

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The Cabinet of Coordination of Social Policy through the Progressing with Solidarity Program of the Vice Presidency of the Dominican Republic and the Peace Corps

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), by and between the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY THROUGH THE PROGRESSING WITH SOLIDARITY PROGRAM OF THE VICE PRESIDENCY**, agency created through Executive Power Decree No. 488-12, on August 21, 2012, with the social domicile and main office in "San Rafael" building, located in the Leopoldo Navarro Avenue No. 61, Don Bosco neighborhood, in this city of Santo Domingo de Guzmán, National District, capital of the Dominican Republic, duly represented by its Chief Director, **MRS. ALTAGRACIA SURIEL SANCHEZ**, Dominican, of age, provided with identification and electoral document No. _____, domiciled and resident in this city, and through the **COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS (CTC)**, agency created through Executive Power Decree No. 489-12, on August 12, 2012, with the social domicile and main office in this city of Santo Domingo de Guzmán, National District, capital of the Dominican Republic, duly represented by its Director, **MR. CLAUDIO DOÑÉ CASTILLO**, Dominican, of age, provided with the identification and electoral document No. _____, domiciled and resident in this city of Santo Domingo de Guzmán, who hence from and for the purposes and consequences of this MOU will be known as "**THE SOCIAL CABINET**" or by their full names, and

From the other Part, the **PEACE CORPS**, through its office in Dominican Republic ("Peace Corps/Dominican Republic"), duly represented by its Director, **MRS. KRISTIN AMANDA KAPER**, American, provided with American passport No. _____, documents the **PARTICIPANTS'** understanding and intention[s] regarding their collaboration to develop projects and activities in the sectors identified by the Social Cabinet and assisted by the Peace Corps through the assignment of its Peace Corps Volunteers [and Peace Corps Response Volunteers] ([collectively] referred to as "PCV" or "Volunteers").

Also, as a witness, the Constitutional Vicepresident of the Republic and Coordinator of the Social Policies Cabinet (SPC), **DR. MARGARITA CEDEÑO**, Dominican, of age, married, provided with the identification and electoral document No. _____, domiciled and resident in this city of Santo Domingo de Guzman, National District, Dominican Republic, who hence on and for the purposes and consequences of this MOU will be known as "**The Witness**" or by her full name.

For all purposes and consequences of this Memorandum of Understanding when **the CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY (CCSP) though the PROGRESSING WITH SOLIDARITY PROGRAM (PROSOLI) and the Technologic Community Centers (TCC) and THE PEACE CORPS** will be collectively designated as **BOTH PARTICIPANTS OR THE PARTICIPANTS**.

I. DURATION; PURPOSE OF MOU

This MOU outlines the Participants' understanding and intentions regarding the roles and responsibilities of **THE PARTICIPANTS** in the design, promotion, implementation, evaluation and continuous support of the projects and activities related to Youth, Families, and Community Development, Education, and Community Economic Development (intended to foster ownership on the part of stakeholders so that the projects and activities are responding in an effective manner in addressing local and national priorities, and achieving sustainable results).

BOTH PARTICIPANTS commit to participate in the projects and activities as outlined in this document and carry out the responsibilities that are set forth in this MOU.

This MOU may be modified by **THE PARTICIPANTS** in writing.

Reference is hereby made to the Agreement between the Government of the Dominican Republic and the Government of the United States signed in 1962 to establish **THE PEACE CORPS** Program in the country.

THE PARTICIPANTS represent a separate and independent entity. As such, each retains its own identity in providing services and is responsible for establishing its own policies and financing its own activities, other than as set forth herein. This MOU is not a legally binding commitment, does not create any employment, partnership, agency, joint venture or other similar legal relationship between **THE PARTICIPANTS**, and neither **PEACE CORPS** nor **THE SOCIAL CABINET** has the authority to bind or act on behalf of the other. The intended responsibilities of **THE PARTICIPANTS** under this MOU should be subject to their respective authorities, regulations, policies, priorities, and the availability of funds. It is **THE PARTICIPANTS'** intention that the PCVs at all times remain PCVs during any period of collaboration between the Participants. Any intended use of **THE PARTICIPANTS'** respective official seals, emblems (logos) or names may be allowed only with prior written permission.

II. VOLUNTEER SELECTION AND ORIENTATION

A. Recruitment and Selection.

- The **PEACE CORPS** intends to recruit and select PCVs with the appropriate skills. Peace Corps' selection of PCVs for the project/activities should be made after screening for language and technical skills, professional references, suitability for service, and legal and medical evaluations.
- The **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** intends to fully entrust recruitment and selection of the PCVs to the **PEACE CORPS**.

