

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE AND FOCUS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE USA

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), comprising Disaster Risk Management Initiative (DRMI), and Focus Humanitarian Assistance USA (FOCUS) (hereinafter jointly referred to as the Partners);

WHEREAS the State of California and the Ismaili Imamat have established a continuous cooperation and assistance relationship and signed an Agreement of Cooperation (the Agreement), ensuring future collaboration and training in fields of mutual interest, so as to further their common goal of equitable human advancement and social justice, based on the principles of mutual benefit and reciprocity. The Agreement is identified as the parent document to all future Program Agreements developed in the areas of mutual interest;

WHEREAS Cal OES is widely recognized to have pioneered best practices in emergency management and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery and is responsible for assuring the State's readiness to recover from all hazards – natural, man-made, war-caused emergencies and disasters;

WHEREAS DRMI was established to strengthen the relevant disaster management capabilities of the AKDN agencies in Asia and serves as a focal point to coordinate and accelerate adoption of good practices in emergency management, earthquake safety and intelligent rural and urban planning;

WHEREAS the mission of FOCUS is to save lives, reduce suffering and create resilience in communities prone to man-made or natural disasters by providing humanitarian emergency assistance and taking appropriate anticipatory and mitigating measures in respect of such disasters;

WHEREAS the Partners have agreed to collaborate in the advancement of emergency management, disaster mitigation and preparedness programs such as humanitarian relief and disaster safety practices in Asia and USA;

WHEREAS in the well-established spirit of friendship and cooperation, the Partners intend to cooperate to effectively reduce the risk of, and respond to, threats to the public health, safety and welfare of the communities identified;

WHEREAS collaboration and mutual exchanges in best practices, technologies, and research ensures that linkages are established to further increase capacity, enhance protection and reduce the loss of life through such risks;

WHEREAS California's expertise in emergency management and disaster mitigation is extensive and world-renowned, and can benefit the Aga Khan Development Network's work to address the risk profile of its operations in the communities in which it is active;

THEREFORE, THE PARTNERS PLEDGE THEIR INTENTION TO:

1. Share California's best practices and access to expertise and technical assistance to significantly improve the internal first response capacity of the AKDN and its governmental and civil society partners in the region.
2. Collaborate to design and build a training program in emergency management by sharing training material, knowledge, technical expertise, staff resources, and training opportunities.
3. Collaborate and share information and technical assistance in the areas of design, procurement, operations and maintenance of emergency management systems, both directly and by extension

with partner affiliates including concepts of operations for a regional Emergency Operations Center, as well as mobile hospital design, communication and early warning systems, public awareness campaigns, and infrastructure safety engineering.

4. Explore and develop potential areas of future collaboration, including joint ventures, projects, linguistics support, cultural awareness, and messaging.
5. Enhance and promote safety and preparedness awareness to at-risk populations by sharing best practices, technologies and joint venture and training opportunities in California and Asia.
6. Build bridges and communication around mutual interest in reducing the loss of life and suffering due to emergencies.

The Partners acknowledge that this Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to and does not create any legally binding rights or obligations, and will not be enforceable in any court of law or tribunal of any sort. The Partners declare in good faith to implement this Memorandum of Understanding to the fullest extent practicable and feasible as determined by each Partner in its sole discretion.

Signed in the City of Sacramento, California on the 18th day of December 2013.

**FOR THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

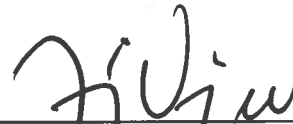


MARK S. GHILARDUCCI
DIRECTOR OF THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

12-18-13

(Date)

**FOR THE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT
INITIATIVE, AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT
NETWORK**



FIROZ VERJEE
COORDINATOR OF THE AKDN DISASTER RISK
MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE

12-18-13

(Date)

**FOR FOCUS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
USA, AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK**



SHAHIN KARIM
CHAIR OF FOCUS HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE USA

12-18-13

(Date)