

Memorandum of Understanding

between



CSPC

Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell

AN INITIATIVE OF TATA TRUSTS, AKRSP(I) AND ACF

Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell
Ahmedabad, Gujarat - 380058, India

and



Agro Economic Research Centre,
Sardar Patel University,
Vallabh Vidyanagar 388120, Anand (Gujarat)



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This **Memorandum of Understanding [MOU]** executed on this **May 6, 2023** between **Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell (CSPC)**, [hereinafter called "**CSPC**"/ **First Party**] having its registered office at, 9th -10th Floor, Corporate House. Opposite Dinesh Hall, Off Ashram Road. Ahmedabad – 380 009, India, which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the subject or context thereof, includes its successors and assigns, of the **FIRST PARTY**:

AND

Agro-Economic Research Centre (AERC), Sardar Patel University (SPU), Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand [hereinafter called "**AERC, SPU**"/**Second Party**] as **SECOND PARTY**

Whereas CSPC and AERC, SPU are hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties" and individual as the "Party".

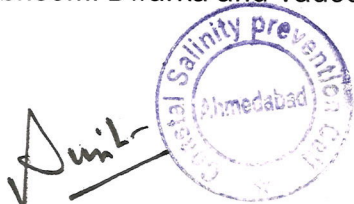
1. About Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell (FIRST PARTY)

Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell (CSPC) is a joint initiative of Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India), Ambuja Cement Foundation and Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT). As on 7th April, 2008 CSPC registered itself as a Company under Section 25 of the Companies Act 1956. CSPC has a mandate to work on issues addressing livelihood enhancement of communities affected by increasing salinity ingress in the coastal areas. CSPC works as a multi-collaborative impact platform, bringing together CSOs, government agencies, and academic institution to accelerate action by ensuring synergy of efforts. The organisation facilitates in knowledge management, large scale development project implementation, and advocacy for effective policies on mitigation and adaptation of salinity. The objectives of CSPC are (i) to develop a scientific integrated natural resource management model to prevent salinity ingress; (b) to enhance incomes of households through agriculture and allied activities and market linkages, (c) to improve drinking water and sanitation services of coastal villages of Gujarat, and (d) to develop and strengthen community institutions to ensure sustainability of interventions.

For more than a decade now, CSPC has emerged as a veritable knowledge repository on coastal salinity through years of field implementation experience and evidence backed research. The four broad area of work by CSPC are (a) Agriculture and Livelihoods, (b) Water Sanitation and Hygiene-Wash, (c) Water Resource Management, and (d) Education.

CSPC through its agriculture and agri-allied interventions helps in creating sustainable livelihoods for marginalised rural families, encouraging them to lead a life of self-sufficiency and self-respect. CSPC believes in creating agency for the farmers to enable them overcome the challenges faced. For instance, salinity in water and being rain-fed region hinders optimum cultivation of land. By facilitating market linkages, CSPC helps farmers leverage their productivity and income; adopt sustainable agricultural practices, minimise external dependencies and connect farmers with markets through their Farmer Producer Company (FPC). The FPCs also help farmers avail government schemes and subsidies. The programme encourages the farmers and rural community to work collectively to own, control and manage the development models, encouraging farmers to bargain better prices for their produce

The current outreach of the CSPC's interventions includes- Bhavnagar, Amreli, Gir Somnath, Devbhoomi Dwarka and Vadodara districts.



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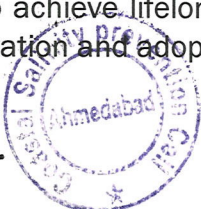
2. About AERC (SECOND PARTY)

The **Agro-Economic Research Centre (AERC)** for the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan was established in July 1961 at the Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar 388120, Anand, Gujarat by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi. It was late Shri H.M. Patel (ICS ret'd.) who not only provided the vision for establishing such an Institute but also ensured the much-needed support and encouragement for its growth at Vallabh Vidyanagar.

The Centre has crossed a milestone of 62 years as an institution. AERC is mandated to provide feedback on the ground reality to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India for policy formulation in the areas of agriculture and rural development. AERC has done this work very effectively over a period of last six decades and has emerged as a leading research Centre of its kind in the country. AERC has been providing independent and objective feedback to the GOI and it has been serving as its eyes and ears. Centre has prepared 209 impact evaluation reports covering almost all major aspects and programs on agricultural and rural development. These research studies have emerged with useful findings and policy implications for agriculture and rural development in the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan. During the period of the last decade, AERC has covered topics of national importance such as soil health card, pressurized irrigation system, impact of check dam, break-even point in milk production, fodder development under National Dairy Plan I, electronic national agriculture market, solarization of agricultural water pumps, Ration Balancing Program in Dairy, Direct Benefit Transfer in Fertilizer.

