After a very successful and dynamic two week trip in Israel that included Cybertech, meetings with companies we have been in contact with, and the addition of some new high energy Israeli visionaries I can confidently say that we are on to something big. Within our excel file we have updates regarding the existing target companies and what action items we need to take in order to make RI their state of choice and get them on board for a visit. On top of this the potential for a shared Israel-RI innovation hub looms larger than ever with key Israeli and RI stakeholders engaged that would provide access to countless companies who are eager to take part. **Creating this hub will ensure sustainability, solid economic development, retention of Gen Y talent, and further strengthen relationships between Israel –RI.**

Over the coming weeks we must now regroup and create the necessary documents (high level) to deliver to the VC’s, incubators, and target companies highlighting RI, the businesses that operate there (what fields they are engaged in), and any other key statistics by sector. This will allow them the ability to create solid matches among their portfolio companies, connections, and companies operating within the various incubators.

Between this unique group we can do incredible things and cement the sister city relationship between Newport and Herzliya with the support of Tair Kowolsky (Herzliya Accelerator Center and Rachel Milgram (Gold ventures incubator/startup grind).

The VC’s Glilot Capital, Aleph Capital, Rhodium, and Flint Capital are all actively awaiting our updated documentation and guidance on how to proceed together. As a closing point we also have access through a new friend of mine, Ziv Ben Hemo to the Hazava network which is the largest group of IDF technology unit alumni (think 8200/Talpiot) looking to join unique startups and international hubs. He loves our vision and remains ready to support.