in intellectual games, an activity that is extremely popular in the post-Soviet states.

The ORT-JDC ICT Studio provides trainees with essential computer skills. In 2005, it served 245 part-time students aged between 12 and 72. It was set up with the support of The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, the Clore Foundation, Jean and Terri de Gunzburg, Mauricio Merikanskas, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the local Jewish community. At the Shimon Dubnov Jewish School in Riga, ORT has installed the Riga ORT Technology Centre. The centre, which was created with funding from The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, the Clore Foundation, Terri and Jean de Gunzburg and the local Jewish community, this year educated 265 full-time and 70 part-time students aged between 11 and 18. The centre comprises two ICT laboratories, a robotics laboratory, a media laboratory and library, and a network and resource centre with 36 computers.

MOLDOVA

LATVIA



LITHUANIA

The ORT Technology Centre in Vilnius is situated in the Shalom Aleichem Jewish School, which was founded with the help of The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation. It has a roll of 238 students in grades 1 to 12. The ORT Technology Centre provides computer literacy courses for 46 adults: courses offered include computer science, computer graphics, programming and web design, office technology, and a comprehensive Jewish syllabus. The Centre marks the resumption of ORT's activities in Lithuania after a break of more than 50 years. ORT began working in Lithuania in 1920 and flourished until World War II, when its final activities in the Kovno Ghetto ended with the liquidation of the Ghetto in July 1944. In 2004, World ORT signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science. The agreement commits both parties to collaborate on the introduction of the latest technologies in the educational process, the upgrading of vocational qualifications for teachers and on the use of information technologies to help inculcate the principles of tolerance among young people.



New school year celebrations
at the Shalom Aleichem
Jewish School,
Vilnius, Lithuania.

BELARUS

In Minsk, capital of Belarus, ORT operates the ORT Technology Centre at the Faculty of Foreign Affairs of the Belarussian State University. In September 2005, the University and ORT Belarus signed an extension of the original cooperation agreement between World ORT and the Ministry of Education that allowed for the Centre's creation in 2002. The ORT Technology Centre receives groups of senior grade students from the Minsk Jewish school, offering them the opportunity to benefit from advanced ICT training. The centre was made possible through the generosity of Norman Seiden and family, and through supporters of Women's American ORT, American ORT and World ORT.

BULGARIA

The Lauder-ORT Science and Technology Centre at the Dimcho Debeljanov Jewish School in Sofia comprises two ICT laboratories, a media laboratory and a science laboratory. The project has enabled the school, which is a part of The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation educational network, to attain the status of a high school and fill the gap in the city's Jewish educational system. ORT technological input benefits the school's 700 students in grades 1 to 10. During 2005, ORT Bulgaria signed an agreement for collaboration with The Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association. This allows the students to receive free IT training leading to qualifications that are recognised across Europe.



Enjoying the day.
Sofia, Bulgaria.

World ORT's launch of the Lauder-ORT Science and Technology Centre at the Lauder Gur Aryeh Jewish Community Day School means that the school's 175 pupils can now pursue computer science studies, enabling them to acquire skills that will provide a foundation for their careers and further education. The centre was jointly funded by World ORT and The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, and with a valuable contribution by American donor Raymond Tye. The next stage of this four-year project will see the implementation of ICT applications for both general and Jewish subjects. World ORT continues its cooperation with the Jewish Museum in Prague. Additional equipment has been installed at the ORT computer lab at the Educational and Cultural Centre, located in the Museum.

CZECH REPUBLIC

ORT operates a Computer Centre at the Bálint Jewish Community Centre in Budapest, in full cooperation with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). The centre offers a range of ICT activities, community development programmes and Jewish education programmes. Some 200 people use the centre's recently upgraded equipment for training and studying while a further 2,000 local people participate in other activities there.

HUNGARY

BRITISH ORT

British ORT's main campaign focus is to support World ORT activities worldwide. Support from UK-based donors has also been directed to specific projects in Ukraine, Israel, Argentina, Latvia and Russia – in particular the ORT Alef school in Zaporozje, Ukraine, the ORT Kazan school in Tatarstan, and ORT Netanya – Yad Lvovich, Israel. British ORT continues to build on its strong foundations. Ivor Levene, OBE has been appointed Executive Director succeeding Rhonda Marcus, who has joined the Management Committee.

Michael Naughton (left) with celebrated British actor Warren Mitchell, and British ORT Chairman Alan Goldman.



Top calibre speakers addressed British ORT events. Sir Terry Leahy, Chief Executive of Tesco plc, the UK's leading supermarket chain, spoke to a record breaking 400-strong audience at the Annual Business Breakfast. The Patron's Lunch was hosted by The Lord Rothschild OM, GBE, and the Gala Dinner, which honoured Michael Naughton, whose support spans five decades, was seen as one of the most successful – and enjoyable – in British ORT's history. Friends of ORT, co-chaired by Roslyn Morris and Susan Roffman, enjoyed a full programme through the year highlighted by the Annual Spring Luncheon with Oscar-nominated actor Tom Conti the main attraction. Young ORT worked closely with World ORT's International Next Generation initiative to develop its leadership, sowing the seeds for the organisation's future growth.

FRANCE

6,700+
ORT students, France

ORT France, founded in 1921, provides schooling and vocational adult education at seven schools and centres located in Paris, Strasbourg, Lyons, Toulouse and Marseilles. During 2004–2005, ORT France trained and educated more than 6,700 students, including more than 4,000 adults.

After six years of large scale renovation and rebuilding, the rejuvenated ORT school in the Paris suburb of Montreuil sous Bois was inaugurated and renamed the Daniel Mayer ORT High School. The outer walls were

retained and the inside completely rebuilt in five stages. The renovations have added 500 square metres of floor space (providing room for 800 students and 100 trainees) and greatly improved the ergonomics of the enlarged classrooms. Students and teachers also benefit from new equipment, enhanced security and modern dining facilities.



**Electronics lesson,
ORT Montreuil, France.**

Construction of the third floor at the ORT high school in Lyons has been completed, creating an additional 800 square metres for extra classrooms.

ORT France is working on the renovation of its schools in Toulouse and the Paris suburb of Choisy-le-Roi, where prefabs are replacing the workshops and classrooms. These works are expected to be completed by the end of 2006.

In Strasbourg, the BTS d'optique (Opticians Technical Diploma) section has recorded its fourth successful year. The school attracts Jewish students from across France, not only because of its high standards but because of its boarding facilities and kosher catering. The development of this specialisation will result in the creation of a professional degree in optical studies, in partnership with the University of Strasbourg, in 2006.

At the initiative of the World ORT Representative in France, Guy Seniak, ORT France is updating Jewish teaching by creating a history and Jewish culture book financed by the Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah.

In Paris, ORT France provides courses adapted to the specific requests of companies wanting to retrain and upgrade new

employees in the fields of ICT and foreign languages. In addition, in answer to a call for tender from the European Commission, the new technology department takes part in a research and development programme for the implementation of new technologies in the fields of teaching and training.

In September 2005, ORT France started training sessions in Morocco on behalf of GFI Informatique, a major European provider of consultancy and ICT services to big business. In 2006, ORT France plans to start a new project with Le Bureau du Shabbat to set up IT training sessions to help some 100 unemployed Sabbath observant Jewish women compete in the job market.

ITALY

World ORT is increasing its support for the Jewish community's high schools in Rome and Milan.

At the ORT Renzo Levi High School in Rome, enrolments continue to increase – 61 entered the 9th grade in the 2004–2005 academic year, a 42 percent increase on the previous year. The total number of students in grades 6–13 is now 191, almost double that seen when the school moved to its new premises in the Ghetto, near the city's main synagogue, in 2003. To maintain manageable class sizes, refurbishments are due to be completed early in 2006 that will see each grade divided into parallel classes. Further such work will be undertaken if enrolment continues its upward trend.

This increasing popularity is a result of generally increased educational standards at the school, the addition of languages, social sciences and technological studies to the original scientific focus, and parents' desire to place their children in a safe, Jewish environment.

As part of its constant effort to increase standards, ORT Renzo Levi High School installed a 15-terminal computer laboratory in 2005; a new science laboratory is due to be installed in 2006.

The school in Milan has 545 students. Its popularity with the local Jewish community has increased thanks to the improvements it has made in its Jewish education provision. Also, IT education has improved with the opening of two new computer laboratories. For the first time, a group of its students is due to join hundreds of other ORT students on *March of the Living*, (the Holocaust education programme) in Poland in 2006.

