



## Agreement of Cooperation

between

**the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

and

**the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA)**

### Whereas:

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was established for the purpose of raising levels of nutrition and standards of living; securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agriculture products; bettering the conditions of rural populations and thus contributing toward the expanding world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger. To achieve that purpose, the Organization promotes scientific, technological, social and economic research relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture, including forestry, and the improvement of education and administration relating to forestry, and the spread of public knowledge of forestry science and practice;

The main purpose of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA) is to provide a platform for students of forest sciences; enrich students' formal education; promote cultural understanding by encouraging collaboration with international partner organizations; and give students the opportunity to gain practical experiences with a wider and more global perspective, with the aim of creating increased access to and knowledge of forestry and environmental education, policy making processes and practice;

### Considering that:

- FAO has always given great importance to education, research, and building knowledge, in general, and to working with youth, in particular as a tool for development and peace and to advocate for the sustainable management of environmental resources with the involvement of civil society;
- IFSA is of the view that forestry education is much broader and effective when expanded beyond the confines of traditional educational institutions, and that using its global network and strength in research capacity and diversity of knowledge will make the difference in motivating,

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educating, and reaching out to many university students, educational and research institutions and policy makers that have an interest and linkage to forestry education and knowledge;

- In view of their strong commitment to ensure the wellbeing of humankind and the environment, FAO and IFSA are ready to join forces, using their respective comparative advantages, to work in synergy with a range of educational and research institutions, on forestry education and knowledge globally, with the long term objective of helping to fulfill the mandate of each organization and to work to achieving Millennium Development Goal No. 7 (MDG 7);

- To this end, IFSA and FAO (hereinafter also called “the Parties”) express their readiness to sign the present Agreement of Cooperation and establish a mechanism which will follow up and give continuity to their collaboration. This Agreement will regulate and strengthen their collaboration, and constitute a framework in the ambit of which a programme of concrete activities will be agreed upon and developed on a yearly basis.

#### **Article 1 – Areas of collaboration**

The Parties agree on the following principal areas of collaboration:

##### **A. Dissemination and enhancement of educational information**

IFSA and FAO wish to forge a strong partnership for the dissemination and enhancement of forestry education and knowledge by undertaking the following actions:

- The Parties will use their available channels for disseminating information through each other and will exchange information on the latest organizational developments with regard to forestry education and research;
- The Parties will exchange up-to-date information, articles and publications, including ‘IFSA news’ and FAO’s *UNASYLVA*, and contribute written content to such respective publications where relevant and feasible;
- The Parties shall provide updates on relevant activities to each other at least once a year. Whenever feasible this should preferably be done in a face to face meeting between the focal points of each organization.

##### **B. Promotion of events, learning and career opportunities and networks**

- FAO will provide, to the extent possible, free participation for a limited number of IFSA students in FAO events (in the form of a waived registration fee), and where available, resources to support them to attend those events. According to needs, IFSA students may be asked to provide in-kind assistance at FAO events. The participation of IFSA students at such events will be based on either: a) decisions taken on a case-by-case basis between

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the two appointed educational focal points of each organization; or b) IFSA decisions to independently select students based on a formal application and evaluation system, approved by FAO and subject to the limits of funds available in FAO Forestry;

- IFSA will provide, to the extent possible, free participation of FAO in IFSA events. FAO will be welcome to introduce the organization and its functions, FAO projects and make other contributions to educational IFSA programmes using presentations and other media;
- FAO may cooperate in creating, offering and facilitating internship opportunities for selected students of IFSA through FAO's established internship programme, to enable students to improve their knowledge of the forestry sector; vacant internship opportunities should be announced through the IFSA networking channels, including mailing lists and websites;
- FAO and IFSA may also explore, on a case-by-case basis other possibilities for cooperation, including through IFSA's dissemination and administration of student surveys; maintenance of educational institutions contact lists; and participation in any future events on forestry education;
- IFSA will periodically disseminate FAO vacancies through its available networks.

The formulation and realization of concrete initiatives referred to in sections A and B above shall be the subject of specific agreements defining the terms of participation of each interested Party, including their financial obligations.

Activities and initiatives under this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of financial and human resources.

## **Article 2 – Use of logo, name, emblems and confidential information**

The use of the logo, name and emblems of the Parties and any institutional or promotion materials in which these are present shall be subject to prior written approval of the Party concerned.

The use by one Party of the logo, name and emblems of the other Party in accordance with this Agreement shall not and cannot in any way signify, on annulment and/or expiry of this Agreement, the acquisition by the user of any right to said logo, name or emblems.

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

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of this Agreement, nor shall it use this information to private or company advantage. This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

### **Article 3 – Privileges and immunities**

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

### **Article 4 – Applicable law**

This Agreement and any other document or arrangement relating thereto shall be governed by the general principles of law, to the exclusion of any single national system of law.

### **Article 5 – Settlement of Disputes**

Any dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and the execution of this Agreement, or any document or arrangement relating thereto, shall be settled amicably by negotiation between the Parties. If the dispute is not settled by negotiation between the Parties, it shall, at the request of either Party, be submitted to one conciliator. Should the Parties fail to reach agreement on the name of a sole conciliator, each Party shall appoint one conciliator. The conciliation shall be carried out in accordance with the Conciliation Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, as at present in force.

The Parties may request conciliation during the execution of the Agreement and anyway not later than twelve months after the expiry or the termination of the Agreement. The Parties may request arbitration not later than ninety days after the termination of the conciliation proceedings.

The conciliation or the arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in English.

Any arbitration award rendered in accordance with the provisions of this Article shall be final and binding on the Parties.

### **Article 6 – Entry into force, duration, amendment and termination**

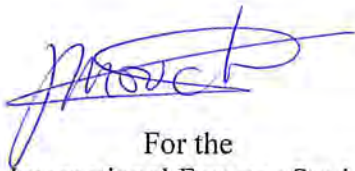
The present Agreement shall enter into force upon the signature of both Parties. It shall have an initial duration of 3 (three) years, after which it may be tacitly renewed for further periods of 3 (three) years, under the same terms and conditions, unless one Party communicates its

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termination to the other Party in writing. The communication shall be sent at least three months prior to the expiry of the initial duration or of any subsequent period of renewal.

The present Agreement may be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and may be amended at any time by mutual consent of both Parties. Such amendments shall enter into force one month following notifications of consent by both Parties. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party upon three-month written notice given to the other Party. In that event, the Parties will agree on measures required for the orderly conclusion of ongoing activities.

Signed in Durban on 4 December 2011



For the  
International Forestry Students'  
Association (IFSA)

Juliette Mouche  
President



For the  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations (FAO)

Eduardo Rojas-Briales  
Assistant Director General  
FAO Forestry Department