



**Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**  
**on agricultural research and cooperation**  
*between the*  
**Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA)**  
*and the*  
**Scientific Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems of the**  
**Republic of Uzbekistan (SRIIWP)**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter also referred to as the “Memorandum” or MoU) is between the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), a public and non-profit research organization with legal venue in Rome, Italy, via della Navicella 2-4, 00184, and represented by its President and Legal Representative Prof. Andrea Rocchi and the Scientific Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems (SRIIWP), a research non-profit institute and legal entity under public law, with legal venue in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 100187 Building 11, Karasu-4 massif and represented by Director Uraskeldiev Abduvakhid Bakhtiyorovich and Legal Representative, hereinafter also referred to as “The Participants”,

Republic of Uzbekistan

**PURSUANT TO** the prevailing laws and regulations in their respective countries;

**CONSIDERING** that the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, hereinafter also referred to as “CREA”, is the main research organization of the Italian Republic in the fields of agriculture, agroindustry, food, fishery and forestry, livestock, rural development and economics research, that promotes and conducts fundamental, applied and development research on a broad range of knowledge areas;

**CONSIDERING** that the Scientific Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems, hereinafter referred to as “SRIIWP”, is the main research organization of the Ministry

of water resources Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of water management, which promotes and conducts fundamental, applied and innovative research in a wide range of areas of knowledge;

**BEING AWARE OF** the significant role of agriculture, agroindustry, food, fishery and forestry, rural development and economics research in the economic development of the two countries;

**AIMING TO** promote economic, scientific and technological cooperation between their countries in the aforementioned fields;

**WHEREAS** the goal of this MoU is to promote the collaborative relationship in agricultural research and cooperation, and other related matters between CREA and SRIIWP, in order to contribute to the social well-being and economic development of the countries served by the respective Institutions;

**WHEREAS** CREA and SRIIWP could be joint partners in the application for potential cooperation projects and collaborative research in the aforementioned fields;

**INTERESTED** in developing further cooperation in the field of research in agriculture and water management, in particular in the field of sustainable management of water resources as natural resources; optimizing water use in irrigation through the development and adaptation of water-saving irrigation technologies, refining irrigation regimes for <sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> agricultural crops in arid and semi-arid areas; integration of intelligent precision irrigation systems and decision support systems; development of improved technologies for the reclamation of saline lands, drainage and irrigation infrastructure;

- taking into account common interests in sustainable agricultural production, innovation and economics, and environmentally sustainable land and water use systems, resource conservation, with the aim of minimizing the impact on the environment and human health, etc.

**NOW THEREFORE**, CREA and SRIIWP inspired by their common objectives to further promote and accelerate agricultural and economic research, have entered into this MoU under the terms and conditions set forth in the following articles:

## **Article 1**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Memorandum is to promote and encourage economic, scientific and technical cooperation between CREA and SRIIWP, including their respective research Institutes or Centres/Departments in the field of agriculture.

## **Article 2**

### **Applicable law**

Activities envisaged in this Memorandum will be carried out by the Participants under their exclusive competence and in accordance with their respective national laws, mindful of the international obligations of their Countries as well, as regards Italy, the

obligations deriving from the membership to European Union (EU).

This Memorandum is a statement of intent and is not intended to be legally binding upon either the Participants or their two countries and therefore does not prejudice any rights and/or commitments resulting from any bilateral or multilateral international agreements concluded by the two countries and, as regards the Italian Republic, the obligations arising from the membership to the European Union (EU).

### **Article 3**

#### **Areas of cooperation**

The Participants will develop cooperation and exchange information and experience on the following areas:

1. exchange of research materials, publications and information;
2. exchange of research staffs;
3. collaborative work on relevant research meetings and conferences;
4. development and implementation of collaborative research projects;
5. collaboration in training programs including staff development;
6. other related areas that are of interest and mutually agreed upon by the Participants.

