

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

**Agreement Between the
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and ICELAND**

**Amending and Extending the
Memorandum of Understanding signed on
January 28, 1982 and April 9, 1982**

Signed at Reston and Reykjavik
November 4, 2021 and March 31, 2022

Entered into force March 31, 2022
Effective from April 9, 2021



NOTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Pursuant to Public Law 89—497, approved July 8, 1966
(80 Stat. 271; 1 U.S.C. 113)—

“ . . .the Treaties and Other International Acts Series issued under the authority of the Secretary of State shall be competent evidence . . . of the treaties, international agreements other than treaties, and proclamations by the President of such treaties and international agreements other than treaties, as the case may be, therein contained, in all the courts of law and equity and of maritime jurisdiction, and in all the tribunals and public offices of the United States, and of the several States, without any further proof or authentication thereof.”

AGREEMENT
TO AMEND AND EXTEND THE
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE ICELANDIC CENTRE FOR RESEARCH (RANNIS)
UNDER THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE
(MENNTAMALARADUNEYTIÐ) OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ICELAND
FOR
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN
EARTH SCIENCES, AS AMENDED AND EXTENDED

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Scientific and Technical Cooperation in Earth Sciences between the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) of the Department of the Interior of the United States of America and the Icelandic Centre for Research (ICR) of the Republic of Iceland, (the Parties) was originally signed by the Rannsóknarad Islands (RANNIS) January 28, 1982, and by the USGS April 9, 1982. The MOU was amended and extended on April 9, 1990, April 9, 1998, April 12, 2007 and April 8, 2013, each for eight-year periods. During this time, the Parties have cooperated in the exchange of technical knowledge and augmentation of technical capabilities in the areas of Earth resources and geological, geophysical, and hydrological phenomena. The cooperation includes exchange of information and expertise, and joint studies of mutual interest in such areas.

The Parties agree that this cooperation has been beneficial to both organizations, and that the MOU be amended, in accordance with Article VIII of the 1982 MOU, as follows:

1. Extend the MOU for another 8-year period, effective April 9, 2021.
2. To amend and replace Article IV with an updated Intellectual property annex, reads as follows:

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

I. General Obligation

The Parties shall ensure adequate and effective protection of intellectual property created or furnished under this Agreement and relevant implementing arrangements. Rights to such intellectual property shall be allocated as provided in this Annex.

II. Scope

- A. This Annex is applicable to all cooperative activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement, except as otherwise specifically agreed by the Parties or their designees.
- B. For purposes of this Agreement, "intellectual property" shall mean the subject matter listed in Article 2 of the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, done at Stockholm, July 14, 1967 and may include other subject matter as agreed by the Parties.
- C. Each Party shall ensure, through contracts or other legal means with its own participants, if necessary, that the other Party can obtain the rights to intellectual property allocated in accordance with this Annex. This Annex does not otherwise alter or prejudice the allocation between a Party and its participants, which shall be determined by that Party's laws and practices.
- D. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, disputes concerning intellectual property arising under this Agreement shall be resolved through discussions between the concerned participating institutions, or, if necessary, the Parties or their designees. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties, a dispute shall be submitted to an arbitral tribunal for binding arbitration in accordance with the applicable rules of international law. Unless the Parties or their designees agree otherwise in writing, the arbitration rules of UNCITRAL shall govern.
- E. Termination or expiration of this Agreement shall not affect rights or obligations under this Annex.

III. Allocation of Rights

- A. Each Party shall be entitled to a worldwide, non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free license to translate, reproduce, and publicly distribute monographs, scientific and technical journal articles, reports, and books directly arising from cooperation under this Agreement. All publicly distributed copies of a copyrighted work prepared under this Agreement shall indicate the names of the authors of the work unless an author explicitly declines to be named.
- B. Rights to all forms of intellectual property, other than those rights described in paragraph III.A above, shall be allocated as follows:

(1) Prior to participation in cooperative activities under this Agreement by a visiting researcher, the host Party or its designee and the Party or its designee employing or sponsoring the visiting researcher may discuss and determine the allocation of rights to any intellectual property created by the visiting researcher. Absent such a determination, visiting researchers shall receive rights, awards, bonuses and royalties in accordance with the policies of the host institution. For purposes of this Agreement, a visiting researcher is a researcher visiting an institution of the other Party (host institution) and engaged in work planned solely by the host institution.

(2)(a) Any intellectual property created by persons employed or sponsored by one Party under cooperative activities other than those covered by Paragraph III.(B)(1) shall be owned by that Party. Intellectual property created by persons employed or sponsored by both Parties shall be jointly owned by the Parties. In addition, each creator shall be entitled to awards, bonuses and royalties in accordance with the policies of the institution employing or sponsoring that creator.

(b) Unless otherwise agreed in an implementing or other arrangement, each Party shall have within its territory a right to exploit and allow others to exploit intellectual property created in the course of the cooperative activities.

(c) The rights of a Party outside its territory shall be determined by mutual agreement considering, for example, the relative contributions of the Parties and their participants to the cooperative activities, the degree of commitment in obtaining legal protection and licensing of the intellectual property and such other factors deemed appropriate.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraphs III.B(2)(a) and (b) above, if either Party believes that a particular project is likely to lead to or has led to the creation of intellectual property not protected by the laws of the other Party, the Parties shall immediately hold discussions to determine the allocation of rights to the intellectual property. If an agreement cannot be reached within three months of the date of the initiation of the discussions, cooperation on the project in question shall be terminated at the request of either Party. Creators of intellectual property shall nonetheless be entitled to awards, bonuses and royalties as provided in paragraph III.B(2)(a).

(e) For each invention made under any cooperative activity, the Party employing or sponsoring the inventor(s) shall disclose the invention promptly to the other Party together with any documentation and information necessary to enable the other Party to establish any rights to which it may be entitled. Either Party may ask the other Party in writing to delay publication or public disclosure of such documentation or information for the purpose of protecting its rights in the invention. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the delay shall not exceed a period of six months from the date of disclosure by the inventing Party to the other Party.

IV. Business Confidential Information

In the event that information identified in a timely fashion as business-confidential is furnished or created under this Agreement, each Party and its participants shall protect such information in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and administrative practices. Information may be identified as "business-confidential" if a person having the information may derive an economic benefit from it or may obtain a competitive advantage over those who do not have it, and the information is not generally known or publicly available from other sources, and the owner has not previously made the information available without imposing in a timely manner an obligation to keep it confidential.

3. All other terms and conditions of the MOU, as amended and extended remain unchanged.

This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature.

Done at Reston and Reykjavik, in duplicate, in the English language.

FOR THE
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
THE INTERIOR OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

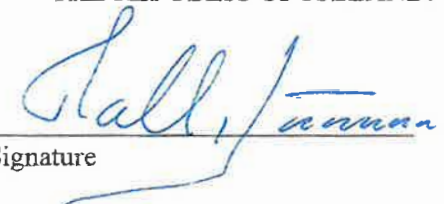

Signature

David Applegate

Associate Director for Natural Hazards
Exercising the Delegated Authority of the
Director, U.S. Geological Survey
Director
Title

March 31, 2022
Date

FOR THE
ICELANDIC RESEARCH COUNCIL
(RANNSOKNARAD ISLANDS) UNDER
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND CULTURE
(MENNTAMALARADUNEYTIÐ) OF
THE REPUBLIC OF ICELAND:


Signature

Director General
Title

November 4, 2021
Date