

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Wadhvani Operating Foundation

&

**State Project Office
Uttarakhand Sabhi Ke Liye Madhyamik Shiksha Parisad
Government of Uttarakhand**

For NSQF Program

April 4, 2014



(1)



This memorandum of understanding is for collaboration on the Project of National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) in Uttarakhand state signed on April 4, 2014 by and between:

Wadhvani Operating Foundation, a California non-profit public benefit corporation exempt from U.S. federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with offices at 2475 Hanover Street, Palo Alto, CA 94304, and 113/1B, Benaka Tech Park, Block II, Third Floor, ITPL Main Road, Kundanahalli, Bangalore 560037 hereinafter referred to as “WOF”, (which expression shall, unless it be repugnant to the subject or context thereof, include its successors and permitted assigns),

AND

State Project Office, Uttarakhand Sabhi Ke Liye Madhyamik Shiksha Parisad Government of Uttarakhand, hereinafter referred to as “SPO”, (which expression shall, unless it is repugnant to the subject or context thereof, include its successors and permitted assigns).

1. BACKGROUND, PURPOSE AND GOALS

The Government of India had brought out a revised Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education (CSSVE) by integrating employability education into School Education in September 2011. The scheme is operated within the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF), earlier called NVEQF, which establishes a system of clear educational pathways from school to higher education while providing graduated certification of vocational skills. A similar project started in Haryana in 2012 and Himachal Pradesh in 2013. Uttarakhand State has decided to implement National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) from academic year 2014-15 and it has been approved by MHRD, GoI. This aims to start the project at Class 9th (Level-1) and Class 11th (Level-1 and 2) in 11 government schools in Uttarakhand with the goal to make students employable when they complete secondary education. The 11 Schools have already been identified by SPO. The Project will adopt new curriculum, course content and pedagogy, hire and train qualified teachers, introduce the program in schools, monitor and evaluate its progress, etc. as per the guidelines and norms of MHRD-GOI. Further SPO desires to introduce NSQF in 50 additional schools, for which schools need to be identified and the Skills areas to be introduced needs to be finalised when preparing the proposal for submission to MHRD-GoI.

(2)

2. WOF BACKGROUND:

WOF is a philanthropic organization without any commercial interest. It has a goal to accelerate India's economy by, developing a skilled workforce to meet the demands of economic growth. It seeks to do this by supporting and nurturing projects with innovative models and scaling up via PPPs and widespread adoption of such initiatives. WOF provides required capacity building for delivery institutions through high quality and industry driven curriculum/course wise, teacher training, enabling technology, knowledge sharing, etc. WOF has partnered with Haryana in the very first of such NSQF school Projects and also with Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka.

Given this prior experience, the State has approached WOF and WOF has agreed to support this Project in a) through the current academic year (2014-15) for the implementation in 11 schools in 3 districts; and b) for planning, identification of schools, trades, etc in additional 50 schools.

This will be in the capacity of a Knowledge Partner providing such capacity building services in a PPP mode, and strictly without any financial exchange between any of the parties. This MOU documents the partnership outlining goals, process, roles and responsibilities, etc.

3. State Project Office, Uttarakhand Sabhi Ke Liye Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad

Uttarakhand Sabhi Ke Liye Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad is a society dealing with Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in Uttarakhand through its State Project Office, which is situated in the premise of School Education Directorate at Nanoorkhera, Tapovan Marg, Dehradun.

The office is responsible to implement the RMSA and other centrally sponsored schemes such as Vocational Education in Uttarakhand. The office is headed by State Project Director at state level where as at district level District Project Officer are responsible for implementation and management of the scheme. For better management and to assist the State Project Director, a separate State Project Office and at district level District Project Office are already functional.

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4. THE GOALS OF THE PROJECT IN UTTARAKHAND ARE TO:

- a) Successfully introduce and integrate vocational (NSQF compatible) courses at the Class 9th – 12th levels (in the 14-17 years age group) on an optional/voluntary basis in 11 schools in Uttarakhand during the academic year 2014-15 and further add 50 Schools subsequently. These courses will be industry driven based upon occupational standards set by industry sector skill councils (SSCs) (in association with NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation)) in Information Technology (IT), and Automotive sectors. It is planned to introduce this in Class 9th (Level 1) and Class 11th (Level-1 and Level-2) in 11 schools during the academic year 2014-15. Two skills will be introduced per school. Assuming 25-30 students/batch in each school; approximately 660 students are expected to be trained in the first year.
- b) Additional Schools and new sector areas like Healthcare, Security, Retail, Tourism etc. could be added as per mutual understanding.
- c) The second expected outcome is improved employability of the students graduating from these courses because of industry driven inputs and exposure. This will be measured by enhanced employment (70% placed in workplace as employees or interns) of the students leaving class 12th for work.
- d) Another expected outcome is reduction in school dropout rates and better attendance levels due to better job prospects through such a program.
- e) The goal of this MOU is to ensure the success of the Uttarakhand State project of rolling out NSQF starting with the 9th class and 11th Class (going up to class 12th) and meeting the aspiration of the stakeholders.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The objective is to work together and leverage each party's complementary strengths for success of the project.