Any further development of the collaboration between CREA and SRIIWP will be jointly evaluated following the needs, interest, capacity and effectiveness for such cooperation of both Participants, and the level of financial resources available for the implementation of the subsequent joint program.

It is understood that specific collaborative activities developed under this MOU between CREA and SRIIWP, will be approved in written form by the Participants.

### **Article 4**

#### **Forms of cooperation**

The Participants may cooperate in the following forms, also through their research Institutes and Centres:

- a) Exchange of information of mutual interest, including samples of products which are not covered by commercial and intellectual property rights;
- b) Elaboration of joint bilateral and multilateral projects;
- c) Organization of communication activities (organization of fairs, exhibitions, workshops, conferences, symposia etc.);
- d) Promotion of research activities;
- e) Exchange of specialists and organization of meetings on issues of mutual interest;
- f) Exchange of information on possible funding opportunities at national and/or international level for joint activities falling under the scope of this MoU

- g) Any other technically possible form of cooperation as mutually agreed upon by the Participants with subsequent joint programs.

## **Article 5**

### **Follow-up and review**

Any joint programs, project proposals or activities agreed upon by the Participants will be carried out in accordance with specific operative arrangements to be proposed by the Joint Committee and concluded within the framework of the present Memorandum.

Any amendment to this Memorandum will be made upon mutual consent of the Participants and in written form.

## **Article 6**

### **Joint Committee**

For the implementation of the activities set forth in this Memorandum, the Participants will establish a Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

The Joint Committee will consist of representatives of each Participant and will be co-chaired by the representative of both Participants. The Joint Committee will establish its own rules of procedure by mutual consent.

The functions of the Joint Committee include:

- Exchanging views and information on scientific and technological policy issues;
- Reviewing and discussing the cooperative activities and accomplishments under this Memorandum;
- Making recommendations to the Participants with regard to this Memorandum, which may include the identification and proposal of the cooperative activities hereunder and the encouragement of their implementation.
- Providing an annual report to the Participants on the status, the achievements and the effectiveness of the cooperative activities under this Memorandum. The report will be written in the English language.

Likewise, the Participants, through the Joint Committee, will promote the subscription of specific instruments of Cooperation per area of specialization.

The Joint Committee will meet alternately at least once a year, in person or through videoconferencing.

## **Article 7**

### **Financial arrangements**

This Memorandum does not create any financial commitments of the Participants.

Any costs of the activities deriving from this MoU will be discussed between the Participants and agreed on a case-by-case basis. The activities envisaged by this MoU

are subject to the availability of funds and personnel.

The expenses arising from the implementation of this MoU will be covered by the Participants according to their ordinary budget availability without any additional cost for both the State budgets.

## **Article 8**

### **Intellectual property rights**

Scientific and technological information having non-proprietary nature arising from direct cooperative activities may be made available to the public by each Participant through customary channels and in accordance with its general procedures.

Intellectual property rights and other proprietary rights created or introduced during the cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be treated in accordance with the provisions of Annex I to this MoU, which constitutes an integral part thereof.

## **Article 9**

### **Research material transfer agreement**

In case the transfer of research materials is required for collaboration activities set forth in this Memorandum, such materials will be transferred in accordance with laws and regulations in force in the countries of the Participants through separate Material Transfer Agreements concluded between the Participants and/or Enterprises, Institutions and economic Agents from the countries subject to approval by the Participants.

## **Article 10**

### **Settlement of differences**

Any dispute in the interpretation and/or implementation of this Memorandum will be settled amicably through direct consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

## **Article 11**

### **Confidentiality**

Each Participant will observe the status of confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and other data received or supplied to the other Participant during the period of the implementation of this Memorandum.

Participants will not use such information for purposes other than specified without the prior written consent of the other Participant.

The Participants intend to observe the confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and other data exchanged between them during the period of effect of this Memorandum as well as three (3) years after its termination.

