



## Letter of Intent (LoI)

### **Malakand Varsities Consortium (M-Varsities Consortium)**

1. This Letter of Intent (LoI) is entered into by and among the undersigned universities, hereinafter referred to collectively as the *Member Institutions* of the *Malakand Varsities Consortium for Academic Collaboration and Regional Development (M-Varsities Consortium)*:

1. University of Swat
2. University of Malakand
3. University of Buner
4. Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Sheringal, Dir Upper
5. University of Shangla
6. University of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Swat
7. University of Agriculture, Swat
8. University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Swat
9. University of Chitral
10. Khyber Medical University through Saidu Medical College, Saidu Sharif, Swat

2. Recognizing the vital role of higher education in regional development and the need for strategic collaboration to enhance academic excellence, research innovation, and socio-economic uplift, the Member Institutions hereby express their intent to establish and operationalize the *Malakand Varsities Consortium for Academic Collaboration and Regional Development (M-Varsities Consortium)*, subject to further deliberation and formalization.

### **3. Key Areas of Collaboration:**

1. **Academic Cooperation** – Joint degree programs, curriculum development, and credit transfer systems.
2. **Research and Innovation** – Collaborative research projects and innovation clusters to address regional and national challenges.
3. **Faculty and Staff Development** – Exchange programs, training workshops, and seminars.
4. **Youth and Community Engagement** – Inter-university events, entrepreneurship programs, and social development initiatives.
5. **Policy and External Linkages** – Unified representation in policy dialogues, and building linkages with government, industry, and international partners.

4. The development and implementation of specific activities based on this LoI will be separately negotiated and agreed between the partner universities after consultation and approval, required under the rules.

5. This LoI may be amended or modified by a written agreement signed by the representatives of the partner universities.

6. This LoI is valid for a period of three year from the date of signing by the representatives of the partner universities. This LoI shall be renewed after being reviewed and renegotiated by partner universities.



7. This Lol may, at any time during its period of validity, be terminated by one of the universities upon prior notice to the other universities in writing not later than six months before the termination date. The termination of this Lol shall not affect the implementation of the projects or programmes established under it prior to such termination, if otherwise not agreed. Such termination shall be without prejudice to any person's already engaged in associated collaborative activity.

8. It is understood that the implementation of any of the types of cooperation stated in the Lol shall depend upon the availability of resources and financial support at the universities concerned.

9. Should the collaborative research activities under this Lol result in any potential for intellectual property, all the partner universities shall seek an equitable and fair understanding as to ownership and other property interests that may arise. The financial arrangement, rights to intellectual property, and publication of articles relating to each project agreement and programme of cooperation will be in accordance with the specific agreement and programme of cooperation covering each project.

10. All partner universities shall ordinarily be responsible for its own costs incurred in connection with this Lol however, where possible, the parties shall explore opportunities for external funding of the collaborative activities.

11. This Letter of Intent is a statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial academic collaboration and nothing contained within shall be construed as creating any legal relationship between the parties.

12. This Letter of Intent does not prejudice the right of either party from establishing similar relationships with any other institution/s.

13. In case of any ambiguity/dispute the matter will be resolved through mutual consultation.

14. The universities can appoint representatives to manage and oversee the joint management activities. The representatives of the contracting parties can meet as and when necessary to review progress in the implementation of the agreed upon arrangements, define new areas and programmes of cooperation as well as discuss other matters related to the Lol.

**15. Effective Date and Duration:**

This Letter of Intent shall come into effect upon signature by the undersigned and shall remain valid until the signing of a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which shall further define legal commitments and implementation modalities.

**16. Non-Binding Clause:**

This Lol is not legally binding but reflects the goodwill, mutual understanding, and commitment of the undersigned to collaborate and contribute to the success of the Consortium.

hs



Signed on January 16, 2026, at University of Swat.

Vice Chancellor, University of Swat

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, University of Malakand

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, University of Buner

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, SBBU, Sheringal

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, University of Shangla

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, UEAS, Swat

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture, Swat

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, UVAS, Swat

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chancellor, University of Chitral

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal, Saidu Medical College

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_