During last six-decade period, Centre has published 17 books and organized 41 seminars/conferences/training programmes, most of those were organized jointly with Post Graduate Department of Economics of our University. AERC has been publishing a monthly magazine 'Agriculture Production and Market Approach' in Gujarati and English language covering recent policy initiatives at the government level. This magazine contains updated information on government assistance and interventions to farmers in agriculture and rural development. Besides, the Policy Briefs and Policy Alerts are submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, GOI & others [Compiled and Edited by Center for Management in Agriculture (CMA), Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (based on Research & Contributions of: 15 Agro-Economic Research Centres and Units, supported by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare) for policy formation at national level. AERC is also engaged in continuous study of the changes taking place in the rural economy through village survey studies. It also conducts research on fundamental problems related to the country's agricultural economy, leading to better policy formulation oriented towards sustainable development, covering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

AERC undertakes research-driven work (interdisciplinary research, qualitative research, participatory research, needs assessment, baseline studies, program evaluation, impact assessment) to achieve lifelong learning for all. It facilitates the bridge between academic research, innovation and adoption and policy development.



3. Purpose of the MOU- Collaborative Activities

While terms and conditions and the financial obligations of each of the activities proposed shall be mutually agreeable through written agreement duly signed by respective authorized persons of both the parties, broad areas of collaborations are defined as mentioned below:

- a) to undertake collaborative research studies (benchmark/ex-ante and ex-post study, impact analysis, case studies, comparative analysis,) with a mutual agreement. The funding for carrying out collaborative projects be explored jointly to meet respective costs
- b) to invite the experts from each other Institution to enrich the knowledge and understanding of the academic community at various platforms provided by the Department during various seminars, workshops, conferences, etc.
- c) to undertake a collaborative academic and extension activities such as organisation of conclave, seminar and conferences, exposure visits, undertaking research studies (impact analysis, case studies, comparative analysis); undertaking the collaborative field experiments; training and building the capacity and other related mutually agreed areas.
- d) In furtherance of the aforesaid, both Parties shall endeavour to collaborate in capacity building, value-added services, research and publications.



4. EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION OF MOU

This MoU shall be effective from the date of its approval by competent authorities at both ends.

- a) The duration of the MoU shall be for a period of 5 years from the effective date.
- b) During its tenancy the MoU may be extended or terminated by a prior notice of not less than 90 days by either party. However, termination of the MoU will not in any manner affect the interests of the students who have been admitted to pursue a programme under the MoU, or progress of any ongoing mutual activity that has been initiated formally with approval of both sides.
- c) Any clause or article of the MoU may be modified or amended by mutual agreement of CSPC and AERC.

5. IPR

- a) Intellectual property jointly conceived and/or developed by the CSPC and AERC at CSPC and AERC campus will be jointly owned by the CSPC and AERC. Each party may use such property for research and scholarly purposes.





- b) Intellectual property conceived and / or developed by CSPC during execution of granted funded research projects, with AERC students doing their dissertation work on it under mentorship of AERC guide, will belong to both.
- c) The CSPC and AERC agree to collaborate towards the protection, if appropriate, and application of such intellectual property for commercial or other purposes on mutually acceptable terms to be negotiated in good faith between the parties.
- d) Appropriate acknowledgement or co-authorship and taking other party into confidence respecting the scientific contribution made should be reflected in publication with due protection of organizational confidential aspects.

6. Use of name and logo

- a) Save as expressly permitted herein, each party shall use the name, logo and trademarks of the other party only for the purpose of this MOU as defined herein.
- b) Each Party is permitted to use the other Party's name, logo and trademarks for the purpose of publicizing the agreement and subject to the confidentiality obligations stated herein, when making reference to this MOU, each party undertakes to use the other's name in good faith reflecting accurately the agreed upon nature of the collaboration contemplated hereunder, and only in relation to or in furtherance of this agreement.



7. Correspondence:

All correspondence regarding this agreement shall be addressed to:

For CSPC	For AERC, SPU
Shri Sujit Kumar Gopinathan Chief Executive Officer Coastal Salinity Prevention Cell, 3, Sanidhya Bungalow, Opp. Landmark Hotel, ISKON-Bopal Road, Ahmedabad, Gujarat - 380058, India Email: sujit@cspc.org.in	Dr. S.S. Kalamkar Director and Professor, Agro-Economic Research Centre, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Email-aerc@spuvvn.edu, directoraercgujarat@gmail.com

8. Miscellaneous:

- This MoU does not restrict either Party from engaging in the same or similar activities with any other institutions.
- This MoU benefits only the Parties and their permitted assignees.
- This MoU may only be amended upon approval of both the parties.
- The relationship created between the parties pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding is that of independent contractor. Neither Party has the authority or right to act on behalf of the other Party or to bind the other Party.



9. Disputes:

Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with laws of India. In the event of any dispute, the parties shall endeavour to resolve the dispute by amicable discussions between the CEO, CSPC and Director AERC, within 30 days of either party calling for amicable settlement of disputes.

The Parties have caused this agreement to be signed by their duly authorized representatives. This agreement is made in two sets and signed by both the Parties.

On behalf of

On Behalf of SPU, WN

CSPC

AERC



Shri Sujit Kumar
Gopinathan

Chief Executive Officer
Coastal Salinity
Prevention Cell,
3, Sanidhya
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Vice Chancellor,
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Date: 06.05.2023