B. Orientation.

- The **PEACE CORPS** intends to provide PCVs with a description of their duties and responsibilities ("Position Descriptions").
- The **PEACE CORPS** staff should endeavor to provide to PCVs a review of their benefits (including allowances, medical care and leave) and obligations (including professional conduct, compliance with local laws and Peace Corps policies and procedures) as Volunteers; administrative, medical, and safety and security training; cross-cultural training, technical training, and core expectations regarding their performances.

III. VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENTS

A. Site Selection.

- The **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** commits to assist the **PEACE CORPS** in identifying strong local communities and organizations that the **PEACE CORPS** may consider for placement. Such possible sites for assignment of a Volunteer should meet **PEACE CORPS** criteria for site identification and placement. These criteria may include, but are not limited to, the active engagement of the leadership in the community, the presence of a viable and consistently reliable support network for the Volunteers, and presence of community counterparts to willingly serve as work partners to the Volunteers.

Each community considered for Volunteer placement should also meet **PEACE CORPS'** site safety criteria. These criteria include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Acceptance of foreigners, no recorded incidents with foreigners.
2. Low crime rate recorded by local authorities.

3. Taking into consideration local conditions, availability appropriate housing that protects the health and safety of the Volunteer, and is authorized by PC / DR.

In each instance when a Volunteer is assigned to a local community or organization, such community or organization should expect to complete a separate memorandum of understanding with the **PEACE CORPS** regarding such Volunteer assignment.

B. Length of Assignment.

Volunteer assignments are normally for a period of 24 months.

C. Extension of Assignment.

Extensions of a Volunteer's service may be granted upon agreement of the organization or community or site where the Volunteer is placed, the Peace Corps, and the Volunteer and in accordance with **PEACE CORPS** policies and procedures.

D. Early Termination of Assignment.

- Service in the **PEACE CORPS** is voluntary and a PCV may resign at any time. If a PCV is unable or chooses not to complete the assignment established by this MOU and resigns mid-service, standard **PEACE CORPS** policies apply.
- The **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** understands that the **PEACE CORPS** is under no obligation to replace a PCV who resigns or whose service is discontinued. In addition, at its sole discretion, the **PEACE CORPS** may discontinue the service of a PCV in accordance with its policies.

E. Supervision.

- The **PEACE CORPS** Country Director and the local community or organization to which the Volunteer is assigned intends to share supervision of the PCV. Performance evaluation feedback to the Volunteer should be continuous and a collaborative effort between the local community work partner(s) and Peace Corps. Formal feedback should take place during scheduled site visits designed to measure progress and effectiveness of the Volunteer.
- The **PEACE CORPS** Country Director has primary responsibility for supervision of PCVs with respect to **PEACE CORPS** policies, regulations, and benefits. Any disciplinary or similar action to be taken regarding any Volunteer should be determined solely by the **PEACE CORPS**.

IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The PEACE CORPS intends to:

1. Provide Volunteers to assist in one or more sectors of Youth, Families and Community Development, Education, and Community Economic Development;
2. Promote and execute projects and activities in vulnerable communities.
3. Assign approximately 10 Volunteers between the different areas each year to work with the Community Technology Centers (CTC), and / or PROGRESANDO Training and Production Centers (CCPP) and / or the Youth Guides and / or the Spaces of Hope in previously agreed communities. The specific activities of each area are annexed to this agreement under the title Description of Work by Sector: Youth, Family and Community Development, Education, and Community Economic Development;
4. Engage, collaborate, coordinate and work with the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** to review, develop, and design projects and activities in the Youth, Family and Community Development, Education, and Community Economic Development sectors;

5. Provide the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** with opportunities, as appropriate, to engage along with the **PEACE CORPS** by attending pre-service training to welcome new volunteers and participate in the swearing-in ceremonies, and other events organized by **PEACE CORPS** as appropriate and requested.

