



Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The Bahamas Association of Land Surveyors (BALS) – a statutory professional body established by Act of Parliament (Chapter 366), Nassau, The Bahamas, hereinafter referred to as **"BALS"**

And

The Bahamas Institute of STEM Innovation (BIOSI) – a non-profit organisation, Nassau, The Bahamas, hereinafter referred to as **"BIOSI"**

And

The Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors (CICES) – Dominion House, Sibson Road, Sale, Cheshire M33 7PP, United Kingdom, hereinafter referred to as **"CICES"**

(BALS, BIOSI and CICES are collectively referred to as the **"Parties"**)

1. PREAMBLE

BALS, BIOSI and CICES enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (the "Understanding") in order to provide the basis for further consultations between the three organisations to identify ways that they may cooperate on matters in common relating to **land surveying, geospatial sciences, civil engineering surveying, commercial management, STEM education, and environmental sustainability.**

2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 2.1 Each Party recognises the local, national and international context in which BALS, BIOSI and CICES operate.
- 2.2 All Parties support the development, general acceptance and enforcement of international standards in surveying, geospatial data, and professional ethics.
- 2.3 BALS and BIOSI recognise the pre-eminence and unique knowledge and expertise of CICES within the science and art of civil engineering surveying.
- 2.4 CICES recognises the statutory authority and professional mandate of BALS in The Bahamas, as well as the educational and community outreach expertise of BIOSI.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Understanding are:

- 3.1 To encourage a collaborative environment within which BALS, BIOSI and CICES can work collaboratively.
- 3.2 To provide a basis for joint action in priority areas of common interest, including but not limited to: continuing professional development (CPD), education, member services, professional accreditation, conferences, training, research, and services to the surveying, geospatial and civil engineering industries, as well as to the general public.
- 3.3 To develop and deliver **accredited educational programs** targeting young professionals, students, and those entering the surveying field, focusing on geospatial sciences, UAV technology, sustainability, and accredited certifications.
- 3.4 To conduct **joint research** on emerging trends in surveying (e.g., sustainability, innovative technologies) and publish findings in international journals, white papers, and research reports.

- 3.5 To **co-host webinars and global events**, including but not limited to **Geospatial Week** (annually in The Bahamas, next edition October 11–17, 2026) and GIS Day, bringing together professionals, students, and industry leaders.
- 3.6 To create **global networking opportunities** and work closely with the FIG Young Surveyors Network for youth and professionals, facilitating career development and professional growth.
- 3.7 To apprise each other of any undertakings they may be planning that could be of mutual interest. To conduct a Quaterly Review or Twice a year.
- 3.8 To encourage collaboration on CPD/networking events and, when possible, to cross-promote individual events to their respective members.
- 3.9 To cooperate in international development by promoting each organisation's competencies where appropriate.
- 3.10 To promote respective disciplines and careers at universities, colleges, and career fairs.
- 3.11 To disseminate relevant information to their respective members. Provide content for respective associations magazines and publications.
- 3.12 To consult on programmes and activities that might be undertaken collaboratively.
- 3.13 To work together to build a strong relationship to promote and enhance the development of their respective professions.
- 3.14 To complement their respective efforts when dealing with government and other organisations on issues that affect each Party.
- 3.15 To work together to ensure appropriately qualified professionals and technicians continue to pursue careers within their respective professions.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

4.1 BALS and BIOSI will:

- Provide educational content, training materials, curriculum development, and access to local resources and community engagement in the Caribbean region, particularly in geospatial sciences and STEM education.
- Offer mentorship opportunities to students and young professionals in the surveying field.
- Help coordinate local events, webinars, and workshops in the Caribbean and other regions.
- Promote the partnership through social media and digital platforms, encouraging participation in events and programmes.

4.2 CICES will:

- Consider providing certification and professional development to participants in training programmes organised through the partnership.
- Lead research initiatives, providing subject matter expertise and guidance on surveying standards and methodologies.
- Leverage its global network to support the growth of this partnership, facilitating international collaboration and networking opportunities.
- Assist in promoting Geospatial Week, GIS Day, and other related events, bringing its global audience to these initiatives.

5. CONFIDENTIALITY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

5.1 Confidentiality

All Parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of any proprietary or sensitive information shared during the course of this partnership, including training materials, research findings, and event-related information that may not be publicly disclosed.

5.2 Intellectual Property

Any intellectual property (IP) developed as part of the partnership (educational materials, research publications, event content) will remain jointly owned unless otherwise agreed in writing by all Parties. BALS, BIOSI and CICES will have the right to use the IP in accordance with the terms of this Understanding.

6. GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

6.1 A **joint steering committee** will be formed to oversee the execution of this Understanding. The committee will include representatives from BALS, BIOSI and CICES, who will meet **quarterly** (virtually or in person) to review progress, resolve issues, and plan future initiatives.

6.2 All Parties will provide **quarterly reports** on the activities, results, and outcomes of joint initiatives to ensure transparency and ongoing feedback.

7. GENERAL PROVISIONS

7.1 This Understanding is intended to encourage and further extend dialogue between BALS, BIOSI and CICES. It permits all organisations to consider issues which affect them and foster increased cooperation in addressing policies and practical matters of interest.

7.2 Nothing in this Understanding reduces or constrains any Party in exercising their legitimate role with respect to their own members.

7.3 This Understanding is effective on the date of its execution by each Party, and its term will be **five (5) years** from the date of execution, with an **annual review** of the relationship and its resulting activities.

- 7.4 Prior to the expiry of this Understanding, the Parties will seek to evaluate the activities undertaken hereunder and provide each other with such relevant information as may reasonably be required for such evaluations.
- 7.5 The Parties may decide to enter into a subsequent Understanding to continue the purposes of this Understanding beyond its current term. Both parties will give 6 months notice if they wish to terminate the agreement.
- 7.6 This Understanding may be amended by the Parties from time to time as agreed by all Parties. Any Party may terminate the Understanding on **six (6) months' written notice** to the others, or on shorter notice by mutual agreement.
- 7.7 This Understanding does not create or confer any contractual, legal or equitable rights between the Parties; none of the Parties is subject to any legal responsibilities or obligations arising out of, or connected to, any non-performance of any provision of this Understanding.
- 7.8 The Parties declare that nothing in this Understanding will be considered as creating a partnership, joint venture or agency relationship between BALS, BIOSI and CICES.

8. SIGNATURES

Signed on behalf of the Parties:

On behalf of BALS:

Signature: Rodrick C. Wood

Name: Mr. Rodrick Wood

Title: President, Bahamas Association of Land Surveyors (BALS)

Date: July 17th 2026

On behalf of BIOSI:

Signature: Thomas Ferguson

Name: Thomas Ferguson

Title: Director, Bahamas Institute of STEM Innovation (BIOSI)

Date: July 17, 2026

On behalf of CICES:

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Name: SW HAMM

Title: CEO

Date: 23/7/2026

CONCLUSION

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the collaborative efforts of BALS, BIOSI and CICES, leveraging each organisation's strengths in education, certification, research, professional standards, and global events. By pooling resources, expertise, and networks, the partnership will promote the professional growth of surveying and geospatial professionals, contribute to innovative research, and drive global discussions on geospatial technologies and sustainability in surveying.

