

# MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)

between

Department of Civil Engineering, School of Engineering (SoE),  
Kathmandu University (KU)

and

Local Roads Bridge Programme (LRBP) of  
Government of Nepal in collaboration with Swiss agency for  
Development and Cooperation

## 1. BACKGROUND

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (herein referred as MOA) is signed between the DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, School of Engineering, Kathmandu University (herein referred as the Civil Department) and LOCAL ROADS BRIDGE PROGRAMME, in collaboration with SDC and GoN (hereinafter referred as LRBP) for collaboration in the field of Bridge Engineering in Nepal.

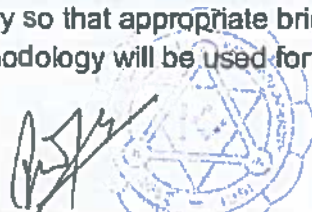
The administration of this agreement will be done by Local Roads Bridge Support Unit (LRBSU) on behalf of LRBP. LRBSU is a technical assistance team formed as per the provision in the bilateral agreement between Government of Nepal and Government of Switzerland. LRBSU is managed by Swiss agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) through its mandated partner institution, to provide technical assistance to GoN on behalf of the Government of Switzerland.

## 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOA is to establish a framework of collaboration between the Civil Department and LRBSU for introducing and strengthening bridge design courses through inclusion in academic curriculum (Bachelor/Master degree), research and exposure visits. This will help to supply the need of experienced and competent engineers in the field of bridge design and construction within the country.

## STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFITS AND INTERESTS

Construction of Motorable bridges in the country are increasing each year. However, there are limited number of engineers who could design bridges and provide effective construction supervision during the construction stage. Hence, production of competent engineers in this area within the country are necessary. LRBSU is interested in collaboration with Universities and Technical Institutes for introducing Bridge Design Courses in Bachelor and Master Degree curriculum. LRBSU is also interested in promoting research work, project work and extensive study tours to the bridge sites for the students. These activities will support to develop the competent future engineers within the country so that appropriate bridge types will be recommended and appropriate technology/methodology will be used for the bridge construction.



The benefit for Civil Department through this collaboration is to expand its area of support to its students in enhancing their learning and getting exposure through working on various real bridge projects. Students can get support to acquire knowledge and skills through project work/thesis work related with bridge design.

### 3. DURATION OF MOA

- This MOA comes into an effect after signing by both parties and will remain valid until end of July 2024 or unless any of the party wishes to terminate earlier.
- Any changes if required in this period will be mutually agreed and signed.

### 4. RESPONSIBILITY OF LRBSU

Following shall be the responsibility of LRBSU:

- Support in the bridge engineering curriculum development process (Bachelor and Master Degree) by participating, as an invitee in the curriculum development committee, sharing its documents /knowledge, products and experiences, as and when required.
- Provide technical (related data of bridge sites) and financial support to the Civil Department to carry out bridge project works by the students
- If required 'organize' or 'support to organize', the training/orientation programme on bridge design, site visits for the bridge related studies in Nepal, for the students/faculties of the Civil Department.
- If required, support the academic research and project works done by the Civil Department.
- Provide internship opportunity to the students of the Civil Department wherever possible.

### 5. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Following shall be the responsibility of the Civil Department:

- Offer thesis works / projects works on bridge engineering related area to the students.
- Encourage students in carrying out academic researches, project works and thesis related with bridge design and construction technology / management

### 6. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT:

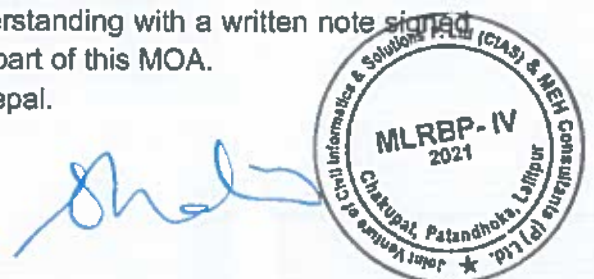
LRBSU will provide funds, (e.g. the cost of site visits and tests if needed), to the student through the Civil Department for project work/ thesis works.

### 7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Both the parties: Department and LRBSU will be responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of the progress under this MOA;
- The review meeting will be held as and when necessary or at least once in 6 months.

### 8. MODIFICATIONS TO THE TERMS DESCRIBED BY THE MOA

- Both parties agree to review and update the MOA as per need.
- This MOA can be amended through mutual understanding with a written note signed by both parties. Such amendment forms integral part of this MOA.
- This MOA is governed by the law applicable in Nepal.



## 9. ARBITRATION

In the event of any disputes or differences arising thereof during the implementation of this MOA, both parties will bring the disputes to their highest authority at first and seek for mutually agreeable way outs. If attempts at negotiation fail, both parties agree to submit their position for arbitration by a third, party acceptable to both signatories of the MOA. The decision rendered in this arbitration shall constitute final adjudication of the disagreement.

## 10. TERMINATION

This agreement may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement or if one or both parties are in breach of the agreed terms of the MOA. Either party may terminate this agreement by giving the other party one-month prior notice in written of the intention to do so if either party does not fulfill their responsibilities as stated above.

## 11. FORCES MAJEURE


If the performance of this MOA should be rendered wholly or substantially impossible or is otherwise frustrated by forces majeure - any event beyond the reasonable control of the party so affected – then the party shall immediately notify the other party in writing. As from that date, the obligations of both parties under this MOA will be immediately suspended pending renegotiation at the earliest possible opportunity.

On behalf of LRBSU

  
.....  
(Shakil Manandhar)  
Team Leader  
LRBSU



On behalf of Civil Department

  
.....  
(Prachand Man Pradhan, PhD)  
Head of Department  
Department of Civil Engineering,  
School of Engineering, KU

Signed on: 2078/03/21  
2021/07/05

8 July, 2021  
