

AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION  
between

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria (BOKU)

and

University Central of Ecuador

Whereas the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria (BOKU), and the University Central of Ecuador recognizing the value of educational, cultural and scientific exchange between international research universities and having ascertained that substantial interest exists to establish a formal relationship, agree, after approval by their responsible authorities, to conclude this agreement on academic cooperation.

I.

The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate and to enhance the academic cooperation in the fields of training, research, curriculum development, postgraduate education, quality assurance, institutional development, information dissemination, and exchange of students, faculty and staff.

II.

The partner institutions shall endeavor to promote collaboration through a broad range of strategies, which shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the following activities:

- Exchange of doctoral and master students
- Exchange of faculty members and research/technical experts for short-term visits
- Design of collaborative research projects
- Development and implementation of joint seminars, training-courses or conferences
- Involving faculty and/or students from both universities as well as other parties
- Exchange of scholarly publications and information in areas of mutual interest to faculty in the two institutions.

III.

The contracting universities will exchange working schedules covering the cooperation for a period of 2 years. These schedules will contain specific terms of participation for each major activity implemented under this agreement. They will become valid when signed as specific agreements by legal representatives or legally delegated authorities of the two partner universities. Such agreements will form integral part of the cooperation agreement.

IV.

For preparation and coordination of all the clauses covered by this contract, each University will designate an authorized representative. These representatives will also prepare the working schedules for cooperation as provided for by article III.

V.

The financing of the planned cooperation activities shall be conducted under the following guidelines:

Exchanges of faculty members and technical specialists:

- If and insofar as there are sufficient funds for the specific purposes at the disposal of the partner institutions, the travel expenses shall be borne by the sending partner, in the case of the Central University prior economic budgeting the living costs by the receiving partner. Otherwise exchange faculty shall be compensated entirely by their respective home institution, in the case of the Central University prior economic budgeting. Every exchange activity that involves university funds has to be agreed upon by the responsible bodies of the institutions.

- The partner institutions shall undertake efforts to raise funds from outside sources, for the exchange of lecturers and/or researchers.

Exchanges of doctoral or master students:

- The financing shall be covered by scholarships or financial aid.
- The students exchanged within the framework of this agreement are exempted from paying tuition fees at the host university.

#### VI.

The partner institutions shall inform one another regularly about the curricular programs and postgraduate courses offered by each, and especially about research seminars, colloquia, conferences, and symposia organized by each. They shall exchange without cost to the receiving institution documentation and publications issued from these proceedings.

#### VII.

Regarding intellectual property, the parties agree that the ownership of the copyright, in its patrimonial aspect, will correspond to the institution whose staff has made the work that is a matter of publication, both parties being obliged to recognize the participation and moral rights of authorship of the people who have intervened in its realization. With regard to the realization of joint projects, the parties will determine in writing and in each case the manner in which the copyright and the participation of both institutions will be recognized. And if there is any discrepancy on this matter, the Universities will be subject to the norms provided in the international conventions and treaties that the Republics of Austria and Ecuador have signed on this matter.

#### VIII.

In case of divergences regarding the content, application and compliance with this agreement as well as the specific ones that are signed, the parties will resolve them through the legal representatives of the BOKU and Central Universities of Ecuador, in a direct, friendly and good faith manner.

#### IX.

This agreement becomes valid when signed by the Rectorate of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) and the Rectorate of University Central of Ecuador. The agreement is entered for a period of 5 years. After this period, an evaluation of the achieved results has to take place. A renewal / extension of the agreement depend on the outcome of this evaluation and have to be agreed upon by both sides.

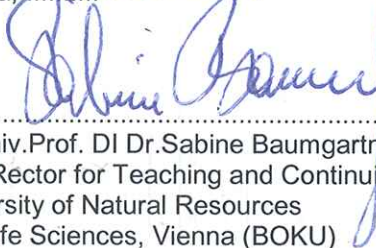
The contracting parties agree that proposed changes to the agreement's contents or validity are to be communicated in writing to the partner university.

This agreement is signed in four copies, 2 in English and 2 in Spanish with a similar tenor and the same legal value.

Any earlier termination of the agreement requires notification in writing and will only become effective with the termination of the working schedule then in existence.

Vienna, .....


16.08.2021

  
 Ao.Univ.Prof. DI Dr.Sabine Baumgartner  
 Vice-Rector for Teaching and Continuing Education  
 University of Natural Resources  
 and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)



Quito, .....

22.10.2021

  
 Dr. Fernando Sempertegui O.  
 Rector  
 University Central of Ecuador

**Work Programme for the partnership agreement between BOKU-University of Natural  
Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, and  
University Central of Ecuador  
2020 – 2022**

The following topics are of particular interest for the activities described below:

- a) **Soil Sciences**
- b) **Molecular Modelling**
- c) **Hydrological basins management**
- d) **Conservation of protected areas**

Nevertheless, exchange of students and staff according to this work programme can take place in all compatible study programs offered at both universities.

