

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE CENTER FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
AND
THE CENTRO DE COORDINACION PARA LA PREVENCION DE LOS DESASTRES
NATURALES EN AMERICA CENTRAL**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) IS MADE AND ENTERED INTO on to the date of its signing by and between the Center for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (hereinafter CDMHA) and the Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central (hereinafter CEPREDENAC) to strengthen and further develop interinstitutional collaboration in the area of disaster awareness and preparedness in the geographic area in which CEPREDENAC operates which currently includes Central America and Panama, and may expand to Belize and Dominican Republic (hereinafter The Region).

PURPOSE

This MOU delineates the areas in which CDMHA and CEPREDENAC (hereinafter The Centers) will collaborate and the terms and conditions by which they will operate.

SCOPE

CDMHA and CEPREDENAC are uniquely qualified to collaborate in the areas of training, monitoring, research, education, and communications services in support of disaster awareness and preparedness in The Region.

Each Center has demonstrated internationally recognized expertise to develop effective interinstitutional collaboration in the aforementioned areas. Cooperation between these Centers can further the extent and impact disaster preparedness programs and strategies within The Region. To this end, The Centers enter into this MOU.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Through formal agreements, The Centers will collaborate in supporting on-going projects and/or initiatives in the areas of training, monitoring, research, education, and communications services in support of disaster awareness and preparedness as considered convenient, affordable and desired by each Center. The Centers will also develop new initiatives and will jointly, or separately, search for funding to support new projects and/or initiatives. When executed by official representatives of The Centers, these agreements will be attached as addendums to this MOU, and will be subject to terms and conditions contained herein.

Areas for inter-institutional cooperation include, but are not limited to :

- ◆ Development of educational programs and material to support and strengthen institutional capacity in disaster preparedness and management throughout The Region. Forseen collaboration includes the development and production of technology-based training tools for short, medium and long-term courses in emergency preparedness and disaster relief, both on site and in the field. Components of these tools include database to support disaster preparedness research and outreach, a best-practices teaching pool, and an electronic library to be accessible and/or distributed to client organizations.
- ◆ Development and/or strengthening of GIS-based projects and/or initiatives for disaster preparedness and management throughout The Region. Forseen activities in this respect are: GIS training ; GIS-based research; technical support for GIS development.
- ◆ Sponsoring of regional Conferences, Seminars and/or Workshops relevant to disaster preparedness and management.

WORK PLAN/PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

It is further understood that this MOU is made subject to the Terms and Conditions mentioned above and will be in compliance with all statutory requirements for each party and their policies.

TERM

This MOU, which is effective upon date of signing by representatives of CDMHA and CEPREDENAC. This agreement can be terminated by either party with a written notice. It is understood that termination of this MOU will not jeopardize projects which are on-going at the time of termination.

Administration of any on-going projects will follow the terms and conditions set forth within each project agreement.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

This MOU is valid and enforceable only upon being signed by both persons authorized to bind CDMHA and CEPREDENAC, and any other person required by the law of the specific institute to sign a memorandum of this nature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: the parties hereto have caused this MOU to be executed by their undersigned officials as duly authorized.

Review/Approved:

CDMHA :

Dr William E. Bertrand
Co-Director

Dr. Michael Conniff
Co-Director

CEPREDENAC:

Authorized Person 1

Any other?