

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Central Department of Botany, Institute of Science and Technology,
Tribhuvan University
And
Department of Plant Resources, Ministry of Forest and Soil
Conservation, Government of Nepal

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been prepared to further strengthen and facilitate Research and Extension (R&D) on Plant Resources in Nepal through close linkages and effective collaboration between the Central Department of Botany, Institute of Science and Technology (IOST), Tribhuvan University (CDB/IOST/TU) and Department of Plant Resources (DPR) of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MFSC) of the Government of Nepal (GON). Joint research activities will be carried out to achieve the national goal of poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals. The MoU provides a flexible and coherent platform for better cooperation between the CDB/IOST/TU and the DPR particularly in the areas on plant resources and outreach activities so as to cater effective services in a synergetic ways for fulfilling the national needs.

Goals and Objectives:

The long term goal of signing the MoU is to foster a mutual cooperation and relationship conducive for the development of education and research activities between CDB/IOST/TU and the DPR in regular as well as relevant project based activities.

The specific objectives of this collaboration are to support and participate in the teaching, curriculum development, and research and training activities among collaborating institutions.

In order to achieve the goal and objectives stated in this MoU, the CDB/IOST/TU and the DPR agree to make the following commitments:

Commitments / Implementation:

Both the institutions (CDB/IOST/TU and DPR) have agreed upon that Central Department of Botany (CDB/IOST/TU) will

- Collaborate and contribute to the DPR led NTFP/MAP sector research and survey activities;
- Provide technical inputs such as database, data analysis, library, remote sensing and geographic information system (GIS), tissue culture and DNA finger printing, phytochemical screening and other available facilities to the DPR for collaborative research and survey works.

- Contribute to enhance capacity development of the DPR staffs and update research facilities, wherever applicable, at the DPR.
- Preference would be given for PhD students from DPR.
- Invite DPR representatives in CDB committees and program.

Department of Plant Resources (DPR) will

- Participate in CDB/IOST/TU led NTFP/MAP sector research and survey activities; provide consent and facilities to DPR staff to conduct PhD and M.Sc. thesis research work.
- Assist in conducting laboratory and field research works and provide facilities for graduate or higher degree internships
- Provide guidance to student at M.Sc. level and above for internship and thesis works
- Provide teaching support to CDB in completion of various course and training activities at CDB/IOST/TU.
- Provide technical assistance such as database, library, remote sensing , GIS, tissue culture and DNA finger printing, Phytochemical screening and other available facilities to CDB/IOST/TU for collaborative research and survey works
- Contribute towards enhancing capacity development activities of CDB faculty staff and students and researchers.
- Represent in CDB/IOST/TU committees and other relevant programs.

Both the CDB/IOST/TU and DPR, MOFSC, Govt. of Nepal Agree to:

- CDB and DPR will jointly develop research programs of national and international importance that will strengthen the academic and research activities of both institutions.
- Both institutions can jointly submit application for funding.
- Share experiences and disseminate research outcomes, either institute may organize symposia, workshops and other technical exchange programs and tours.
- Costs involved in the programs will be borne as mutually agreed upon in each instance.
- Exchange of scientific and technical information and databases.
- Jointly organize appropriate short term professional training courses for capacity building of both institutions and for the benefit of other partners/stakeholders as appropriate.
- Work together to publish the outcomes of joint efforts.
- Encourage DPR Scientist for Research work and facilitate them for the Research.
- Research work may be co-supervised by the qualified expert from the DPR.
- CDB/IOST/TU shall recognize the laboratory and other research works done in DPR.

Effective Date for the MoU Functioning and Termination:

This MoU shall become effective from the date of signing by both partners. The agreement may be amended with the written consent of both parties. Termination of this MoU shall either be immediate upon a mutually written agreement or ninety days after unilateral declaration from either of the partners.

Signed by

Signed by

Mrs Chirika Shova Tamrakar
Dean
Institute of Science and Technology
Tribhuvan University

Mr. Yam Bahadur Thapa
Director General
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Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation

Witness

Prof. Dr. Pramod Kumar Jha
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Date: Bhadra 3, 2071 (August 19, 2014)