ORT educational operations in Switzerland ceased in 1992 and the country now hosts World ORT's legal headquarters (in Geneva) and an increasingly influential fundraising organisation consisting of four committees: Geneva, Basel, Berne and Zurich.



**ORT Switzerland (Geneva)
annual Gala Dinner.**

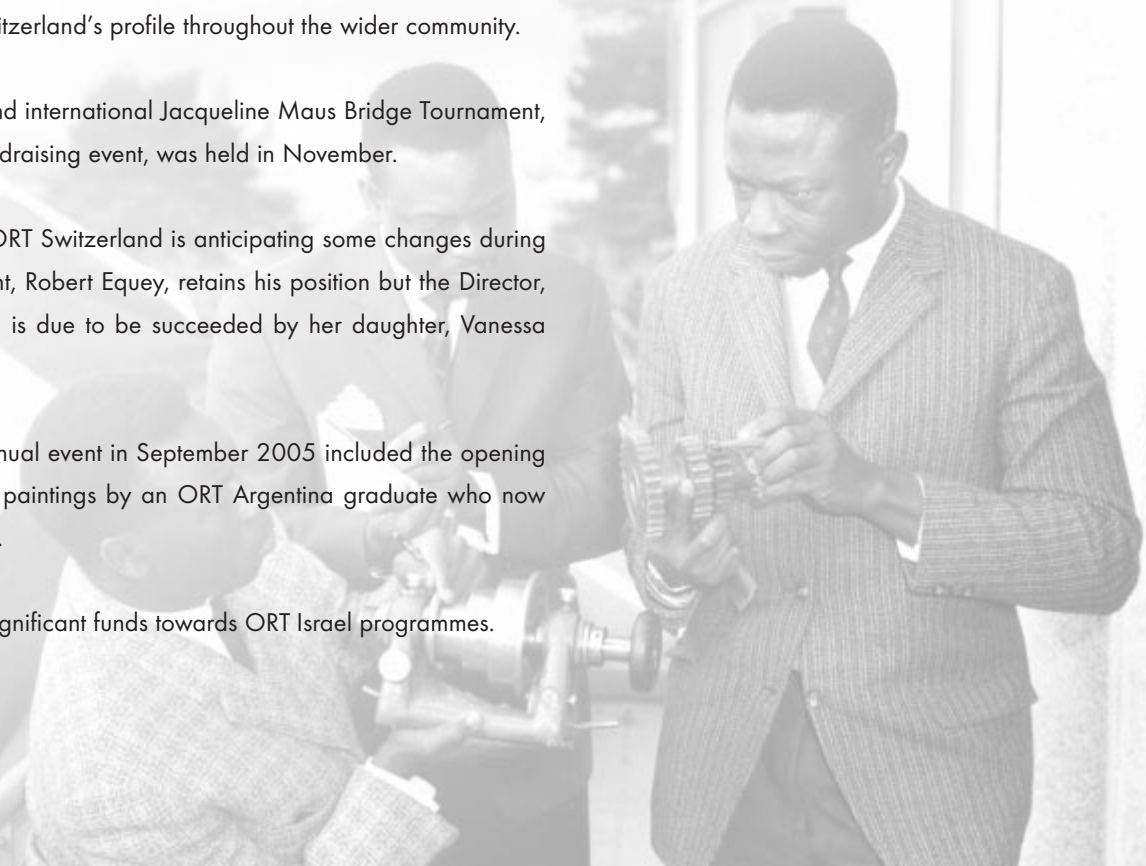
Among the major events of 2005 was the ORT Switzerland (Geneva) annual Gala Dinner which also commemorated World ORT's 125th anniversary. This event, in November, raised funds for ORT Israel's Schools Plus Programme, which provides extra support for outstanding students from families in distress and from socio-economically deprived backgrounds. The evening featured a performance by the internationally renowned Bejart Ballet Lausanne as well as a dinner for 400 at the Geneva landmark Batiment des Forces Motrice. The success of this event has raised ORT Switzerland's profile throughout the wider community.

The ORT Switzerland international Jacqueline Maus Bridge Tournament, a regular major fundraising event, was held in November.

The leadership of ORT Switzerland is anticipating some changes during 2006. The President, Robert Equey, retains his position but the Director, Catherine Gentilini, is due to be succeeded by her daughter, Vanessa Cholat.

The ORT Zurich annual event in September 2005 included the opening of an exhibition of paintings by an ORT Argentina graduate who now lives in Switzerland.

ORT Basel raised significant funds towards ORT Israel programmes.



Women's American ORT and American ORT are the leading fundraising organisations and support ORT programmes worldwide.

AMERICAN ORT

Founded in 1921, American ORT supports and promotes ORT's global programmes and mission through the fundraising efforts of its 16 chapters and 15,000 members and many other supporters nationwide. American ORT's Chapters held more than 25 major fundraising events in 2005.

The Next Generation Group – which identifies and nurtures lay leaders in their 20s, 30s and 40s – held several events, including the Los Angeles Chapter's Next Generation Penthouse Party, which was co-sponsored by JDate founder Joe Shapira, an ORT Syngalowski graduate.

At the annual meeting in New York City, veteran ORT lay leader Joe Cohen, of Atlanta, was re-elected to serve as National President. American ORT's 12 members of World ORT's elite major donors group, The 1880 Society, were each honoured with an exclusive specially-minted medal.

An eight-day mission of American ORT supporters to ORT centres in Moscow and Prague raised almost \$100,000. Mission participants enjoyed a firsthand look at the Moscow Technology School No. 1299, the Moscow Vocational Training Centre (VTC), and the Education and Culture Centre of Prague's Jewish Museum. They also had private meetings with the US Ambassador to the Russian Federation and government officials.

WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT

Women's American ORT (WAO) has adopted several innovative major gift fundraising vehicles that address the present and future needs of the organisation while appealing to the varying interests and goals of sophisticated donors.

The inspiration for WAO's Diamond Ladder Campaign is the Jewish philosopher Maimonides, who ranked highest form of charitable giving as the gift of providing an individual with the ability to earn his own livelihood. By the end of the year, 57 people had joined the Diamond Ladder by contributing at least \$5,000 per year for three years.

Another 76 people joined the Heritage Club of the Baroness de Gunzburg Society by designating a verifiable planned gift of at least

\$50,000. Plans are underway to establish additional recognition for those who give at least \$150,000.


To attract contributors with limited time and multiple responsibilities, Giving Circles, a structure that allows men and women to support a specific project at a minimum gift level of \$5,000 per year, are being created. These donors want a direct relationship with the individuals they are helping and to the educators and administrators who are operating the programme.

WAO supporters comprise more than one-third of the membership of The 1880 Society, World ORT's elite major donors group.

Participants in a mission to Prague, Kiev and Moscow saw the progress made in the Regeneration 2004 programme, for which WAO committed a four-year major gifts campaign to raise \$2.8 million for projects in the CIS and Baltic States. In 18 months, more than one-half of the goal has been raised.

WAO is cultivating young leaders through several programmes domestically and internationally through participation in World ORT's International Next Generation initiative.

Also in 2005, Hope Kessler joined WAO as Executive Director. Hope Kessler comes to the organisation with extensive fundraising experience at such organisations as New York University's School of Medicine and Hospitals and North Shore University Hospital/Long Island Jewish Health System.

 RT Operations USA is the programmatic arm of its sponsoring organisations, American ORT and Women's American ORT. ORT Operations USA administers Bramson ORT College in New York, technical institutes in Los Angeles and Chicago, and four ORT Computer Centres in Miami, Atlanta, Cleveland and Detroit. These institutions have trained more than 100,000 Jewish refugees and immigrants – mostly from the former Soviet Union and Iran – over the last two decades. Today, most of the students continue to be immigrant adults, but a growing number come from American high schools.

Bramson ORT College has introduced special programmes for yeshivot (religious Jewish learning centres) and the general community by which students can complete their general equivalency (high school) diploma and associate degrees. Bramson graduated 110 students with associate degree and certificate programmes in 2005. The Business Management

**ORT OPERATIONS
USA**

Associate Degree programme won official approval to be taught entirely via distance-learning. The College has introduced state-of-the-art video conferencing equipment allowing live communication between sites for administrative as well as teaching purposes.

