



## Memorandum of Understanding

Between



**Indian Institute of Sustainability, Ahmedabad**

*An Institute established by Gujarat University under the Gujarat University Act 1949 of the state government*

and



**Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University**



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

**'Indian Institute of Sustainability'**, an institution set up by Gujarat University. Gujarat University is setup under the Gujarat University Act, 1949, located at Navarangpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, WHEREAS the INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SUSTAINABILITY (hereinafter be referred to as 'IIS') is an institution set up by Gujarat university under the Gujarat University Act, 1949, that was established in 2021. The Indian Institute of Sustainability (IIS), which aims to be recognised as one of its kind, sustainability institute, operating at the frontiers of practice, research and training while developing an environmentally concerned and socially responsible society. The mission of IIS is to train and educate the citizens in tune with a sustainable society and a sustainable planet by bringing best practices for air, water, soil, space, climate, forest, environment, natural resources, forestry, smart cities, agriculture, SDGs, human rights, and sustainable public policy. The Indian Institute of Sustainability promotes excellence through innovative and applied research and impacting the world through policy, practice, training and continuous engagement.

AND

Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University was established by Government of Gujarat vide Act No. 16 of 2017 of Government of Gujarat and its subsequent amendment wide Act No. 2, 2022. This is India's first of its kind and unique University, established as per Gujarat Organic Policy-2015 of Government of Gujarat at Jambudi Site of Halol Block of Panchmahal Districts of Gujarat, represented by Dr. C.K. Timbadia, Vice Chancellor (I/c).





## WHEREAS

### PURPOSE & SCOPE

This MOU is intended to build mutual cooperation between the IIS and Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University so as to learn, assimilate and develop further on the core strengths, experience and institutional objectives of the respective parties in the public interest of the advancement of training, research, studies, policy analysis, policy advice, consultancy, monitoring, evaluation, system development and technology development in issues and areas related to the development of the cooperation, cooperatives, SHG, SHG federation, FPOs, the agriculture, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, innovation, entrepreneurship, tribal development, rural development, skill development, climate change, value chain development, organic supply chain, natural farming, women empowerment, sustainability, waste management, financial inclusion, policy formation, marketing linkage, development of farmers, system development, SOPs, strategy, training & capacity building, human resources, food processing, SMART Farming, IT, IoT, AI, start-ups, waste management, effluent treatment, Natural Farming, Organic Farming, Animal Husbandry, Veterinary, and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development of communities, cooperatives and livelihood; and any area for the common interest for both universities.

### RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU of BOTH PARTIES

- a. Collaborate with each other in the advancement of systems development, technology development, innovation, entrepreneurship and action research in issues and areas related to the development of the livelihood, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, tribal development, climate change, rural development, the agriculture, sustainability, waste management, organic supply chain, natural farming, financial inclusion, human resources, food processing, SMART Farming, IT, IoT, AI, start-ups and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development.
- b. Facilitate operations of each other, connected with the advancement of training, action research, studies, consultancy, monitoring, evaluation systems development and technology development in issues and areas related to the development of the communities, agriculture, livelihood, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, tribal development, climate change, rural development, sustainability, waste management, organic supply chain, natural farming, financial inclusion, and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development.
- c. Collaborate to organize national and international institution-building activities, training activities, research activities, studies, seminars, conferences and workshops, which are supported by any of the party.
- d. Collaborate on the matters pertaining to the Formation and Promotion of FPOs, SHG Federation, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs), cooperatives, Promotion of collectives with a focus on capacity building, training and skill development of stakeholders.
- e. Collaborate on training and capacity building of community cadres, PACS, federation, other collectives, FPOs, women, farmers, staff of both parties etc.
- f. Collaborate on the development of livelihood, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, innovation, entrepreneurship, tribal development, rural development, skill development, women empowerment, sustainability, financial inclusion, natural farming and allied sectors etc.
- g. Collaborate on resources and facilities on matter pertaining to development of the communities, agriculture, livelihood, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, tribal development, climate change, rural development, sustainability, value chain management, organic supply





chain, natural farming, waste management and allied sectors.

