



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)
BETWEEN**

BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY
684-686, Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moghbazar
Dhaka- 1217, Bangladesh, GPO Box 578, Dhaka-1000
Tel: (880) +88 02 48310188 / +88 02 48310189;
Fax: +88 02 9352303, Email: info@bdracs.org



and
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA

Shahbag, Dhaka-1000
Phone: +88 09661900-73 (Ext. 7259, 7246), Email: geoenv@du.ac.bd

A. Background and Purpose

The objective of this MoU is to ensure effective partnership and co-operation in relation to the implementation of the project "**BDRCS- Urban Resilience Building through Research, Knowledge and Innovation**". It expresses the mutual effort of the parties to achieve the results and objectives as set out by the project.

The project will explore avenues for joint events and cross-learning activities to provide opportunities in new ways of working as well as pilot some of the contemporary issues on Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction by engaging youth post graduates and developing research papers on urban methodology and emerging trends through youth fellowship programme. This partnership will also aim to document and share the identified emerging issues with wider stakeholders and design larger programmes in the urban areas.

B. Brief Overview of the Parties

This document constitutes an agreement between Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), and Department of Geography and Environment, University of Dhaka for the partnership between the parties in implementing the project "**BDRCS- Urban Resilience Building through Research, Knowledge and Innovation**". BDRCS will be treated as the resource providing agency (BDRCS will provide all related cost for this youth fellowship programme and the Department of Geography and Environment, DU will be treated as the implementing (manage the fellowship) and resource (fellowship fund) receiving agency under this project.

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)

There are 192 officially recognized Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, who are the part of the world's largest humanitarian non-governmental organisation, The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, uniting 128 million individual members and volunteers and 263,000 employees. Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is an auxiliary to the Government of Bangladesh in the humanitarian field which works under the President's Order 26, 1973 and the component of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement under seven fundamental principles having its National Headquarters at 684-686, Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Moghbazar, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh, www.bdracs.org, hereafter called as "BDRCS". It provides emergency relief to the victims of natural and manmade disasters, work in the fields of community development, social welfare and public health including health education, nursing and blood banks.

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Department of Geography and Environment, University of Dhaka

Although the University of Dhaka was established in 1921, it took another 27 years for the Department of Geography to be established. The department began its activities on the Curzon Hall campus in late 1947 and was placed under the Faculty of Science with the auspices of Professor Nafis Ahmad (1911-1982) in 1948. In October 1965, the Department was moved to the present building (second floor), Kazi Motahar Hossain Bhaban, popularly known as the Science Annex Building.

The department was renamed as "Department of Geography and Environment" in 1995. The vision of the department is to contribute to the nation through high-quality education and research in this particular sector; to continue its journey as a centre of excellence in the international research; and to produce world-class graduates with a full research-bent and high competence in attaining sustainable management of natural and human environment in the context of national visionary targets (Vision- 2041) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The mission of the department is to produce highly competent graduates by providing a quality teaching, learning, and research environment; adequate laboratory facilities; technical and instrumental supports for effective fieldworks; a collaborative research environment; and facilitating Human Resource Development (HRD) to face future challenges at the national, regional, and global levels.

C. Overview of the "BDRCS- Urban Resilience Building through Research, Knowledge and Innovation" Project

"BDRCS- Urban Resilience Building through Research, Knowledge and Innovation" project is a part of the urban ambition that BDRCS is steering in Bangladesh with German Red Cross along with many other Red Cross Movement partners. After two consecutive projects implemented in urban centres over the past 4 years, this ambition has grown stronger by the virtue of the investments made at the local level on system strengthening, building local response capacities and also enlarging the volunteer-pool through coaching and technical trainings. Disaster preparedness and response capacities of the local authorities have been massively enhanced while functional linkages between different disaster committees have been strengthened by the interventions in one of the most congested city corporations in Dhaka city.