Los Angeles ORT Technical Institute graduated 405 students in 2005 – a 19 percent increase on 2004. Los Angeles ORT's certificate programmes include ESL, Computerised Accounting, Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Graphics. In 2005, the Institute introduced programmes to train medical assistants and pharmacy technicians.



**ORT Operations USA.
Students in the Medical
Office Assistant programme.**

The Zarem/Golde ORT Technical Institute, which has moved 20 miles north from Chicago to Skokie, Illinois, graduated 443 students in 2005. The Institute has become a cultural centre for the Russian Jewish Community and provides vocational training to Skokie's Orthodox Jewish community. It offers courses in ESL, Computerised Accounting and Computer Graphics as well as a Medical Office Assistant programme.

The ORT e-Learning Centre in New York opened its doors in May 2005. It develops programmes for younger children and provides assistance in learning skills. The Centre supplements traditional tutoring with tools using advanced technology that have been created specifically for the purpose of guiding children in grades 1 to 12 through difficult academic tasks. In addition to 50 students who attend the Centre on a regular basis, the ORT e-Learning Centre services 1,000 students nationwide.

Detroit's David B Hermelin ORT Resource Centre in Detroit, which opened in 2004, serves nearly 5,000 students and 300 educators. The Centre has received an extension grant from the Jewish Women's Foundation enabling it to continue a programme that gives technology and job skills training to Orthodox Jewish women. The Centre's courses include Introduction to Computers and the use of multimedia and office software. ORT continues to provide technology training to teachers in the Detroit area.

The focus of ORT Canada's productive year of fundraising activities has been the multi-million dollar revitalisation campaign for the ORT Netanya – Yad Lvovich High School in Israel.

CANADA

ORT Canada's chapters continue to hold regular, highly successful fundraising events. In May 2005, ORT Montreal's Taste of Summer Auction attracted more than 400 people and raised CAN\$100,000. In November, 1,000 people attended the ORT Montreal Benefit Gala, raising CAN\$450,000.

In September, ORT Toronto hosted its inaugural Local Hero in a Global Village event. Charlie Coffey, Executive Vice-President of the RBC Financial Group, was presented with the Local Hero Award by ORT Toronto President Carrie Katz-Lehman in recognition of his work to improve the lives of many Canadians, in particular women and aboriginal peoples. The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable James Bartleman, addressed the event.

At the 31st Annual Golden Circle Luncheon, which was also held in September, the host, Debbie Kimel, was presented with an Inukshuk glass sculpture in tribute to her generosity to ORT Toronto and the city's Jewish community. Victoria Malina, a doctoral student at the Weitzman Institute, Israel, spoke at the event of her experiences as a student at ORT Netanya – Yad Lvovich High School.

ARGENTINA

ORT Argentina has grown into one of the country's largest providers of education – and World ORT's third largest operation – since it opened its first school in 1941. Its two junior high schools and two high schools in Buenos Aires grant certificates in a broad range of subjects, including Science, Computing, Electronics, Business Administration, Media Studies and Music Production. The two ORT Institutes of Technology grant official diplomas in subjects ranging from Biotechnology, Food Technology and Film and Television Production to Tourism and Fashion Design.



**ORT Argentina
Graduation Day, 2005.**

ORT Argentina's schools and colleges are operating at full capacity with more than 7,300 students, and thanks to the Werthein Family, they have benefited from the inauguration of the Noel Werthein Auditorium at Campus No. 1. Equipped with leading audio and digital video technology, the Auditorium provides an ideal venue for concerts, DVD screenings, videoconferences and exhibitions.

Another facility inaugurated in 2005 is the ORT Entrepreneurship Centre at Campus No. 2. The goal is for the Centre – which will host the continent's first research and development laboratory for software solutions for 64-bit technologies – to become the country's leading training facility. The Centre's creation reinforces the excellent pedagogic work of ORT's schools and colleges by providing an environment in which the academic and entrepreneurial worlds can learn and create together.

ORT Argentina has a tradition of innovation: its schools were the first to offer studies in Mass Media, Biotechnology and ICT, the latter still being the only one of its kind to be taught in an Argentine high school. Following in this tradition is the setting up of CREA, the Resource Centre for Education and Learning. Here, ORT's experts explore ways of



**On Stage.
ORT Argentina students.**

updating and improving teaching resources through the use of the latest virtual multimedia and interactive technologies.

In its capacity as an official advisor to the Ministry of Education, ORT Argentina helps to improve the mainstream educational system for teaching science and technology. In turn, ORT is helped to develop its educational approach by an Academic Advisory Board comprising seven of Argentina's leading academics and intellectuals.

In 2006, ORT Argentina is due to work with the faculty of Educational Sciences at the University of Buenos Aires to extend training opportunities for our teachers. The University's participation serves to acknowledge ORT Argentina's respected place in the country's educational community.

ORT Brazil has celebrated the 60th anniversary of the founding of its first school, which was also the first ORT school in Latin America to operate in a building of its own. A book entitled *The History of ORT Brazil: Sixty Years of Educating for Life* was published to mark the event.

When it began in 1945, the ORT school offered practical courses in the field of mechanics. Now, at a different site in Rio de Janeiro, ORT Brazil's Technical High School offers its 250 students a high quality general and scientific education – including specialisations in biotechnology, computer science, social communication and electronics – as well as vocational training that enables them to pursue a university degree while working in their professional field.

The Instituto de Tecnologia ORT is recognised as one of the best schools in the country and, despite the country's economic problems, is growing each year. Nearly 70 percent of the students benefit from ORT Brazil's

BRAZIL

internationally funded scholarship programme that enables talented students from deprived families to access the technical education that will offer them a path out of poverty.



Biology lesson. ORT Brazil.

The campus for environmental learning in Petropolis, 70 kilometres from Rio de Janeiro, is in its fourth year. CEDEA, the Experimental Centre for Environmental Education, is a unique pioneering field project for teaching natural sciences. Funded jointly by World ORT, ORT Brazil and the Henrique Lemle Summer Camp, the Centre is located within 850,000 square metres of forests, rivers and lakes.

Another innovative project is the development of educational and research work in genetics and stem-cell studies, which is undertaken in partnership with one of the most important Brazilian cardiac institutions, the Pro-Cardiaco Hospital.

The Centre for Jewish Technology and Culture has been created in the ORT building to serve ORT students, students of other schools and the general community, for the dissemination of Jewish culture, tradition and technological understanding. The centre is supported by ORT Brazil, the Community Fund and the Jewish Education Centre of Rio de Janeiro.

BOLIVIA

ORT returned to Bolivia in 2004 at the invitation of the Jewish community, whose institutions have had to cope with an on-going economic crisis. Political and social unrest have made the situation worse this year, making World ORT's commitment to this small, isolated community even more valuable. ORT's support has reinvigorated the Colegio Boliviano Israelita, which caters for children aged three to seventeen, with the introduction of a final year thesis and new courses,



**Students at Colegio Boliviano
Israelita, Bolivia.**

including the teaching of advanced English. The school's enrolment enjoyed a 10 percent increase over the past 12 months and further significant increases are expected next year.

ORT has obtained government approval to open a junior college in the CBI premises in 2006, which will offer the country's first textile and industrial design courses.

One of the world's leading professional services firms, the \$20 billion-a-year PricewaterhouseCoopers, supported ORT's introduction of a 200-hour training course in the administration and improvement of small business. The course also enjoyed major financial support from the Bolivian government and the Inter-American Development Bank.

ORT Chile has attracted widespread acclaim and support for its projects that have helped thousands of people in the country's Jewish and wider communities. These projects include the training of special needs students in computer literacy and leadership skills, the design and construction of school laboratories, training teachers in new methodologies for teaching reading and writing, and providing technical support for major educational initiatives at the two Jewish schools in the capital, Santiago.

A highlight of 2005 was the inauguration of a state-of-the-art science and technology laboratory at the 900-student Lorenzo Baeza Grammar school on Easter Island, 2,300 miles off Chile's coast. Equipped with eight computers and other high-tech equipment, the laboratory is one of 50 programmes that ORT Chile has implemented across the country with the backing of the Coca-Cola

CHILE

Foundation with the aim of improving scientific education in Chile's state schools.

ORT Chile has also started to work for the Ministry of the Interior on a social development project helping young people at risk of violence and drug abuse.

