

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND  
EMPLOYMENT OF FINLAND  
AND THE STATE OF MICHIGAN CONCERNING  
COOPERATION ON CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES

The State of Michigan (“Michigan”) and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland, hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Participants”

***Wishing*** to leverage the strengths and assets of their respective industries including the research, development, and innovation ecosystems to enhance collaboration;

***Emphasizing*** the common need to mitigate climate change and advance green sustainable growth;

***Considering*** the shared values and existing collaboration between Michigan and Finland, including academic research and innovation cooperation related to smart and autonomous vehicles, as well as energy storage and battery technologies; and

***Recognizing*** that Michigan and Finland have a long and rich history of bilateral exchanges and cooperation in the areas of culture, science, research and industry.

**To further these goals the Participants have reached the following understanding:**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is for the Participants to enhance overall cooperation between their respective government bodies, knowledge-based institutions, clusters and businesses.

**SCOPE OF COLLABORATION**

**Increased cooperation in the research, development and commercial sectors on clean technologies.** This cooperation could include initiatives related to: the automotive industry; battery technology solutions and energy storage; smart mobility solutions, including the maritime industry and autonomous shipping; and the sustainable forest bioeconomy.

**MECHANISMS OF COLLABORATION**

**The Participants will consider the following actions:**

1. Sharing, as appropriate, information and experiences on policies and regulations;
2. Sharing and developing best practices on creating market opportunities and demand for clean technologies;
3. Facilitating the development of direct contacts and partnerships between relevant public and private sector actors, with the aim of linking the innovation and business ecosystems of Finland and Michigan;
4. Encouraging and promoting dialogue, networking and cooperation between companies and research organizations through visits, workshops, meetings and other activities, which are mutually beneficial and accepted by both Participants;
5. Encouraging the participation of researchers and company representatives in partnerships and joint projects in the framework of relevant national, regional, and global programs and experiment platforms; and
6. Other arrangements, which will allow cooperation of joint activities of mutual interest.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

In order to commence cooperation under this MOU, a coordinating institution or agency may be designated by each Participant to take care of the practical management of the cooperation.

**RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAW**

This MOU is not legally binding and is not intended to supersede national law or international obligations by which the Participants are bound.

**DISPUTES**

The Participants will resolve any differences derived from the interpretation or application of this MOU through discussion and negotiation.

**FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

Each Participant will bear its own expenses in connection with the preparation of the above-mentioned cooperation.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

Participants wishing to carry out joint research projects under this MOU will establish separate instruments to provide for the disposition of any intellectual property that might arise from such joint research projects.

**DURATION, EFFECTIVE DATE AND DISCONTINUATION**

This MOU will come into effect on the date of signature and will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years. The MOU can be renewed for successive five (5) year periods by a mutual decision of the Participants.

This MOU may be amended if jointly decided by the Participants in writing.

This MOU may be terminated by either Participant giving six months written notice. The Participants will consult to determine how any outstanding matters should be dealt with. Termination will not affect the validity of any contract made under this MOU.

This agreement was signed in duplicate on March 4, 2020 in Lansing, Michigan, USA in the English language.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
AND EMPLOYMENT OF FINLAND**



Mika Lintilä  
Minster of Economic Affairs and Employment

**FOR THE STATE OF MICHIGAN**



Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor of Michigan