



Letter of Intent

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

and

European Microfinance Network (EMN)

I. The Parties

The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**, a specialized agency of the United Nations, with its headquarters at 7 place de Fontenoy 75352 Paris 07 SP ("**UNESCO**"); and

The European Microfinance Network, a not-for-profit organization, based Avenue des Arts/kunstlaan 7-8, 1210 Brussels, Belgium ("**EMN**");

each, a "Party" and, jointly, the "Parties".

II. Background

UNESCO the specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to strengthening our shared humanity through the promotion of education, science, culture, and communication.

The European Microfinance Network is a member-based not-for-profit organization based in Brussels, which promotes microfinance as a tool to fight social and financial exclusion in Europe through self-employment and the creation of microenterprises.

UNESCO is seeking to mobilize partners from civil society and, in particular, from the private sector for the achievement of its strategic goals and programmatic priorities.

UNESCO and EMN recognise that it is essential to attract sustainable public and private funding to the benefit of UNESCO-designated sites and Programmes to foster sustainable investment and support local communities.

III. Scope of Letter of Intent

UNESCO and EMN shall work together to contribute to the development of innovative resource mobilization mechanisms to the benefit of UNESCO-designated sites and Programmes.

The Parties intend to collaborate in the following areas:

- a. Mobilize funding for UNESCO-designated sites and Programmes: attract public and private funding to support communities within the list and network of UNESCO-designated sites and Programmes;
- b. Develop a sustainable investment ecosystem: foster a network of actors that will contribute to creating sustainable investment mechanisms for entrepreneurs within UNESCO designated sites and Programmes;
- c. Support business development for entrepreneurs: provide support to the development of viable business plans for entrepreneurs in UNESCO-designated sites and Programmes;

- d. Recognize and share local knowledge: conduct competency mapping to recognize the skills and knowledge of community members within UNESCO-designated sites and Programmes, facilitating knowledge exchange both within and outside the networks;
- e. Assist MEN member institutions in expanding services aimed at enhancing entrepreneurs' resilience to climate change and preventing biodiversity loss, including both financial and non-financial support, as well as implementing risk management and environmental strategies;
- f. Facilitate funding initiatives aiming at communities living in or around UNESCO designated sites and Programmes, as well those hit by natural disasters because of the climate change;
- g. Raise awareness among the member community on the latest trends in the field of sustainable farming and how it can be coupled with microloans and impact investing.

Should the Parties decide to collaborate on the above areas, the Parties shall sign an agreement as appropriate detailing the roles and responsibilities of each Party for each project to be undertaken under these areas, in accordance with each Party's rules and regulations.

IV. General Terms

Nothing contained in this Letter of Intent shall be construed as granting or conferring to a Party any right or interest in the intellectual property rights of the other Party.

Unless authorized in writing by UNESCO, the EMN shall not use the name, acronym or official logo of UNESCO, or any abbreviation of the name of UNESCO.

Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the present Letter of Intent shall be resolved amicably through dialogue between the Parties.

In the absence of an amicable settlement, disputes shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law) Arbitration Rules.

This Letter of Intent shall be effective from the date of signature written below and remain valid for 1 year, until 01/07/2026.

Either Party may terminate this Letter of Intent at any time by giving a prior written notice of one month to the other Party.

Nothing in or relating to this Letter of Intent shall be deemed a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities of UNESCO. The EMN shall hold harmless, defend, and indemnify UNESCO against all lawsuits, claims, costs and liabilities resulting from any intellectual property disputes or other disputes occurring under the present Letter of Intent and which arise out of acts or omissions of the EMN.

This Letter of Intent is entered into by and between:

UNESCO:	EMN:
Name: Julien Pellaux	Name: Georgios Papadakis
Title: Director BSP/DPA	Title: Managing Director
Date:	Date: