



Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Ref: MOA SIRDI 1 of 2015

THIS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT is made this 7th day of April, 2015 between the **MINISTRY OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT** with address of Second Floor, West Block Building, Independence Hill, Belmopan, Cayo District, Belize (hereafter referred to as the “MFFSD”) **AND THE SUGAR INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE** (hereafter referred to as “SIRDI”), in Belize with address of Buena Vista, Corozal, Belize.

WHEREAS the MFFSD desires to use the expertise of SIRDI to support sugar cane farmers in eliminating the sugar cane burning. SIRDI will assist with activities outlined below, on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth.

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES THERETO HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. This MOA will come into effect on April 1st, 2015, and expire on June 30th, 2015.
2. The work under this MOA will be performed under the overall supervision of the Department of the Environment in the MFFSD.
3. The focus of this MOA will be to contribute to the overall reduction of UPOP’s releases from uncontrolled open burning of agricultural wastes. This will be accomplished through Pilot demonstrations for the adoption of green practices by sugar cane farmer and Sensitisation Workshops/Trainings.
4. The main objective of the Workshops/Training Sessions is to :
 - Meet with Industry Stakeholders and Group Leaders to inform them, discuss their participation and also to elicit information on the technical aspect of their respective harvesting system and expectation for the pilot project. Discuss incentives and benefits for both cane farmers and cane cutters.

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5. Six one-day Workshop/Training sessions to be conducted as follows:
 - a) With BSI/ASR to discuss green harvesting and methods to test the group that will actively participate, being in this case - the test group. Propose to BSI/ASR to receive green cane for three days.
 - b) Hold a meeting with Sugar Cane Production Committee (SCPC) to get feedback and support for the green harvesting project.
 - c) An Awareness campaign with group leaders from five (5) test groups: being San Jose, San Estevan Progressive, San Lazaro, San Narciso and Patchakan Progressive
 - d) Meeting and sensitization workshops with cane cutters in the fields to get their input and needs in order to cut green cane. Discuss incentives to cut green cane, and get suggestions and other benefits that perhaps were not contemplated. Also to provide the cane cutter with the basic protective gears such as high rubber boots, arms protective gears etc.
 - e) Meet with Social Security and hospital personnel to discuss benefits package for potential accidents.
6. That MFFSD, through the project - Belize Chemicals and Waste Management Project, will fund the following costs to SIRDI:
 - a) The funds will cover the following cost of US Thirteen Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty Dollars (US **13,260.00**) as follows:
 - Pilot Demonstration for the adoption of green practices by sugar cane farmers: **US 10,050.00.**
 - Sensitisation Workshops **US 3,210.00**
7. All payments made to SIRDI will be carried out by the Belize Chemicals and Waste Management Project under the Department of the Environment (DOE), for the activities stated above. Disbursement of the above costs will be based on UNDP procurement procedures (micro-purchase canvass form).
8. The Belize Chemicals and Waste Management Project of the DOE will support the above costs, which will assist in achieving Output 2 of Component 2: "UPOP's release reduction in waste management operations and agriculture". The Project Management Unit within the DOE will be funding 25% of the monies that will be used and SIRDI will be co-sponsoring with the corresponding 75%.

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9. SIRDI will be responsible for all the payments during these activities.
10. MFFSD will accept **NO** responsibility for accidents and/or illness costs incurred during this pilot period.
11. SIRDI will conduct themselves at all times in a manner compatible with their responsibilities for the MFFSD and is expected to avoid any action and, in particular, any public statement which may adversely reflect the MFFSD or their status.
12. During their assignments, SIRDI, will not, except with prior explicit approval of the Chief Executive Officer, issue statements to the press or other agencies of public information, release visual information for publication, submit articles, books or other material for publication or take part in any mass communication activities such as film, radio or television productions which are in any way related to the assignments/activities or interest of the MFFSD, or the Government of Belize.
13. SIRDI is to keep confidential all unpublished information and data made known to them through the activities set out in this MOA, and not to publish any reports or papers on the basis of information obtained during the time set out in the MOA, except with the written authorization of CEO - MFFSD.
14. SIRDI is to provide written notice in case of ~~illness or other~~ unavoidable circumstances which might prevent them from fulfilling their obligations.
15. SIRDI is to present a Final Report that will include the findings from all the Workshop Evaluation Sheets completed no later than one week after the end date of assignment, to the Department of the Environment - MFFSD.
16. The MOA may be terminated before its expiration date under the following circumstances:
 - a. Unsatisfactory work performance by SIRDI;
 - b. Other circumstances that may make it difficult for SIRDI to continue their assignment.

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17. SIRDI will be summarily dismissed without notice in the following cases:
- a. Gross negligence, misconduct and
 - b. Non-observance of the provisions contained within this document.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the MFFSD through their representative and SIRDI through their representative set their hands below this day: **April _____, 2015**

SIGNED BY:



Adele Catzim-Sanchez
Chief Executive Officer
Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development

Date: 29/04/15



Marcos Osorio
Director
Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute



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Date: APRIL 29, 2015