ORT Chile has made a major contribution to raising the educational standards of schools in impoverished neighbourhoods through a three-year project, which concluded in 2005. Funded by the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Development Programme, ORT Chile provided management workshops for teachers and training for the teaching of Spanish and mathematics at 11 schools serving some 10,000 students.

ORT Chile continues to work with the country's largest telecommunications company, Telefonica Corporation, training disabled people with appropriate technology. The latest project explored the use of iconographic software to allow speechless people to use the telephone.

CUBA

This year marked the fifth anniversary of ORT's resumption of operations in Cuba. During the 2004–2005 academic year, ORT Cuba increased its activities for the local Jewish community and new projects have been planned to strengthen ORT's operations in the country. Additional courses were added to the academic programme developed at the Ana and Ben Dizik ORT Technology Centre at the Jewish Community Centre in Havana, including leadership skills. The 2004–2005 academic year saw a year-on-year an 82 percent increase in enrolment, with 557 part-time students signed on to 59 courses, ranging from Hebrew and psychology, to ICT, computer programming and web design.

In November 2004, ORT Cuba was represented for the first time at the World ORT Hatter Technology Seminar in London. In May 2005, nine ORT Cuba students were among the Cuban group to visit Israel as part of the Taglit-Birthright Israel programme – the third time ORT students have participated.

The ORT Cuba summer course for children was one of the highlights of the academic year. For two months, nearly 90 children aged four to 18 enjoyed a comprehensive educational programme including English and computing and a variety of workshops including music, singing, Israeli folk dance and drama.



**ORT Cuba Summer School.
A practical class in computers.**

ORT Mexico is consulting with experts from ORT Argentina on the choice of equipment to install at the new ORT Technological Media Centre that is due to open in the first half of 2006. Using state-of-the-art technology not available elsewhere in Latin America, the new ORT centre will provide training and other services to universities and corporations.

The Technological Week, during which several groups of junior high school students are exposed to different technologies, will in future be held at this Centre. It will focus on media technologies including television, radio, graphic design, and digital audio and video production and editing.

Meanwhile, ORT Mexico continues to provide IT courses and workshops for Jewish and non-Jewish institutions in Mexico City.

ORT Mexico has continued its collaboration with the Magen David-ORT Training School for Adults, where members of the Jewish community receive training in IT and it has opened a new IT Training Centre in an unprecedented alliance with WIZO Mexico.

MEXICO



Adult education, ORT Mexico.

In addition, ORT Mexico continues to introduce IT to teachers at Jewish and other schools and to teach them how to use computers as educational tools in the classroom.

URUGUAY

Since its establishment in 1942, ORT Uruguay has grown to become the largest private university in the country. More than 5,000 students undertake post-graduate, graduate and technical level courses, among them 80 percent of the graduates from Jewish high schools. As a result of the economic collapse four years ago, more than 1,000 scholarships are provided each year to students in financial need. ORT Uruguay has more than 500 academic staff in five officially recognised faculties; it awards degrees in architecture, engineering, management, economics, international relations, media studies, advertising, journalism, design, and education. An adult Jewish education programme for Jewish teachers, communal leaders and executives of Jewish institutions is carried out annually. ORT Uruguay also provides technical and pedagogical support to all Uruguayan Jewish schools, including teacher training, IT programme development and certification.

In 2005, ORT Uruguay signed agreements with prestigious institutions such as Lincoln University in New Zealand and the Illinois Institute of Technology. These provide ORT students the opportunity not only to study overseas but also to obtain dual degrees endorsed by the host country as well as by the Uruguayan authorities. An agreement was also signed with Germany's Anhalt University of Applied Science to facilitate student exchanges between the Dessau Institute of Architecture and ORT Uruguay's School of Architecture.

The INTEGRA project, funded by the European Union to implement information technology innovations in schools, has been entrusted to ORT Uruguay's School of Education. Seven schools from across the country were selected to participate in the project, including the two main Jewish day schools and the British School. This project will allow these schools to keep pace with the latest developments in educational technology.



A lesson in design,
ORT Uruguay.

Latin America's leading business publication, *America Economía*, has again ranked ORT Uruguay's MBA programme among the top 25 in the continent. The World Bank awarded ORT Uruguay a grant to train young IT entrepreneurs in business skills.

ORT Venezuela operates three technical training schools; one in the north western town of Cabimas and two in the industrial town of Moron and in Paraguaná. The schools in Moron and Paraguanás specialise in short courses including informatics, mechanics, metallurgy, administration and industrial maintenance.

During 2005 ORT Venezuela trained a total of 1,455 students in four centres: 270 in Cabimas, 315 in Catia, 457 in Moron, and 413 in Paraguaná.

The number of students enrolled by ORT Venezuela in 2005 was 29 percent up on the previous year. This increase was despite difficult operating conditions as the country continues to face a widening political and economic crisis.

VENEZUELA

SOUTH AFRICA

ORT South Africa has experienced its second consecutive year of significant growth across its four broad operational fields: vocational training, community development, educator development and the Jewish community.

Educator development focuses on the improvement of teaching and learning in the field of technology. To this end, ORT South Africa, with the ORT-Tech Institute in Cape Town, launched the ORT Sustainable Educator Empowerment and Development (SEED) programme in 2005. The primary function of this joint venture with Rhodes University, to train teachers in Technology Education at both primary and secondary levels, became even more relevant when the subject was incorporated into South Africa's 2005 school curriculum. Teachers who successfully complete the training are accredited with the Advanced Certificate in Education (Technology, Science, Mathematics and Education).

In June 2005, ORT South Africa launched the ORT Jewish Entrepreneurial Trust (JET) in Johannesburg, in association with the office of the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Warren Goldstein and the co-operation of other prominent Jewish philanthropic organisations. ORT JET provides entrepreneurs access to mentoring as well as access to relevant business support information, potential business networks, and markets. Within months, JET had attracted the support of 120 volunteer mentors and had helped 30 businesses. There are plans to launch the project in Cape Town.

Other programmes designed specifically for the Jewish community include computer skills training for job seekers; the provision of course material and training as well as a management programme for those working in aged care homes; the ORT Bursary Trust that provides loans for Jewish students studying at registered tertiary institutions.



INDIA

ORT India provides training courses in Jewish education, computer literacy and office software. Its hairdressing and beautician courses have a one hundred percent success rate in enabling successful graduates to find work. In addition, the ORT India bakery provides kosher bread and confectionery for the local community.



The kindergarten, ORT India.

In 2005, ORT India trained 58 students in the use of computers and office software. A further 41 students studied Jewish education. Another 108 students were trained in the use of computers at the ORT-Manipur Computer Centre.

Sixteen students – up from three in 2004 – completed the IATA (International Air Transport Association) course, which provides vocational training for those wishing to work in the tourism industry. The students, whose training included instruction on using computer reservation systems, received IATA-UFTAA diplomas.

More than 21 students were trained in Early Childhood Care and Education, and the trainees participated in the ninth anniversary celebrations of the ORT India Pre-Primary School in March 2005. The nursery school, which provides a popular and sought-after service, took 150 admissions in 2005 – a 15 percent increase on the previous year.

ORT India Director Benjamin Isaac visited the Amishav Hebrew Centre, which educates and trains 300 people who claim to be descendants of the Lost Tribes of Israel. ORT India is seeking financial assistance to establish an ORT-Mizoram Computer Centre at Amishav, whose students currently learn Hebrew and Judaism to prepare for formal rabbinic conversion.

INDIA

SRI LANKA

NAMIBIA

CHAD

BOSNIA

MONTENEGRO

RUSSIA

UKRAINE

SOUTH AFRICA

SENEGAL

THE GAMBIA

MALI

International Cooperation projects provide non-sectarian training and technical assistance in new skills to enable both individuals and organisations to meet the needs of an evolving society and workplace. Local and national counterparts, beneficiaries and key stakeholders collaborate with ORT to design, implement, monitor and evaluate their own customised training programmes. A key component of International Cooperation is to establish a self-sustaining, locally-based training capability. The mission of ORT's International Cooperation is to encourage social and economic development through the provision of training and education.

