

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES, THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FISHERIES AND FOOD AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THROUGH THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES**

The Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) of the United Mexican States, and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) United States of America, hereinafter referred to as "the Participants";

WHEREAS the United Mexican States and the United States share a common agricultural history fruitful benefiting the economies of both states;

BEARING IN MIND that the SAGARPA promotes the comprehensive development of agriculture, livestock and fisheries in Mexico and provides for the sustainable use of its resources for the growth of the balance between economic regions to strengthen productivity and competitiveness of agricultural products in new markets;

RECOGNIZING that the agenda of APLU is based on the three pillars: increasing obtaining degrees and academic success; promoting scientific research, and increasing engagement. The work of the Association is upheld by active and effective work with Congress and the administration support, as well as the media to propose federal policies that strengthen public universities and benefit students

WHEREAS the importance of agricultural and fisheries research, knowledge transfer and strengthening bilateral scientific cooperation between institutions of both countries as triangular and multilateral with Latin America and the Caribbean as well as countries in other regions is a priority for Participants, in order to provide agricultural and fisheries producers the necessary resources to be sustainable, productive and successful in a global market

They have reached the following understanding:

## **FIRST Objective**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish the basis for cooperation between the Participants for the purpose of:

- a) To strengthen communication between the Participants to foster greater cooperation and adhere to the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding
- b) Promote scientific research, transfer of knowledge and technological innovation in order to promote the design of public policies for sustainable resource management.
- c) Collaborate bilateral, triangular and multilaterally with Latin America and the Caribbean as well as countries in other regions through research, extension, training and assessment aimed at strengthening the scientific and technical knowledge, and promote and disseminate policies, plans, programs and effective and efficient practices.
- d) To define a framework of cooperation, consultation and exchange of information, promotion and monitoring of activities of research, assessment, expertise and information made in partnership between the Participants
- e) To promote the realization of collaborative activities under the agenda of sustainable development 2030

## **SECOND Method of Cooperation**

The Participants intend to develop cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding, through the following ways:

1. Establish meetings and quarterly conference calls between the Participants to include representatives of agrifood departments and international coordinator identified for each accredited body. It is intended that the phone conferences provide a general update on issues and projects previously defined and provide a manner for further cooperation.
2. Promoting the dissemination and exchange of information, seeking the inclusion and participation of federal, state and municipal authorities and agents considered relevant as educational institutions, research centers and education and social organizations and producers , involving stakeholders in coordinating events such as forums, workshops and training to better serve the agricultural and fishery production, and community access to healthy, affordable and nutritious food, while resources are preserved natural. These events will serve to better inform and establish future connections cooperation in agricultural and fisheries extension and research, and to promote awareness of society and information exchange in the areas of adaptation and mitigation to climate change in agriculture, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture.
3. Joint development of research and extension programs or specific action decided jointly in terms of climate-smart agriculture; Family and transitional agriculture;

technological innovations, adaptation of agriculture and fisheries to climate change; food safety; mitigation of greenhouse gas; and youth development for future producers.

4. Creation of Observatories of climate change and other educational outreach platforms, environmental monitoring and implementation for the benefit of agricultural and fisheries producers

Cooperation activities and the terms under which will be implemented, would be described in the Work Programs developed by the Participants, which form an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

### **THIRD Staff Participation**

Each Party shall make the necessary arrangements to facilitate that the entry, stay and exit be granted to the participants officially involved in cooperative activities arising from this Memorandum of Understanding. These participants are subject to the immigration, tax, customs, health and national security force in the receiving country and may not engage in any activity unrelated to their duties without the prior authorization of the competent authorities. Participants shall leave the receiving country in accordance with the laws and provisions.

The personnel assigned by each of the participants to carry out cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding will continue under the leadership of the institution to which they belong, so no employment relationship would be created by the Other, which it would not be considered a supportive employer or substitute.

### **FOURTH Participation of Other Institutions**

By mutual decision, and as they deem appropriate, Participants may invite individuals and entities from the private, public, academic, research and other sectors, to support activities described in this Memorandum of Understanding, under the understanding they can contribute directly and significantly to the fulfillment of its objectives manner.

### **FIFTH Evaluation Mechanism**

Participants may jointly prepare reports and assessments, considering the observations of the technical areas involved in cooperation activities, on the progress and achievements based on this Memorandum of Understanding.

**SIXTH**  
**Intellectual property**

If as a result of cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding intellectual property rights are generated, they are governed by the applicable national legislation as well as international conventions that are binding for the United Mexican States and United States of America.

**SEVENTH**  
**Modifications**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by mutual consent of the Participants, formalized in writing, specifying the date of its entry into force.

**EIGHTH**  
**Duration**

Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding shall apply from the date of signature. From unless the force is in writing, this Memorandum of Understanding is applicable for a period of 4 years.

Either Participant may terminate its participation in this Memorandum of Understanding at any time by writing to the other Participant thirty (30) calendar days in advance. The ongoing cooperation activities that have been approved or initiated under this Memorandum of Understanding will continue until its conclusion, unless otherwise agreed between both Participants.

**NINETH**  
**Final provisions**

Participants acknowledge that this MOU does not create rights or legally binding obligations. Participants declare in good faith to implement this Memorandum of Understanding as much as each may determine in its sole discretion, in accordance with their respective applicable laws and in accordance with budgetary availability. Participants may hold consultations at any time, to address any matter related to the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed in Las Cruces, New Mexico, the ninth day of September 2016, in two original copies in Spanish and English.

BY THE Secretariat of Agriculture,  
Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries  
and Food UNITED MEXICAN  
STATES

José Eduardo Calzada Roviroso  
Secretary

BY THE ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC LAND-  
GRANT OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

Peter McPherson  
President