

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND  
THE IFYE ASSOCIATION OF THE USA, INC.**

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) is made and entered into between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. and the IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. (IFYE), 4 Garden Center, Broomfield, Colorado. USDA and IFYE are sometimes referred to individually as a “participant” and collectively as the “participants”.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a general framework for cooperation between USDA and IFYE. The structure of this MOU is to work together toward the common goals of advancing the public interest in international agriculture through rural-based international exchanges.

**STATEMENT OF MUTUAL INTEREST:**

USDA provides leadership on agriculture, food, natural resources, rural infrastructure, nutrition, and related issues through facts-based, data-driven, and customer-focused decisions. USDA has a vision to do right and feed everyone.

IFYE is a national organization that places young adults on farms in rural settings in countries around the world to gain a deep understanding of foreign agriculture production and the culture that drives that production. IFYE has placed more than 5,000 young adults in foreign countries and more than 5,000 young adults in the United States. Because of this experience, young adults can share their experiences with their communities, utilize skills learned to better the places in which they live, and expand upon IFYE’s vision of a world in which all people co-exist peacefully in thriving communities, are prepared to work globally, and are food secure.

**USDA WILL:**

1. Recognize the importance of international cultural understanding of agriculture, food, natural resources, and nutrition.
2. Recognize the value of two-way exchange programs, furthering cultural understanding.
3. Acknowledge the role IFYE plays in preparing young adults to work in advancing international agricultural relations and the positive impact IFYE has delivered to rural America through program participants and alumni.
4. Identify short- and long-term interests of USDA and connect IFYE to those interests and other resources available to them through USDA programs and initiatives, which may include sharing information about IFYE opportunities with the Cooperative Extension System via the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.
5. Communicate available USDA internship opportunities, including the Pathways Program, to IFYE and IFYE alumni.

**IFYE WILL:**

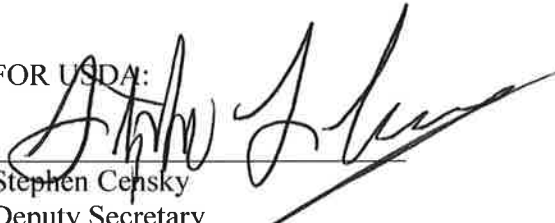
1. Equip the next generation of young people with the tools they need to better understand international cultural understanding of agriculture, food, natural resources, and nutrition.
2. Promote global, agricultural relationships between agrarian producers in other countries and rural communities in the United States.

3. Provide opportunities for the Secretary or the Secretary's designee to meet with IFYE participants returning to the United States from international experiences.
4. Provide opportunities for the Secretary or the Secretary's designee to meet with IFYE participants in United States-based programs.
5. Provide informal feedback to USDA relative to the implementation of Federal programs for training, resources, and other related purposes.

**IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY BOTH PARTIES THAT:**

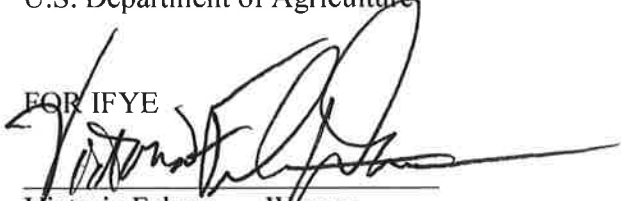
1. USDA and IFYE and their respective agencies and offices will handle their own activities and utilize their own resources, including the expenditure of their own funds, in pursuing these objectives. Each participant will carry out its separate activities in a coordinated and mutually beneficial manner.
2. Nothing in this MOU shall obligate either USDA or IFYE to obligate or transfer any funds. Specific work projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, or property among the various agencies and offices of the USDA and IFYE will require execution of separate agreements and be contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Such activities must be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This MOU does not provide such authority. Negotiation, execution, and administration of each such agreement must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.
3. This MOU takes effect upon the signature of USDA and IFYE and shall remain in effect for 4 years from the date of execution. This MOU may be extended or amended upon written request of either participant and the subsequent written concurrence of the other. Either participant may terminate this MOU with a 60-day written notice to the other.
4. This MOU is not intended to, and does not create, any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.
5. Either participant may not use or reference the name or logo of the other or any of its component agencies in any context, manner, or media now or hereafter to serve as an endorsement of the other participant, or its employees, agents, parents, subsidiaries, and related companies, or any of its programs or products.
6. This MOU in no way restricts either participant from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals. Nothing in this agreement may be interpreted to imply that either participant endorses any product, service, or policy of the other.

FOR USDA:

  
Stephen Censky  
Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

9-6-19  
Date

FOR IFYE

  
Victoria Fehrmann Warren  
Board President  
IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.

6 September 2019  
Date