## **Article 12**

### **Personal data processing**

The Participants will ensure protection of personal data of employees and experts involved in the initiatives under this MoU and will not transfer such personal data to third parties without prior written mutual consent and, in any case, will process them in accordance with the relevant EU and national legislation.

## **Article 13**

### **Effect and termination**

This Memorandum will take effect on the date of the last signature and will remain valid for 5 years. It may thereafter be extended through the signature of a new Memorandum between the Participants.

This Memorandum may be terminated by either Participant at any time with a six (6) month prior written notice.

Unless otherwise agreed by the Participants, the termination of the Memorandum will not affect existing programs or ongoing activities and programs which will continue until their completion.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA) and the Scientific Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems (SRIIWP) respectively, have signed this Memorandum.

**DONE** in Tashkent on \_\_\_\_\_ 2026, in two originals, in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

**Council for Agricultural Research and  
Economics (CREA)**

**President  
Prof. Andrea Rocchi**

**Scientific Research Institute of  
Irrigation and Water Problems**

**Director  
Urazkeldiev Abduvakhid  
Bakhtiyorovich**

## **Annex I**

### **Principles concerning the allocation of intellectual property rights**

#### **1. DEFINITION**

For the purpose of this Agreement, “intellectual property” shall have the meaning given in Article 2 of the Convention establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, signed at Stockholm on 14 July 1967 (as amended and in force).

#### **2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF THE PARTIES IN DIRECT COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES**

A. Except if otherwise specifically agreed by the Participants, the following rules shall apply to intellectual property rights, except copyrights and related rights, generated by the Participants in the course of cooperative activities carried out under this Agreement:

a. The Participant generating intellectual property shall have full ownership. In case the intellectual property has been jointly generated and the respective share of the work by the two Participants cannot be ascertained, the Participants shall have joint ownership of the intellectual property;

b. The Participant owning the intellectual property shall grant the other Participant the access rights to carry out only these ongoing direct cooperative activities. Such access rights shall be granted on a royalty-free basis.

B. Except if otherwise specifically agreed by the Participant, the following rules shall apply to copyrights and related rights of the Participants:

a. When a Participant publishes scientific and technical data, information or results by means of journals, articles, reports, books or in other forms, including video tapes and software, arising from and relating to cooperative activities under this Agreement, the Participant shall make utmost efforts to co-write and co-sign it with the other Participant; otherwise the Participant shall make utmost efforts to obtain, for the other Participant, non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licences in all countries where copyright protection is available, in order to translate, reproduce, adapt, transmit and publicly distribute such works;

b. All publicly distributed (publishing journals for remuneration or hire included) copies of a copyrighted work under the provisions of paragraph B.a. shall indicate the name(s) of the author(s) of the work unless the author(s) explicitly declines to be named. They shall also display a clearly visible acknowledgement of the cooperative support of the Participants.

C. Except if otherwise specifically agreed by the Participants, the following rules shall apply to the undisclosed information of the Participants:

- a. When communicating to the other Participant on the information necessary to carry out direct cooperative activities, each Participant shall identify the information which it wishes to remain undisclosed;
- b. The Participant receiving the information may, under its own responsibility, communicate undisclosed information to its agencies or persons employed through these agencies for the specific purposes of implementing this Agreement;
- c. With the prior written consent of the Participant providing the undisclosed information, the other Party may disseminate such undisclosed information more widely than otherwise permitted in paragraph C.b. The Participant shall cooperate with each other in developing procedures to request and obtain prior written consent for such wider dissemination, and each Participant shall grant such approval to the extent permitted by its laws and regulations;
- d. Information arising from seminars, meetings, assignments of staff and of the use of facilities arranged under this Agreement shall remain confidential when the recipient of such information is requested by its provider to protect its confidential or privileged character at the time such communication is made, according to paragraph C.a.;
- e. If one Participant becomes aware that it will be, or may be reasonably expected to become, unable to meet the restrictions and conditions of dissemination of Article 2.C., it shall immediately inform the other Participant. The Participants shall thereafter consult to define an appropriate course of action.