

Cooperation Agreement between  
The Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique  
and  
The Regents of the University of New Mexico

**By and between**

The **Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique**, a public scientific and technological organization, having its registered office at 3, rue Michel Ange, 75794 Paris cedex 16, France, represented by Alain FUCHS, its President,  
Hereinafter referred to as “**CNRS**”

And

The Regents of the University of New Mexico (“UNM”), a public research University (a New Mexico state educational institution) , having its registered office at Albuquerque, NM 87131 , represented by John McGraw, Vice President of Research and Hereinafter referred to as « UNM »

Jointly hereinafter referred to as the “**Parties**”

**Preamble**

The CNRS is involved in environmental issues. In this framework, it may give a Label of Zones Ateliers (Z.A.) to support interdisciplinary research works on environment and anthroposystems related to societal needs.

The UNM employs Scott COLLINS, Chair of the US LTER, a network which conducts research on ecological issues.

**Whereas**

CNRS and UNM have common interest on long term ecological research.

CNRS and UNM respectively support the ZA Network and the LTER Network which can be complementary;

CNRS and UNM have common goals :

- **Understanding:** To understand a diverse array of ecosystems at multiple spatial and temporal scales.
- **Synthesis:** To create general knowledge through long-term, interdisciplinary research, synthesis of information, and development of theory.
- **Information:** To inform both the Parties by creating well designed and well documented databases.
- **Legacies:** To create a legacy of well-designed and documented long-term observations, experiments, and archives of samples and specimens for future generations.
- **Education:** To promote training, teaching, and learning about long-term ecological research and the Earth's ecosystems, and to educate a new generation of scientists.
- **Outreach:** To reach out to the broader scientific community, natural resource managers, policymakers, and the general public by providing decision support, information, recommendations and the knowledge and capability to address complex environmental challenges.

They intend to formalize and strengthen their partnership in this agreement (hereinafter referred to as “Agreement”).

## **Article 1 – Purpose of the Agreement**

CNRS and UNM shall encourage, develop and facilitate Cooperative activities in fields of common interest where they are pursuing research activities to understand long-term ecological processes.

If needed to manage one of the activities, specific agreements should be signed. Such agreements will deal with confidentiality and intellectual property amongst other things.

In order to achieve this goal and obtain additional financial support, the CNRS and UNM or individual LTER sites may jointly apply to appropriate and relevant funding agencies.

## **Article 2 – Definitions**

For the purposes of this Agreement:

(a) “Cooperative activity” means any activity which the Parties undertake, or support, pursuant to this Agreement, and includes:

- ✓ Visits and Exchange of Participants
- ✓ Joint organisation of scientific seminars, conferences, symposia and workshop
- ✓ Data comparison
- ✓ Cross-site synthesis activities
- ✓ Joint research.

(b) “Information” means scientific or technical data, results or methods of research and development stemming from Joint research, and any other data relating to Cooperative activities;

(c) “Joint research” means research that is implemented with financial support from one or both Parties and that involves collaboration by Participants from both the Parties;

(d) “Participants” means any individual involved in the sites defined in France by CNRS and in the United States by the LTER in Cooperative activities.

## **Article 3 – Areas of Cooperative activities**

The Parties have identified three major domains during the term of this Agreement:

- Urban sustainability and urban ecosystems
- Alpine ecosystems
- Agro-ecosystems

The scientific managers of the cooperation, Gudrun Bornette as Scientific Assistant Director at the CNRS Institute of Ecology and Environment and Scott Collins as Chair of the US LTER, may suggest to the Parties modify this list.

The CNRS and UNM may jointly pursue Cooperative activities with third parties.

## **Article 4 – – Following of the Agreement**

For the French partner, the activities developed in the framework of this Agreement, and the added value of it, will be submitted annually to the CNRS

For the US partner, the activities developed in the framework of this Agreement, and the added value of it, will be submitted annually to the US LTER Executive Board and the Science Council meeting.

All Scientists Meeting between the Parties take place every three years at the US LTER All Scientists Meeting.

## **Article 5 – Entry into force, termination and dispute settlement**

The effective period of this Agreement shall be five years starting from the date of signing. In the event one of the Parties desires to extend the effective period, it may be extended after mutual consultation and agreement. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon ten (10) days written notice to the other

In the event doubts should arise in the interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement or problems about matters not described therein, both Parties shall consult with each other and settle them amicably in the spirit of this Agreement.

In \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_

For The Regents of the University of New  
Mexico

For CNRS

John McGraw  
Vice President of Research

Alain Fuchs, President