

## Memorandum of Understanding

between

the Global Water Partnership Organisation

and

the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

### Article 1. The Parties

**1. Global Water Partnership (GWP)** is an international network created in 1996 to foster the implementation of integrated water resources management (IWRM): the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources by maximising economic and social welfare without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems and the environment. It is a non-profit global action network focused on facilitating and supporting the sustainable management of water resources at all levels.

The **GWP Organisation (GWPO)**, established as an intergovernmental agency in Sweden, is managed by an Executive Secretary who is answerable to the Steering Committee (SC). The GWPO Secretariat acts as the 'network hub' for GWP. The Secretariat manages GWP's finances and reports on funding received at the global level. It also supports interregional knowledge sharing, resource mobilisation, global advocacy, and ensuring communication and coherence across the Network.

GWP has built up a network of Regional Water Partnerships (RWPs). These bring together partner institutions and organizations in various sectors and interested groups to identify and discuss common water problems and to develop action plans based on integrated water resources management. Each RWP, and the Country Water Partnerships (CWPs), Area Water Partnerships, City Water Partnerships and River Basin Partnerships that may be established in the regions, has its own operational strategy, work programme and administrative structure. The RWPs and CWPs are attached to host institutions that administer funds and employ staff on their behalf.

**2. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** with headquarters located in Rome, Italy, leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information. It helps developing countries and countries in transition modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries

practices and ensure good nutrition for all. FAO aims at strengthening the partnership collaboration with public and private institutions for the development and implementation of activities strengthening science and technology capacity for sustainable development.

## Article 2. Rationale/Purpose of the Collaboration

GWP and FAO share the view that water security is essential to food security and human well being. Water for sustainable increase of food production is an urgent question as hungry populations in many countries continue to grow, and readily available water resources are depleted. GWP and FAO agree that in order to address the critical development challenges of water and food security, it is important to increase crop water productivity in a sustainable way, to adapt and upgrade yesterday's irrigation technologies, to reduce water consumption inefficiencies, promote water conservation technologies and practices, and to ensure equitable access to water resources.

GWP and FAO further agree that risks related to climate change impede agricultural development, and that water-related disasters such as floods and drought have an increasing impact upon crop production and livelihoods. GWP and FAO both promote climate resilience and disaster risk reduction, and share the view that climate adaptation efforts require a coordinated and integrated approach.

## Article 3. Areas of Collaboration/Co-operation

The Parties will co-operate in the following areas:

1. Food security and water security
2. The water, food, energy and climate change nexus
3. Integrated land and water management

The co-operation may be at global level, regional level and national level. In particular, contacts and information will be shared between FAO regional offices and Regional Water Partnerships, and also between the FAO country officers and Country Water Partnerships (where applicable). Such co-operation will be made in support of implementing international commitments and action programmes.

All collaboration between GWPO and FAO under this Memorandum of Understanding is based on voluntary allocation of staff time from the respective organisation. Where input in the form of voluntary staff time is offered, the parties shall specifically agree on tasks to be performed, outputs to be produced and exchange of information.

All collaboration between GWPO and FAO, where financial resources are required or staff time is to be formally committed, will be based on specific separate agreements between the Parties. Such agreements shall provide detailed information on tasks to be performed, outputs to be produced, exchange of information and financial conditions for the collaboration.

#### Article 4. Contact Persons/Points

A. In the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, GWPO shall be represented by: *Ania Grobicki* (Executive Secretary Global Water Partnership)

Notices shall be addressed to:

Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)

Address: Drottninggatan 33  
SE-111 51 Stockholm, Sweden  
Telefax: +46 8 522 126 30  
Contacts: Ania Grobicki, Executive Secretary  
Telephone: +46 8 522 126 30  
E-mail: [gwp@gwpforum.org](mailto:gwp@gwpforum.org)

B. In the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, FAO shall be represented by: *Alexander Müller* (Assistant Director General, Natural Resources Management and Environment)

Notices shall be addressed to:

Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Address: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
Telefax: +39 06 570 53064  
Contacts: Alexander Müller, ADG, NR  
Telephone: +39 06 570 53037  
E-mail: [NR-ADG@fao.org](mailto:NR-ADG@fao.org)

#### Article 5. Use of logos and names

The Parties agree not to use in any press release, memo, report or other published disclosure related to this Memorandum of Understanding any of the other Parties' name and logo without prior written agreement by the party concerned.



#### Article 6. Confidentiality

Neither of the Parties nor its personnel shall communicate to any other person or entity any confidential information made known to it by the other party in the course of the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding nor shall it use this information to private or company advantage. This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.

#### Article 7. Intellectual property rights

Intellectual property rights, in particular copyright of material to be used to carry out the activities under this Memorandum of Understanding shall remain with the originating party unless separately negotiated and agreed.

#### Article 8. Privileges and Immunities

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding or in any document or arrangement relating thereto shall be construed as constituting a waiver of privileges or immunities of FAO, nor as conferring any privileges or immunities of FAO to the other Party or its personnel.

#### Article 9. Applicable law

The present Memorandum of Understanding and any document or arrangement relating thereto shall be governed by the general principles of law, to the exclusion of any national system of law.

#### Article 10. Controversies

Any controversy arising as a result of or in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably between the Parties. Any differences that may not be so settled shall be brought to the attention of the Executive Heads of the two Organizations for a final resolution.

#### Article 11. Amendments

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by the written mutual consent of the Parties, in accordance with their respective rules and regulations. Such

amendments shall enter into force one month following notifications of consent by both Parties.

#### Article 12. Duration

This Memorandum of Understanding enters into force upon signature by both Parties. It shall remain in force for a period of 3 years, unless terminated earlier by a three months written notice from either party. Project agreements entered into by the Parties may have durations that extend beyond the term of this Memorandum of Understanding. In that event, the obligations assumed by the Parties shall survive the termination of the present Memorandum of Understanding to the extent necessary to permit the orderly conclusion of activities.

Rome, 08/09/2011

For and on behalf of the  
Global Water Partnership Organisation



Ania Grobicki  
Executive Secretary

For and on behalf of  
the Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the United Nations



Alexander Müller  
ADG-NR