In 2005, several projects and agreements were initiated. Agreements were signed with donors and local partners in India and Sri Lanka to provide assistance to communities recovering from the 2004 tsunami. Two existing programmes have been extended – a USAID-funded project in Montenegro and another, funded by ExxonMobil, helping farmers in Chad (see below). Other new projects include a two-year technical assistance programme to strengthen vocational training in Gabon and a microfinance feasibility study for the Gambian River Basin Development Organisation, which is due to start early in 2006. The productive relationship with Hewlett-Packard continued with the opening in 2005 of two new centres in Samara, Russia and Kiryat Bialik in Israel. The new centres are the first of four Micro-enterprise Acceleration Programme (MAP) Centres to be set up by ORT and HP, the world's largest consumer IT company. www.icd.ort.org

INDIA – Tsunami Assistance: Supported by the JDC, the Jewish Coalition for Asia Tsunami Relief and The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington; ORT IC, ORT India and BJS are improving education programmes for students throughout the Islands ravaged by the 2004 tsunami. Each organisation has specific responsibilities for providing services to the Andaman and Nicobar Educational Quality Improvement Programme (ANEQIP) Project. The Government has approved a set of 12 programmes that will be implemented in 10 primary and 10 secondary schools on the islands, off the south-east coast of India, for at least three years.

SRI LANKA – Tsunami Assistance: ORT, in cooperation with local partners Shilpa and the Women's Development Federation, provides technical assistance and training programmes in vocational training, livelihood recovery, trauma counselling, services for displaced children and support for orphans in one of Sri Lanka's hardest hit tsunami regions, Hambanthota.

NAMIBIA – HIV/AIDS Orphans: This project focuses on vocational training for orphaned children and is linked with on-the-job skills training via partnership with small and medium-sized enterprises in a number of cities and towns.

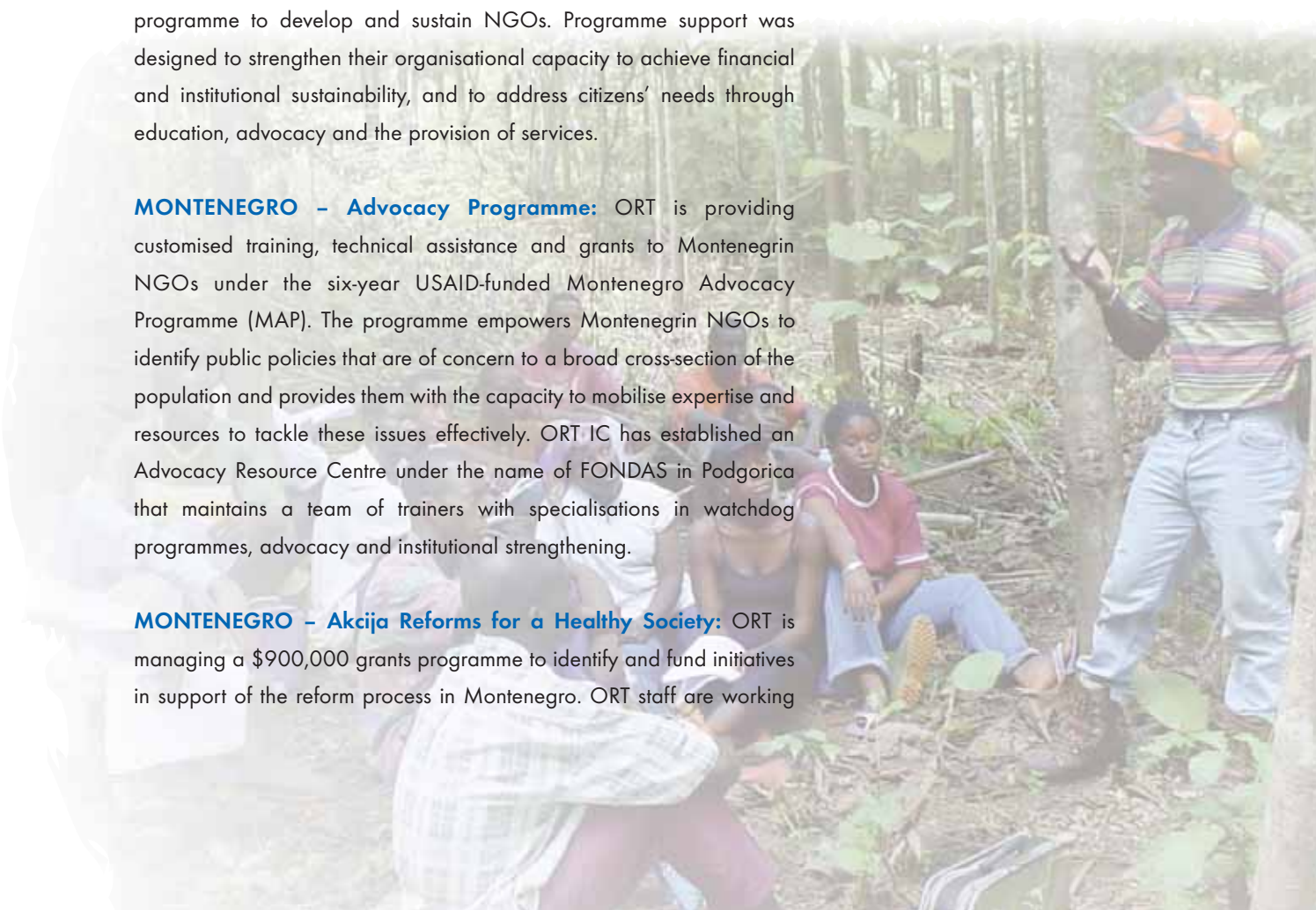
CHAD – Transport: Funded by the World Bank, this project provides assistance to the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation and the Human Resource Management Board. The ORT team is in charge of the development of a framework of quality highway maintenance personnel, to establish a management team to research future employment requirements, improve management procedures, and train staff in human resources.

CHAD – Agricultural Improvement Programme: Through the Miandoum Improved Agriculture Programme, ORT is providing technical assistance to improve agricultural techniques and animal breeding for a groups of farmers and women's associations under the ESSO Exploration and Production resettlement plan. The major project components include farmer training, agricultural credit and marketing, and organisational development for credit and savings associations of farmers.

BOSNIA – Democracy Network Programme: ORT developed a core group of 28 local non-governmental partners through an intensive programme to develop and sustain NGOs. Programme support was designed to strengthen their organisational capacity to achieve financial and institutional sustainability, and to address citizens' needs through education, advocacy and the provision of services.

MONTENEGRO – Advocacy Programme: ORT is providing customised training, technical assistance and grants to Montenegrin NGOs under the six-year USAID-funded Montenegro Advocacy Programme (MAP). The programme empowers Montenegrin NGOs to identify public policies that are of concern to a broad cross-section of the population and provides them with the capacity to mobilise expertise and resources to tackle these issues effectively. ORT IC has established an Advocacy Resource Centre under the name of FONDAS in Podgorica that maintains a team of trainers with specialisations in watchdog programmes, advocacy and institutional strengthening.

MONTENEGRO – Akcija Reforms for a Healthy Society: ORT is managing a \$900,000 grants programme to identify and fund initiatives in support of the reform process in Montenegro. ORT staff are working



with the Akcija NGO network, a group of leading local NGOs, academics, experts and independent media organisations to engage a significant number of citizens in the reform process.

RUSSIA – HP Digital Village Programme: ORT has launched a Digital Community Centre (DCC) in Tula. The ORT DCC, funded by the Hewlett-Packard Corporation, is working with local education authorities to develop new pedagogical techniques in order to produce better trained graduates and help the community adapt as Tula diversifies its economy from the current manufacturing and mining base. ORT and HP also opened a computer centre in Samara to empower women through micro-enterprise management training.

UKRAINE – HP Digital Village Programme: ORT is implementing a three-year community development project in the ‘youth empowerment zone’ of Slavutysh, 50 kilometres from the site of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. The Digital Village targets school students, teachers, and students at the Kiev Polytechnic Institute. It also designs unique training programmes for those with special needs.

UKRAINE – Holocaust Study: ORT designed and implemented a school-based multimedia resources project funded by the German Remembrance and Future Foundation that encouraged teams of students in Ukraine to research and document Nazi crimes by exploring the experiences of survivors of slave labour. Teams from the ORT Technology Centre in Dnepropetrovsk and the Kiev ORT Technology Lyceum, which took first and second places respectively, travelled to Germany to visit the sites and will produce a CD to be distributed.