B. The CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY intends to:

1. Engage, collaborate, coordinate and work with the **PEACE CORPS** to develop, design and review projects and activities in the Youth, Family and Community Development, Education, and Community Economic sectors and to connect the **PEACE CORPS** with relevant regional, district and local offices and staff , to implement such projects and activities;
2. Recommend families to host the Volunteer during the first four months of service, help the Volunteer in the process of integration in the community and later with the search for housing.
3. Maintain a continuous and open line of communication between the **PEACE CORPS** and the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** in relation to the comments and questions that arise from any of **THE PARTICIPANTS**.
4. Include and cover expenses to the Peace Corps Volunteers in the training events organized by the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** that contribute to the achievement of the objectives of both institutions. For example, trainings of Good Being, Voice with Wisdom, among others.
5. Provide necessary support, assistance, and materials according to the institutional budget available for the realization of activities, such as: space in the facilities of Community Technology Centers (CTC) and PROGRESANDO Training and Production Centers for training; manuals; computers; Internet; software; a space / desk to prepare and store materials.
6. Appoint a person in the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** to be the contact for the **PEACE CORPS**.
7. Assist **PEACE CORPS / Dominican Republic (PC / DR)** and its Volunteers according to the requests of **PEACE CORPS / Dominican Republic (PC / DR)** and in any other sectors related to the execution of projects and activities of the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY**.
8. Appoint a representative to be the main point of contact for the **PEACE CORPS** and on the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) and keep the **PEACE CORPS** apprised of the Government's development priorities in the sectors of Youth, Family and Community Development, Education, and Community Economic Development;
9. Identify potential communities or sites in order for the **PEACE CORPS** to review and vet these sites for possible Volunteer assignments;
10. Authorize the Community Technology Centers (CTC), and / or PROGRESANDO Training and Production Centers (CCPP) and / or Spaces of Hope to appoint a person within the selected units to serve as an institutional liaison or counterpart, according to the case.
11. Select a counterpart and/or Youth Guide in the community to serve as a counterpart for the Volunteer, according to the case.
12. Guide the staff of the Community Technology Centers (CTC), PROGRESANDO Training and Production Centers (CCPP), Spaces of Hope, and Youth Guides on their responsibilities towards the volunteer, their integration in the community and support with the work
13. Support the **PEACE CORPS** by informing local communities of the **PEACE CORPS** program in the Dominican Republic, about the collaboration between the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** and the **PEACE**

- CORPS**, communicating the arrival of PCVs in-country, publicly endorsing the **PEACE CORPS** program and the work of the Volunteers, and actively participating, as appropriate, with the **PEACE CORPS** staff during pre-service training and Volunteer site visits;
14. Offer technical expertise and assistance as requested by the **PEACE CORPS** during mandatory Pre-Service Training and In-Service Training, and other **PEACE CORPS** workshops and events for Volunteers as requested;
 15. Review and contribute to the **PEACE CORPS**' annual report outlining the success of the projects and activities;
 16. Support the participation of assigned work partners to attend mandatory **PEACE CORPS** training or events as required; and
 17. Provide the **PEACE CORPS** with any other support and assistance as requested in connection with the projects and activities developed pursuant to this MOU, or in connection with the **PEACE CORPS**' in-country program.

V. VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

A. The PEACE CORPS intends to provide:

1. A monthly living allowance, an initial settling-in allowance, leave allowance, and a readjustment allowance upon returning to the United States, as provided by the Peace Corps Act and applicable Peace Corps regulations;
2. All health-related and medical costs and services, including immunizations, primary and emergency care, medical evacuations, and, pursuant to the U.S. law, post-service benefits for injuries or illnesses incurred during Peace Corps service; and
3. All Peace Corps-related travel (e.g., initial airfare to country, return airfare to home-of-record, travel required by the Peace Corps) and security evacuation travel.

B. The CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY intends to provide:

1. Volunteer project/activities-related travel costs (transportation, per diem, accommodations) in amounts as determined by the CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY's budgetary availability, as long as they travel with personnel from the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY**.

VI. SUPPORT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS (PCVs) IN THE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS (CTC's)

1. Contribute to promote new models of innovation and transformation in the communities of incidence of the CTC's, in a creative way, through socio-cultural initiatives.
2. Accompany local volunteers and socio-cultural animators in the development of activities for the implementation of new ways of using and combining ICT to improve the Community and reduce the digital gap.
3. Support and stimulate the training activities for intelligent use of Internet (Healthy Internet) and ICT developed by CTC's in the communities.
4. Support the librarians in the programs and reading encouragement activities, film forums, digital literacy for seniors, science club, environment, etc.
5. Support the dynamics of empowerment and cohesion of sociocultural clubs and ICT YOUTH, of the CTC's with the promotion of voluntary service and activities aimed at the protection of the environment and community development.
6. Support the leadership and community development program designed for youth volunteering and the management councils of the CTCs with guidance to promote

personal development, self-esteem and positive identity, positive communication, conflict management and prevention, life skills, personal goals, and leadership.

