

(Revised)
Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Environment
And
Agriculture and Forestry University

1. Background

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed between the Government of Nepal, ministry of Forests and Environment (Herein after referred to as "MoFE") and Agriculture and Forestry University (Herein after referred to as "AFU"). The two institutions (henceforth to be called as Parties) have discussed and reached an understanding to sign a MoU to strengthen and facilitate forestry related research, Training and Extension through close linkages and effective collaboration in the forestry, wildlife, soil conservation and plant resources and biodiversity conservation. This MoU sets forth areas and modalities of cooperation between the parties on the understanding reached and broad areas indentified for collaboration.

2. Objective

The objective of this MoU is to set out an agreed coordination and implementation mechanism between the parties to facilitate and support the Research, Education, Training and Extension related programs and activities on forestry, wildlife, soil conservation and plant resources, biodiversity conservation and related areas.

3. Roles and Responsibilities of the MoFE

MoFE as the focal Ministry of the GoN on forestry, biodiversity and integrated soil and watershed management sectors will.

- 3.1 Provide necessary support to the AFU for the conduction of internship program and field study for its students as required for the course, subject to the availability of annual budget and programs of the MoFE.
- 3.2 Permit its officers and technical experts to supervise students internship/research/teaching work (as per the request of AFU), avail its laboratories, forests, national parks, soil conservation sites and other related facilities for enhancing the practical knowledge and skill of the students of AFU during internship program, research and field study in coordination with the department of forest and soil conservation, department of national park and wildlife conservation,



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ministry of industry, tourism, forest and environment (province level) and forest research and training centre.

- 3.3 Provide guidance for the implementation of programs/activities in order to achieve the objectives set out under this MoU.
- 3.4 Coordinate between/among development partners and others to national and international stakeholders on the areas identified and agreed by both the parties.
- 3.5 Advise and keep AFU informed of any development with regard to fulfilling the objectives as per this MoU for timely and effective implementation of activities.
- 3.6 Facilitate for AFU to submit proposals to access any funding for fulfilling above mentioned objectives as per the prevailing laws of the country.
- 3.7 Facilitate and support the links of AFU with other relevant institution.

4. Roles and Responsibilities of AFU

The AFU as the academic and research partner will:

- 4.1 Fix quota for B.Sc. (5), M.Sc. (3) and Ph.D. (1) in forestry and allied areas (as mutually agreed) for MoFE nominees every year.
- 4.2 Admit the nominated candidates from MoFE (who meet minimum academic requirements of AFU).
- 4.3 Provide progress report of each MoFE nominee after completion of each semester.
- 4.4 Conduct knowledge generation related research and studies in forestry, integrated soil and watershed management, natural resource management, biodiversity conservation and related fields as requested by MoFE.
- 4.5 Support capacity building of MoFE and other related stakeholders through state-of-art research and analysis based synthesis papers and other knowledge product.
- 4.6 Involve MoFE and Departmental experts in research and teaching including supervision of the research work.
- 4.7 Initiate and facilitate the network building for promoting collaboration among different stakeholders involve in forestry, integrated soil and watershed management, natural resources management, biodiversity conservation and related fields.

5. Planning and coordination Between MoFE and AFU

MoFE and AFU will, individually or jointly, as when necessary, will:

- 5.1 Facilitate mutual partnership and foster strengthened cooperation, and develop annual work plans on the areas specified above.
- 5.2 Organize coordination meetings as per necessity to review the progress.
- 5.3 Designate contact person from MoFE and AFU to maintain regular communication and information flow for effective implementation of this MoU.



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6. Implementation of the MoU

- 6.1 The MoU shall commence from the date of signing of this MoU by both parties.
6.2 This MoU will be valid for a period of five years from the date of commencement.
6.3 This MoU may be amended, revised and terminated or extended through an agreement by the Parties in writing.

7. Dispute Settlement

- 7.1 In case any dispute that arise in implementing this MoU, the dispute will be settled amicably through mutual consultation. In case, if it cannot be settled, the existing laws of the Government of Nepal will be referred.

In agreement whereof, the parties hereto, MoFE and AFU by their authorized signatories, have executed this understanding in the presence of Secretary, **Dr. Bishwa Nath Oli** (MoFE) and **Professor Ishwari Prasad Dhakal PhD** (VC, AFU) as of the dates set forth below:

Signed on behalf of AFU

Balram



Name: **Prof. Balram Bhatta, PhD**

Designation: Dean

Date:

Witness:

Basudev

Prof. Basudev Pokhrel

Assistant Dean, AFU

Date:

Signed on behalf of MoFE

Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana



Name: **Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana**

Designation: Joint-Secretary, MoFE

Date: 2075/12/01 (BS)

Witness:

Suman Subedi

Under Secretary MoFE

Date: 2075/12/01 (BS)