SOUTH AFRICA – HP Digital Village Programme: The ORT Digital Village in Dikhatole, near Johannesburg, was set up with the financial support of Hewlett-Packard. The project includes training educators to teach computer skills, training unemployed residents in the ORT Careers and Debt Recovery courses, and training local government officials in computer skills – mostly at a laboratory and centre provided by leading steel producer Macsteel. The centre has trained 1,200 unemployed people from disadvantaged backgrounds, of whom 80 percent are now employed. Other sponsors include the Canton of Geneva, Microsoft and Fasset. Other vocational training initiatives include the Early Childhood Development in Science and Technology course, which trains educators in the teaching of science and technology as well as trainers from educational NGOs so that skills are transferred into the community; ORT’s

customised Power for Life financial literacy workshops for adults; a six-week skills training course in office technology for unemployed people in marginalised townships bordering industrial and commercial areas 75 percent of whose graduates have found jobs or have started their own businesses.

In its pursuance of community development, ORT SA provides a range of training courses to improve employability in disadvantaged sectors of society. The Sinethemba – We Have Hope project, for example, aims to improve the lives of children infected with HIV and/or affected as a result of having lost family members to the virus. The Trading Up From Poverty project provides skills training to poverty stricken young adults, who display the necessary aptitude, to allow them to earn a living by hand-making a variety of products.

SENEGAL – Rural Support Project: ORT IC, supported by Swiss Aid, is responsible for training producers and grassroots workers, creating rural training and information networks and organising higher training for trainers and managers in the field of agricultural and rural development. Support is also given to forming a network of training institutions to produce multi-skilled technicians. The State of Geneva has provided a three-year grant for operational expenses.

THE GAMBIA – Community Development: In October 2003, the African Development Bank assigned an ORT monitoring and evaluation specialist for 18 months to the Community Skills Improvement Project (CSIP) of the Department of State for Local Government, Lands and Religious Affairs.

MALI – Agricultural Development Project: An ORT administration and finance specialist has been assigned to an African Development Bank-funded agricultural project at Ansongo, in north-eastern Mali, until the end of 2005. The specialist is managing the administration and financial aspects of the project.

RUSSIA – Specialist Psychologist Training for Beslan: Psychologists in Beslan struggled to cope with the magnitude of the terrorist attack in September 2004 that claimed 331 people, including 172 school children. World ORT, with the support British benefactor Sir Jack Lyons and the Russian Jewish Congress, provided support by sending a group of the town's psychologists to Israel for intensive training in post-trauma counselling.



INTERNATIONAL LIAISON DEPARTMENT

The International Liaison Department has had a full and productive year building on the foundation of work laid at the General Assembly in 2004. In 2005, the department has overseen World ORT's fundraising organisations, missions and meetings, public relations and marketing, archives, the international Next Generation initiative, The 1880 Society, lay leadership relations, and relations with international organisations.

A record 56 missions to ORT schools and projects worldwide were coordinated in 2005. These visits showed USA Federation representatives, senior government officials and ORT donors how ORT educates for life regardless of location, language and culture. One such mission took groups from Women's American ORT and American ORT to Prague, Kiev and Moscow to view the fruits of their fundraising efforts. Additionally, ORT national directors held their annual forum in one of ORT's historic operating locations, Vilnius, Lithuania. Meetings of the governing bodies - including the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Officers Committee, and Control Commission - were held in Israel, London and Paris and coordinated from London.

The department has spearheaded World ORT's commitment to its lay leaders through the international Next Generation initiative, to nurture future leadership, and The 1880 Society, which caters to the needs of major donors. In September, Next Generation's first international mission went to Israel, where 22 young people from 10 countries viewed ORT's largest operation. Membership of The 1880 Society grew in 2005 to 67, its new members presented with medals specially minted in Jerusalem by the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation. In addition, members receive personalised newsletters by e-mail and personal calls from ORT students during the Jewish High Holidays.



The Next Generation
flying the flag on Mt. Zion.

The focus on marketing and public relations has paid dividends this year with greater exposure for ORT in the world's Jewish and general media and improved channelling of information between ORT's sibling organisations. To enhance this process, the World ORT website has been redesigned, and marketing and Next Generation websites have been developed. Press releases, which are regularly e-mailed to media and ORT supporters and staff around the world, have also been redesigned to strengthen the organisation's modern, technological image. Thousands of copies of the tri-annual World ORT Times and the annual World ORT Report are distributed internationally and advertisements, which are designed in-house, are placed judiciously to ensure cost-effective, targeted exposure.

In 2005, ORT's fundraising countries focused on two major four-year campaigns - ORT Netanya - Yad Lvovich and Regeneration 2004. The ORT Netanya - Yad Lvovich World ORT Campaign is raising money for the refurbishment and modernisation of what is one of ORT's first schools in Israel. Regeneration 2004 builds on the success of Regeneration 2000, continuing to expand and improve ORT's educational network in the former Soviet Union and reach out to more Jewish communities in the region. ORT's campaign directors are spiriting both causes through the wide distribution of project proposals, public relations material and the arrangement of personal visits.



**UJC mission to ORT Kiev,
May 2005.**

The number of catalogued items in the World ORT Archive grew by 20 percent in 2005 and now stands at 3,000. In addition, the archive manages a photo library containing more than 5,900 images and a video library of more than 300 tapes. Research is underway on ORT's post-war activities in Displaced Persons (DP) camps; and relationships are being forged with archive institutions around the world such as the Alliance Israelite Universelle in Paris.

For the fifth successive year, World ORT participated in the UJC General Assembly together with Women's American ORT and American ORT. World ORT's presence at the gathering in Toronto provided Federation staff and lay leaders with a broad perspective of ORT's international operations; and it brought ORT students from Kazan and Argentina to Canada to demonstrate the skills and values that they had been taught. Significantly, the UJC saluted ORT's 125th anniversary with the showing of a special video during the opening ceremony.

During 2005, ORT strengthened its engagement with international bodies such as the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This included a presentation by the Washington DC bureau of ORT's International Cooperation arm at the UN's DPI/NGO Conference in New York, an annual meeting of non-government organisations, civil society and the private sector with UN representatives.

EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The World ORT Education and Technology department is responsible for training teachers, developers and heads of technology education in innovative and insightful educational resources.

The annual Hatter Technology Seminar provides ORT's technology teaching staff with an opportunity to exchange ideas and to learn about the newest techniques and methods through lectures, workshops and visits. The 2005 Seminar focused on assessing creativity in technology education. The Wingate Seminar addresses the needs of World ORT's IT professionals, enabling them to remain at the forefront of their field.

New educational resources are being developed within the department through collaboration between World ORT and other academic or funding bodies and individuals. In partnership with the University of London's Royal Holloway College, research is being undertaken into ORT's activities in post-war Europe. The research, the first results of which are due to be published towards the end of 2006, is under the academic supervision of eminent historian Professor David Cesarani and is partially funded by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Work continues on Learning About the Holocaust Through Music. This project brings together resources including first hand testimonies, previously unpublished archive material and music composed and played by victims of and fighters against Nazism.

The Department organises world-wide competitions for ORT students as well as camps, visits and study trips. This year the Design for Sustainability competition was launched, attracting entries from students in seven countries.

In May 2005, more than 300 students from ORT schools in the former Soviet Union, France and Italy together with ORT students from Israel participated in the March of the Living, marking 60 years since the liberation of Europe from Nazi domination. The Department prepared a workbook of archive material for the participants that described ORT's role in the region - including sites the students were visiting - during the Holocaust.

For the first time, the World ORT Rosner English Summer School this year brought to London ORT students from Russia as well as Israel. Participants use their improved English language skills to tutor fellow students on their return home.



Delegates gathered at the 6th Annual Wingate Seminar, at World ORT in London.

In response to increased demand from ORT's lay leaders, the department is intensifying its activities in the field of Jewish education. The inaugural World ORT Jewish education seminar is due to take place in March 2006. All ORT's major centres will be represented and participants will be consulted on two Jewish education programme developments: the Achievement Standards in Jewish Education and the globalisation of the Jewish Way of Life project.

The IT unit is responsible for the development and administration of World ORT's corporate website and other educational websites developed by ORT. These include Navigating the Bible II, an online multilingual Bar/Bat

Mitzvah tutor that receives more than 65,000 hits every day, and Learning About the Holocaust through Art, which is Yahoo's top listed website for Holocaust Art education. Other successful websites include EnglishSpace, an English as a Second Language course, Do I.T., an Information Technology tutor and Yizkor, an e-mail yearzeit and memorial reminder service.

