



**Higher Education System
Strengthening Activity**



LETTER OF INTENT
concerning
Academic Cooperation
between
The University of Utah, USA
and
**Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women,
Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan**

1. The University of Utah (UU), a body politic and corporate of the State of Utah and an institution of higher education, has recently been awarded a grant by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the "Higher Education System Strengthening Activity" (hereinafter referred as HESSA) Project in Pakistan. The HESSA Project will provide technical assistance to several Pakistani universities (also referred as HESSA partner universities) in delivering high-quality market-driven education and research. The Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan has been selected as one of the HESSA partner universities. To facilitate project implementation, the UU has established a Project Management Unit (hereinafter referred as PMU/UU) in Islamabad.
2. In the spirit of scholarly exchange, the two institutions, based on respect for each other's independence and mutual benefit, and to the extent permitted by applicable law and the policies of each institution, have signed this Letter of Intent (LOI) to reflect their agreement on areas of collaboration to advance the implementation of capacity-building activities as stipulated under the HESSA project.
3. The UU intends to provide capacity building support to the Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan in several areas, such as (a) leadership development including women leadership, (b) strategic planning, (c) resource mobilization, (d) institutional governance, (e) faculty development, (f) curriculum reform and modernization, (g) research management, and (h) creation of students' support structures.
4. Technical assistance to the Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan in areas mentioned immediately above will be streamlined in one or more of the following forms: training workshops, creation of working groups, stakeholder dialogues, online training courses, exchanges, international study tours, introduction to best practices in academic and research management, and individual and collective mentoring of leadership and faculty etc.
5. The Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan will participate in and support the HESSA project implementation by:
 - a. nominating faculty and staff for different training workshops, exchanges, study tours etc.,
 - b. facilitating data collection on monitoring indicators established by the project,
 - c. organizing or hosting some of the meetings and workshops,
 - d. providing data for the baseline study and benchmarking exercise,
 - e. designating faculty/staff for different working groups or collaborative working platforms to be established under the project, and

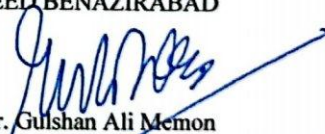
- f. mobilizing funds as may be required for effective participation of its staff and faculty in the implementation of planned activities.
6. The nature and scope of capacity building interventions (mentioned in Article 3), as well as support and collaboration needed from the Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan (mentioned in Article 5) will be determined jointly by both institutions through dialogue and consultations.
7. To ensure effective collaboration between the two institutions and smooth implementation of jointly agreed activities, the Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah Shaheed Benazirabad Pakistan will designate a senior level official as focal point for HESSA-related activities.
8. This LOI becomes effective on the date of the last signature of all the parties. Each party confirms to accept full and sole responsibility for any and all expenses incurred by itself relating to this LOI. Nothing in this LOI is intended to supersede or interfere in any way with any agreements or contracts entered among the parties, either prior to or subsequent to the signing of this LOI. The parties specifically acknowledge that the LOI is not an obligation of funds, nor does it constitute a legally binding commitment by the parties or create any rights in any third party.
9. This LOI is valid for a period of five years from the last signature date below. Any renewal and/or amendment of this LOI shall be determined through joint discussion of both institutions and memorialized in a writing signed by both institutions. Either institution may terminate this LOI at any time for any reason by providing not less than three months' written notice to the other institution.

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



Dr. M. Aslam Chaudhry
Chief of Party

PEOPLES UNIVERSITY OF
MEDICAL & HEALTH SCIENCES
FOR WOMEN, NAWABSHAH
SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD



Prof. Dr. Gulshan Ali Memon
Vice Chancellor

31st May, 2022