FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SECRETARÍA NACIONAL DE EDUCACIÓN SUPERIOR, CIENCIA, TECNOLOGÍA E INNOVACIÓN OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR AND THE DEUTSCHE FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT
e.v. OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

The Secretaría Nacional de Educación Superior, Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación, legally represented by René Ramírez Gallegos, National Secretary, hereinafter referred as SENESCYT, represented in this signing act by H.E. Eng. Jorge Jurado Mosquera, Ambassador of the Republic of Ecuador in Germany, and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft of the Federal Republic of Germany, legally represented by Prof. Dr. Eng. Matthias Kleiner, President of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, hereinafter referred to as the DFG, agree to enter into this agreement, freely and voluntarily, in consonance with their institutional interests and objectives, and in accordance with the following clauses:

FIRST: BACKGROUND

1) The Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, in its Articles 385 to 388 establishes the principles, structure, responsibilities, and allocation of resources for science, technology, and innovation. It involves state institutions in the programs, policies, resources and activities related to the generation, adaptation, and diffusion of scientific and technological knowledge and innovation development focused on improving national production. The State, through the designated authority coordinates the system, and establishes the objectives and policies according to the National Development Plan.

2) Article 183 of the Organic Law of Higher Education, published on the Official Record No. 298 on October 12th 2010, establishes that the SENESCYT, has among its mandate, the establishment of the public policies related to its area of institutional authority.

3) Article 2 of the Executive Decree Number 934, dated November 10th, 2011, states that economist Rafael Correa Delgado, Constitutional President of the Republic of Ecuador, designates economist René Ramírez Gallegos as National Secretary of Superior Education, Science, Technology and Innovation.

4) The DFG is an organization that supports basic research in the Federal Republic of Germany, a non-profit organization that receives the majority of its funding from the Federal Government and the Federal States of Germany; the DFG is headquartered in the city of Bonn.

5) The SENESCYT and the DFG share common interests and objectives related to scientific research and technology, and the development of these areas.
SECOND: OBJECTIVES

The SENESCYT and the DFG have expressed their interest in cooperating in the areas of Science, Technology and Innovation as follows:

- Facilitate the implementation of joint research projects, and scientific initiatives, techniques and technology in the area of strategic-scientific interest to the parties.
- Facilitate the participation and exchange of scientists and other professionals through forums, workshops, dialogues and network exchanges and visits in order to develop and discuss bilateral projects.
- Promote bilateral cooperation in fields of mutual interest by co-financing scientific and technological projects under the laws and regulations applicable to each party.
- Seek institutional cooperation between the SENESCYT and the DFG.

THIRD: DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

In order to develop the objectives established under this Agreement, the parties will implement, among others aspects, the following actions:

1. Definition of areas of common interest
2. Proposition of joint initiatives in order to develop a research platform based on the biodiversity of ecosystems.
3. Establishment of a framework and an outline for the procedure and evaluation of cofinanced collaborative research projects.
4. Elaboration or implementation of mechanisms for scientific and technological knowledge transfer.
5. Realization of evaluation, continuation and periodical redefinition of this institutional cooperation.

FOURTH: DURATION

This cooperation agreement will be valid for five (5) years from the date of signing and will automatically be renewed on a biannual basis, unless a written notice of termination has been given by either side in advance.
Each party may at any time terminate this Agreement by written communication in case of inconvenience to institutional interests. The termination will come into effect three months after notification to the other party.

The termination of the agreement shall not affect the activities that have already been approved by both parties or that are being executed.

FIFTH: ADDRESS AND NOTIFICATIONS

For the pertinent purposes, the Parties set their addresses in:

National Secretary of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation

Complete address: Whymper E7-37 y Alpallana
Telephone: +59-3-2250 5656
Website: www.senescyt.gob.ec
Quito – Ecuador

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

Complete address: Kennedyallee 40, 53175 Bonn, Germany
Telephone: +49-228-885-1
Fax: +49-228-885-2777
Website: www.dfg.de
Bonn – Germany

SIXTH: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Based on good will as the foundation of this cooperation agreement, in case of disputes arising from its execution, the Parties agree to resolve them directly through mutual consultations among the authorities of the parties.
SEVENTH: ACCEPTANCE

In witness thereof, the parties subscribe this Agreement in three copies in Spanish and English, all copies being equally authentic. One English copy and one Spanish copy will be delivered to the Ecuadorian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration.

Signed in the DFG Office in Berlin, Germany on May 23rd, 2012.

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<tr>
<th>For the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)</th>
<th>For the SECRETARÍA NACIONAL DE EDUCACIÓN SUPERIOR, CIENCIA, TECNOLOGÍA E INNOVACIÓN (SENEGECYT)</th>
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<td>Prof. Dr.-Eng. Matthias Kleiner, President of the DFG</td>
<td>H.E. Eng. Jorge Enrique Jurado Mosquera Ambassador of the Republic of Ecuador in Germany</td>
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