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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

AND

THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

This Memorandum of Understanding is drawn up between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, hereinafter referred to as UNESCO and the University of Puerto Rico, represented by its Sea Grant College Program, Mayaguez Campus, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, hereinafter referred to as the University.

Whereas UNESCO has initiated and maintained a beach management project in the Caribbean since 1985, referred to as COSALC and described in Addendum I to this Memorandum of Understanding,

And whereas the University, since 9 March 1994, has performed as a regional, scientific coordinating centre for COSALC providing the functions of coordination, provision of scientific expertise, training and extension services,

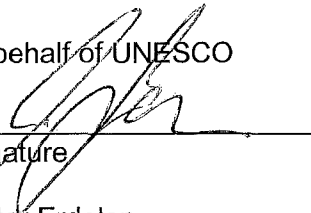
Now therefore the parties agree as follows:

- JA.
1. The coordinating centre and official address for COSALC, until further notice from the University, shall continue to be the Sea Grant College Program, University of Puerto Rico, P.O.Box 9011, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico 00681-9011.
 2. The University shall continue to make available to COSALC the following: office space, furniture, use of equipment (computers, printers, facsimile), telephone and electrical services, stationery supplies and secretarial support.
 3. The University shall continue to provide scientific expertise, printing and extension services whenever possible and subject to availability of funds and time to assist with the programme implementation and training activities of COSALC.
 4. UNESCO shall continue to provide some financial support to COSALC for programme activities relating to beach resource management in the islands, essentially for capacity building and institutional strengthening, training and awareness activities, subject to the evolution of its Coasts and Small Islands Programme and its budget which is dependent upon the decision of the General Conference of UNESCO. The details of the financial support and programme activities shall be agreed upon by the parties through subsequent contracts.
 5. UNESCO will provide appropriate expert services in order to continue with COSALC, subject to the availability of funding.

6. UNESCO and the University shall seek additional funding for ongoing and new COSALC programme activities and expenditures as outlined in Addendum II to this Memorandum of Understanding.
7. All work within the COSALC programme during the time covered by this Memorandum of Understanding shall include appropriate credits to both parties to this Memorandum of Understanding.
8. UNESCO and the University shall explore ways to collaborate in a new inter-regional initiative, Small Islands Voice, which focuses on small islands in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Pacific regions, and seeks to determine the concerns of the general public regarding environment and development issues; to contribute these issues to the review of the Barbados Programme of Action; and through increased debate and openness to encourage small islands to broaden their decision-making processes.
9. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into effect on the date of its signature and, subject to the decisions of the governing bodies of UNESCO, shall remain effective until 31st December 2006.
9. Either party shall have the right to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving three months written notice to the other party.

In witness whereof the parties agree to this Memorandum of Understanding.

On behalf of UNESCO


Signature

Walter Erdelen
Name

Assistant Director General for Science
Title

24.09.2004
Date

On behalf of the University of Puerto Rico


Signature

Dr. Manuel Valdes-Pizzini
Name

Director, Sea Grant College Program
Title


Date

Signature

Dr. Jorge I. Velez-Arocho
Name

Chancellor
Title

October 26, 2004
Date

ADDENDUM I DESCRIPTION OF COSALC

COSALC (Coast and Beach Stability in the Caribbean) was started in 1985 and renamed 'Managing Beach Resources and Planning for Coastal Change, Caribbean Islands' in 1998. The project was initiated by UNESCO and is administered by the Unit dealing with 'Environment and Development in Coastal Regions and Small Islands'. Since 1994, the project has been jointly managed by the University of Puerto Rico Sea Grant College Program through a series of three Memoranda of Understanding (signed in 1994, 1997 and 1999). The initiative arose in response to concerns expressed by the smaller islands of the Eastern Caribbean relating to the serious nature of beach erosion and its impacts on the vital tourist industry.

The project includes Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, San Andres Archipelago (Colombia), Turks and Caicos Islands, US Virgin Islands (St. John and St. Thomas) concentrates on for major areas:

(1) Understanding beach changes in 14 countries/territories, 1985-2004: this involves providing persons from government agencies and non government organisations with the skills, equipment, manuals and publications (booklets, brochures, fact sheets), training and software, to measure, assess and manage the various phenomena associated with beach erosion. Beach monitoring programmes, using standardized methodology, have been established in the islands, these are maintained and managed by the islands themselves, databases cover periods of 1-14 years. The information is being used by the islands in coastal planning and erosion mitigation.

(2) Planning for coastline change, in five countries/territories, 1996-2004: this activity seeks to apply the information collected in Understanding beach changes (described above) so as to ensure that new coastal development is placed at a safe distance from the active beach zone, thereby providing for the safety of coastal infrastructure and the conservation of beaches. A generic methodology was developed which has been applied to 5 countries/territories (Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia) so that specific safe setback distances have been determined for individual beaches in these islands.

(3) Environmental video production and broadcast, in three countries/territories, 1998-2004: this activity seeks to get the environmental message into the living room by providing training and equipment to persons from environmental and broadcast agencies in Anguilla, Grenada, and St. Lucia, to design, prepare and broadcast short environmental video clips (30 seconds - 1 minute duration) which carry a specific message and can be broadcast repeatedly.

(4) Environmental education and community-based beach management through the Sandwatch project in thirteen Caribbean countries, 1999-2004, in collaboration with the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Net, Caribbean Sea Project: this project seeks to train schoolchildren in the use of the scientific method through monitoring and observing changes, activities and processes at local beaches; and then, with the assistance of their teachers, parents and communities, to apply that information to design and implement specific projects to solve a particular problem while also improving the environment at their local beaches.

Providing for interaction and exchange between the islands is another important project component, utilizing internet-based fora as well as meetings, workshops and conferences.

ADDENDUM II PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR 2004-2006

COSALC Project

Whilst maintaining and strengthening the four programme areas in the Caribbean islands, and expanding them to new islands where appropriate, further new areas of activity planned for the period 2004-2006 include:

- Consolidating the strengths of the project and the lessons learnt by conducting an assessment of the activities with both external and internal assessors.
- Expanding the scope of specific project components to small islands in other regions of the world (especially the Indian Ocean and Pacific regions), through the CSI network of projects and the Sea Grant Program network (particularly in the Pacific). For instance, implement plans to expand the beach monitoring component to Seychelles in the Indian Ocean and Palau in the Pacific Ocean; and the Sandwatch project component to Cook Islands and Palau in the Pacific and to Seychelles in the Indian Ocean.
- To further the concept and application of community-based beach management (presently being initiated in the San Andres Archipelago), whereby local groups, coastal residents and other stakeholders (including government) take responsibility for maintaining and managing specific beach areas; and developing multi-stakeholder agreements to ensure future sustainability.

Small Islands Voice Project

- To strengthen the geographical coverage of the project by especially involving the Spanish-speaking islands of the Caribbean in the project activities, in order to determine their issues of concern in the environment and development arena, through activities like opinion surveys, internet-based fora
- To further promote the establishment and use by the general public of new information and communication technologies in small islands (e.g. multi-media production centers, internet discussion fora, inter-regional radio), as well as strengthening more traditional forms of media (e.g. print, radio, television and theatre), in order to discuss environment and development issues and to encourage small islands to broaden their decision-making processes.