The World ORT project unit is responsible for preparing the project proposals used by fundraisers worldwide to raise support and funding for ORT projects throughout the world. The team of writers and researchers responds to requests for projects and reports, which come via the International Liaison Department. Increasing emphasis is being placed upon the reporting process to ensure that donors are able to be fully informed about the benefits achieved through their contribution.

COORDINATION DEPARTMENT

The Coordination Department was established in 2004 to coordinate the needs of ORT's operational countries within the strategic plan and policies of the organisation as a whole. It is responsible for the coordination of ORT activities in operational countries with special emphasis on the CIS and Baltic States, Eastern and Central Europe, Latin America and India.

From World ORT's administrative centre in London, the Head of Department maintains constant contact with the World ORT regional representatives in Moscow, Kiev and Santiago to ensure rapid responses to ORT's ever changing needs in the management of projects.

Among the major new projects established in 2005 are the ORT Technology Centre at Jewish Gymnasium ORT-Aleph in Zaporozje, Ukraine, the Lauder-ORT Science and Technology Centre in Prague, Czech Republic and the ORT Computer Laboratory in Tucuman, Argentina.

The coming 12 months will see the continuation of the Regeneration 2000 Campaign (now renamed the Regeneration 2004 Campaign) with an up-grading of existing schools to ensure that Jewish students in the CIS and Baltic States are given the best possible start to their adult lives. Expansion is also planned for Hungary and Poland - both places where ORT has an historical presence. The question of restitution for the many ORT properties which existed in Europe pre-1939 also falls within the remit of the Coordination Department.

World ORT continues to develop relationships with individual Jewish Federations across North America as well as their representative body, the United Jewish Communities (UJC). This has resulted in a longer list of communities providing direct support to ORT projects in Israel, CIS and Baltic States and Argentina; more than 60 have now provided direct support to one or more ORT projects in these countries.

At the UJC General Assembly in Toronto, November 2005, ORT was again very visible with students from Argentina and Russia operating the highly popular cyber centre – a free internet access hub that attracts more than 1,500 people each year.

In spite of increasing domestic demands on Federations' resources, the UJC is committed to maintaining ORT's core allocation of \$3.6 million until 2008 inclusive. Through its North American Representative, World ORT has been able to describe and explain ORT's mission and projects directly to decision makers in the Federations.

Thanks largely to the increased exposure given to ORT projects on donor missions, more communities are supporting ORT's work in the CIS and Baltic States. Many more federations have included ORT in their high level missions, with ORT hosting several hundred participants during 2005. Almost all federations travelling to the CIS and Baltic States now include an ORT visit. In March 2005, 12 executive directors of small federations toured ORT projects in Kiev before joining 15 of their colleagues in Israel. While in Israel, this larger group visited two ORT schools in Jerusalem. As a result many of these Federations made first time allocations to ORT.

The UJC's Operation Promise campaign aims to raise \$160 million to support work with Ethiopians in Israel, Falashmura (descendants of Jews who converted to Christianity under duress) in Ethiopia, and the elderly in the CIS and Baltic States. Some of this money is funding ORT projects to help Ethiopian high school students realise their academic potential and funding pre-aliyah training for Falashmura in Ethiopia.

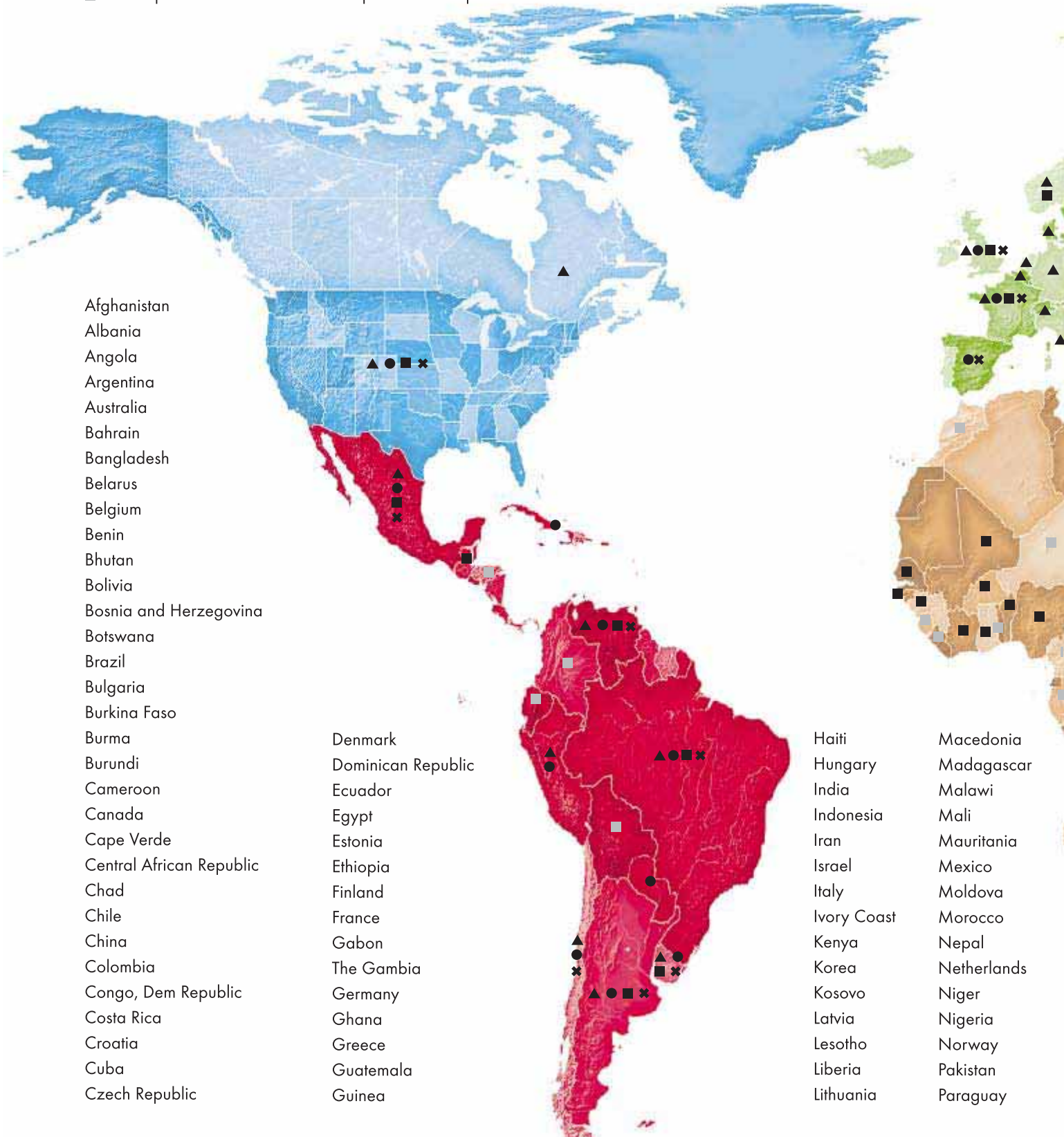
Several federations continue to support ORT Argentina students with tuition subsidies. Eight Federations have supplemented this with a re-training programme for the parents of ORT students to help them find the work with which they will be able to pay the tuition themselves.

