

Agreement concerning the exchange of students in the framework of the interuniversity programme entitled 'IMBRSea International Master of Science in Marine Biological Resources'

This Agreement is made on behalf of the consortium organising the International Master of Science in Marine Biological Resources (IMBRSea) between:

1. IMBRSea coordinating institute, Ghent University, Belgium, represented by Prof. Dr. Anne De Paepe, rector and Dr. Tim Deprez, coordinator of the Master Programme

And

2. [NAME ORGANISATION] , represented by [NAME LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE] hereinafter called the Associate Member

The IMBRSea Programme involves the participation of a network of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), Research Institutes, SMEs, and any other type of organization deemed acceptable by the IMBRSea management board.

The network consists of two groups of institutions: a core group of nine academic full members (Ghent University, Algarve University, Oviedo University, University of Pierre et Marie Curie – Paris VI, Galway Mayo Institute of Technology, University of Bergen, University of the Basque Country, Polytechnic university of Marche, University of Western Brittany) who recognise and award the diploma of the International Master of Science in Marine Biological Resources, and a group of associate members who collaborate with the Master programme through the organization of Professional Practices and supervision of thesis students.

Ghent University, acting on behalf of the full members, and [NAME ORGANISATION] hereby agree to the conditions described below for exchange of students in the framework of this agreement.

Article 1: Scope

This agreement comprises the specific conditions and regulations for the exchange of students between the institutions of the core group and the Associate Member.

As far as necessary for the performance of this specific agreement, the terms and conditions of the Consortium Agreement, signed by the full members, shall also apply to the Associate Member.

Article 2: Educational responsibilities

The Associate Member will provide appropriate education, guidance and evaluation within the framework of IMBRSea and in conformity with any and all applicable arrangements in the Consortium Agreement.

[NAME ORGANISATION] will contribute to the following aspects of the programme:

- **Professional Practice**

The Associate Member can offer one or more opportunities for first year IMBRSea students to do a Professional Practice. A Professional Practice is defined as a period in which a student can gain experience in an actual work situation. The Professional Practice may last for a maximum of 6 weeks with an equivalent of 2 credits per working week (maximum 12 credits). Evaluation shall be based on feedback from the Professional Practice supervisor at the Associate Member, and a portfolio made and presented by the student and evaluated by an evaluation committee during the annual symposium. Practical guidelines for Professional Practice organisation are provided in Annex 2. In case practicalities change during the running of this agreement, the associate member organization will be timely informed.

- **Master thesis supervision**

The Associate Member can offer opportunities for IMBRSea students to carry out thesis research. When students are carrying out thesis research, a staff member of the Associate Member may act as (co-)supervisor for the MSc thesis. The (co-) supervisor will participate in the examination committee for the student concerned (upon approval of the IMBRSea Managing Board). Master thesis regulations and guidelines are provided in Annex 3.

Article 3. Administrative Organisation

3.1 Enrolment of IMBRSea students

When the IMBRSea student follows part(s) of the programme at an Institute which is a higher education organisation (HEI), the student will be treated as a regular exchange student.

3.2 Finances

All students pay programme tuition fees to the IMBRSea coordinating institute and therefore should not pay any additional tuition fees to the Associate Member.

3.3 Insurance

Students are for the activities during a professional practice and thesis work insured by Ghent University.

3.4 Role of the Associate Member in the IMBRSea Network

Associate members are considered as a member of the IMBRSea network and thus will be informed about the status of the programme on a regular basis. As a member of the IMBRSea network the name of the institute will be mentioned among the organizing institutes on the programme website. The associate member will also be officially added to the consortium organizing the IMBRSea

programme within the framework of the action entitled: 'Master in Marine Biological Resources', based on the framework partnership agreement (2016-2280/001-001) between the European Community and Ghent University.

Associate members may be invited to the management board meetings or may be requested to give feedback on specific management related issues.

Article 4: Entry into force and termination

This agreement shall come into force as of the date of its signature by all the partners and shall continue until the end of the agreements between the European Community and the Universiteit Gent within the framework of the action entitled: 'Master in Marine Biological Resources', based on the framework partnership agreement (2016-2280/001-001 – see annex 12) between the European Community and the Universiteit Gent and possible other specific agreements signed on behalf of the Consortium.

This agreement is at least valid as long as contracts with the EU are binding the consortium partners (until 31-08-2021). If this is not the case anymore, the consortium partners will decide in mutual agreement to continue this agreement or not.

If an associate partner wishes to leave the agreement before the end of the EU agreement, the IMBRSea programme board should be informed of this. After approval of the board, and in case there are no running student exchanges, the associate partner will be removed from the consortium. This is not the case if the partner institute should leave by force majeure.

The cooperation might be prolonged after 31-08-2021. In this case a signed addendum will be made and added to this agreement.

Article 6: Amendments

The management board of the IMBRSea programme has the mandate to add amendments to this agreement when necessary. For all things not stipulated in this agreement the IMBRSea management board can decide, eventually upon approval by the official bodies of the signing institutes, when this is deemed necessary.

For Ghent University

Date:

Prof. Dr. A. De Paepe
Rector

For [NAME ORGANISATION]

Date:

[LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE]
[FUNCTION]

Dr. T. Deprez
IMBRSea coordinator

Annexes

Annex 1: IMBRSEA Associate Member Identification Details

Annex 2: IMBRSea Professional Practice guidelines

Annex 3: IMBRSEA Master Thesis guidelines

DRAFT