

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

**To Establish a Partnership between the following Federal States  
The State of California, United States of America**

**AND**

**the Land Baden-Württemberg, Federal Republic of Germany.**

### **Preamble**

In 2015, the Minister Präsident Winfried Kretschmann of Baden-Württemberg and Governor Jerry Brown of California shared thoughts on the occasion of a delegation visit to California on a potential collaboration between Baden-Württemberg and California in the economic, environmental and climate field as well as in science, literature, and art. During a visit to Stuttgart in 2017, Minister President Kretschmann and Governor Brown discussed the expansion of the collaboration between technology and science centers and how to enhance the exchange and friendship between Baden-Württemberg and California. In May of 2018, the California State Senate passed a Resolution that supports expanding the bilateral relationship that exists between Baden-Württemberg and California and encouraged the efforts to establish a sister state relationship.

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

The State of California in the United States of America and the Land Baden-Württemberg in the Federal Republic of Germany (in the following referred to as “the partners”) are leading in the sector of innovation and climate protection. They both hereby express the intent to share as partners the vision of sustainable change by combining economic prosperity with the indispensable protection and preservation of our natural heritages. They are both convinced that concrete action locally and close cooperation between each other will contribute substantially to sustainable change.

In 2015, Baden-Württemberg and California jointly launched the Under2 Coalition as an initiative for climate protection. It has now developed into a worldwide movement of sub-national governments that fight climate change by implementing concrete policies and measures. At present, more than 200 countries, regions and municipalities are members of the initiative. Both Baden-Württemberg and California are establishing ambitious policies and programs to achieve their climate protection goals by 2030. These include the promotion of smart and environmentally-friendly mobility, energy efficiency and the comprehensive utilization of renewable energy.

Other important contributions are made by industry, the academic community and research with innovative technologies and sustainable solutions. The Ministry for Science, Research and the Arts of Baden-Württemberg and the California State University have enjoyed a co-operation since 1995 as well as an exchange program that was renewed in 2015.

**The Partners have come to the following understanding:**

1. The Land Baden-Württemberg and the State of California express their intention of co-operating in the future in the following areas within the scope of respective competences, functions and means:

- CLIMATE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES, including measures to improve resilience in the face of climate change and consequent natural events
- TRAFFIC TRANSFORMATION, including initiatives and measures for sustainable and modern mobility
- URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE
- ECONOMIC COOPERATION, specifically in the field of digital transformation and in collaboration with start-ups from Silicon Valley
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE BUSINESS SECTOR
- SCIENCE, RESEARCH, ARTS AND CULTURE

2. The following activities should be specifically conducted within the scope of the State Partnership:

- Exchange of information on energy storage, utilization of renewable energy and measures for energy efficiency
- Exchange of experience and information for the promotion of sustainable mobility and the creation of required infrastructure (Strategy Dialogue Automotive Industry)
- Exchange of experts and information on best practices in cybersecurity,
- Exchange of experts and job shadowing in science, research, arts and culture as well as in the state agencies for energy (KEA and California Energy Commission), mobility (e-mobil BW and California Air Resources Board) and environment (LUBW and California Environmental Protection Agency)
- Establishment of joint, innovative research approaches on climate change (as a partnership among government, academia, industry, and civil society)
- Exchange of expert knowledge in the film and media industry in partnership with the California Film Commission and the Media and Film Society Baden Württemberg

- Collaboration in the field of literature and intellectual history such as provenance research, starting with a workshop in California (June 2018) on the subject “Thomas Mann’s American Library”
- Exchange of experts and cooperation in the field of digital transformation, specifically within the scope of the project “Innovation Camp BW Silicon Valley” ([www.innovationcampbw.de](http://www.innovationcampbw.de))
- Exchange and collaboration regarding start-ups and networking of start-up ecosystems, specifically through partnership with the California Innovation Hub (iHub) Network
- Sharing and transfer of know-how and potential project concerning comprehensive, publically accessible electric charging infrastructure
- Expansion and optimization of public transport and consequently the necessity of a marked increase in transport capacity in public transport
- Exchange of experience, specifically for the rapid installation of infrastructure, procurement of vehicles, funding and new forms of public transport with autonomous vehicles, connectivity of transport modes and carriers, new mobility services providers, sharing concepts (ride sharing, car sharing, bike sharing) to achieve zero emissions in inner cities and livable urban quarters as well as promoting pedestrian and bicycle transport in order to increase their share significantly and systematically on all routes. Exchange of information on respective urban and traffic planning.

3. None of the provisions contained in this Memorandum of Understanding should entail any legally binding or financial obligations for any one of the Partners. The Partners can withdraw from this MoU at any time and should provide 60 days notice prior to doing so.

This Memorandum of Understanding was signed at San Francisco on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in two copies of the same content in the English and German language.

For the State of California

For the Land  
Baden-Württemberg

Edmund G. Brown Jr.  
Governor of the State of California

Winfried Kretschmann  
Minister President of the Land Baden  
- Württemberg