### **Shared Resources and Utilities Agreement**

**This Shared Resources and Utilities Agreement** ("Agreement") is made effective as of [Effective Date] by and among the residents and members of [Eco-Village Name] (hereinafter referred to as the "Community"). This Agreement governs the use, maintenance, cost-sharing, and fair access to communal resources and utilities within the eco-village.

#### **1. Purpose**

* The purpose of this Agreement is to ensure that all shared resources and utilities within the eco-village are used responsibly, maintained collectively, and allocated fairly among Members, in line with the Community's sustainability principles and mutual respect.

#### **2. Scope of Agreement**

* This Agreement applies to all shared resources and utilities, including but not limited to water systems, solar power, communal gardens, shared buildings, and other community assets (collectively referred to as "Shared Resources").
* Each Member agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of this Agreement as a prerequisite to accessing Shared Resources.

#### **3. Shared Resource Categories and Access Rights**

* **Water Systems**: Access to shared water resources, including wells, rainwater harvesting, and irrigation systems, is granted to all Members for essential and sustainable use only.
* **Solar Power and Renewable Energy**: Shared solar power and other renewable energy systems are accessible to Members for basic household needs, with usage monitored to ensure equitable distribution.
* **Communal Gardens**: Communal garden plots are available for all Members to grow food, with access granted based on availability and a fair rotation system.
* **Shared Buildings**: Common spaces such as kitchens, workshops, and storage areas are accessible to all Members, with scheduled times or sign-up sheets to manage demand.

#### **4. Cost-Sharing Structure**

* **Monthly Contribution**: Members will contribute a monthly fee of [Amount] toward the cost of maintaining and operating Shared Resources. This fee may be adjusted annually based on actual expenses and community needs.
* **Utility Usage Fees**: For utilities such as electricity or water, Members may be charged based on individual usage, if meters or other measurement devices are available. Rates will be established by the Community Council.
* **Special Assessments**: If significant repairs or upgrades are required, Members may be assessed a one-time fee to cover the cost, subject to community approval.

#### **5. Fair Use Policy**

* **Reasonable Usage Limits**: Members agree to use Shared Resources responsibly, adhering to any established usage limits (e.g., water allocation per household) to prevent depletion or overuse.
* **Non-Commercial Use**: Shared Resources are intended for personal and communal use within the eco-village. Commercial use, such as growing produce for sale, requires community approval.
* **Priority of Essential Needs**: In cases of limited supply (e.g., water shortages), essential needs such as drinking water and basic lighting will take priority over non-essential uses.

#### **6. Maintenance and Upkeep**

* **Routine Maintenance**: The Community Council or designated Maintenance Committee will oversee routine maintenance of Shared Resources, including repairs, inspections, and upkeep.
* **Member Contributions**: Members are expected to contribute volunteer hours toward the maintenance of Shared Resources. Each Member should complete at least [Hours, e.g., 5 hours] of service per month, such as garden weeding, cleaning, or repair assistance.
* **Reporting Issues**: Members must report any damage or issues with Shared Resources to the Community Council immediately to facilitate timely repairs.

#### **7. Community Roles and Responsibilities**

* **Community Council**: The Community Council will oversee the management and allocation of Shared Resources, review usage reports, and ensure fair access to all Members.
* **Resource Stewards**: The Community Council may designate individual Members as "Resource Stewards" for specific resources (e.g., water, energy, garden). Stewards will assist with maintenance and monitor usage to ensure compliance with this Agreement.
* **Member Participation**: All Members are encouraged to attend meetings on resource management, offer feedback, and vote on decisions related to Shared Resources.

#### **8. Resource Allocation and Scheduling**

* **Scheduling Systems**: For high-demand Shared Resources, such as workshop space or communal kitchens, a scheduling system will be implemented to ensure equitable access. Members can reserve time slots on a first-come, first-served basis.
* **Garden Plot Allocation**: Garden plots will be allocated based on a fair rotation system, allowing each Member the opportunity to cultivate a plot. Plots must be returned to a neutral state at the end of each rotation.
* **Priority Access for Special Needs**: Members with specific needs (e.g., elderly, disabled) may receive priority access to certain resources, such as accessible water sources or garden plots close to their residence.

#### **9. Conflict Resolution**

* **Direct Dialogue**: Members are encouraged to resolve any disputes regarding Shared Resources through direct communication.
* **Mediation**: If direct communication is unsuccessful, a neutral third-party mediator may be appointed to help resolve the dispute.
* **Council Review**: If mediation fails, the dispute may be presented to the Community Council, whose decision will be binding.

#### **10. Amendments to Agreement**

* Any amendments to this Agreement must be approved by a supermajority vote (75%) of Members. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Community Council and shared with all Members at least [Notice Period, e.g., 14 days] before the vote.

#### **11. Governing Law**

* This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of [State].

#### **12. Signatures**

By signing below, each Member agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this Shared Resources and Utilities Agreement and to use communal resources in a fair and responsible manner.

**Community Council Representative’s Signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Member’s Signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_