

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
between
Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh
&
ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered between “**Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh**” having its Campus at Ranchi, Jharkhand, hereinafter called “DDUGU” and **ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh)**, hereinafter referred to as “CAFRI”. Both DDUGU and CAFRI are independently referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties”.

WHEREAS

The parties hereto are entering into this Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of recording their intention to negotiate and finalize the terms of cooperation with the objective of strengthening their cooperation as well as striving for the promotion of mutual exchanges.

A. The Parties confirm their intention to negotiate and settle the terms of an Agreement in respect of each project and programme that will take place.

B. Each Agreement will include provisions dealing with, amongst other things: (i) promote student mobility and visiting scholar programs; (ii) enhance academic programs collaborations; (iii) promote joint publication and research activities; (iv) initiate exchange of academic materials and other information pertaining to mutual benefits; (v) promote several scholarly activities such as courses, seminars, trainings, conferences, and symposiums organized by either of the Parties; (vi) Other activities and programs as may be mutually agreed upon by the Parties; and (vii) adhering to the Intellectual Property Right (IPR) policy of the respective parties.

C. The Parties acknowledge that for any agreement to be binding on them, it must be in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative from each Party.

This MoU shall be treated as a platform on which both Parties agree to work together in future.

BACKGROUND

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, established in 1957 by the Uttar Pradesh State Universities Act), is the first University to be established in Uttar Pradesh after Independence. In its long eventful journey, it has constantly striven to live up to its motto, “Let noble thoughts come to me from all directions” by assimilating diverse ideas, people and beliefs into its academic and co-curricular lives. Spread over 190.96 acres, it houses seven Faculties comprising

of 40 departments that have been playing a significant role in imparting holistic education predominantly to the people of the Eastern region of Uttar Pradesh, Western Bihar, and the neighbouring country of Nepal since its inception. As a residential-cum-affiliating State University whose academic jurisdiction spreads across three districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh it can boast of a rich academic legacy, illustrious alumni, experienced, qualified and dedicated faculty members, transparent and effective administrative set up, state-of-the art library, ample career growth opportunities, advanced research facilities and a vibrant and safe campus. DDU Gorakhpur University, recognized with an A++ accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), stands as a premier state university. Notably, it has attained the highest score in Uttar Pradesh, securing the 4th position nationwide.

Recently, our university achieved a commendable 190th rank in the SCImago Institution Rankings (SIR), with notable standings in research (201st rank), innovation (128th rank), and the social category (250th rank) on a global scale. In the QS World University Rankings for the academic session 2020-21, DDU Gorakhpur University secured the 96th position among the top 100 universities in India.

With more than 12000 registered students out of which more than 50% are women the University has successfully introduced a plethora of path-breaking schemes and programs for imparting holistic education to its students. The University is acclaimed nation-wide for conducting and promoting quality research, exceptional teaching and learning processes, national and international awardees, sports activities and recognitions, engagement in outreach and extension activities, robust student support system, placements in reputed government and private organizations and transparent and effective governance. The University is equipped with facilities like automated Central Library, ICT enabled classrooms, state-of-the-art laboratories, Incubation centre, Health Centre, separate hostels for men and women, facilities for sports and games, environmentally friendly campus, gender sensitive ambience and ragging- free atmosphere.

Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh)

ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute (ICAR-CAFRI), formerly the National Research Centre on Agroforestry, is a multidisciplinary premier research institute of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) located at Gwalior Road, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. The Institute was established in 1988 with a mission to improve quality of life of rural people through integration of woody perennials on agricultural landscapes for economic, environmental and social benefits. The Institute works with a vision of “Integration of woody perennials in the farming system to improve land productivity through conservation of soils, nutrients and biodiversity to augment natural resource conservation, restoration of ecological balance, alleviation of poverty and to mitigate risks of weather vagaries”. The Institute is mandated to develop sustainable agroforestry practices for farms, marginal lands and wastelands in different agroclimatic zones of India; coordinate network research for identifying agroforestry technologies for inter-regions; training in agroforestry research for ecosystem analysis and transfer of agroforestry technology. CAFRI has developed robust agroforestry models and appropriate package of practices for different agro-climatic conditions covering small and marginal farmers.

1. PURPOSE & SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

The potential areas of collaboration include research, education, capacity building, experience sharing and knowledge management, in the domain of Environmental Studies and allied basic sciences including Agroforestry and Natural Resource based Environmental Sustainability. The specific areas for joint activities will be decided in due course of time.

2. OUTLINES OF THE COLLABORATION

This document is not intended to create legal or binding obligations on either Party. It serves only as a record of the Parties' current intentions. This will be a sustaining program and will help sourcing funds for collaborate research/academic programs from external agencies. We also plan to work on a joint online degree program in Agroforestry, which could be an avenue for further cooperation between DDUGU and CAFRI.

