



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
RESEARCH CENTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
And
HELLENIC OPEN UNIVERSITY, HELLENIC REPUBLIC

In respect of
Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Research &
Education

Research Center of Environment and Sustainable Development of Department of Environment, Islamic Republic of Iran and Hellenic Open University hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Willing to further strengthen the friendly relations and the strategic partnership between two centers;

Desiring to further develop cooperation on environment protection through research and education;

Determined to promote closer and long- term cooperation in the field of environmental research and education and deepening on cooperation interaction;

Now therefore both sides have agreed to cooperate under this "Memorandum of Understanding" as follows:

Paragraph 1
OBJECTIVES

The Parties will cooperate within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as MOU) on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit and taking into consideration their national environmental policies.

Paragraph 2
SCOPE OF COOPERATION

Scope of cooperation will consist of the pursuance of the following Fields:

1. In scientific research it is important to carry out the following:
 - Development of joint research projects with the help of educational and research centers, laboratories and other institutions of the parties;
 - Development and implementation of joint research and technological projects and programs;
 - Joint application for national and international grants in order to establish a regional financial intermediary institution to attract international financial support related to the environment
 - Joint organization of conferences, seminars, workshops, summer schools and other academic activities.
2. Students training, advanced training /retraining shall be carried out through:
 - Enrollment of teachers from both countries to conduct lectures and special courses;
 - Exchange of scientific and academic programs, curriculums, workbooks, methodological and educational materials;
 - Internship, professional advanced programs, work experience for students;
 - Joint design of educational programs, textbooks and teaching aids.

Paragraph 3
ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve the objectives, referred to in Article I, the Parties intend to:

1. Hold regular consultations meetings every six months:
 - 1.1-Discuss priority issues of mutual concern;
 - 1.2-Discuss their respective positions on issues dealt with;
2. Organize meetings, conferences, seminars, courses and joint training programs in line with the scientific exchange between the faculty members of two centers.

Paragraph 4
IMPLEMENTATION

The Parties shall appoint a focal person as the Coordinator for the purpose of implementing this MOU. The Coordinators shall prepare and agree up on the scope of activities in the form of a Plan of Action (PoA) on 2-year basis. If necessary, specific agreements will be established for every action.

Paragraph 5
FUNDING

Each party shall provide adequate resources to carry out its own responsibilities under this MOU.

Paragraph 6
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The Parties shall consult with each other regarding the Intellectual Property Rights as appropriate relating to any project or benefits derived thereof in respect of activities carried out under a Cooperation Arrangement and/or PoA pursuant to this MOU.

Paragraph 7
OBLIGATIONS ARISING FROM OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

The provisions of this MOU do not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties, stemming from international conventions, protocols, programs and agreements which they are a party to.

Paragraph 8
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this MOU shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Parties.

Paragraph 9
AMENDMENT

This MOU may be amended at any time through mutual written consent by the Parties. Such amendments shall enter into force on such date as may be determined by the Parties and shall form an integral part of this MOU.

Paragraph 10

INTERPRETATION

- 1) Any Annex to this MOU shall be considered part of this MOU. Unless the context suggests another concept.
- 2) This MOU describes general measures to be taken in order to further cooperation between the parties. Implementation of specific activities/projects/programs pursuant to this MOU will necessitate the execution of appropriate Biennial Cooperation Arrangements and/or Work Plan between the parties.
- 3) This MOU supersedes all prior communications and representations, whether oral or written, concerning this MOU.

Paragraph 11

ENTRY INTO EFFECT, DURATION, AND TERMINATION

- 1- This MOU shall come into Effect on the date of the signatures.
- 2- This MOU shall remain in Effect for a period of 5 (five) years and may automatically be extended by the mutual consent of the Parties, unless one party objects. It may be terminated at anytime by either party by giving written notification at least 6 (six) months prior to the date of the intended termination.
- 3- The termination of this MOU will not affect the validity and duration of any ongoing project or activity until the completion of such project or activates.

In witness where of the undersigned being duly authorized representatives thereto by their respective governments have signed this MOU.

DONE in duplicate at..... in three languages, Farsi, Greek and English, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation of the present MOU, the English text shall prevail.

FOR
RESEARCH CENTER OF
ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
Ravanbakhsh Shirdam

FOR
HELLENIC OPEN
UNIVERSITY

Ioannis Kalavrouziotis