

4. Sample Memorandum of Understanding with Partner Organizations



SELECTIONS FROM:
INTERPRETING FOR CONSERVATION
A MANUAL FOR TRAINING
LOCAL NATURE GUIDES

SAMPLE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RARE CENTER FOR TROPICAL CONSERVATION AND THE LOS QUETZALES BIOSPHERE RESERVE

NATURE GUIDE TRAINING COURSE

The Los Quetzales Biosphere Reserve is interested in sponsoring the training of one guide in the upcoming Nature Guide Training Course in Southeastern Mexico and agrees to comply with the following clauses for the duration of one year after the conclusion of RARE Center's Training Course:

This collaboration agreement has the following goals:

- I. One interpretative trail developed and guided by a graduate from the Course
- II. Development of three different interpretative tours within the Reserve, guided by a graduate from the RARE Training Course
 - a) Payment of an enrollment fee of US\$600 for each student accepted into the training course, effective no later than the last week of July 2000
 - b) Cover traveling expenses of the students from their communities to the meeting points established by RARE Center.
 - c) Cover traveling expenses to send a supervisor to the five Supervisor Training Sessions offered by RARE Center.
 - d) Develop an interpretative trail within the Reserve after the Course and with the trained guide and his supervisor
 - e) Seek funds to build, interpret, and place signs on the trail
 - f) Visit the interpretative trail developed by Toucan Biosphere Reserve
 - g) Assign one employee from the Reserve to work 30% of the time in the development of the trail for one full year
 - h) The Supervisor will monitor the Guide during one year and will work together in the development of three interpretative tours and the interpretative trail

RARE Center for Tropical Conservation, for its part, through its Ecotourism and Community Development Program, agrees to:

- a) Hold a training course for bilingual nature guides including 10 weeks of classes
- b) Cover the students' traveling expenses from the meeting points to the training centers; provide food and lodging for the students for the duration of the course
- c) Provide the students with educational materials to be used during and after the course (English textbook, Natural History books, and cassettes for practicing English)
- d) Teach the participants a base for environmental interpretation during the 10 weeks of the Course
- e) Train the supervisors in the goals of environmental interpretation during one session of the supervisor training
- f) Provide material related to environmental interpretation
- g) Provide a copy of the "Trails; Conservation that Makes Dollars and Sense" prepared by RARE Center

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- h) Provide examples of signs for interpretative trails
- i) 1-2 visits to the site to provide technical assistance
- j) Prepare a six-month work plan for the supervisors and the guides
- k) Evaluate the work of the guides and the supervisors at 6 months, and again at 1 year after the course

In the understanding that both parties are interested in complying with the above clauses, and having previously agreed verbally on the established deadlines, the parties agree to sign this letter on the 23rd of June 2000.

For Los Quetzales Biosphere Reserve,

For RARE Center

Director

Program Manager