

---

An Azerbaijani-Israeli innovation forum was held on 13 February.

The forum was arranged with the support of Azerbaijan's Small and Medium Business Development Agency (SMBDA), the Israeli-Azerbaijani Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IACCI), Azerbaijan's Center for Analysis and Coordination of the 4th Industrial Revolution (4SIM), the Azerbaijan Entrepreneurs Confederation, and the Next Step Innovation Center.

The forum created an opportunity for the exchange of experience between the Azerbaijani and Israeli businessmen in the field of technologies and innovations applied in education and agriculture.

The chair of the Israeli-Azerbaijani Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Alex Kaplun, Executive Vice-Rector of ADA University, Fariz Ismayilzade, and Chairman of the Board of Small and Medium Business Development Agency, Orkhan Mammadov, shared their views on the goals of the forum, Azerbaijani-Israeli relations, and opportunities for cooperation between businessmen in the field of innovation.

The event continued with panel sessions on general issues, education, and agriculture. At the general panel, Azerbaijani Minister of Science and Education Emin Amrullayev, Minister of Agriculture Inam Kerimov, Deputy Minister of Economy Sahib Mammadov, Azerbaijani Ambassador to Israel Mukhtar Mammadov, and Head of the "Ramat-Negev" Regional Council Eran Doron expressed their opinions on the relations between Azerbaijan and Israel, technologies used in recent years in the agricultural, educational and scientific spheres of our country, prospects for expanding cooperation in relevant areas, the digital economy, modern approaches used in restoration and reconstruction work carried out in Azerbaijani territories liberated from occupation. The speakers answered questions from the participants.

At the panel on education, heads of various educational institutions operating in Azerbaijan and Israel and experts shared their opinions on the challenges that the education field faces, the role of innovations in education, investment in this area, artificial intelligence, digital platforms, and prospects for cooperation.

Furthermore, the panel on agriculture was held with the participation of representatives of public and private organizations from Azerbaijan and Israel. During the panel, the role of agricultural technologies and innovations in increasing productivity and more efficient use of land and water resources, the implementation of innovative agricultural startup ideas, and so on were discussed.

Bilateral meetings between startups and businessmen were also held as part of the forum.