WOF Role and Responsibilities:

WOF will be the Knowledge Partner in this Project, to help provide direction, material and training.

- A. Project Management support: WOF will participate in the Steering/Review Committee and/or Governing/Industry Councils. If needed, it can assist in hiring project personnel like teachers, co-ordinators, etc.



- B. Knowledge Management. Provision of knowledge, documents, existing courseware library, tools and samples (e.g. Organization, Project Plans, Process Maps, Master Training, etc.) based upon other projects' experience. This will be packaged and shared with CPI/NSQF Council and key CPI Project Personnel.
- C. Training and Mentoring of Key Program personnel like Teachers, Principals, Nodal Officers, Co-ordinators/District Education Officers, etc. on mutually decided orientation and capabilities. WOF could provide the Master Trainers as well as Teaching Content; venue and all other logistics would be the responsibility of Uttarakhand State.
- D. Program Manager: Once the Uttarakhand Government's proposal for 30 additional schools gets approved, WOF would depute a Program Manager based in SPO, Dehradun.

SPO, Role and Responsibilities:

SPO is the Operations/Implementing Entity in the Project and will be responsible for all such activities including:

- A. Setup Project and Teachers Team. Hire/assign and train the Central, District and School personnel.
- B. School and Student Mobilization. Select schools, assign subjects and integrate into the time table, induct principals, sign up students and recruit teachers.
- C. Integrate into State Board Curriculum/Exams. To adopt new subjects, print textbooks and conduct exams.
- D. Conduct Training Operationalize the training in schools.
- E. Fund Expenses. Budget and sanction state funding for the project activities.
- F. Drive Program Design, Management and Co-ordination. Across SPO and other relevant State Government bodies, WOF, Central Government/MHRD, NSDC/SSCs, PSSCIVE, etc. Setup Governing council/process.
- G. Industry Interface. Work with Industry to arrange inputs, validation, interaction, visits, job placement, etc.
- H. Promotion and Monitoring. To get executive support and ensure success of the program.

6. OTHER COVENANTS


1. Confidentiality of designated material will be maintained by all parties.
2. The parties will be jointly recognized in the material and venues of collaborative offerings. This would include websites, co-developed training material, banners or other event or Classroom/School signage, backdrop, collateral, publications, etc. under the aegis of this partnership for the duration of this agreement.
3. The use of the name, logo and/or official emblem of any of the Parties on any publication, document and/or paper is allowed only, after seeking explicit permission in writing by either party.
4. Given there is no financial exchange involved, this MOU doesn't create any legal obligations between the Parties. Any difference or dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and/or implementation and/or application of any of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through mutual consultation or negotiations between the Parties, without reference to any third Party
5. The Parties are entering into this MOU in good faith and intentions. Neither party will be responsible for any liabilities arising out of death, injury or any legal action in respect of field staff, trainees or any other persons associated with the operationalisation of this MOU who is not otherwise a staff of either WOF or the office of the SPO and Project Council.
6. This MOU will come into effect on date of signature by all partners and will end after 2 years from the date of signing of this MOU. This covers an overall engagement. Specific activities will be jointly agreed to and funded by the parties.
7. This MOU may be varied at any time by mutual agreement of the parties in writing. It shall be reviewed one month before the end of contract date or at a time mutually agreed by the parties for possible renewal.
8. Each party might bring this MOU to an end by giving a 30 day notice to the other, via written notice of a Government/ Board Resolution to this effect.
9. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the implementation of on-going activities which have been agreed upon before the date of the termination of this MOU.
10. As this project is in Project mode, the SPO is entitled to sign MOU with other relevant partners to achieve the required goal and success.



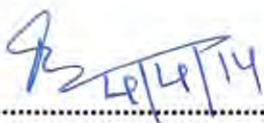
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11. This MOU does not give authority to either represent or exercise opinion or decision, on behalf of the Government of Uttarakhand.
12. Any legal matter /dispute if arises will be under jurisdiction of H'nble high court of Uttarakhand Nainital.


State Project Director
SPO, RMSA
Govt. of Uttarakhand


Shri Ajay Mohan Goel
Director-Skills Development Network
Wadhvani Operating Foundation

Witnesses


1. Signature.....
Additional State Project Director
SPO, RMSA
Govt. of Uttarakhand


2. Signature.....
Finance Controller
SPO, RMSA
Govt. of Uttarakhand