Memorandum of Understanding to Advance

A 'Model Farm' for Sustainable Agricultural Practices in the Southern Dead Sea Area

South Ghor Municipality - Tamar Regional Council - Themar Association

The Southern Dead Sea Area has unique climatic and geographic characteristics which present challenges - and opportunities - to sustainable farming both in Israel and Jordan. In the 'model farm' project, South Ghor Municipality, Tamar Municipality and Themar Association in coordination with EcoPeace / Friends of the Earth Middle East (FoEME) commit to cooperate in order to advance the project for the mutual benefit of Jordanian and Israeli farmers as well as residents of the Southern Dead Sea Area. Following are the terms and conditions of this understanding:

1. The Model Farm will be established in South Ghor area on a land identified and allocated by Themar Association. In this regard, Themar has already allocated 30 dunums for the project and it is agreed that after 3 years from the launch of the project any equipment and tools to be purchased will become the property of Themar Association.

2. A cross border steering committee comprised of Jordanian and Israeli representatives from all relevant authorities will be established under the coordination of EcoPeace/Friends of the Earth Middle East

3. The Model Farm will function as a center for cross border knowledge regarding different aspects of crop selection and cultivation practices such as: irrigation, fertilization, plant protection, etc. From a technical perspective dealing with agricultural extension services the cooperation will be directly led between Themar Association and the Tamar Municipality.

4. Cross border training program for local farmers, which will focus on improving the sustainability and profitability of the local agricultural sector is one main aim of establishing the farm.

5. Addressing the cross border house fly issue by applying sustainable techniques for agricultural waste management and fertilization is another main aim behind establishing the farm.