
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION GROUP OF BRAZILIAN UNIVERSITIES
AND**

**PARTNERSHIP FOR SKILLS IN APPLIED SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND
TECHNOLOGY (PASET)**

FOR

**COOPERATION ON PASET'S
REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AND INNOVATION FUND (RSIF)**

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This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the International Cooperation Group of Brazilian Universities (hereinafter referred to as "GCUB"), and the Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) to strengthen the science and technological and innovation capability of sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries for economic growth and development. For the purposes of this Memorandum, GCUB and PASET will be called together "the Parties" and each a "Party". The areas of cooperation may include, subject to mutual consent, any desirable activity that would further the goals of each Party.

1. BACKGROUND ON COLLABORATION BETWEEN PASET AND GCUB

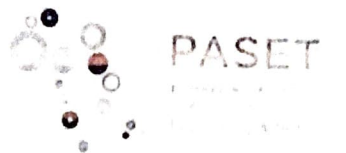
PASET, an Africa-led partnership, is made up of SSA governments, private sector representatives, universities and institutions in SSA that are focused on Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (ASET); Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions; academics; Africa regional bodies; and Partner countries from other regions, including Korea, India, China and Brazil. The PASET governing body comprises of selected ministers in charge of higher education and their representatives, non-government representatives, and the World Bank. Additionally, a Consultative Advisory Group (CAG) provides technical advice and consists of eminent academics and business leaders.

The Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF) is the flagship program of PASET. Its objective is to contribute to creating an additional 10,000 PhDs in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology for priority sectors in 10 years and building the capacity of a core of African universities to train these and future PhDs. The RSIF will also build capacity in the region to sustainably support those PhDs beyond their training as they go into academia, industry, or become entrepreneurs. The RSIF operates through three windows: Window 1 which offers scholarships for PhD students; Window 2 which will offer research grants and Window 3 which will offer innovation grants. Students from SSA countries, primarily faculty of SSA universities lacking PhD degrees, are eligible for RSIF scholarships.

The RSIF will be implemented through competitively selected Universities (RSIF Host Universities) in SSA which have the capacity to offer PhD programs in the selected thematic areas (ICTs including big data and artificial intelligence; food security and agribusiness; minerals, mining and materials engineering; energy including renewables; and climate change). Strengthening the quality of these PhD programs in the RSIF Host Universities in SSA countries through collaboration and partnership with Universities outside the region is an objective of RSIF.

Following a competitive selection process by the World Bank and PASET in 2018, the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*) was mandated administrative and financial management functions of the RSIF by the PASET Governance Council. *icipe* is responsible for the overall management of the three windows of the RSIF and managing and growing the Funds financial holdings.

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The International Cooperation Group of Brazilian Universities (GCUB) is a non-profit, academic, scientific and cultural association of civil society. It was founded on October 29, 2008, in Brasília – Distrito Federal. It currently comprises 89 Brazilian Universities.

GCUB's programs and projects are aimed at undergraduate and graduate students, as well as researchers and professors from all areas of knowledge. Through these programs, thousands of Brazilian and foreign students have the opportunity to improve their studies and share values and visions with people from other cultures. This academic mobility also provides knowledge of different educational and research systems, and different paths of academic training.

In addition to these programs, the GCUB promotes seminars that bring together researchers from priority areas for science, in Brazil and in partner countries; participates in the organization of international missions addressed to representatives of associated universities; promotes training courses for leaders in international university cooperation; in addition to receiving delegations from rectors, researchers and authorities of countries with which it has cooperation agreements.

The activities promoted by GCUB are based on the principles of social and environmental responsibility, the promotion of peace and social inclusion, and respect for human rights.

For GCUB, university internationalization plays a key role in promoting human development, in the dissemination of knowledge and in the dissemination of universal values, such as respect for cultural differences.

The expansion of GCUB's actions and the fruits harvested since its creation express the important purpose of the Group and its partners in promoting quality and universal Higher Education.

GCUB's mission is to promote academic, scientific and cultural relations between its associated institutions and international partners, through the realization of programs, projects and actions of international, bilateral and multilateral cooperation. GCUB's activities are developed in partnership with International Organizations, Universities, University Networks, Councils of Rectors and Governmental Bodies from more than one hundred countries, located on five continents.

