

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE HABITAT (CSH)
GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY, AMRITSAR**

AND

CITIES FORUM, LONDON

ON

ADVISORY, RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- Drive towards a carbon free future.
- Aim to increase efficiency in resource consumption.
- Build on data, transparency and the impact of design.
- Promote that research that leads to the inclusion of diverse voices.
- Strive to provide smart, practical solutions for sustainable cities.

This **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** is being entered into on 30th day of December 2020 between **Centre for Sustainable Habitat, Guru Nanak Dev University**, located at Amritsar, Punjab (hereinafter referred to as 'CSH'), legally represented by its Vice Chancellor on the one part,

And

Cities Forum, located at 71-75 Shelton Street, London, UK (hereinafter referred to as 'CF'), legally represented by its Director on the other part.

BACKGROUND

CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE HABITAT is established at Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar (Punjab, India) under Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) – 02. It aims to propagate the agenda of sustainability in education, living and professional practice. It attempts to demonstrate coexistence of the natural and built environment in a way that reduces our planetary footprint, emissions, resource consumption and waste, and improves quality of life for all. This is done by integrating multi-faceted ecological, social, economic and cultural perspectives together and translating into applied sciences, technology and most importantly behaviour. The Centre specializes in research towards comprehensive understanding of environmental issues facing, but not limited to the country. University's expansive resources provide the opportunity for a practice-oriented and evidence-based research. This research not only augments the academic curricula and training but contributes to the larger scientific community, informs policy, generates platforms for dialogue with society, and shapes an engaging and enabling ethos that resonates in the University Campus and beyond.

CITIES FORUM is a global organization with a multidisciplinary international group of experts with an experienced in the breadth of topics related to sustainable urban development. CITIES FORUM aims at being catalyst, working with cities, companies and organisations to address and solve their urban and sustainable development challenges more efficiently.

CITIES FORUM works with cities, companies and organisations in achieving their sustainable development goals, facilitating the process of creating more liveable and future proof cities and regions based on a wiser use of technology and global resources, empowering collaboration among cities, companies and society. CITIES FORUM work areas are centered around the following themes

- Strive towards a carbon free future.
- Aim to increase efficiency in resource consumption.
- Build on data, connectivity and the internet of things.
- Processes that benefit the best solutions not the loudest or cheapest actors.
- Strive to provide future-proof solutions for sustainable cities.

POINT 1: SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF MoU

The Parties agree to cooperate in the following areas: -

1.1 Knowledge Partnership

CF will act as the knowledge partner of CSH to help mainstream sustainability in the built environment and attaining sustainable development goals. CF shall assist CSH for greening of the GNDU campus and beyond by research, training, demonstration, dissemination and promoting sustainability. CF will provide advisory and knowledge support by handholding with CSH to conduct research, training, and pilot studies in line with the identified six research tracks of CSH and helping build capacities if and when required. Considering the ongoing COVID-19 disruption, initially the discussions and meetings will be conducted remotely through online platforms.

1.2 Needs-based Research and Capacity Building

Based on mutual need, both Institutions shall explore additional ways of collaborating to help strengthen the research, training and capacities. Activities may include joint research, workshops, seminars, conferences, and training program among other potential areas of cooperation in the field of sustainable and liveable habitats. The details of such arrangements shall be negotiated at the appropriate time on a case-to-case basis and be governed by the relevant approval processes.

POINT 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

Both institutions acknowledge the mutual alignment of their institutional vision, mission and values. Both organizations commit themselves to jointly accomplish the goals of the Capacity Building Project.

2.1 Sharing of information: Both CSH and CF shall maintain their respective lawful status with the appropriate authorities for the duration of the MoU. Either institutions shall keep the other informed of any change whatsoever occurring in the engagement plan which may affect the timely delivery of services and accomplishment of Project outcomes.

2.2 Financial support: CF will not charge CSH for the technical assistance and knowledge support unless agreed otherwise. In case of any travel arising under any Project, related costs shall be borne by the respective institution making the travel. For any meeting(s)/seminar(s)/workshop(s)/training(s), primary host/organizer shall arrange for the logistics and bear the associated costs as discussed mutually on case-to-case basis.

2.3 Focal Person: Both institutions shall each assign a designated focal person (Coordinator, Centre for Sustainable Habitat from CSH and Leader (India Projects), CITIES FORUM from CF) to provide support to the Project, whose duties include supporting the visits of either institutions, or who will also arrange training and logistics for the smooth implementation of the Project.

POINT 3: LANGUAGE

All written correspondence and activities relating to the Project shall be transacted in the English Language.

POINT 4: ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Any identified Project under this MOU shall be implemented in line with relevant policies and law of the Government of India, and shall comply with the institutional guidelines of both Institutions. This MoU is not binding or legal enforceable, does not impose enforceability of obligation upon the institutions and does not grant any rights.

POINT 5: CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND COPYRIGHT

- 5.1 Neither Institution shall disclose confidential information of the other Party to any person or third-Party or use of such confidential information for its own purpose at any time without the written consent of the other Party.
- 5.2 Any idea, innovation, training materials, management processes or documentation arising out of this collaboration shall be the intellectual property of the Institution that has developed the material. Both Institutions may however use such intellectual materials, but with appropriate acknowledgement to the contributions made by either Party.

POINT 6: FORCE MAJEURE

No Institution covered under this MoU shall be liable for any failure to perform its obligation where such failure is a result of Acts of God, which are here defined as force majeure.

POINT 7: DURATION AND TERMINATION

This MoU shall come into effect on the date of signature by both Institutions and shall remain in force for an initial period of two(2) years, unless otherwise terminated by mutual consent, and with 30 days prior written notice to the other Institution.

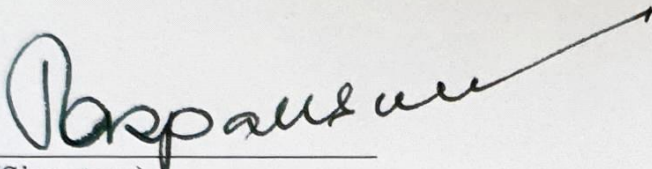
POINT 8: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Both Institutions agreed that if there is any dispute of difference between both arising out of the MoU or in the interpretation of any of the provisions thereof, they shall endeavour to meet in an effort to resolve such dispute by discussion, within 30 days of such dispute arising, failing such resolution then the Parties in dispute shall refer at their costs the dispute to a mutually to the senior executive/faculty agreed Institutions.

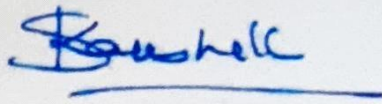
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorized by their respective Institutions, have signed this MoU.

Prof. (Dr.) Jaspal Singh Sandhu
Vice Chancellor
Guru Nanak Dev University
Amritsar

Shailendra Kaushik
Director
Cities Forum
London, UK



(Signature)



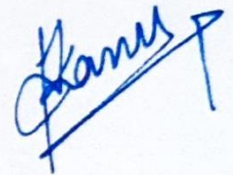
(Signature)

(Date)

(Date)



Witness 1: Ashwani Luthra



Witness 2: Arpit Kanv