- h. Share experiences in the respective areas of activities areas related to the development of the livelihood, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, tribal development, skill development, innovation & entrepreneurship, climate change, rural development, agriculture, sustainability, waste management, organic supply chain, natural farming, financial inclusion, marketing linkage, supply chain and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development.
- i. Support each other for collaboration with its partners in advancement of systems development, technology development, innovation, entrepreneurship and action research in issues and areas related to the development of the livelihood, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, tribal development, skill development, innovation & entrepreneurship, climate change, rural development, the agriculture, sustainability, waste management, organicsupply chain, natural farming, financial inclusion and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development.
- j. Support each other for the usage of facilities including those connected with the advancement of training, action research, studies, consultancy, monitoring, evaluation systems development and technology development in issues and areas related to the development of the communities, livelihood, no farm livelihood, tribal development, skill development, innovation & entrepreneurship, climate change, rural development, the agriculture, sustainability, waste management, organic supply chain,natural farming, financial inclusion and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development.
- k. Support each other for collaboration with external agencies, NGOs, CSR organisations, government departments, global organisations, World Bank, BMGF, FAO, ADB, GIZ, MASHAV, NABARD, NCD, NAFED, SFAC, NCUI, APMC, Boards etc. in the advancement of training, action research, studies, policy analysis, policy advice,consultancy, monitoring, evaluation, system development and technology development in issues and areas related to the development of the SHG, SHG federation, cooperatives,the agriculture, farm livelihood, non-farm livelihood, innovation, entrepreneurship, tribal development, rural development, skill development, climate change, value chain development, organic supply chain, natural farming, women empowerment, sustainability, waste management, financial inclusion, policy formation and allied sectors and to the holistic approach on sustainable development of communities as partner.
- l. Collaborate any other issues which is linked with cooperative and enhancement of livelihood.
- m. Collaborate in the issues related to natural farming and any other issues which is linked with natural farming.
- n. Collaborate to exchange Honorary/ adjunct professorship/ D.Lit/honoury Phd to have support each other to access facilities of each other.
- o. Collaborate to exchange for Ph D guide and Ph D co-guide from have support of each other.
- p. Collaborate with each other for Joint degree program, access of facilities of each other, knowledge exchange etc.



- q. Collaborate any other issues for any other common issues, which is agreed by the both parties.

### Intellectual Property Rights

1. All copyrights of the material (print and audio/video) developed by Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University /Indian Institute of Sustainability to this MOU shall be property of both parties.
2. Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University and Indian Institute of Sustainability shall have control on the content and associated content rights and any rights, obligations, liabilities, encumbrances annexed hereto in the creation/making and broadcasting of the content/creatives/artistic works etc.
3. Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University and Indian Institute of Sustainability can use the developed material (print and audio/video) for their own promotional and awareness purposes.

### Modalities for Cooperation

1. For every specific area of cooperation falling under this MoU, both parties will discuss together allowing the Parties to agree on technical and financial settings. Such agreements will include a detailed work programme and a breakdown of costs, and will indicate funding modalities. Both parties shall take up funded consultancy projects, research activities and any other activities as mentioned in the MOU as requested by the any of the party on case to case basis.
2. The activities associated with the MoU shall be contingent upon the availability of sufficient human and financial resources, and the Parties will jointly devise strategies for seeking resources to meet desired objectives.
3. The Parties shall designate representatives that will serve as primary contact for the implementation of this MoU. The primary contacts will manage institutional communications between the Parties. Parties will not change the primary contacts for this communication. If necessary, thematic contacts designated as need arise will manage communication on substantive issues.

Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University's primary contact:

**Dr. K. D. Mevada**  
Director of Research & Dean Post-Graduate (I/c)  
E-mail : [dr.goau@gmail.com](mailto:dr.goau@gmail.com)  
Anand, Gujarat  
Email: [vc.goau@gmail.com](mailto:vc.goau@gmail.com)

Indian Institute of Sustainability's primary contact:

**Sudhanshu Jangir,**  
Director, Indian Institute of Sustainability, C/O Gujarat  
University,  
Navarangpura,  
Ahmedabad, Gujarat  
Tel.: +91 9871834490  
[sudhanshu@gujaratuniversity.ac.in](mailto:sudhanshu@gujaratuniversity.ac.in)



4. This MOU creates no binding on IIS and Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University to engage into any specific assignment without mutual consent from both sides.
5. IIS and Gujarat Natural Farming and Organic Agricultural University agrees to serve the cause of MoU with best intentions. In case of any disagreements between both the organizations, same shall be gracefully resolved using assistance from the apex officers of both organizations and their decisions will final and binding to both organizations.
6. If any of the parties disagree to engage with third person/third party, none of the parties will engage that third person/party for the proposed project.

#### **Entry into Force, Renewal and Termination**

1. This MoU shall enter into force on the date of its last signature and will remain in force for five years.
2. This MoU may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties. Unless otherwise agreed, amendments may apply to any activities, which have not yet been implemented.
3. It can be renewed through a further MoU or through an exchange of letters.
4. It may be terminated by either Party on six months' written notice to the other Party. Such termination shall be without prejudice to a) the orderly completion of any ongoing activity and b) any other rights and obligations of the Parties accrued prior to termination.
5. This MoU may be executed in separate counterparts by each of the Parties, both such counterparts together constituting but one and the same instrument. Such counterparts may be exchanged by confirmed facsimile transmission or in portable document format by electronic mail.

#### **Limitations**

1. This MoU is not intended to be a legally binding document.

#### **Disputes**

1. Any disputes between the Parties arising out of this MoU shall be settled amicably through negotiation. Any difference that may not be so settled shall be brought to the attention of the signatories of this MoU or duly authorized representatives of the Parties for final resolution.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE OF SIGNING**

This MOU is non-legally binding. MOU shall come into effect, upon the signatures, at Ahmedabad and shall remain in force for a period of five years, and, get extended, automatically, for further periods of five years, unless terminated by either party with a notice in writing at least three (3) months prior to termination.