

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Stockholm Environment Institute-US (SEI-US)
Somerville, USA
and
Fundacion Bariloche
San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina**

The Stockholm Environment Institute-US (SEI-US) is an international non-profit research organization with 501c(3) status in the United States that works on a wide variety of issues related to sustainable development. SEI-US is a research affiliate of Tufts University in Massachusetts and is one regional Center of the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) - an international research organization with headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. SEI's main U.S. offices are on the Tufts campus in Somerville, Massachusetts.

Fundacion Bariloche, Argentina (FB) is one of the leading energy research and training institutions in South America. Based in Bariloche, Argentina, it conducts research and provides training in subjects related to economics, planning, energy, and sustainability on behalf of institutions and enterprises in South America and worldwide.

SEI-US and FB have established a close, long-standing, and friendly working relationship with each other. Most notably, both organizations have worked closely together as lead partners in the development and management of the LEAP software system for integrated energy planning and in establishing the global COMMEND community: designed to foster a community among developing country analysts working on energy for sustainable development. The annual LEAP training workshop held in Bariloche and organized jointly by SEI-US and FB, which has now been conducted for eight successive years, is a prime example of the close working relationship of the two organizations. Staff from SEI-US and FB have also partnered in numerous projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America for clients such as the UNEP, UNDP, UNFCCC and OLADE.

Now, in recognition of their long-standing partnership, FB and SEI-US propose to further their interests in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

1. The purpose of this MOU is to acknowledge the close ties between the two organizations, to encourage further and deeper cooperation and to further promote friendship between the two parties for their mutual benefit.

2. FB and SEI-US recognize the value of cooperative research and educational experiences that integrate theory and practice and promote institute internationalization of our respective organizations.

3. FB and SEI-US anticipate developing an ever closer relationship in order to share the benefits of their respective institutional accomplishments, to discuss the frameworks of their different research, training, and educational systems, and to develop future areas of cooperation.

4. FB and SEI-US will further encourage their respective personnel: scientists, researchers, and engineers to pursue collaborative research that is jointly beneficial to their professional development and will lead to increased understanding between the parties and their respective countries.

5. FB and SEI-US encourage and welcome the exchange of short-term visiting scholars. The principal purposes of any such visits are to deliver lectures and seminars, to engage in collaborative research in areas of common interest, and to explore the development of mutual projects and the means to support them.

6. Neither party is obligated to expend any monies or other resources in connection with this MOU. Resources for implementation of any undertaking that may result from this MOU may come from either party, depending upon budgetary availability.

7. The implementation of any cooperative research project or of any proposed visit shall be conditional upon both the availability of sufficient funding acceptable to each of the participants and the execution of a written agreement therefore signed by authorized officials of the participating organizations.


8. FB and SEI-US will each designate a representative who is to be responsible for the management of this MOU. Both parties agree to notify the other if the representative changes in the course of the agreement, and to in turn inform their respective international and/or administrative units.

9. This MOU takes effect when signed by authorized representatives of both organizations. The agreement will continue in force and effect for a period of five (5) years from such date. Renewal of the agreement may be initiated at the end of each such five (5) year period, and will require signatures by authorized officials of the participating organizations.

10. This agreement may be terminated at any time at the written request of either party; the organization requesting termination must notify the authorizing officials of both organizations of their intention to do so at least sixty days prior to the proposed termination date.

11. SEI-US and FB expect to continue and deepen their partnership for the development of the LEAP software and the COMMEND community. SEI-US recognizes FB as the lead organization and the principle focal point for LEAP and COMMEND activities in South America.

Signatures in recognition of this MOU:

By:  _____

Hector Pistonesi, President
Fundacion Bariloche
Av. 12 de Octubre 1915, P.O. Box 138
8400 Bariloche, Argentina

Date: 1/29/2010

By: 

Charles Heaps, Director
Stockholm Environment Institute, US Center
11 Curtis Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144, USA

Date: 1/20/2010