The project is designed to produce these (03) main results:

- 1) Strengthening Urban Preparedness & Capacity Development of Local Actors
- 2) Urban Research, Knowledge Management & Partnership/ Alliance Building
- 3) Coordination, Innovation & Exchange

D. Specific Roles and Tasks of the Parties for Smooth Implementation of the Project in Mutual Respect

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)-

- Plan and design the fellowship program
- Grant and manage fellowship to post graduates on emerging Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction issues
- Organize cross learning events based on research findings



Department of Geography and Environment of Dhaka University-

- Support in planning and designing the fellowship program
- Manage the fellowship program
- Facilitate and conduct quality researches on emerging Disaster Preparedness (DP) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) issues or urban trending issues.
- Publish at least one research paper in a renowned journal.

Both the parties will share the academic data on the purpose of research. They will also look forward to exploring newer options for further future collaborations.

E. Validity of the MoU

This MoU shall be operational upon signing and shall terminate on 31/12/2024. All activities conducted before this date within the vision of the joint-collaboration will be deemed to fall under this MoU.

F. Fund Management

BDRCS will be the financial contributor to this process which would be done through agreed budget with specific terms and references.

1. BDRCS will transfer the full amount of money to the account of the Department of Geography and Environment before starting the fellowship program as per the agreement by both parties. G&E Department shall submit a detailed report after completion of the program.
2. The fellowship plan and guideline will be developed together by both parties and the budget will be established by the project and G&E Department, and calculated amount to be transferred to the following G&E Department account-

Account Name : Chairman, Department of Geography and Environment
University of Dhaka

Account No : 0440534024669

Bank Name : Sonali Bank Limited

Branch : Dhaka University Branch

3. Under the MoU, BDRCS will provide an approximate amount of 100,000 BDT to each mutually selected thesis student of the department for the session 2020-21 and this amount will be transferred to the department's account as mentioned in the clause F(2). In 2023, a total of 6 (Six) students will be awarded with this grant. And an amount equal to the 10% of the total grant money will be transferred separately as the 'Overhead Charge' direct to the account of the University of Dhaka (Account no 4405736000404, Sonali Bank Limited, Dhaka University Branch of the University of Dhaka). An option for financial contribution from BDRCS for any future collaboration for this activity or any other will also remain open.

G. Conflict of Interests

Both parties will declare that they have no pecuniary interest in the business that would cause a conflict of interest or seem to cause a conflict of interest in carrying out the work under this agreement.



H. Termination

This MoU may be terminated by either party prior to its expiration date through a one (01) month written notice and upon settlement of all outstanding responsibilities as detailed in this MoU. This MoU is executed in good faith, and each partner will make efforts to protect each other's reputation and interests.

I. Confidentiality

Any information, documents, data and other materials, activities and business related to G&E Department, and all copies thereof supplied by G&E Department or prepared, gathered or otherwise obtained by G&E Department will remain the property of the G&E Department and will be kept confidential by BDRCS. This information will be used solely for the benefit of G&E Department and BDRCS will not transfer or divulge any confidential information to any other person or organization unless,

- a. Obtaining prior written consent from G&E Department, or
- b. The information is already in the public domain, or
- c. Disclosure is required by the law.

J. Visibility

G&E Department, DU must ensure the visibility of BDRCS/GRC Bangladesh and of the department, itself, in following situations: seminar, workshop, publication, reports, documentation and any other relevant public events.

K. Coordination

Both parties will nominate one designated person (mentioned in section L) for focal point of all sorts of coordination between the parties and they will meet in every two (02) months or as required for reviewing the progress, strategies and challenges.

L. Key Contact Person

To execute the MoU and induce further course of actions, the following persons will be the key contact points from the two respective parties:

On behalf of BDRCS:

1. M. A. Halim
Director
Disaster and Climate Risk Management Department
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
National Headquarters, Dhaka
2. Shahjahan Saju
Assistant Director and Project Coordinator, FbF Project
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
National Headquarters, Dhaka

On behalf of the Department of Geography and Environment, University of Dhaka:

1. Dr. Md. Shahidul Islam
Professor and Chairman
Department of Geography and Environment
University of Dhaka
2. Dr. Md. Serajul Islam
Professor
Department of Geography and Environment
University of Dhaka



