# Memorandum of Agreement

This Memorandum of Agreement sets forth the responsibilities of the Global Energy Center for Community Sustainability and the S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum as affiliated members of the Global Energy Network for Community Sustainability.

# **Background**

Global Energy Center (hereafter GEC): The GEC is a non-profit organization in the United States, helping U.S. communities adopt and integrate efficient energy technologies and sustainable resources management practices in their development projects and daily operations. In addition, the GEC helps qualified organizations in other nations pursue this mission for their communities while facilitating resource exchanges and collaborative projects among them. The GEC is administered by the Gas Technology Institute with support and guidance from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Global Energy Network (hereafter GEN): The GEN is an international affiliation of organizations collaborating to develop and disseminate resources for energy and resource-smart community development and management. Affiliates of the GEN commit to sharing information, case studies, best practices and lessons learned to improve each other's effectiveness in carrying out this joint mission.

The S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum: A Master Plan for the Energy Sector was recently published on behalf of the Israeli Ministry of National Infrastructure. The Master Plan provides a basis for public discussion and for preparing operational plans that will be derived from it. As a consequence, the S. Neaman Institute for Advanced Studies in Science and Technology, an independent, interdisciplinary public-policy research institute, located at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, decided to establish an Energy Forum that will serve as a hub for discussions which will be held among government officials and representatives from industry, the energy sector, the transportation sector, fuel companies, consumer groups and others willing to join. In the context of this forum, it will be possible to establish positions, prepare plans and initiate projects that will engage all stakeholders in promoting energy efficiency and conservation and the introduction of renewable energy sources. This Memorandum of Agreement establishes the S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum as an affiliate of the GEN serving communities in Israel.

# **Definitions**

<u>Community</u> refers to urban and rural settlements defined by geo-political boundaries or a group of proximate settlements comprising a "community of interest".

<u>Sustainable Development</u> refers to practices that improve a community's economy, environment and quality of life in ways that meet the needs of current residents while conserving resources and opportunities for future generations.

<u>Sustainable Energy</u> is energy saved through efficient end-use practices or derived from renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, and low-impact hydroelectricity.

<u>Clean Energy Technologies</u> are those energy supply or end-use technologies that, compared with technologies presently in commercial use, emit substantially lower levels of greenhouse gases and other pollutants over their life cycle and generate substantially smaller or less-toxic volumes of solid, liquid or gaseous wastes.

Clean energy technologies include those that allow the production, transport, storage and use of fossil energy resources with relatively high efficiency and relatively low impact on the environment.

<u>Sustainable Community Energy Development</u> (SCED) integrates sustainable energy, clean energy technologies and responsible resources management strategies into development projects that build economically, socially and environmentally healthy communities.

### **Agreements**

- 1. The S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum agrees to:
  - Actively promote and advocate the practice of SCED by communities in Israel
  - Acquire and provide communities with information on available sustainable energy and clean energy technologies for: buildings, industrial and commercial processes, public transit and private mobility, water quality and waste management, and energy-smart land-use planning and development.
  - Develop and offer a SCED training program for public and private developers enabling them to formulate comprehensive plans that will transition their communities toward greater use of sustainable energy and clean energy technologies across all sectors of use.
  - Collaborate with the GEC to develop new information, technical materials, analytic tools and decision-support tools appropriate to facilitating sustainable community energy use, and/or to modify existing tools for effective use in (geographic territory).
  - Promote demonstration projects of energy conservation, co-generation and distributed generation (DG) of electricity, to provide a source of data and information for public institutions and private businesses and individuals, encouraging them to install such systems at their respective facilities.
  - Utilize its own and the GEC World Wide Web sites to freely share with other GEN affiliates the lessons, best practices and case studies it develops

in its work with communities. (Note: Internal communications will be conducted and placed on the Web Site in Hebrew. All proposals, papers, reports and summary of activities will also be available on the site in English).

- Collaborate with the GEC as appropriate to seek joint funding for training, tool acquisition and other activities that build the S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum's capacity to assist communities.
- Maintain clear and convenient linkages between its and the GEC's World Wide Web sites.
- Clearly identify itself as an affiliated member of the Global Energy Network on its printed, broadcast and internet-based education, information and outreach materials. (Note: The S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum will utilize a special template for all its documents and summary of activities identifying itself as an affiliated member of the GEN).

#### 2. The GEC commits to:

- Provide timely information to the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum on policies, practices, technologies and tools developed by U.S. organizations and other affiliates of the GEN to assist communities in the pursuit of SCED.
- Provide technical assistance and training, as requested and as resources permit, to help build the capacity of the S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum in its function as a GEN affiliate.
- Collaborate with the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum as appropriate to seek joint funding for training, tool acquisition and other activities that build the mutual capacity of the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum and the GEC to assist communities.
- Link the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum and its participants to U.S. services and products, as needed, to enhance the capacity of Israeli communities to pursue SCED.
- Promote the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum as a member of the GEN on the GEC World Wide Web site and in information, outreach and other internet materials related to the work of the GEN.
- Collaborate with the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy Forum to seek the resources necessary to translate key portions of the Smart Communities Network World Wide Web site into Hebrew.

# **Additional Provisions**

- Nothing in this agreement will be construed as a specific commitment of funding by either the GEC or the S. Neaman Institute – Israel Energy Forum.
- 2. This agreement may be modified by addenda, when mutually agreed upon by the principals of the GEC and the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy forum.
- 3. This agreement shall remain in force for five years from the date of signature by both organizations, at which time it may be renewed or renegotiated.
- 4. This agreement may be terminated unilaterally by either party, with at least 30 days advance notice to the other organization.
- 5. Both organizations will identify a point of contact for ongoing coordination and communications. (Note: The LEVON Group, LLC, an Environmental Consultancy and Facilitation company, based in California, USA will serve as the point of contact for ongoing coordination and communication).
- 6. The principals of the GEC and the S. Neaman Institute Israel Energy forum or their designees will conference every six months at minimum to review progress on the agreements covered in this document and to make recommendations on how to continuously improve the effectiveness of the agreement and the Global Energy Network.

Doug Newman, Executive Director Global Energy Center

Date

Prof. Nadav Liron

Director, S. Neaman Institute

Date