

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Cochin University of Science and Technology

&

**ISDC–International Skill Development
Corporation**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This **Memorandum of Understanding** (herein after referred to as “**MOU**”) is made at Kochi
On this, 19th of December in the Year 2023.

BETWEEN:

Cochin University of Science and Technology established as per the Cochin University Act, 1986, having its premises and office at Kalamassery, Kochi, 682022 (herein after referred to as “**CUSAT**”) represented by its Registrar, **Dr. Meera .V**

AND

ISDC Projects India Pvt. Ltd., trading as “**ISDC - International Skill Development Corporation**”, and having its Regional Office at Lakshmi Narayan Complex, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560052, herein after referred to as “**ISDC**” ; represented by its Head of Partnerships, **Mr.Shone Babu**

ISDC and CUSAT shall herein after referred to collectively as “**Parties**” and individually as a “**Party**”.

WHEREAS

- A. ISDC, a Skill Development Company having expertise in Professional and Vocational Education; interested in associating with **CUSAT** to upgrade their offerings in Data Science and Analytics to meet the Education Accreditation Criteria of the “**IoA**” – The Institute of Analytics which is the Global Professional Body of Data Science & Analytics ; headquartered in the United Kingdom.
- B. **Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT)** was initially constituted as the University of Cochin through an Act of Kerala Government on 10th July 1971. The University of Cochin was re-constituted as Cochin University of Science and Technology (**CUSAT**) in February 1986, redefining its objectives as "promoting Graduate and Post-Graduate studies and Advanced Research in Applied Sciences, Technology, Industry, Commerce, Management and Social Sciences; interested in partnering with ISDC to upgrade their offerings against the global benchmark set by the professional bodies.

- C. The Parties share a common and strong interests in advancement of education & holistic learning and affording the opportunity for individuals of ability to pursue globally relevant qualifications/memberships/designations to enhance their future career prospects and ultimately to maintain & develop the profession and the wider economy.
- D. ISDC and CUSAT in joint collaboration and efforts in exploring opportunities and establishing a cooperative relationship would benefit the parties and student pursuing qualifications offered by both CUSAT and ISDC.
- E. This MoU sets out below the general framework and intentions of the Parties for collaboration for facilitation of further definitive agreement(s), if required.
- F. In achieving the objectives of this MoU, the Parties shall work on the basis of reciprocity in areas of mutual interest within the parameters of their laws, constitutions, regulations and/or policies.

NOW IT IS HERE BY UNDERSTOOD as follows:

1. Purpose of this MoU

- 1.1. The purpose of this MoU is to set out the understanding between the parties without any intention to create legal relations, rather in the spirit of mutual cooperation. Any collaborative ventures that may bind the Parties are subject to separate contractual arrangements.
- 1.2. ISDC and CUSAT will be deavoring to assist and support each other in the functioning of this MoU to mutually benefit the Parties, such as to, among others: -
- a) Upgrading the Data Science & Analytics offerings of CUSAT to achieve the IoA Education Accreditation which leads to the IoA Membership for the CUSAT students.

- b) Collaborate with each other to develop specific programs that create opportunities for the students. Such collaborations shall be agreed by the Parties and form part of further agreements.
- c) Disseminating information of collaboration with each other on analytics & data science, to students about the Analytics and Data Science profession including the IoA Analyst Competency Framework (ACF) and the opportunities available to them.
- d) Joint seminars, conferences, skill development projects, common research projects, publications, analytics profession whilst other forms of co-operation may be arranged by the parties during the period of this agreement.
- e) Exchanging, by mutual agreement, academic and examination materials to facilitate teaching and training.
- f) Bring together mutual networks of employers to maximize placement opportunities for students of CUSAT
- g) Promote this collaboration across the Parties global networks. The scope and content of the promotional activities shall be discussed and mutually agreed by Parties ;and
- h) Undertake any other activities that shall be mutually identified and agreed by both Parties at a later stage.

1.3 This MoU shall form the basis of consensus for the Parties to examine the feasibility of the collaboration until such time where any other manner of agreement is entered into by the Parties upon terms and conditions to be mutually agreed upon.

2. Responsibilities and agreements of the Parties

2.1 General responsibilities of the Parties:

- a) The Parties shall use their respective best endeavors to promote and implement the collaboration to the best advantage of the Parties.

- b) The Parties agree that the collaboration shall be undertaken and carried out by the Parties in such manner as may be deemed necessary and appropriate in the circumstance sand as the Parties may agree upon.
- c) The Parties shall where feasible utilize their existing and mutual relationships globally and nationally to support further relationships and associations for the benefit of both Parties.

