MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

WINROCK INTERNATIONAL

AND

SAARC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

I. Purpose
The USAID funded Feed the Future Asia Innovative Farmers Project (implemented by Winrock International) (cooperative agreement no. AID-486-A-15-00005) and SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI) share a common goal of identifying, screening, and supporting the dissemination of agribusiness innovations. Given the regional nature of the Feed the Future Asia Innovative Farmers Project ("the project"), it is vital to identify partners that can assist and support the countries of South Asia improve their access to technical innovations. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish the framework of cooperation between the project and SAARC CCI.

This MOU is not a legally binding document nor does it constitute a legal partnership between the Participants. This MOU is not an obligation of funds of the Participants nor does it create a legally enforceable commitment to dedicate or contribute funds or to take any specific actions. Each Participant has its own separate legal personality, unique mission, mandates, and accountabilities. Each Participant is to accept full and sole responsibility for any and all expenses which it may incur relating to this MOU. Nothing in this MOU is to be construed as superseding or interfering in any way with any agreements or contracts entered into by the Participants, either prior to or subsequent to the signing of this MOU. Nothing in this MOU is to be construed as an exclusive working relationship or as creating any rights in any third party.

II. Participants
Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to improve livelihoods, sustain natural resources, and protect the environment. Winrock matches innovative approaches in natural resources management, clean energy, agriculture, and leadership development with the unique needs of its partners. In carrying out its mission, Winrock helps to strengthen institutional and human resources, design and implement environmentally sensitive, sustainable farming systems and improve forestry and rural development policies that improve livelihood,
especially of the poor. Winrock International is the implementer of the USAID funded Feed the Future Asia Innovative Farmers Project.

SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry is an Apex Body of SAARC, established in December 1992, recognized by the Member States of SAARC as the Apex body of all the National Federations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of SAARC, mandated to work for economic and commercial integration of South Asian economies.

III. Objectives

The parties agree to cooperate to improve the transfer of agricultural technologies across South Asia.

Specifically, this MOU enables Winrock and SAARC CCI to:

1. Align respective and complementary objectives behind activities that focus on identifying, screening and supporting the dissemination of agribusiness innovations, and

2. Engage with private sector organizations and stakeholders across the region to provide cross-border mentoring and market linkages.

IV. Publicity and Communications

The Participants intend that public communication related to the cooperation agreed under this MOU will give suitable attribution to each Participant, in each case subject to the consent of the other Participant. The Participants intend to provide a response to a communication requested by the other Participant within three business days, if not sooner where possible.

Joint branding may be used with the written consent of each Participant. Each Participant may make its logo available for use on specific materials at its sole discretion. Each Participant will obtain written approval prior to the publication of all information and materials that contain the other Participant's logo. The participants agree that all relevant materials must follow the approved branding and marking requirements for the Project.

The Participants acknowledge that effective cooperation under this MOU may depend on the exchange of information which a Participant may consider as confidential. The protection of such information may, hence, be a requirement for the performance of projects under this MOU. As a result, the Participants expect any transfer of significant non-public information, documents and materials of whatever form pursuant to this MOU to be addressed in mutual understandings or agreements with respect to marking, confidentiality, intellectual property rights and other topics relevant to such transfer of information.
V. Designated Points of Contact

Each Participant has appointed a primary point of contact and liaison (hereinafter called the “Relationship Manager”) responsible for the management and development of the relationship among the Participants under this MOU as follows:

Winrock: William Sparks, Project Director, william.sparks@winrock.org

SAARC CCI: Ms. Hina Saeed, Secretary General, hina.saeed@saarcchamber.org

VI. Effective Date, Duration, Modification, and Termination

This MOU will be effective as of March 15, 2018 and will remain in effect until September 1, 2020 or until terminated, whichever is earlier, unless extended in writing by the Participants. In addition, this MOU may be modified by the Participants in writing. Any Participant may terminate its activities under this MOU at any time, but should endeavor to provide at least 30 days’ written notice to the other Participants. Winrock is participating in this MOU as the implementer of the USAID Feed the Future Asia Innovative Farmers Activity and participation in this MOU is contingent on continued funding of that agreement.

For
SAARC Chamber Commerce and Industries
(SAARC CCI)

(Signature)
Mr. Suraj Vidya
President
SAARC CCI

For
Winrock International

(Signature)
William Sparks,
Project Director
USAID Feed the Future Asia Innovative Farmers Activity
Winrock International