VII. VOLUNTEERS ACTIONS (PCVs) WITH THE YOUTH GUIDES

Possible activities to achieve empowered young people with the knowledge, skills and experience to realize their potential as healthy and committed citizens.

1. Support and motivate Youth Guides in the work they do with young people in their community.
2. Support the Animator in the training and mentoring actions with the Guides and their youth.
3. Support communication and coordination between Guide and Animator if necessary
4. Support the training of youth as responsible facilitators for peer education and information replication in schools and communities.
5. Work together with their counterpart to create playful and healthy options for young people's free time, such as sports, volunteer service, art clubs, crafts, reading, theater, homework rooms, etc.

VIII. SAFETY, SECURITY, AND HEALTH

The **PEACE CORPS** does not intend to assign PCVs to work in areas determined "off-limits" by the United States Embassy or the **PEACE CORPS** Country Director and PCVs are prohibited from traveling to those areas. The Peace Corps has in place a volunteer support system to minimize safety risks as prescribed by **PEACE CORPS** policy. PCVs will be included in the **PEACE CORPS'** Emergency Action Plan and contacted in the event that there is a personal or **PEACE CORPS** emergency. The **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** should endeavor to assist, or to direct others to assist, the **PEACE CORPS**, as necessary, by coordinating PCV medical and emergency evacuations, facilitating communication between the PCV and the **PEACE CORPS**, and contacting the **PEACE CORPS** in a medical or security situation in which the PCV is unable to contact the **PEACE CORPS**. The **PEACE CORPS** has responsibility for all PCV health, medical and evacuation related costs.

IX. REPORTING; MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** and the **PEACE CORPS** intend to work together to develop mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation and establish reporting requirements for the projects and activities developed under this MOU.

X. TERM; RENEWAL AND EXTENSION; ADDITIONAL CHANGES

This MOU remains effective for three (3) years from the date of last signature. **THE PARTICIPANTS** may review this MOU at such time and decide to continue their cooperation. Either the **PEACE CORPS** or the **CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY** may discontinue this MOU and should endeavor to give the other Participant thirty (30) days' prior written notice. **THE PARTICIPANTS** may change, modify, or supplement this MOU. Any change, modification, or supplement to this MOU should be made in writing and signed by **BOTH PARTICIPANTS**. **THE PARTICIPANTS** intend for the English version of this MOU to control.

XI. POINTS OF CONTACT

CABINET OF COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICY

Av. Leopoldo Navarro No. 61, Miraflores
Santo Domingo

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Telephone: 809-534-2105 / 809-333-3262

E-mail:

Contact: Dra. Altagracia Suriel Sánchez (PROSOLI)
Claudio Doñe Castillo (CTC)

PEACE CORPS/ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Avenida Bolívar 451, Gazcue

Santo Domingo

Dominican Republic

Telephone: 809-685-4102

E-mail: kkaper@peacecorps.gov

Contact: Kristin Kaper


SIGNED AND SEALED, in good faith, on four originals that have the same purport and effect, for each one of the Participants, in Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic on February 8th, 2018.

For CABINET OF COORDINATION
OF SOCIAL POLICY THROUGH THE
PROGRESSING WITH SOLIDARITY
PROGRAM OF THE VICE PRESIDENCY
OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

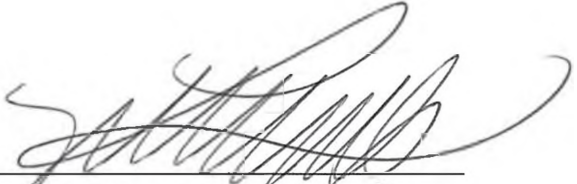
By its Authorized Representative:


DRA. ALTAGRACIA SURIEL SANCHEZ
DIRECTOR GENERAL
PROSOLI

Date: February 8, 2018


LIC CLAUDIO DOÑE CASTILLO
DIRECTOR GENERAL CTC

Date: February 8, 2018


DR. MARGARITA CEDEÑO
CONSTITUTIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
AND CABINET OF SOCIAL POLICIES COORDINATOR

Date: February 8, 2018

For the PEACE CORPS,

By its Authorized Representative:


KRISTIN KAPER
Peace Corps Country Director

Date: February 8, 2018