2.2 Responsibilities and agreements of ISDC

ISDC shall, with regard to its obligations in respect of the collaboration, offer the following opportunities to CUSAT;

- a) Supporting CUSAT to upgrade the Data Science & Analytics offerings of CUSAT to achieve the IoA Education Accrediation.
- b) Providing the IoA membership opportunities to the students on an accredited program.
- c) Providing support to CUSAT faculty and lecturers with relevant train-the-trainer event sand support and also facilitates the IoA Membership opportunities to them.
- d) Update CUSAT on international research and insights program and initiatives, including funding opportunities for projects that would be of relevance and interest to the industry , and of beneficial to both Parties;
- e) Providing master classes, teaching/training arrangements to Students at CUSAT for the Programs accredited by the IoA – Institute of Analytics.
- f) Providing discounted price for the Initial registration& subscription for IoA Membership.

2.3 Responsibilities and agreements of CUSAT

CUSAT shall, with regards to its obligations in respect of the Programs, be responsible for:

- a) Providing platforms for ISDC to create awareness about the Analytics and Data Science Programs Accredited by the Institute of Analytics among the CUSAT students.

- b) Consider the necessary requirements to promote the IoA Membership at their campuses or teaching sites by facilitating adequate infrastructure.
- c) Sharing business intelligence and networks with ISDC for mutual benefit of both Parties

3. Costs

Neither Party shall have any financial obligations under this MoU. CUSAT students who choose to join the IoA as a Student Member will be responsible for the costs of IoA Membership.

4. Confidentiality

The Parties agree to keep confidential any information which is disclosed or obtained, and which is not publicly available or already known and not to disclose such information to third Parties, otherwise than in accordance with the consent of the other party or as required by law or any relevant regulatory authority duty.

5. Validity and Renewal of the MoU

- 5.1 This MoU is valid and shall remain in effect for three (3) years from the date of this MoU and may be renewed upon by the mutual agreement of the Parties ,such renewal to be expressly agreed in writing by both Parties before the end of the initial three(3) year period.
- 5.2 Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving three (3) month's written notice to the other Party. Notwithstanding the expiry or the earlier termination of this MoU, the obligations of the Parties in any definitive agreement that is negotiated and

executed in accordance with as a legally binding contract shall survive and remain binding on the Parties in accordance with the terms of that agreement.

6. Notices

Any notice or communication between the Parties shall be delivered to the address/ sent to the facsimile number or emailed to the following:

ISDC

Address: ISDC
Lakshmi Narayan Complex,
Palace Road Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru
Karnataka, India-560052

CUSAT

Address: Registrar
CUSAT,
University Road, South Kalamassery, Kalamassery
Kochi, Kerala, India-682022

7. Variation

The terms stipulated in this MoU shall not be amended, altered, changed or otherwise modified without the mutual consent of the Parties and such amendments, alterations, changes and modifications shall be made in writing and signed by the Parties hereto.

8. Name and Logo

Neither Party shall use, nor permit any person or entity to use the name nor logo (or any variation thereof) of the other Party without first obtaining the written consent of the other Party.

9. Non-Binding Nature of the MoU

The Parties acknowledge and accept that:

9.1 This MoU shall not constitute any partnership between the Parties.

9.2 Notwithstanding the statements and obligations herein, this MoU shall not create a legal relationship between the Parties and the Parties shall not be legally bound.

10. Mutual Cooperation and Relationship

10.1 The Parties realise that it is not feasible to adequately foresee and address every issue involving the collaboration of the Parties herein. Hence the Parties shall use their best endeavors to realise their expertise in carrying out the steps and measures necessary for furthering their mutual interest under this MoU in accordance with the spirit of good faith, equity, fairness, close cooperation, mutual assistance and if any dispute arises, the Parties shall use their best endeavors to agree upon such action as may be necessary and equitable to remove or resolve the cause or causes of the same.

10.2 The Parties understand that their reputations are of critical importance and undertaken not to take any action, in relation to this MoU or otherwise, which might damage the reputation of the other party.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF ISDC and CUSAT here unto has executed this Memorandum of Understanding on the year and date first above written:

SIGNED BY

For and on behalf of

CUSAT

.....
Dr. Meera. V **Dr. MEERA V.**
Registrar
Cochin University of
Science and Technology
Kochi - 682 022, Kerala



ISDC

.....
Mr. Shone Babu



IN WITNESS WHERE OF, the Parties here to have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed as of the first date set forth above.

On this 19th of December 2023

Witness:

On behalf of CUSAT

.....
Dr. Hareesh N Ramasubramanian
Director - OIR - CUSAT

On behalf of ISDC

.....
ARJUN RAO
Regional Manager