



MILLENNIUM
CHALLENGE CORPORATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

AND

THE PEACE CORPS

I. Purpose of this Agreement

This Memorandum of Agreement (Agreement) sets forth a framework for cooperation between the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and the Peace Corps to collaborate on complementary program areas, consistent with their respective statutory authority, regulations and programming priorities.

II. Common Goal

A. The mission of the Peace Corps is to promote world peace and friendship, and its work is guided by three goals: (1) to help interested countries meet their need for trained men and women; (2) to promote a better understanding of the people of the United States by the people served; and (3) to promote a better understanding of other peoples by the people of the United States. Peace Corps Volunteers are assigned to host countries to support activities in agriculture, education, energy, environment, water, sanitation, health and HIV/AIDS, business development, sustainable tourism, and community development. The Peace Corps seeks to be a partner of choice to address the development needs of host countries and works in partnership with host-country agencies, nongovernmental organizations, international organizations, and local communities.

B. MCC's mission is poverty reduction through the promotion of sustainable economic growth. MCC enters into partnerships (compacts) with selected developing countries to support activities in agriculture, education, energy, gender, health and HIV/AIDS, land tenure, private sector development, sustainable tourism, transportation infrastructure, water, and other areas. MCC supports country-led and country-implemented solutions to achieve measurable results. Each partner country must establish an accountable entity responsible for overseeing compact-financed projects; Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) entities are generally staffed and led by partner country nationals.

C. MCC and the Peace Corps actively support programs and initiatives that foster economic growth and build productive capacity in the countries in which they work. MCC and the Peace Corps seek to share their respective strengths, knowledge, and resources to support partner country development initiatives that improve the lives of the world's poor.

D. MCC and the Peace Corps share the belief that coordination of technical resources can significantly enhance their mutual development assistance and poverty reduction goals. Peace Corps Volunteers and Peace Corps Response Volunteers (collectively, "Volunteers") can play a very important role in providing support for the implementation of compact projects. The assistance provided by Volunteers will have the immediate impact of strengthening project implementation and building the long-term capacity of partner countries.

III. Nature of the Cooperation

A. This Agreement applies to cooperation with respect to programs and activities in countries of mutual interest to MCC and the Peace Corps. The purpose of this Agreement is to encourage, broaden, and strengthen cooperation between the two agencies. The Agreement does not preclude cooperation or arrangements between MCC and the Peace Corps or between the Peace Corps and MCAs, or any other related governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, or communities that could otherwise occur in the absence of this Agreement.

B. MCC and the Peace Corps will seek to have appropriately skilled Volunteers assigned to work on activities and programs in countries of mutual interest. Volunteers may be assigned to work with MCAs or related governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and communities involved in or benefitting from the implementation of compact projects. Assignments may vary in scope and duration based upon specific technical assistance and capacity-building needs and the availability of skilled and interested Volunteers. It is expected that assignments under this Agreement will be made as illustratively described below:

1. For assignments of approximately one to two years, Volunteers with the necessary professional experience and technical qualifications may be assigned to provide support in one or more areas, including, but not limited to, infrastructure, environment and social assessment, agriculture, community development, public outreach, natural resource management, and other related technical areas.

2. For assignments of less than one year, Volunteers may be assigned to help develop, implement, and evaluate training programs, community and public outreach programs, HIV/AIDS prevention programs, management information systems, or to provide other types of technical or capacity-building assistance.

C. In addition, MCC and the Peace Corps will explore opportunities to collaborate on activities related to recruitment of Volunteers and staff.

D. This Agreement does not obligate funds by either MCC or the Peace Corps and is subject to the availability of funds. Neither MCC nor the Peace Corps will have responsibility for any expenses incurred by the other in connection with this Agreement. This Agreement supersedes the letter jointly signed by MCC and the Peace Corps on January 12, 2009.

E. MCC and the Peace Corps will implement this Agreement in accordance with their respective policies and procedures unless MCC and the Peace Corps explicitly agree otherwise in writing.

