

**Non-Financial Memorandum of Understanding
between
Zilla Parishad, Pune and
3D Program for Girls and Women, United Nations Foundation, Washington DC
for Convergent Action for Girls and Women**

For implementation of Convergent Action for Girls and Women in the jurisdiction of Zilla Parishad, Pune between the Zilla Parishad, Pune and the 3D Program for Girls and Women, United Nations Foundation, Washington DC (hereby known as the 'parties').

The Zilla Parishad, Pune, and the 3D Program for Girls and Women of the United Nations Foundation have agreed to sign this non-financial Memorandum of Understanding as a statement of intent by the parties to work in collaboration for delivery and management of 'Convergent Action for Girls and Women'.

This MOU is being signed between Shri Ayush Prasad, CEO, Zilla Parishad, Pune and Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, Executive Director, 3D Program for Girls and Women, United Nations Foundation, Washington DC.

Timeframe and Termination

This Memorandum is an extension of an earlier agreement in existence from December 2017 – March 2020, and will be in place from February 2020 – March 2021, with the possibility of a further extension based on mutual written agreement between the parties.

Background on the 3D Program for Girls and Women

The 3D Program for Girls and Women is hosted by the United Nations Foundation. The United Nations Foundation is registered as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization with the United States federal government. The 3D Program for Girls and Women was founded in March 2017 and is working in Pune District and Pune City, Maharashtra State, India.

The goal of the 3D Program for Girls and Women is to advance gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment by facilitating convergent action across stakeholders and sectors to increase economic opportunities for girls and women and address their health, education and safety needs.

Objectives of Memorandum of Understanding

The objective of this non-financial Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a framework for collaboration between the 3D Program for Girls and Women and the Zilla Parishad, Pune to implement Convergent Action for Girls and Women. The areas of collaboration will build on the success of the 3D Program's Village Convergent Planning Committees (VCPCs) implemented in Khed and Purandar talukas, Pune District in partnership with NGOs MASUM, Chaitanya and ICRW Asia.

Specific areas of collaboration

1. Revitalize Mahila Gram Sabhas and strengthen women's leadership in two phases by:

Phase I

- Mobilizing local rural women to attend and participate in Mahila Gram Sabhas, including leveraging the 3D Program's VCPCs and the self-help group (SHG) gram sanghs.

- Ensure their priorities and decisions are taken up in the Gram Sabha.
- Ensure appropriate follow up action is taken at the taluka and district levels.
- Design a rural women's fellows program (Mahila Sanghatika program), based on 3D Program methodology being used in villages in Khed and Purandar talukas, to strengthen women's leadership and participation in local governance processes.

Phase II (contingent on funds raised by the 3D Program)

- Establish and begin to implement the Mahila Sanghatika program in all villages in Khed and Purandar talukas.
 - Collaborate with Village Social Transformation Foundation (VSTF) to begin to scale up the fellowship in 50 more villages across Maharashtra.
- 2. Facilitate data convergence across three departments by piloting the Triple A program in Purandar and Khed talukas.**
 - 3. Provide gender training for Zilla Parishad officials by facilitating two half-day sessions on gender analysis to inform planning and implementation of government programs and schemes.**
 - 4. Pilot convergent solutions to address women's priority issues (such as menstrual hygiene management, job skills and placement programs for rural women, safe transportation, public safety) and strengthen government schemes by:**
 - Collecting data to identify gender-related barriers and gaps in government schemes and services.
 - Designing and implementing convergent solutions to address these barriers and gaps.
 - Providing recommendations to the Zilla Parishad to strengthen government program.
 - 5. Review and analyze budget allocations and expenditures of select departments and schemes for girls and women to identify underutilized resources and maximize efficiencies.**

Roles and Responsibilities

The Zilla Parishad, Pune, under the leadership of the CEO, will administer and monitor the program by:

- Designating officials at the district (Deputy CEO, WCD), block (Block Development Officer) and village (Gram Sevik) levels to provide necessary support to the 3D Program and hold relevant officials accountable.
- Issuing a circular to ensure that Mahila Gram Sabhas are held regularly and decisions made by the Mahila Gram Sabhas are endorsed and implemented.
- Meeting with 3D Program team, Block Development Officers and other required officials on a quarterly basis to ensure the program is on track.

The 3D Program for Girls and Women will:

- Coordinate with the CEO, Zilla Parishad and Block Development Officers to facilitate and implement the program.

- Engage technical partners (civil society organizations, private sector initiatives and public-private initiatives) to implement program activities
- Fundraise to support the rural women’s fellowship (Mahila Sanghatika) program in Phase II
- Document program processes and lessons learned to inform scaling up at the State level

Other Activities

As mutually beneficial opportunities emerge between the Zilla Parishad, Pune and the 3D Program for Girls and Women.

Protection of Intellectual Property Rights

All intellectual property rights associated with the ‘Convergent Action for Girls and Women’ will be shared between the parties.

Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

Taking into consideration the resulting collaborative activities to be undertaken by both the parties in pursuit of this Memorandum, specific arrangements for monitoring and evaluating, reporting results and impact of such activities will be embedded in the terms of reference for each of the proposed activities in a manner that is agreeable to both parties.

Management of Dispute between parties

Any disputes between the parties arising out of or relating to activities under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be discussed in a project review meeting. No decision will be taken without hearing both the parties.

Change in terms

This non-financial Memorandum of Understanding may be modified or amended only by written agreement between the Zilla Parishad, Pune and the 3D Program for Girls and Women. Any party can withdraw from the agreement by providing reasonable reasons with a 60-day notice period.

Authorised Signature and Date

Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta **Date**
Executive Director
3D Program for Girls and Women

Shri Ayush Prasad **Date**
CEO
Zilla Parishad, Pune

Witness

Witness

Signature **Date**

Signature **Date**

*** Note: The CEO agreed to sign the MOU in February 2020 ***