

Come celebrate Israel's 70th with Israel's "Captain Sunshine"

Yosef Abramowitz, founding father of the solar power industry in Israel, will be keynoting Sunday, April 29th the Caulfield Shule Yom Ha'atzmaut Breakfast. Named by CNN as one of the six leading Green Pioneers worldwide and by PV Tech as "One of the most inspiring solar CEOs", Yossi Abramowitz created the solar power industry in the Jewish state as an expression of Jewish values and aspirations.

After developing and financing the first solar field in the Middle East—at Kibbutz Ketura in the Arava--Abramowitz set his sights on bringing green and affordable power to Africa. "With 600 million Africans without access to electricity, it was important to adapt what we learned in Israel and create a business model for Tikkun Olam," says Abramowitz.

Abramowitz and his team launched the first commercial-scale solar field in sub-Saharan Africa, which today supplies 6% of Rwanda's power, and they are hard at work in ten additional African countries. Abramowitz has played a pivotal role in increasing Israel's diplomatic and business role in Africa and served as the *shadchan* that led to Israel signing onto the U.S. Government's Power Africa program. He has also advised a dozen Arab governments on starting their solar industries and keynoted the Egyptian utility conference in Cairo.

Prior to his solar career, Abramowitz was a noted Jewish educator and activist, involved the campaigns to free Jews from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia and Yemen. His last trip to Australia was 30 years ago, when he addressed the Australasian Union of Jewish Students in his role as chairperson of the World Union of Jewish Students. Abramowitz often appears with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu with African leaders and served on the Israeli negotiating team at the Paris Climate Conference. He is married to Rabbi Susan Silverman and they have five children. He can be followed @CaptainSunshine



Caption: Prime Minister Netanyahu introducing Yossi Abramowitz to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa to advance their solar and wind programs, July 2016. Credit: PMO.