2. OVERALL OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF COOPERATION:

The overall objective of this MoU is to establish a mutually beneficial relationship built on the implementation of PASET's Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF) through academic & scientific research cooperation, and capacity development. General areas of cooperation include training of PhD scholars and post-doctoral fellows; promoting joint academic programs; exchange of faculty professors and researchers; facilitating joint research and innovation projects in priority development areas; and development or strengthening of models for commercializing research and innovation in the selected thematic areas.

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The Parties agree to cooperate to achieve the objectives of the RSIF, including but not restricted to, the following activities:

- 2.1. Strengthen the quality of the PhD programs in the RSIF Host Universities in SSA countries through sandwich PhD programs offered in the RSIF Host Universities and in universities associated with GCUB.
- 2.2. Visits of faculty from Brazil for short duration teaching in the RSIF Host University; visits of faculty from RSIF Host Universities to Brazilian universities associated with GCUB to enhance their capacities for research, innovation and PhD training.
- 2.3. Undertake collaborative research and innovation projects between faculty of Brazil and faculty of RSIF Host Universities as well as RSIF Scholars who have completed their PhDs in the sandwich programs. Such projects will aim to address the needs of SSA countries in the selected thematic areas and can involve collaboration with private sector firms or the development of new products and processes

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

The Parties will define and agree, through agreements, the details of the collaboration between RSIF Host Universities and GCUB in implementing the above activities, including arrangements for financing, reporting and monitoring and evaluation, managing intellectual property, and evaluation.

4. DISPUTES, CONTROVERSIES AND CLAIMS

In case of a dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of or relating to this Memorandum or an agreement for any activity or project undertaken pursuant thereto, the Parties will attempt to reach an amicable resolution in good faith.

5. DURATION AND TERMINATION OF MOU

- 5.1. This Memorandum will come into force and effect upon signature by both Parties on the date set forth below. Changes to this MOU shall be made by mutual consent between both Parties. In cases of disagreement, the Party wishing to depart from the MOU shall, wherever possible, give six months' notice of its intention to do so. This MOU will be valid for three years unless terminated by one of the parties. The agreement may be renewed by mutual consent.
- 5.2. This Memorandum may be modified or terminated by mutual written agreement of the Parties. Further, the Memorandum may be terminated by either Party with six months' prior notice in writing to the other Party.
- 5.3. In the event of termination of this MOU, the Parties undertake to ensure that all prior commitments with respect to the RSIF Scholars, the RSIF Host Universities and universities associated with GCUB to complete their course and/or research collaborations shall be fulfilled.

6. PRIMARY CONTACT

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P.S.P.

- 6.1. The responsibility for the implementation of activities pursuant to the framework established by this Memorandum shall lie with the Parties, each of which has designated a representative below. By written notice or e-mail to the other Party, each Party may designate different or additional persons as its representatives.

For GCUB.:

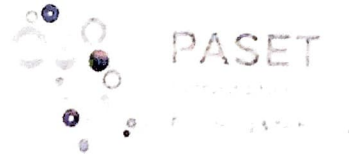
Professor Rossana Valéria de Souza e Silva
Executive Director of the GCUB
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For the PASET:

Professor Aminata Sali Diallo
Executive Director of PASET Executive Board
Special Advisor to the Minister of Higher
Education and Research of Senegal
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Phone: 00 221 776374439 / 00 221 338223857
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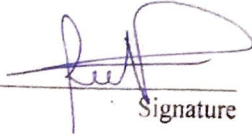
- 6.2. This MOU will take effect on the date the signatures of the Parties are affixed to this document.
- 6.3. The following authorized individuals have signed the present MOU on behalf of their respective institutions:





For GCUB:

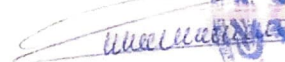
Grupo de Cooperação Internacional de
Universidades Brasileiras - GCUB



Signature

Professor Rossana Valéria de Souza e Silva
Executive Director of the GCUB

05/11/2021
Date

For PASET:


Signature



Dr. Valentine Uwamariya
Minister of Education
Government of Rwanda
Chair of the PASET Governing Council
KG 7 Avenue, Kigali, Rwanda

5/11/2021
Date