ProSPER.Net Cooperation with Similar Networks

ProSPER.Net recognises the importance of working with like-minded academic and research networks in pursuit of ESD/SD at the postgraduate level. It aspires to cooperate with networks that share common values and vision in integrating and mainstreaming sustainability in higher education and research as well as in addressing sustainable development issues and challenges.

This policy and procedure provide guidelines on the basis and modalities of formalising ProSPER.Net linkages with similar networks. The proposal for cooperation, written according to the structure and content described below, can be either submitted by a ProSPER.Net member or by the proposed or proposing partner network. In any case, the written proposal shall be submitted to the ProSPER.Net Secretariat at least two weeks before the meeting of the ProSPER.Net Board that considers the case.

1. Rationale of Cooperation

It is essential that the proposed or proposing partner network shares the ProSPER.Net vision of integrating and mainstreaming sustainability into educational curricula and research. This strategic thrust must be complementary with both networks having synergy and appreciative of the value of network-to-network linkages that address sustainability issues in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

Higher education institutions play a central role in responding to sustainable development issues and in finding sustainable solutions to these issues. It is anticipated that the cooperation reinforces both networks’ ability to respond in the context of the common ambition.

2. Proposed ProSPER.Net Partner Profile

This section provides a presentation on the partner network – including its purpose,
membership, governance, and activities. Citing pertinent provisions of the network’s charter or constitution that reinforce the proposed alliance will be useful. The charter of the network, if available, may be annexed to the application.

3. The Network’s Synergy with ProSPER.Net

A description of the synergy of both networks shall be made highlighting the areas of common interests and complementarity.

If a number of member institutions are currently common to both networks, this can strengthen the cooperation, and thus brief profiles of these institutions may be described in the application. Commonality of members, however, is in no way a prerequisite for the formal cooperation.

4. Modalities of Cooperation

The proposed cooperation shall adopt the principle of reciprocity and the co-benefit sharing approach. Modalities of cooperation shall be specified and described in detail, and may include the following mutually agreed arrangements and privileges:

- Mutual recognition as each other’s partner and acknowledgement thereof in promotional materials and events. Specifics and details to be provided.
- Mutual eligibility in participation of joint projects and activities. Specifics to be provided.
- Mutual invitations to meetings that are of interests to both networks. Specifics to be provided.
- Any other privileges mutually agreed upon.

Actual implementation of collaborative activities shall be reported regularly to the ProSPER.Net Board and General Assembly. At some point in time, evaluation of the cooperation shall be conducted and reported to the ProSPER.Net Board.

Financial implications that result in the implementation of the aforementioned
modalities of cooperation shall be the responsibility of each of the partners.

5. **Termination of Formal Cooperation**

The validity of the formal cooperation is indefinite unless terminated by either one of the parties with a one-year notice made in writing. The official written letter of termination shall be addressed to the respective secretariats.