Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC)

Between

Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI)
and
FATA University

Preamble

This Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) is made and entered into on this 19th day of February 2026, by and between:

Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), a company incorporated under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984, having its registered office at Chamber House, Ground Floor, Main GT Road, Peshawar, hereinafter referred to as **"SCCI",**

and

FATA University, a public sector university established under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Universities Act, 2016, having its principal campus at Dara Adam Khel, District Kohat, hereinafter referred to as **"FATA University",**

SCCI and FATA University shall hereinafter be collectively referred to as **"the Parties"** and individually as **"a Party."**

This MoC expresses the Parties' mutual intention to establish a collaborative relationship aimed at promoting education, research, entrepreneurship, and innovation. It is **non-binding** and does **not create any enforceable legal rights or obligations,** serving solely as a framework for cooperation based on mutual goodwill and respect.

1. Mission Statement

For SCCI _____ For FATA University _____

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The mission of this cooperation is to build a sustainable bridge between academia and industry, enabling knowledge exchange and economic development. Through this partnership, the Parties aim to:

- Promote entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Enhance student and faculty capacity through research and training.
- Contribute to regional socio-economic development.
- Foster employability and market readiness among graduates.

2. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this MoC is to define a framework of cooperation between SCCI and FATA University in the areas of education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

The cooperation shall aim to:

- Promote entrepreneurial development and market access for emerging businesses.
- Facilitate applied research and commercialization of ideas.
- Provide opportunities for internships, industrial visits, and skill development programs.
- Strengthen collaboration in innovation-led initiatives and community engagement.
- Exchange knowledge, data, and best practices in education and industry.

3. Principles and Responsibilities

Both Parties agree to conduct all activities under the following guiding principles:

a. **Good Faith Collaboration:** Cooperation shall be based on transparency, integrity, and mutual respect.
b. **Non-Binding Character:** This MoC is not legally enforceable and does not create financial or legal liabilities.
c. **Autonomy:** Each Party shall retain full control over its policies, governance, and legal obligations.
d. **Confidentiality:** Information exchanged shall be used solely for the purposes of this MoC and treated as confidential.
e. **Prior Consent:** Disclosure of confidential information to third parties shall require prior written consent from the originating Party.

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f. Representation: The President of SCCI shall serve as a **Member** of the **ORIC Committee of FATA University**, contributing expertise, industrial insight, and advisory support to strengthen the university's research and commercialization initiatives.

4. Areas of Cooperation

The Parties agree to explore collaboration in the following key areas:

1. **Joint Research and Publications:** Conducting joint research projects, case studies, and co-authored publications addressing industrial challenges and regional development.
2. **Academic and Program Development:** Designing market-oriented academic programs, certification courses, and training modules.
3. **Internships and Fellowships:** Establishing structured internship and fellowship programs for students with SCCI member industries.
4. **Faculty and Research Exchange:** Facilitating exchange of faculty, researchers, and staff for capacity-building and collaborative projects.
5. **Seminars and Workshops:** Organizing joint seminars, conferences, symposiums, and entrepreneurship boot camps.
6. **Data and Knowledge Sharing:** Sharing academic and industry data, research findings, and innovation trends.
7. **Joint Funding Applications:** Submitting collaborative proposals to national and international funding bodies for research and innovation projects.
8. **Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** Supporting incubation centers, startup mentorship programs, and business innovation platforms.
9. **Advisory and Policy Development:** Collaborating on economic policy papers, industry analysis, and recommendations for government and development agencies.
10. **Any Other Agreed Activities:** Undertaking additional cooperative ventures mutually decided in writing.

Each initiative will be governed by a **separate agreement or annexure** outlining the specific objectives, scope, responsibilities, and financial arrangements.

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5. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Any intellectual property (IP) created as a result of collaborative efforts shall be governed by a separate written agreement concluded prior to the start of such projects. Ownership, licensing, and distribution of IP will be mutually negotiated in accordance with applicable laws.

6. Terms of Cooperation

- **Effective Date and Duration:**
  This MoC shall come into effect on the date of execution and remain valid for **three (3) years**, subject to renewal by mutual consent.
- **Focal Persons and Reporting:**
  Both Parties shall designate focal persons to coordinate MoC activities. They shall jointly prepare **annual progress reports** summarizing achievements, challenges, and future plans.
- **Amendments:**
  Any modifications to this MoC shall be made in writing and signed by both Parties.
- **Termination:**
  Either Party may terminate this MoC by giving **three (3) months' prior written notice.** All ongoing activities shall be completed in good faith.
- **Confidentiality:**
  Confidentiality obligations shall remain binding even after the expiry or termination of this MoC.
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8. Execution

This MoC is executed in two original copies, each bearing equal authenticity and legal standing. Each Party shall retain one original copy for its records.

Focal Person:
Dr. Akbar Ali Focal Person, FATA University Contact: +92 300 9339033 : oric@fu.edu.pk
Ms. Saima Mehboob Research and Development Officer (Focal Person), SCCI Email: sccip.psh@gmail.com | Tel: +92-91-9225413

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7. Execution

This MoC is executed in two original copies, each bearing equal legal weight, with one retained by each Party

For Sarhad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI): **Mr. Junaid Altaf** President, SCCI Signature _____ Date: 19-2-2026	**For FATA University:** Prof. Dr. Mohsan Nawaz Vice Chancellor, FATA University Signature _____ Date: 19.02.26
Witnessed by: **Mr. Muqtasid Ahsan** Secretary General, SCCI Signature _____ Date: 19-2-26.	**Witnessed by:** Dr. Akbar Ali Director ORIC, FATA University Signature _____ Date: Feb 19, 2026

For SCCI _____ For FATA University _____

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