



## PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT POLICY

Policy number	PCG-4	Version	001
Responsible person	Chris Armitage	Approved by Board on	29 April 2019

### 1 INTRODUCTION

The Global EverGreening Alliance (the Alliance) supports our member organizations, interested governments and donors, and the vulnerable small-scale farming, pastoralist and forest-dependent communities in developing countries to restore degraded landscapes and improve the sustainability, productivity, equity and profitability of agricultural systems through the managed regeneration and/or integration of trees into farm, pastoral and forest lands.

The Alliance conceptualises, develops and implements large-scale collaborative projects. Collaboration is built on mutual respect, transparency and understanding.

### 2 PURPOSE

This policy sets out the framework for guiding the substance of partnership agreements (Agreement), which may relate to the design and/or implementation of specific Alliance projects. The Agreement will include commitments, responsibilities and contributions of each of the partners with respect to specific projects.

### 3 DUE DILIGENCE

Prior to entering into an Agreement with project partners, the Alliance will conduct appropriate and robust due diligence in respect of each project partner. Further, the Alliance will not enter into an Agreement with any organisations that are included in the World Bank Listing of ineligible firms and individuals; the Asian Development Bank Sanctions List; the Attorney General's Department List of Terrorist organisations; and DFAT's consolidated list of individuals and entities subject to targeted financial sanctions, including relating to terrorism.

### 4 GOAL OF AGREEMENT

The goal of this Agreement is to describe the -

- 4.1 Principles that each project partner commits to;
- 4.2 Governance structure that each project is governed by;
- 4.3 Roles and responsibilities of all project partners, including financial and non-financial contributions, resources and support offered by and required of each project partner;
- 4.4 Accountabilities and obligations of each project partner;
- 4.5 Duration of the project partnership and review process; and
- 4.6 Dispute resolution process.

## 5 PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

The Alliance project partners will agree to operate in accordance with the following set of **principles** –

- **Grounded in local reality.** We address issues that matter to rural communities – our work is grounded in local reality through long-term engagement with farmers and community groups. We believe science can support these local peoples’ initiatives, hopes and aspirations, while at the same time valuing their own local knowledge and experience.
- **Linking local to global.** Our work is relevant to big problems and opportunities – we seek to identify and develop innovative policies and practices that work for both people and nature at a range of scales from local to global.
- **Global relevance.** We synthesize our results to develop a comprehensive, empirical knowledge base on global development problems and opportunities.
- **Partnership.** We work in research and development partnerships to elucidate and test ideas and to put those ideas into action. These voluntary partnerships are based on active participation, shared leadership, shared credit and recognition for a variety of contributions, transparency in setting priorities and resource allocation, consensus decision-making, mutual accountability, and responsiveness to partners’ needs.
- **Legitimacy.** Our collective efforts are guided by governance structures and consultations that strive to effectively engage the full range of stakeholders.
- **Respect for all people.** We are committed to mutual respect for all individuals and stakeholder groups, regardless of our differences; through open and fair decision-making within our partnership; and through expanding access to information and opportunities.
- **Ethical standards.** Our interactions with stakeholders must conform to the highest ethical standards; we will not cause harm to anyone, and we must keep abreast of evolving best practices.
- **Investing in people and institutions.** We work together to build capacity to rise to the unconventional challenges we now face in balancing environment and development objectives.
- **Multiple perspectives.** We strive to bring together a full range of perspectives from science, local knowledge, civil society, the private sector, and public policy.
- **Teamwork, inclusion and equity.** We work in diverse, multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural teams and we strive for gender equity, and the active participation of all relevant stakeholders and social groups.
- **Synergy.** We collaborate on goals that no individual or organization could accomplish alone, or that can be done better through partnerships. Specifically, we collaborate to use and develop integrative science-based approaches to research and action for human

well-being, enhanced productivity and resource management, and environmental sustainability across multiple scales in space and time.

- **Scientific standards.** Our work must be based on the highest standards of objectivity, integrity, rigor, and legitimacy in order to ensure the credibility and usefulness of all of our activities.
- **Open inquiry.** We promote critical analysis to challenge conventional wisdom, to expand understanding of technical, institutional and policy alternatives, and to achieve a balance among conservation and development options.
- **Effective communication.** We strive to communicate effectively by investing the resources necessary to provide useful knowledge for various audiences (and in various languages) in order to improve awareness and understanding, to enhance impact, and to raise the level of public debate.
- **Real impact.** We are committed to produce outputs that have a significant, tangible impact on poverty, hunger, and injustice, while promoting sustainable, resilient development and environmental health. We will continue our efforts to develop tools to monitor, evaluate and assess the impact of our work.

## 6 PARTNER OBLIGATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITIES

Participation in any project developed by the Alliance will require each project partner to commit to appropriate measures and/or relevant Alliance policies to ensure the following:

- a) child protection
- b) counter terrorism
- c) anti-fraud and corruption
- d) transparency
- e) separation of development and non-development activities
- f) complaints handling
- g) whistleblowing
- h) ethical procurement
- i) conflict of interest
- j) regular communication
- k) agreed use of funds
- l) financial record keeping and reporting
- m) privacy
- n) confidentiality
- o) copyright
- p) incident reporting
- q) progress reporting
- r) project design

## 7 PROJECT PARTNERSHIP DURATION AND REVIEW

Any Agreement will clearly specify its commencement and expiry date.

Any Agreement will require the Alliance and its project partners to agree:

- 7.1 to review the project annually
- 7.2 to make available all information relevant to the project as necessary
- 7.3 to make adjustments to the project in the event that either a review or an audit indicates an opportunity or need to improve the project to maximise delivery of its objectives.

## **8 OPEN DATA COMMITMENT**

To the extent possible, all Agreements will include provisions requiring project partners to make project data, results, and outputs accessible. Any related or un-related party can use this data to create their own products, conduct their own analyses, and draw their own conclusions.

## **9 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Any Agreement will include provisions for dispute resolution, including a requirement for parties to initially attempt to resolve disputes through informal negotiation and, only if necessary, through referral to an independent, qualified mediator, as agreed between the project partners.

## **10 TERMINATION**

Any Agreement will include provisions for termination by either project partner the Alliance.

## **11 ANNEXES**

All Agreements will have appropriate document annexed, including a project plan that outlines goals, objectives, and deliverables for each project partner, and expected outcomes of the relevant project.

## **12 AUTHORISATION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script with a long horizontal tail extending to the right.

29 April 2019  
Global EverGreening Alliance Ltd