- 1) **Exchange Student mobilities (to be financed via scholarships):** A total maximum number of 2 exchange students per institution per year is foreseen (at both Master and Doctoral level, and in all compatible study programmes of both universities; for attending courses and/or capacity building (internships) and/or doing research for their master thesis/thesis under co-supervision from both universities).

Further exchange students can be accepted subject to prior e-mail agreement between the two universities.

Exchange students are exempted from paying tuition fees at the host university.

Scholarships are to be arranged by the sending university or the individual students.

- 2) **Staff exchanges:** (to be financed by projects or similar scholarships; and only in case these scholarships are not awarded, according to the following regulation as indicated in the co-operation agreement: travel costs to be financed by the sending university, accommodation costs by the hosting university).

As a minimum, it is foreseen that in the period 2020-2022, 1 staff member from University Central of Ecuador comes to BOKU for one week and 1 staff member from BOKU comes to University Central of Ecuador for one week.

The staff exchange can take place in any of the subject areas offered at BOKU and University Central of Ecuador on the basis of a reciprocal exchange and after previous written agreement and specific.

- 3) **Further cooperation** (after previous written agreement of the financing).

- 4) **Personal Data Protection:**

The Parties commit themselves to respect the current European Regulation EU 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data as well as the national applicable laws.

The Parties may share Personal Data of individuals involved in the collaboration for the purpose of administering such as: name, business telephone, address, and email ("Business Contact Information"). Each Party may store and otherwise process such Business Contact Information. The Parties agree that Business Contact Information will only be processed to the limited extent as required for the performance of this agreement.

If for the performance of this agreement the processing of other than Business Contact Information is necessary, the Parties commit themselves to agree and enter into a data processing agreement, which shall amend this agreement, as is reasonably required to reflect each Party's rights and obligations.

## 5) General regulations applicable to student exchanges:

### - NUMBER OF STUDENTS

The exchange of students will be based on the principle of reciprocity during the duration of this Agreement. UCE and BOKU will exchange a fixed number of students, agreed upon in advance. It is understood that a balance in the number of exchange students shall be maintained over the term of this agreement.

### - PERIOD OF ENROLLMENT

It is intended that the exchange period will be for either one semester or one academic year.

### - ACADEMIC STATUS OF THE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

All exchange students will remain enrolled as students of the home institution and will be temporarily enrolled as degree students in a compatible study programme (bachelor, master or doctoral programme) for a maximum of two semesters at the host institution. The status of students nominated by the home institution and accepted by the host institution will be that of "Exchange Student". Selection for or participation in the exchange does not confer the right to pursue a degree at the host institution. Students who wish to complete a degree at the host institution will need to complete all necessary application requirements for degree programme admission.

### - SELECTION AND ACCEPTANCE BY THE HOST INSTITUTION

The home institution will nominate qualified applicants from its institution for the Exchange Program. UCE students must have completed at least one year of university education prior to enrolment at BOKU. The host institution reserves the right to determine the final selection and acceptance of each student nominated by the home institution.

Both institutions must advise the dates by which applications must be received.

Exchange students attending BOKU must meet the host institution's language requirements. For German-language study programmes evidence of adequate proficiency in German and for English-language Master programmes evidence of adequate proficiency in English according to the BOKU language requirements must be provided.

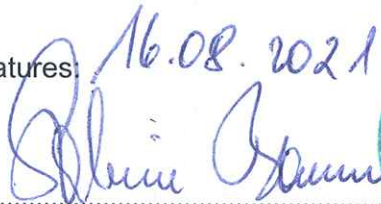
### - TUITION FEE

Exchange students will pay their regular tuition and fees to the home institution, at the host institution they are exempted from paying tuition fees. During their exchange period at BOKU, they have to pay the fee for the Austrian students union (ÖH).

### - OTHER RELATED ISSUES

The host university shall provide support to exchange staff and students in relation to visa acquisition and various other necessary procedures.

Signatures:

16.08.2021  
  
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Ao.Univ.Prof. DI Dr.Sabine Baumgartner  
Vice-Rector for Teaching and Continuing Education  
University of Natural Resources  
and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)



22.10.2021  
  
.....  
Dr. Fernando Sempertegui O.  
Rector  
University Central of Ecuador



**UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR**  
**SECRETARIA GENERAL**

**UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR. - SECRETARÍA GENERAL. -**El Honorable Consejo Universitario, en la sesión ordinaria del 11 de enero de 2022, conoció, de conformidad con lo dispuesto en la letra I del Art. 39 del Estatuto de la Universidad Central del Ecuador, fue informado por el señor Rector de la suscripción del **ACUERDO DE COOPERACIÓN ENTRE UNIVERSITY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND LIFE SCIENCES, VIENNA, AUSTRIA (BOKU) y UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR y su anexo**, que antecede y consta de -4- páginas. - **Certifico.** -



Firmado electrónicamente por:  
**PAULINA FERNANDA**  
**ARMENDARIZ LALAMA**



**Dra. Paulina Armendáriz L. de Estrella, MSc.**  
**SECRETARIA GENERAL**

