



EDUCATIONAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

Between the Martinican Academy
and
the Ministry of Education, Human
Resource Development and Labour,
Saint Lucia

With the support of
the French Embassy to the OECS
and the Alliance Française de
Saint-Lucia

Between the undersigned:

The Martinican Academy, represented by Mrs Catherine Bertho-Lavenir, Rector of the Academy, Chancellor of the University, Director of Departmental Education Services,

And

The Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development and Labour, represented by Honourable Robert Lewis, PhD,

With the support of

The French Ambassador to the OECS, stationed in Saint Lucia, His Excellency Eric de La Moussaye,

And

The Alliance Française de Sainte-Lucie, represented by Mr. Cuthbert Elisée, its President;

Considering the interest to develop and organise partnership initiatives in the area of educational co-operation between the establishments, teaching staff and students of the French Overseas Department of Martinique, on the one hand, and the State of Saint Lucia, on the other, within a favourable framework of geographic, historical, cultural and linguistic proximity, and desirous of giving substance to this partnership,

It has been agreed:

Article 1: Purpose

The current agreement aims to specify the scope and the objectives of the educational co-operation initiatives targeted in Article 2, as well as the obligations and the resources to be made available by each signatory in order to support these initiatives during the period:
4th March 2014 to 31 August 2015.

Article 2: Scope

2.1. Physical and virtual mobility of teachers and students

The two parties aim to give a new dynamic to teacher and student exchanges between the two territories. They have expressed their shared desire to develop "learner mobility", both physically and virtually, at all levels of the education system.

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In light of this, they are committed to encouraging the establishment of partnerships between schools and teaching teams from the two territories in order to organise immersion language programmes for primary and secondary school students. The primary school tours will be based on the discovery class model and will be accompanied by a team of bilingual teachers. For the secondary level, these will take the form of school tours or training programmes whose organisational arrangements will be subject to the statutory instruments specific to each party's education system.

In order to reinforce the authentic use of the language, the two parties will encourage distance exchanges through Information and Communications Technologies. This virtual mobility will permit teacher and students alike to prepare their physical mobility project, to keep in touch during the trip and to make the exchanges durable.

2.2. Linguistic Perfection for Teachers

The two parties agree to set up a partnership for teacher exchanges. The objectives of this partnership are to:

- Contribute to the development of the teaching of French in Saint Lucia, and, reciprocally, to encourage the improvement of the teaching/learning of English in Martinique ;
- Encourage the linguistic perfection of teachers from Martinique in order that they be able to provide, upon return to the Academy, quality enhanced English classes, particularly in the oral component, and, reciprocally, that of Saint Lucian teachers for quality enhanced teaching of French upon return to their respective territories;
- Give students from Martinique the opportunity to receive instruction from English-speaking teachers in the Caribbean, and, reciprocally, the Saint Lucian students, instruction from a native French;
- Strengthen the international exposure offered by schools ;
- Create favourable conditions to teacher and student mobility.

At the primary level, professional exchanges will be offered to teachers for a one-year period in which teachers will substitute each other in the partner territories.

At the secondary level, professional short-term trips for English teachers and of a non-linguistic background will also be encouraged and facilitated.

2.3. Provision of information relative to training programmes offered

With the assistance of the *Office National d'Information sur les Enseignements et les Professions (ONISEP)*, the Martinican Academy promises to develop information campaigns intended for its Saint Lucian counterparts on the listings of possible Post A-Level study opportunities offered.



Article 3: Signatory Contributions

The four signatories of this agreement will lend their support to the co-operation initiatives described in Article 2 by mobilising the following structures and personnel:

The Martinican Academy will:

- 1) mobilise the relevant departments in the areas of primary and secondary education, information and orientation services for students and international relations within the local education authority;
- 2) organise exchange programmes and twinning of schools, classes, students and teachers in collaboration with the other Semi-Autonomous Regions;
- 3) entrust the design and administration of digital platform with areas for the development of shared resources in French, English and Creole; and for training and sharing best practices online, in order to provide support for the twinning programmes and language exchanges to the Centre Régional de Documentation Pédagogique (CRDP) of the Martinican Academy;
- 4) have a teacher stationed in Saint Lucia to facilitate the preparation and monitoring of the co-operation initiatives according conditions outlined in Article 4.

The Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development and Labour (Saint Lucia) will:

- 1) mobilise the relevant departments and staff within the Ministry in order to support, manage and evaluate the common initiatives previously cited;
- 2) promote the teaching of French in primary and secondary schools island-wide as well as the initial and in-service training of French teachers;
- 3) implement the necessary mechanisms to facilitate the transmission of information to students and their families about possible higher education programmes offered in Martinique.

The French Embassy to the OECS, through its Department of Co-operation and Cultural Initiatives will:

- 1) ensure the monitoring of the current agreement with the assistance of the relevant local education authorities in Martinique and Saint Lucia; and will facilitate the implementation of the educational co-operation initiatives undertaken therein;
- 2) ensure the coherence of the initiatives with those undertaken within the framework of Embassy's Plan of Action and by the other partners (the other Semi-Autonomous Regions) in regional co-operation;
- 3) support, as much as it can, mobility between the two territories (subventions, scholarships, mobilisation of funds for regional co-operation).

The Alliance Française de Sainte-Lucie will:

- 1) make its staff and premises available for the organisation of activities and training programmes for teachers and the reception of Martinican;
- 2) provide the teacher stationed on island by the Martinican Academy with an equipped office for the length of the mission, in accordance with Article 4 of the current agreement. The daily operational expenses incurred by this office will be borne by the Alliance Française.

Article 4: Human Resource made available by the Martinican Academy

In order to favour the implementation of this co-operation initiatives in Saint Lucia and the relations with the relevant departments within the Ministry of National Education in Martinique, the Martinican Academy will station a primary school teacher at the Alliance Française in Saint Lucia, and who will be under the dual supervision of the Assistant Academic Director Office within the Ministry of National Education in Martinique as well as that of the Cultural Attaché within the French Embassy to the OECS in Saint Lucia, in collaboration with the General Delegation of the Alliance Française group.

This post, to be paid by the Martiniquan administration, will take the form of a letter of engagement signed by the Rector of the Martinican Academy and the signatories of the current agreement. It will be subject to evaluation and will be of the same duration as the current agreement, and renewable if necessary.

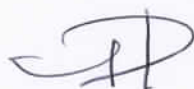
Article 5: Responsibility and Monitoring of the Agreement

The Rector of the Martinican Academy, the Minister of Education in Saint Lucia, The French Ambassador to the OECS and the President of the Alliance Française de Sainte-Lucie are responsible for the execution of the current agreement.

A monitoring committee comprising the signatories of the current agreement or their delegates/agents will be put in place and will meet at least biannually in order to carry mid-term and end of term evaluations of the initiatives as well as to outline an action plan for the following year should the agreement be renewed.

Article 6: Modification

The current agreement can be modified by a freely negotiated endorsement between the concerned parties.



Article 7: Length

The current agreement will take effect from 4th March 2014 and will end on 31st August 2015. It is renewable, by an explicit decision of renewal, subject to a positive assessment of the initiatives and the availability of the resources committed by the signatories.

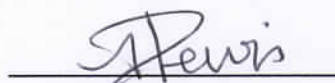
Signed in Castries, 4th March, 2014
(in four original copies, one for each signatory)

On behalf of the Martinican Academy,
Rector of the Academy,
Chancellor of the University,
Director of Departmental Education Services



Catherine BERTHO-LAVENIR

On behalf of the Ministry of Education,
Human Resource Development and Labour
Saint Lucia,
Honourable Minister



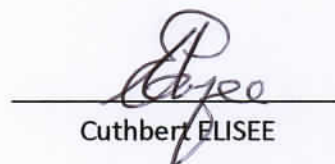
Robert LEWIS, PhD

On behalf of the French Embassy
to the OECS in Saint Lucia,
His Excellency



Eric de LA MOUSSAYE

On behalf of Alliance Française
de Sainte-Lucie,
President



Cuthbert ELISEE