Under the aegis of this agreement, DDUGU & CAFRI shall jointly explore the possibilities of working mainly in the north-eastern part of India. The major focus of this collaboration shall be on:

- Developing joint curricula for mutually identified programs;
- Guiding students for Post-graduate & Doctoral research with CAFRI as an extended research campus of DDUGU;
- CAFRI shall assist in the faculty development and student mentoring of DDUGU
- Joint research in environment-dependent agroforestry, farm and environmental sectors;
- Promoting agroforestry models suitable for the north-eastern hills region through establishment and demonstration of successful tree-based farming solutions;
- Each institution will encourage the exchange of faculty/scientists for joint teaching and research programs on agroforestry and climate change mitigation and adaptation, and collaborative professional training programs on agroforestry and allied aspects including mutually designed distance education programs;
- Faculty/Scientists from each institution will collaborate in developing proposals for external funding as appropriate;
- Apprenticeship/On-Job training of students of DDUGU (Deemed University) at CAFRI.
- Any expenses incurred by each institution under this agreement will be the sole responsibility of the institutions concerned;

2.1 Academic and Research Collaboration:

In pursuant of the agreement, academic and research collaborations shall be initiated between both Parties. Academic collaboration shall involve faculty members/scientists visiting their counterpart institutions for short-term (1-3 months) teaching assignments, evaluation and curriculum development. The eligible faculty members/scientists may also be a part of the dissertation/thesis supervision along with the host institution faculty members/scientists.

Research collaboration shall involve visits of faculty members/scientists to each other's institution, and write, bid and implement collaborative research projects for funding and be a part of in-house research funded projects. Research collaboration shall involve being a part of the publication authorship group, keeping intellectual property rights intact.

2.2 Exchange of academic information, data generation and dissemination, and scholarly publications:

In pursuant to the agreement, exchange of academic information, data regeneration and dissemination and scholarly publications shall be the privilege of both institutions involved. The data generation could be from primary or secondary sources. The samples to be collected from field areas shall be shared as per convenience and the Government protocols. Secondary data source and sharing shall also need to have clearances of the Government procedures. Dissemination of information to print/visual media shall be as per the Government protocols.

3. Publication & Intellectual Property Rights

- (i) If the research is conducted and completed in India with the help of Central University of Jharkhand members in the team, the intellectual property will be protected in India with DDUGU as a co applicant. ICAR-CAFRI will have rights to commercialize technology.
- (ii) If the research is conducted and completed in India with the help of ICAR-CAFRI members in the team, the intellectual property will be protected in India with ICAR-CAFRI as a co-applicant. DDUGU will have rights to commercialize the technology.
- (iii) In case application is to be made for international protection, then both ICAR-CAFRI and DDUGU will apply as co-applicants for the protection of intellectual property rights subject to exclusive rights of both the Parties to commercialize the technology in their respective countries. Commercialization in any other country shall be done jointly through a separate agreement.
- (iv) In case research is carried out solely and separately by the Party or the research results are obtained through the sole and separate effort of the Party, the Party concerned alone will apply for grant of IPR and once granted, the IPR will be solely owned by the Party concerned.
- (v) In case of research results obtained through joint activities, the grant of intellectual property rights will be sought by both the Parties jointly and once granted these rights will jointly be owned by the Parties.
- (vi) Any Publication, document and/or paper arising out of joint work conducted by the participants pursuant to this MoU will be jointly owned. The use of the name, logo and/or official emblem of the participants in any publication, document and/or paper will require prior permission of both the participants. It may however be ensured that the official emblem and logo are not misused.
- (vii) Both Parties agree to ensure appropriate protection of intellectual Property Rights generated from such cooperation consistent with their respective laws, rules and regulations and other international agreements to which both Parties are signatories.

4. Performance Standards

The Parties shall perform their respective roles and responsibilities under this MoU with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity.

5. Disclosure of Information

ICAR-CAFRI and DDUGU agree that except for a Court Order requiring disclosure, neither shall disclose to any third party without the written consent of the other, any information made available to the Parties, in the performance of work and/or generated by the performance of work, under this Agreement, except information which at the date hereof was;

- (i) In the public domain
- (ii) Known to either prior to the date hereof as evidenced by written documents subsequently.

The provisions in this Article shall survive the termination or completion of the MoU.

6. Amendments

The Parties of this MoU may, by mutual consent, add, modify, amend, or delete any words, phrases, sentences, or Articles in this MoU.

7. Arbitration

Dispute arising out of this MoU, if any, shall be amicably settled jointly by Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University and Central Agroforestry Research Institute.

8. Validity of the MOU

This Memorandum of Understanding will be effective on the date of signing and will have a duration of five (5) years with a provision upon mutual agreement further. Any cessation of the MoU by either Party shall be notified in writing to the other Party at least six months in advance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby execute the MoU in two original copies in English language on the 12th of November, 2024.

<p><i>(Handwritten Signature)</i> 12/11/24</p> <p>(Prof. Poonam Tandon) Designation: Vice-Chancellor For and on behalf of the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University <i>Prof. Poonam Tandon</i> Vice-Chancellor D.D.U. Gorakhpur, University, Gorakhpur</p>	<p><i>(Handwritten Signature)</i> 12/11/2024</p> <p>(Dr. Ayyanadar Arunachalam) क/डिरेक्टर Designation: Director For and on behalf of the ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute कै.कृ.वा.अनु. संस्थान, झाँसी (उ.प्र.) CAFRI, JHANSI (U.P.)</p>
<p>Witnesses:</p> <p><i>(Handwritten Signature)</i></p> <p>1. Prof Sarad Misra Director, IANS</p>	<p>Witnesses:</p> <p><i>(Handwritten Signature)</i></p> <p>1. Dr. A.K. Handa Principal Scientist</p>
<p><i>(Handwritten Signature)</i> 12/11/24</p> <p>2. Dr Ramwant Gupta Coordinator, Collaboration and Consultancy</p>	<p><i>(Handwritten Signature)</i></p> <p>2. Mr. Suresh Ramanam, Scientist</p>