IV. Modes of Cooperation

A. Cooperation between MCC and the Peace Corps is already ongoing, and additional locally-led cooperation between MCC and the Peace Corps is encouraged under this Agreement in all countries of mutual interest. MCC and the Peace Corps will encourage their personnel in the field to think creatively and flexibly about cooperating locally in the partner country based upon the specific needs of the partner country and the availability of Volunteers.

B. MCC will encourage MCAs and other appropriate governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and communities (referred to collectively below as “counterpart entities” and individually as “counterpart entity”) to be aware of opportunities to use Volunteers in the development, implementation, and evaluation of compact programs and will endeavor to facilitate communication and collaboration between the MCC programs and the Peace Corps.

C. In a given partner country, it is expected that prospective counterpart entities will determine which of their positions are appropriate for Volunteer assignments and specify the necessary professional and technical qualifications. Counterpart entities will be expected to

prepare position descriptions for such positions and to furnish them to the Peace Corps for review and consideration.

D. The Peace Corps may assign Volunteers for a direct placement with an MCA or for a complementary placement with other appropriate entities. In either case, the counterpart entity where the Volunteer is assigned will be expected to provide certain Volunteer support costs as the Peace Corps and the counterpart entity may agree. Unless the MCA agrees otherwise in writing, the MCA will not be responsible for the commitments of other entities regarding the placement of Volunteers with such entities. The Peace Corps will obtain the MCA's prior written approval regarding the complementary placement of Volunteers in a counterpart entity other than the MCA if the placement will entail a commitment or expenditure of compact funds.

E. The mutual commitments of the Peace Corps and a counterpart entity regarding support for Volunteers that the counterpart entity engages will be memorialized through a counterpart agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other similar instrument between the Peace Corps and the counterpart entity.

F. MCC and the Peace Corps will establish a joint working group to draft appropriate strategic and operational guidance to help encourage, broaden, and strengthen cooperation between the Peace Corps and MCC. The guidance will describe strategies and processes to encourage and facilitate the assignment of Volunteers to MCAs, and other counterpart entities. MCC and the Peace Corps will agree upon and disseminate to their respective staffs in an appropriate form the guidance that will apply to their cooperation.

The joint working group will identify from three to five focus countries where it will undertake a detailed analysis of the country MCC programs and Peace Corps programs to determine potential areas for cooperation and will study cooperation in those countries to help inform its recommendations regarding cooperation between MCC and the Peace Corps.

G. On an annual basis, MCC and the Peace Corps will review the progress of their cooperation and explore ways to strengthen it.

V. Communications

A. For all purposes of this Agreement, MCC and the Peace Corps may be represented by the persons holding or acting in the following positions:

For MCC:
Cassandra Butts
Senior Advisor to the Chief Executive Officer
Millennium Challenge Corporation
875 Fifteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-2221
Buttscq@mcc.gov
(202) 521-3600

For the Peace Corps:
Stacy Rhodes
Chief of Staff
Peace Corps
1111 Twentieth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20526
srhodes@peacecorps.gov
(800) 424-8580

B. For communications in or regarding a specific partner country, MCC and the Peace Corps may also be represented by the persons holding or acting in the following positions:

For MCC: the resident country director (or his or her designee) or, if the compact for the country has not entered into force, the country team leader.

For the Peace Corps: the country director (or his or her designee).

VI. Branding

MCC and the Peace Corps may only use the other party's name, emblem, and logo as approved by the other party in advance in writing.

VII. Duration, Amendment, and Termination of this Agreement

This Agreement will be in effect for three years from the date of signature by both MCC and the Peace Corps, and may be amended or extended by mutual agreement in writing. MCC or the Peace Corps may terminate this Agreement at any time by providing written notice to the other party.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

By: _____

Daniel W. Yohannes, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 9-9-10

THE PEACE CORPS

By: _____

Aaron S. Williams, Director

Date: 9/09/10