

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
Between
Bundelkhand University, Jhansi
&
ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered between “**Bundelkhand University**” having its Campus at Kanpur Road, Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh, hereinafter called “**BU**” and **ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh)**, hereinafter referred to as “**CAFRI**”. Both the BU and CAFRI are independently referred to as “**Party**” and collectively as “**Parties**”.

The Parties have agreed to engage in a broad spectrum of joint activities in the field of Integrated Agro-ecosystems and Natural Resource-based Environmental sustainability and Sustainable Livelihood Promotion through research, education and extension. This MoU shall be treated as a platform on which both Parties agree to work together in future. The terms and conditions of this collaboration are as follows:

BACKGROUND

Bundelkhand University

Established on the August 26, 1975, vide Government of Uttar Pradesh Notification No. 10/15-60/74 under the provision of the U.P. Universities Act. Though belonging to the younger generation of the Indian Universities, the Bundelkhand University has fast transformed into a university of excellence offering opportunities to the aspiring youths to pursue higher education. The BU envisages to impart quality vocational and scientific education through basic and applied research, to improve the quality and value of human irrespective of gender, caste, nationality and religion. The University aims to become a world-class institution by tapping human potential to lead the country in changing national, regional and global scenario. The University offers undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral research programmes in Vocational studies and applied sciences, Biotechnology, Engineering, Information and communication technology, Humanities and social sciences, Management, Buddhist studies and civilization, and Law, justice and governance. There are core programs in life sciences, environmental sciences and agricultural sciences including inter-disciplinary courses on biotechnology, food technology, economics and policy.

ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute

The 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

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कुलसचिव
बुन्देलखण्ड विश्वविद्यालय
झाँसी

system to improve land productivity through conservation of soil, nutrients and biodiversity to augment natural resource conservation, restoration of ecological balance, environmental sustainability, 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 agro-climatic 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. The CAFRI has developed robust agroforestry models, and 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, training, capacity building, experience sharing and knowledge management in the domain of Integrated Agro-ecosystems and Natural Resource-based Sustainable Livelihood Promotion and Ecosystem Health Management. 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 programme and help sourcing funds for collaborate research/academic programmes from external agencies. We also plan to work on a joint online degree/diploma programme in Agroforestry, which could be an avenue for further cooperation between the BU and CAFRI.

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

- Developing joint curricula for mutually identified programmes including distance education;
- Mentoring and Guiding students for Undergraduate Postgraduate and Doctoral research with the CAFRI as an extended research campus of the BU;
- Eligible/interested scientists of CAFRI shall be nominated as Guide/Advisors/External Supervisors giving equal opportunity for the intellectual working for guiding research-based dissertation/thesis work that are done in partial fulfilment or fulfilment of any degrees
- Joint and inter-disciplinary research in agroforestry and allied sectors including environmental management and forest-farm interface;
- Promoting agroforestry models suitable for the 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 programmes on agroforestry biodiversity conservation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation, and collaborative professional training programmes on agroforestry and allied aspects including distance education programmes in agroforestry and natural resources if deemed fit;
- Faculty/Scientists from each institution will collaborate in developing proposals for external funding as appropriate; and


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कुलसचिव
बुन्देलखण्ड विश्वविद्यालय
झांसी

- 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 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 the intellectual property rights intact.

2.2 Exchange of Academic Information, Data Generation and Dissemination, and Scholarly Publications

In pursuant of 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 and Intellectual Property Rights

- If the research is conducted and completed in India with the help of the BU members in the team, the intellectual property will be protected in India with the BU as a co applicant. The ICAR-CAFRI will have rights to commercialize technology.
- If the research is conducted and completed in India with the help of the ICAR-CAFRI members in the team, the intellectual property will be protected in India with the ICAR-CAFRI as a co-applicant. The BU will have rights to commercialize the technology.
- In case application is to be made for international protection, then both the ICAR-CAFRI and the BU 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.
- 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.


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५.
कुलसचिव
बुन्देलखण्ड विश्वविद्यालय
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- (v) In case of research results obtained through joint activities, the grant of IPRs will be sought by both the Parties jointly and once granted these rights will jointly 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 on 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 highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity.

5. Disclosure of Information

The ICAR-CAFRI and the BU 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, and
- (ii) known to either prior to the date hereof as evidenced by written documents subsequently.

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

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. Validity of the MOU

This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective on the date of signing and will have a duration of three (3) years. However, it can be extended by mutual agreement. Any cessation of the MoU by either Party shall be notified in writing to the other Party at least six months in advance.

8. Arbitration

Dispute arising out of this MoU, if any, shall be amicably settled jointly by the Gautam Buddha University and the Central Agroforestry Research Institute.


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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereby execute the MoU in two original copies in English language on 24-04-2022


(Dr. AYYANADAR ARUNACHALAM)

Designation: Director

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE ICAR-CENTRAL
AGROFORESTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Witnesses:

1. Dr. A.K. Handa
Principal Scientist, CAFRI

2. Dr. Inder Dev
Principal Scientist, CAFRI


(Shri VINAY KUMAR SINGH)

Designation: Registrar

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
BUNDELKHAND UNIVERSITY

Witnesses:

1. Prof. S. P. Singh
Director, Academics,
Bundelkhand University, Jhansi

2. Dr. Rishi Saxena
Associate Professor
Department of Microbiology
Bundelkhand University, Jhansi