

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

EXECUTED ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2025

BY AND BETWEEN



GOA UNIVERSITY

AND



GOA WATER STORIES

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shm".A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and strokes.

भारतीय गैर न्यायिक

एक सौ रुपये

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Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into on 15th September 2025 at Taleigao, Goa.

[Signature]

[Signature]

by and between

Goa University through its Registrar, Prof. Sunder N. Dhuri, major age, having its official address at Administrative Block, University Campus, Taleigao Plateau, Goa - GA 403206 (hereinafter called GU and which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, be deemed to mean and include its executors, administrators and permitted assigns) of one part and **Goa Water Stories**, through its curator, Wenceslaus Mendes, major age, having its official address at Block-C, Flat No. 302, 83/1(16), Keegan Palms, Colva, Salcete, South-Go - 403708, hereinafter called (GWS) and which expression shall unless it be repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, be deemed to mean and include its executors, administrators and permitted assigns) of the other part.

Under this Memorandum of Understanding, the two institutions will proceed to implement the following objectives:

Work with an interdisciplinary cohort of students (Masters) from Goa University. Through a year-round framework of intersectionality and engagement of praxis and workshop-based intervention model (Collaboration with Goa University – Appendix 1), we will:

- i.) Encourage capacity building, critical thinking, initiate and facilitate and an interdisciplinary framework of knowledge making, knowledge dissemination and art education across multiple media
- ii.) through a process of transdisciplinary/artistic learning and validation, promote dialogues towards an inclusive ecosystem amongst diverse stakeholders (Intersectionality and interdisciplinary framework)
- iii.) facilitate and share an understanding of hydrology in Goa centred around indigenous, socio-cultural and ecological practices and livelihoods (a proposition of knowledge making, art-environmental and sustainability).
- iv.) initiate and facilitate a cross-pollination of learning across geographies, societies and cultures in a critical non-extractive process
- v.) initiate a fellowship program for young people who want to help research and visualise water narratives in Goa and across borders in collaboration with institutional partners
- vi.) facilitate critical conversations and workshops at colleges, universities and public spaces (museums, galleries and institutional spaces) on various aspects of Goa's water heritage through capacity-building, expert talks and engagements and the visual and performing arts
- vii.) to communicate Goa's rich water heritage through a variety of media, that can engage people of all age groups, particularly children and youth, to find just and sustainable solutions to our growing water security challenges
- viii.) curate and build a travelling arts exhibition that showcases Goa Water Stories, which communicate narratives about the development of waterscapes in Goa as a reflection of changing times that can engage



citizens, inform policymakers and visualise sustainably, just and resilient water management and governance in the state

- ix.) facilitate and proliferate a process of “Indigenous Eco-Futurism”
- x.) create an online digital exhibition and archive
- xi.) develop social media content that posts images and data and builds a substantial following by introducing quizzes, creating hashtags, online challenges, Instalive sessions, et al.
- xii.) Participatory workshops and colloquiums with the ecosystem stakeholders on the theme of Goa and water.

At GU the **D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies (DDKSSSBS)** will oversee the implementation of the MoU. At **Goa Water Stories**, the Women’s Studies Programme will oversee the implementation of the MoU.

A. About Goa Water Stories

<https://goawaterstories.livingwatersmuseum.org>

Goa Water Stories (GWS) is currently hosted at the Living Waters Museum (LWM) – a digital platform that was launched in September 2017, to document, curate and communicate the rich and diverse traditions of water heritage and practices in India and build a repository of visualized knowledge, which can commemorate the past, inspire the present and be a source of learning for the future. LWM is a member of the Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU-NET), endorsed by UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Hydrology Program in 2018, as a special initiative to foster greater awareness of Sustainable Development Goal 6, through education and outreach. WAMU-NET adheres to all international best practices followed by digital, virtual or physical museums. LWM is a project initiative, currently based at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune, which provides all administrative support to it.

Goa Water Stories are multimodal engagements across various locations, in Goa over the last two years, and now an online, immersive and interactive digital web archive of narratives of water. Goa Water Stories engages and intersects with the local and indigenous communities through 18 interactive and immersive story-projects developed by over 30 young individuals. These interdisciplinary multimedia projects present hyperlocal narratives, amplifying voices from the ground. Rooted in lived experience, these narratives are closely linked to local flora, fauna and livelihood practices to construct a discourse centred around water, ecology and the impact of climate change.