M. Miscellaneous Provisions

1. If any situation arises in future which was not envisaged by the parties at the time of entering into this MoU, shall be solved upon mutual understanding basis.
2. In case of delay or failure in carrying out the responsibility and obligations by any of the parties due to force majeure, each party shall be excused from its performance under this MoU only to the extent and for so long as such performance is hindered or prevented.
Force Majeure means any situation which is not reasonably within the control of any of the parties affected such as the Act of the Almighty, flood, attacks of pest, war, civil commotion, fire, lightning, earthquake, storm, explosion, epidemic, quarantine, industrial disputes of any kind, blockade, restriction in the transportation of goods, governmental restraints and expropriation, and acts or omissions of third parties. In case, a party falls into any of these situations due to negligence of the other party, the same shall not be reckoned as Force Majeure.
3. By serving one (01) month prior written notice to the other party, any party can go out from this MoU without assigning any reason. In such case, the leaving party can dismantle its equipment or can waive its rights on the shared property.
4. The parties shall make their best efforts to settle amicably through consultation if any dispute arises. If any dispute in connection with this MoU is not settled through such consultation within 90 days from the date when it was first notified by one party to the other, either by way of writing or otherwise, either party may refer the dispute for determination and final settlement by arbitration under the Arbitration Act, 2001 of Bangladesh.
5. This MoU shall be governed by the laws of Bangladesh.
6. This MoU may be amended, altered or modified to meet any changed situation and such addition, alteration or modification shall be done upon the written consent of the parties.



In presence of the witnesses, the parties have read, understood, and signed this MoU as of the date and place mentioned.

For Bangladesh Red Crescent Society



Kazi Shofiqul Azam
Secretary General
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
National Headquarters, Dhaka

**For Department of Geography
and Environment, University
of Dhaka**



**Professor Mamtaz Uddin
Ahmed**
Treasurer, University of Dhaka

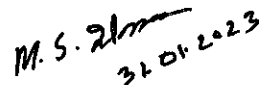
Prof. Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed
Treasurer
University of Dhaka
Bangladesh

**Witness of IFRC / German Red Cross
Bangladesh Delegation**



**Head of Delegation IFRC / Head of Office
German Red Cross Bangladesh Delegation
Dhaka**

**Witness of Department of
Geography and Environment,
University of Dhaka**



**Professor Dr. Md. Shahidul
Islam**
Chairman
Department of Geography and
Environment
University of Dhaka

Professor Dr. Md. Shahidul Islam
Chairman
Department of Geography & Environment
University of Dhaka



BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY
বাংলাদেশ রেড ক্রিসেন্ট সোসাইটি

National Headquarters

684-686 Red Crescent Sarak, Bara Mogra,
Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh. GPO Box No. 577
☎ 48310188-9. Fax : 8316602, 9351301
✉ info@bdracs.org

BDRCS/Finance/2023/ 0428

06 March, 2023

The Manager
Sonali Bank Ltd
Mogh Bazar Branch.
Dhaka - 1217.

Subject: Funds Transfer

Dear Sir,

This is to advise you to kindly issue "Telegraphically/on line" transfer to the undermentioned name of the BDRCS program Accounts of the Bangladesh Red crescent Society for amounts and on the branch of Sonali Bank as mentioned against each.

SL No.	Name	Total BDT.	Name of the Branch of Sonali Bank on Which Drafts will be drawn
01.	CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT, UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA	6,00,000.00	A/C NO# 04400534024669 SONALI BANK LTD. DHAKA UNIVERSITY BRANCH
02.	OVERHEAD CHARGE, DU	60,000.00	A/C NO. # 4405736000404 SONALI BANK LTD. DHAKA UNIVERSITY BRANCH
Total BDT. =6,60,000.00			

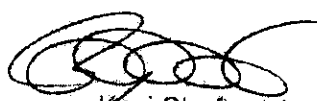
Inwords BDT. (Six Lakh Sixty Thousand) Only.

The above amount should be debited to the BDRCS GRC Primary Health Care Project Account NO. #0119200004637 and the debit advice may be sent to us for our record.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully


A.H.M. Mainul Islam
Director, Finance


Kazi Shofiqul Azam
Secretary General