WORLD ORT AND THE NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATIONS

ORT'S GLOBAL NETWORK

KEY

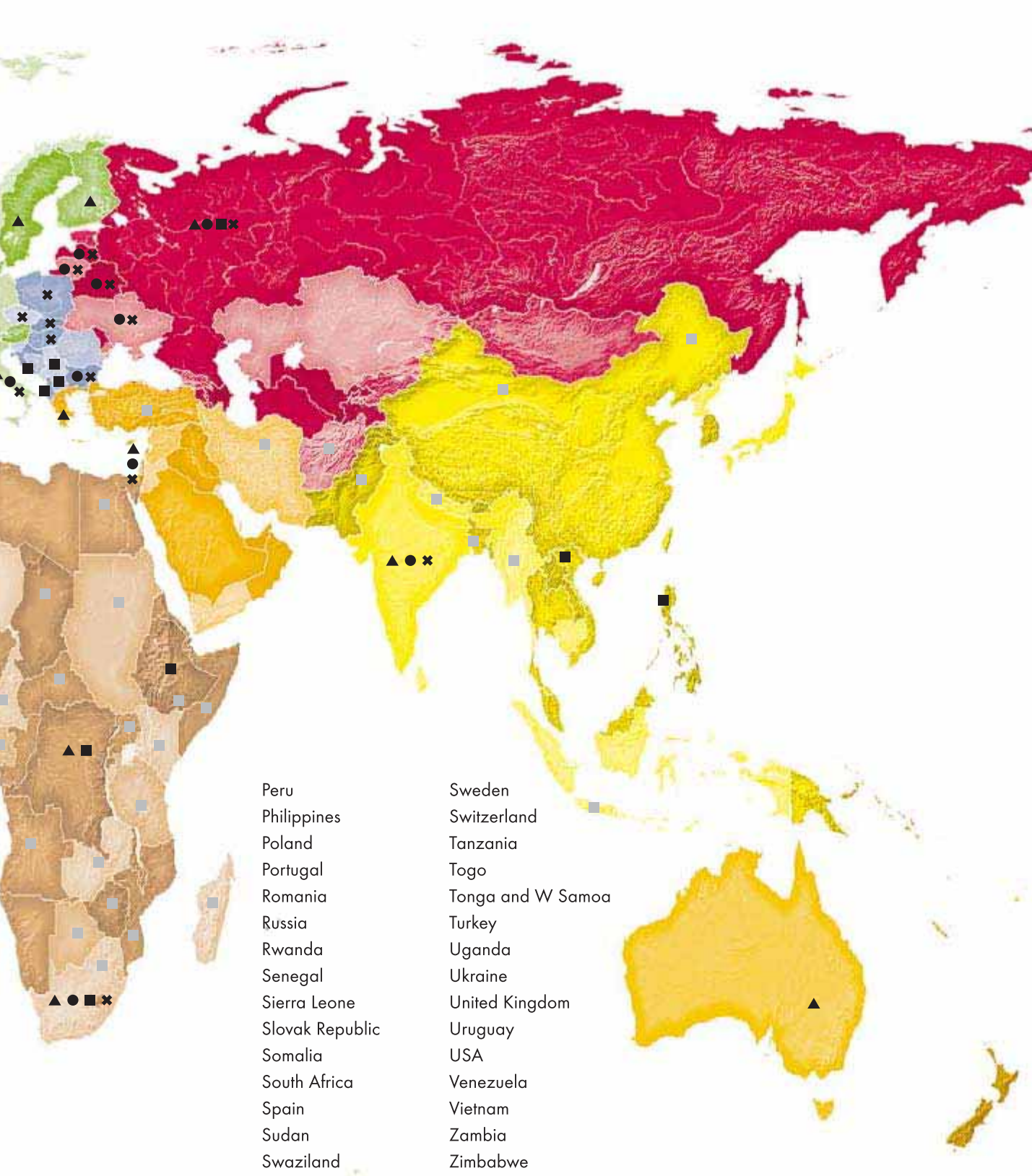
- ▲ Membership
- Schools, Colleges and Programmes
- ✕ Resource Centres/Labs
- International Cooperation Projects/Offices
- Completed International Cooperation Projects



- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Angola
- Argentina
- Australia
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burma
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Congo, Dem Republic
- Costa Rica
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Czech Republic

- Denmark
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- Estonia
- Ethiopia
- Finland
- France
- Gabon
- The Gambia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Guinea

- Haiti
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Israel
- Italy
- Ivory Coast
- Kenya
- Korea
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Lithuania
- Macedonia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mexico
- Moldova
- Morocco
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Paraguay

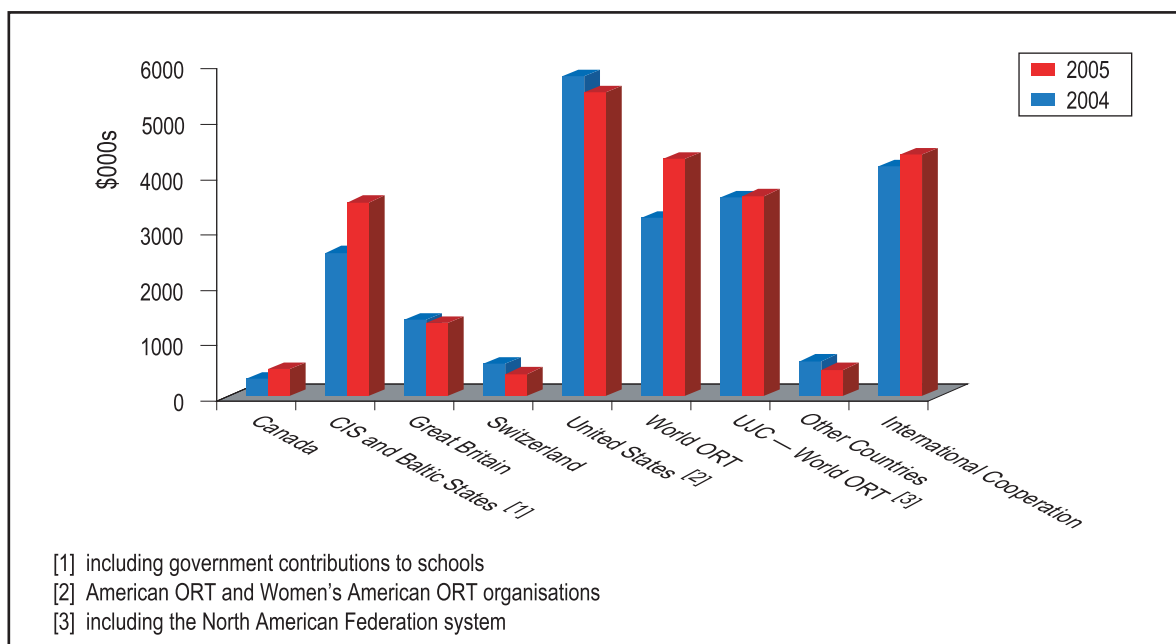


World ORT's major sources of revenue are the United States (American and Women's American ORT organisations), the UJC and American Federations, Great Britain, Canada, The CIS and Baltic States, and Switzerland. However, World ORT increasingly depends upon contributions from all its member countries, however small.

The \$23.8 million contributed by ORT's national organisations around the world, the United Jewish Communities (UJC), and various international donors, provided the leverage that helped to generate an estimated \$300 million from local governments and agencies and from tuition fees in some countries, in support of operational programmes. It is this leverage that enables ORT to maintain its critical margin of excellence.

World ORT central revenue for 2004 and estimated figures for 2005

	2004		2005	
	US \$000	%	US \$000	%
CANADA	303	1.4	475	2.0
CIS AND BALTIC STATES – including government contributions to schools	2,584	11.7	3,489	14.6
GREAT BRITAIN	1,368	6.2	1,313	5.5
SWITZERLAND	576	2.6	396	1.7
UNITED STATES (American ORT and Women's American ORT organisations)	5,772	26.0	5,480	23.0
WORLD ORT – including the North American Federation system	3,209	14.5	4,277	17.9
UJC – World ORT	3,581	16.1	3,606	15.1
OTHER COUNTRIES	626	2.8	470	2.0
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES WORLDWIDE	4,147	18.7	4,357	18.2
GRAND TOTAL	22,166	100.0	23,863	100.0



REMEMBRANCE

World ORT mourns the recent passing of leaders and friends

Shelley Appleton, former Chairman of World ORT and former office holder in Women's American ORT.

Bennett Benyana, ORT South Africa.

Andreas Buthelezi, ORT South Africa.

Robin Gilbert, former Executive Secretary of World ORT.

Sharon Goldberg, wife of Steve Goldberg (Women's American ORT).

Paolo Hertmann, ORT Italy.

Dr. Henry Pressman, husband of Women's American ORT Honorary Vice President Miriam Pressman.

Howard Ring, Women's American ORT.

Bill Rosin, British ORT.

Mr Boris Schneersohn, Honorary Vice President, ORT France.

Sam Sebba, British ORT.

Miron Shor, President of ORT Moldova.

Merril Skeist, American ORT.

Alicia Vainer de Taraciuk, mother of Pablo Taraciuk, ORT Argentina Committee member.

Bernard Wand-Pollak, former Director of Latin America.

Leo Werthein, husband of ORT Argentina President Norma G. de Werthein and father of Dario Werthein, World ORT Executive Committee member.

Miriam Yashon, mother of Women's American ORT Vice President Linda Kirschbaum.