B. Goa University’s D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies (DDKSSSBS),

The D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies is named after Damodar Dharmananda Kosambi established in 2022 by integrating the existing Departments on the Goa University campus and the affiliated Colleges. It covers a wide range of disciplines with differing methodologies, and includes History (1965 Centre for Post-Graduate Instruction & Research at Goa – CPIR affiliated to the then

University of Bombay) Political Science (1973 – CPIR), Sociology (1974 – CPIR), Women's Studies, Social Work, Geography, Psychology, Education (Education, Physical Education, Special Education), Journalism, Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Logic, and Minority Studies.

With the spirit of integration, the school aims to build on vibrant pluralistic ethos and the intellectual diversity that has been the hallmark of the state. The DDKSSSBS is highly multidisciplinary and focuses on developing strong teaching and research programmes that advance our understanding of Goa and production of new knowledge.

The project will be coordinated through the faculty of Women's Studies Programme for the implementation of the programme in collaboration with the guides and mentors of the selected students across the schools of Goa University.

Terms

This MoU shall commence from 12th September 2025 and shall, continue to remain in force for the next 12 months until 11th September 2026. This MoU may further be extended with the written agreement of both parties. This MoU may be terminated by either party subject to the delivery of one month's advance notice, in writing.

Through an immersive one-year workshop model, GWS will work with the student-dissertation research themes towards augmenting their research. This augmentation is a structured and immersive interaction with community and ecosystem experts, presentations, discussions and problem-solving within this transdisciplinary cohort, thereby facilitating knowledge generation.

These students and their research dissertations will be shortlisted by various discipline professors, centred broadly around the themes of water, ecology, the Western Ghats and Coastal ecosystems and climate change.

The project will be supervised, supported and monitored by Dr. Sulochana Suresh Pednekar (sulochana@unigoa.ac.in), Assistant Professor, Women's Studies Programme, DDKSSSBS, Goa University and Wenceslaus Mendes, (wency.mendes@gmail.com) Catalyst-Curator, Goa Water Stories.

Nothing in this MoU shall create, or be deemed to create, a partnership between the Parties.

Deliverables

GWS will issue a letter of selection to each individual student and on successful approvals and submission of deliverables; a letter of completion will also be issued. This letter will acknowledge the student, their subject of original research and the faculty guide/s of respective disciplines.

Intellectual Property Rights:

No rights of any kind whatsoever in any invention, copyright, trade secret, or any other form of Intellectual Property (collectively defined as IP) are granted or transferred under this MOU. Any IP exchanged pursuant to this MOU shall be governed by the terms of a separate written agreement by the Institutes.



Confidential Information

Both the parties agree that any **Confidential Information** provided under this MOU shall be held and maintained in strict confidence. Each party agrees to protect the confidentiality of such information in a manner consistent with the way a reasonable person would protect similar **Confidential Information**.

Liability

The DDKSSSBS at Goa University and the Goa Water Stories will not take responsibility for any content by a particular student that is deemed to be false, or offensive to any particular group. All views expressed by the exhibit are personal to the participants or the creators.

Indemnity

The DDKSSSBS at GU and GWS shall indemnify and hold harmless each other, its officers and employees and others working on this project from and against damages, liabilities, losses, costs and expenses.

Consent

The responsibility to obtain consent from a subject lies with the participants prior to the interview/photography/audiography. The author/ creator may only submit work that has the express consent of the subject of photography or research. The author of the work must confirm that all photography of minors under the age of 14 is done with the express consent of his/her guardian.

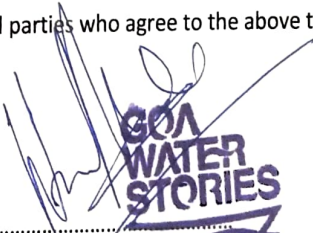
Entire Agreement

In case the GU or GWS wants to change/modify/edit the terms and conditions of this agreement, they can do so by mutual consent and understanding in writing.

Settlement of Dispute

Normally it is expected that no dispute will arise in the assignment. Should any dispute arise, the same shall be amicably settled by the Dispute Resolution Committee constituted by both the parties to this MoU. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall consist of senior representatives of the GU who shall be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor of the GU and the GWS. The decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be final and binding on the parties.

All parties who agree to the above terms and conditions.

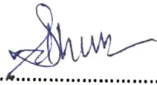

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(Signature)

Goa Water Stories

Name: Wenceslaus Mendes

Designation: Curator

Date: 15.09.2025


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REGISTRAR
(Signature) Goa University
Taligao Plateau-Goa.
Goa University

Name: Prof. Sunder N. Dhuri

Designation: Registrar

Date: 15.09.2025

Witnesses:

1. Nagender
(Professor Nagender Rao)

2. Z. D'Say
(Zeandhi D'Say)