

Memorandum of Understanding 2016-2022

between

Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS)

and

Construction and Planning Agency (CPA), Ministry of the Interior

For a Regional Strategic Program of Action

in Taipei, Taiwan, ROC

RECOGNIZING the importance of Taiwan's aquatic and wetland ecosystems, spanning from headwaters to oceans, as significant components of Taiwan's environment;

NOTING that the health of these freshwater, estuarine, and marine ecosystems is threatened by a wide variety of anthropogenic activities;

NOTING that these ecosystems are critical for Taiwan's sustainability, and are an important economic resource in sectors such as aquaculture, fisheries, and ecotourism;

AWARE OF shared economic, environmental, and social objectives, by the leadership of CPA and SWS and other organizations, in promoting, coordinating, and sharing scientific expertise and knowledge of these ecosystems; and

FURTHER NOTING the common interests, interactions, and involvements of the CPA and SWS, and other organizations in expanding the international scope, membership, and influence of their respective organizations on common economic and environmental issues with the intention of coordinating and sharing scientific knowledge of wetland and aquatic ecosystems;

CPA and SWS AGREE to promote the scientific study and restoration of wetland ecosystems as well as education and outreach to promote wetland conservation via cooperation and action between the parties named in this MOU. The parties specifically agree to the following:

Goals: Promoting the sustainability of Taiwanese wetlands through training, cooperative conferences and workshops, and interdisciplinary exchanges of scientists and managers.

To promote the visibility and sustainability of programs administered by international wetland organizations

- supporting wetland professionals in Taiwan to participate in wetland seminars, workshops, courses, and lectures, etc; and providing advice, counseling, and referrals to assist graduate students from Taiwan to apply for advanced studies in wetlands and aquatic ecosystems in other parts of the world.

To organize international or regional conventions in order to expand international exchanges pertaining to wetland conservation:

- helping and participating in wetland research projects, seminars, workshops, educational programs, local wetland trips, lectures, and providing necessary budgets and administrative assistance;

To strengthen Taiwan's participation in international organizations and the visibility of international wetland events:

- inviting the representatives from signed parties to participate in annual meetings, and/or workshops, conferences and conventions, and supporting the potential organization of an annual meeting hosted in Taiwan by the signed parties which may include funding, technological and related administrative support by the parties; details of meetings (especially those involving significant financial commitments) may be further outlined in a specific MOU pertaining to the meeting itself.

To expand participation in wetland projects on cross-border research, survey, monitoring, restoration, and management:

- providing opportunities for trans-boundary wetland research projects between signed parties in order to enhance scientific rigor and sound wetland science; and supporting interdisciplinary scientific exchange and cooperative platforms for wetland training, research, education, and social services on a multilateral basis for future cooperation.

This Memorandum of Cooperation shall continue for six (6) years past the date of approval by both Parties, unless amended or terminated. One year before the term of this Memorandum, both Parties will review it and agree to renew it, amend it or terminate it by the 6-year anniversary.

This Agreement may be terminated by either Party subject to written notice of six months. In case the Memorandum ceases to be in effect on account of termination thereof, existing cooperation shall continue to the extent necessary for the completion of existing, agreed activities.

Date: September 13, 2016

Gillian T. Davies
SWS President

Wun-Long Hsu
General Director
Construction and Planning Agency