

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION
BETWEEN
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR (IITKGP), INDIA
AND
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER OF NIPPON KOEI CO. LTD. (RDCNK),
TSUKUBA, JAPAN

Preamble

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP) is a reputed institution of higher learning situated at Kharagpur, West Bengal, India.

Research and Development Centre of Nippon Koei (RDCNK) was founded by Nippon Koei co., Ltd. in 1992 and its mission is to develop and provide high-tech engineering tools to the company as well as outside. At present 60 researchers and 40 technicians work at the Center in the fields of Hydrology, Hydraulics, Environmental Science, Structural Engineering, Geology, Soil-mechanics, Rock-mechanics, Seismology, Informatics and Social Science. Developed technologies have been applied timely to Disaster Prevention, Water Resources Management, Irrigation System, Sewer System, Public Works, Environment Preservation etc. Moreover, Nippon Koei R&D Center conducted training courses in many countries having about five hundreds participants at present.

IITKGP and RDCNK have agreed for institutional collaboration in education and research. The primary objective is to promote interaction and collaboration between faculty, scientists, staff and students of the two institutions through visits and exchange programmes, carry out joint academic and research programmes on a reciprocal basis. The relationship also aims at enhancing the technological, social and cultural relations of both countries/states/regions. This document presents a general framework for such a relationship. It also includes some specifically identified areas of cooperation, which may be updated from time to time.

Coordination

Mr. Shigeru Nakamura, General Manager of the Advanced Technology Department shall be the Coordinator from RDCNK and Dr. Dillip Kumar Swain, Associate Professor, Agricultural and Food Engineering Department shall be the Coordinator from IITKGP. The participants and Coordinators may change from time to time as decided by appropriate authority of the respective institutions.

Scope of Cooperation

The following areas of cooperation have been identified under this agreement.

- (i). **Faculty/Scientist exchange programme:** The two parties will explore opportunities for interaction among members of faculty/scientists as well as creating Visiting Faculty/Scientist positions. The total duration of visits from each side is expected to be approximately equal. Each such visit shall require approval of the respective institutions.
- (ii). **Researcher/Intern exchange programme:** The two parties agree to participate in researcher/intern exchange programmes at the respective institutions. Visits under such programmes may be for a short duration, such as for 8-12 weeks.
- (iii). **Joint research projects:** The two parties will explore formulation of joint collaborative research projects between faculty and/or research groups. Collaborating faculties/scientists may seek funding from external funding agencies. Each such research proposal shall require approval of the respective institutions.
- (iv). **Joint academic activities and events:** IITKGP and RDCNK may formulate joint academic activities such as short course, seminars, workshops or conferences. Examples of areas of current interest are : Modelling in food production, Information Technology in agriculture and water resources management, Climate change adaptations, Flood/drought management, Ecosystems management, and Urban development etc. with mutual interests and available expertise in both the institutions. They may also share and carry out joint research in the area of technology for distance and computer-based learning.

The areas of cooperation may be revised by mutual consent. However, specific programmes may require separate agreements detailed out and documented as annexures to this MoU.

Intellectual Property

Each institution will adhere to the intellectual laws of its nation. Intellectual property developed during the visit of an exchange student/researcher/faculty/staff will be governed by the rules of the host institute unless otherwise specified. The two institutions shall jointly own results of clearly defined collaborative projects and exchange programmes. This joint ownership also entitles each party to explore commercialization. However, transfer of jointly developed technology and associated sharing of revenue shall be governed by a separate agreement. Furthermore, if one institution receives any information from the partner under a clearly defined non-disclosure agreement, necessary and reasonable care will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.

Financing

The two institutions will consider allocating seed money to initiate this partnership. In addition they will also approach their own governments, international funding agencies and industries. Special attention will be given to obtain funded projects from industry as well as from alumni to support such collaborations.

For exchange visits, the host institute will make arrangements for local living including accommodation, food, local travel, insurance etc. at reasonable costs to the visitors. Travel costs shall be borne by the home institution of the visitor. However, various external funding sources may be explored either independently or jointly.

Legal Status

This document is a statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial cooperation and is not legally binding on both the parties. Any disputes shall be resolved through mutual discussion.

Validity

This agreement is valid for an initial period of five years and becomes effective from the date it is signed by the partners. The partnership period may be extended by mutual consent. In case one partner wishes to terminate the MoU, intimation will have to be sent at least six months in advance. However, specific commitments made prior to such intimation shall be honoured by both the partners.

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Mr. Hiroshi Tanaka

Director and Executive Officer,
Director General of Technology
Headquarters,
General Manager of Research and
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Nippon Koei Co. Ltd.

Date : 22/04/2015

Partha Pratim Chakrabarti

Prof. Partha Pratim Chakrabarti
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Date : 06/04/2015