Memorandum of Understanding to Advance

A 'MODEL FARM' FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IN THE SOUTHERN DEAD SEA AREA

Tamar Regional Council and South Ghour Municipality

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 this 'model farm' project, South Ghour and Tamar municipal authorities commit to advance cooperation for the mutual benefit of Israeli and Jordanian farmers and residents in the southern Dead Sea area as follows:

1. A model farm will be established in South Ghour on land agreed to by the local authorities and allocated by local Jordanian farmers.
2. The model farm will function as a center for cross border knowledge sharing regarding different aspects of crop selection and cultivation practices such as: irrigation, fertilization, plant protection, etc.
3. The model farm will serve as a training facility for cross border training programs for local farmers focusing on improving the sustainability and profitability of the local agricultural sector and exposing local farmers to new farming techniques.
4. The model farm shall seek to address the cross-border housefly issue by applying sustainable techniques for agricultural waste management and application of fertilizers through replication on large scale.
5. South Ghour Municipality in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and local farmers will support the model farm, involving other relevant government authorities, farmers' union and other stakeholders in Jordan, including invitation and provision of facilities for the training programs to be held.
6. Tamar Regional Council will coordinate and take the lead on all Israeli matters related to the creation and operation of the model farm, including involvement and support from all relevant government authorities and other stakeholders in Israel, including selection of trainers and covering all associated costs of the trainers.

The project will be managed by a joint steering committee comprised of an equal number of representatives from the two municipal authorities and from EcoPeace Middle East staff in Israel and Jordan.

The initiative to create this 'model farm' has been developed under the Good Water Neighbors program of EcoPeace Middle East with the generous support of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

[Signatures]

Mr. Dov Litvinoff
Mayor
Tamar Regional Council

Date:

Mr. Salem Khalafat
Mayor
South Ghour Municipality

Date:

Signed in the presence of Israeli Deputy Minister of Regional Cooperation:

MK Mr. Ayoob Kara

[Logos]