

**BILATERAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL BETWEEN NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY
AND ALPHAZULU ADVOCATES**

PREAMBLE:

Article 1. The agreement on the memorandum of understanding for academic cooperation made and entered into this day 11 / 11 / 2022 between Near East University, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) and AlphaZULU Advocates, UK on the other part.

The Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the “Energy, Environment and Water Research Center” EEWRC-2019 (ENÇESU-2019) of the Near East University, Nicosia, TRNC and the Civil Society Advocacy Arm of AlphaZULU Advocates, UK, in recognition of their common interests in developing bilateral relations and convinced that cooperation between institutes of higher learning and NGO can contribute to cultural enrichment, scientific progress, and the consolidation of friendship between countries, agree to establish the following Memorandum of Understanding.

SCOPE:

Article 2. This protocol is hereby signed between Near East University and AlphaZULU Advocates and covers the scope of joint scientific studies, global public education and cultural cooperation between the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering, ENCESU and AlphaZULU Advocates.

AIM:

Article 3. This protocol takes effect between the TRNC Near East University and AlphaZULU Advocates with the aim of encouraging research, global public education and training activities in line with their mutual interest and the relations and cooperation among practitioners, researchers and students from both research center and NGO, developing the existing ones and ensuring the common use of the results of the research studies and publishing them, sharing and transferring the understanding of education and experiences between the scientific organizations of the parties, realizing the basic purpose of this protocol,

and mutually accepting and undertaking the following articles, and the terms and conditions for the implementation of this protocol.

PARTIES:

Article 4. The parties of this protocol are, on the one hand, TRNC Near East University (Near East Boulevard, 99138, Nicosia/TRNC) and, on the other hand, AlphaZULU Advocates (CAN Mezzanine, 2nd Floor, Treaty Centre, Hounslow, Middlesex, TW3 1ES, United Kingdom).

COOPERATION:

Article 5. Within the framework of the above-mentioned scope of the protocol, the Parties shall realize the areas in which they will cooperate within the framework of the criteria clearly stated below, and shall exchange scientific knowledge, technological knowledge and experience in these fields.

VIRTUAL SDG NUGGET PEER REVIEW HOUR:

Article 6. It will aim to co-host a monthly virtual peer review platform for research students and postdoctoral researchers on SDG-related topics in cooperation with the research center and NGO using the capacities of both research center and NGO and participants from both sides. The language of the SDG Nugget Peer Review Hour is mostly in English and participation is free. The SDG Nugget Peer Review Hour shall be hosted on the 15th day of every month. The Research Center and NGO shall jointly sign certificates of participants.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS:

Article 7. It will aim to hold seminars and workshops with common topics in cooperation with the research center and NGO (online and in person if the conditions are ready) and by using the capacities of both research center and NGO, participants from both sides will participate. The language of the seminars and workshops is mostly in English and the costs (E.g. the registration fee) must be agreed upon by both parties.

CONFERENCES:

Article 8. In the conferences that are jointly held, the other research center / NGO will be displayed as a partner in holding the conference. Also, the capacities of each research center / NGO will be used to invite authors. The researchers / practitioners of the research center / NGO will be used as a scientific committee, and other suggestions for holding the conferences as well as possible will be communicated to each other so that, if interested, the capacities of the parties will be used as much as possible.

HOLDING JOINT COURSES:

Article 9. It will aim to prepare courses with the participation of researchers / practitioners from both sides (online and face-to-face if conditions are available) with the consultation of the parties and considering the common issues between the research center and NGO. The discussion about the platform used to provide the course, costs (E.g. the registration fee) and other matters such as the period of time of the course, and its time of holding must be agreed upon by the parties.

JOINT RESEARCH AND APPLICATION PROJECTS:

Article 10. It will aim to develop and carry out joint research and application projects. In this context, faculty members of both research center and NGO are required to submit joint research and implementation project proposals to the relevant parties in accordance with the following conditions:

- i. A clearly defined description of the proposed research or practice,
- ii. The names of the researchers who will participate in the research / application, the name of the institution / organization they are affiliated to, their positions and resumes in their institutions / organizations,
- iii. Detailed description of the role and functionality of the participants in the project,
- iv. The duration of the research / implementation and the plan divided into phases,
- v. Budget required for research / implementation.

SUPERVISION OF THE PROGRESS OF THE JOINT RESEARCH AND APPLICATION PROJECTS

Article 11. With this protocol, it is aimed to carry out joint research and application projects in a good way and to produce results in accordance with the mutual scientific goodwill that leads to the emergence of the protocol. According to this:

i. In order to determine whether the research and application projects continue in accordance with the conditions and scope of the protocol, it is necessary to identify the authorized persons, from either parties, responsible for the research and application projects and to provide information about the final status of the studies at least once in each academic year, accompanied by a report.

ii. Where necessary, depending on the scale of the research application, a committee may also be constituted using resources from both research center and NGO, and authorized persons, in i above, acting in the capacity of chair and co-chair. an assistant person or committee may be appointed to assist the authorized person.

iii. The authorized persons appointed by the parties shall make the mutual visits necessary for the inclusion of joint works between the research center and NGO. The authorized person(s) collects, examines, evaluates, makes preliminary research and prepares a report on the feasibility of the project and makes proposals regarding the project and submit them to his/her own party.

iv. After the approval of the protocol by the parties, the compliance of the program with the determined working schedule is checked and the required working reports for this audit are requested from the collaborators. A report detailing the audit process - together with the attached reports - is submitted to the department directorate.

v. Studies are carried out to determine the possible research programs in the study areas of both parties and the department directorate is informed about the results and suggestions are presented.

vi. The authorized persons in charge of the research and projects of both research center and NGO and, if any, the auxiliary person and / or their committees come together at appropriate intervals (not more than six months). The meeting place is provided alternately between the parties. Travel expenses are provided by the research center and NGO of participants.

vii. The authorized persons shall be determined within 15 days (at the latest) after the protocol has been signed by the parties and the parties shall inform each other of the authorized persons undertaking the supervision of joint projects.

IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT RESEARCH AND APPLICATION PROJECTS:

Article 12. At the end of each academic year, the scientists involved in the research and who are responsible for the research submit a report to the highest academic and / or administrative authority on their side. The report includes the results obtained and information on the latest status of the research and implementation project, unforeseen developments (if any) related to the project, actual project outputs, and the plan for the next year.

CONCLUSION OF JOINT RESEARCH AND APPLICATION PROJECTS:

Article 13. The results of joint research and application projects shall be delivered to the relevant persons. Relevant persons shall deliver the results to the relevant institutions of their respective research center and NGO. Both departments of the parties will make a special effort to bring the results of these projects into print form and will endeavor to raise funds on this issue.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL AREAS OF COOPERATION:

Article 14. At the end of each calendar year from the signing of this protocol, the research institution and NGO shall jointly develop an annual report, monitoring progress on all areas of cooperation and submit to the highest academic and / or administrative authority on their side.

OTHER PROVISIONS

Article 15. National and international meetings or conferences to be held jointly by the Parties shall be organized by a joint committee of members designated by the Parties.

Article 16. The Parties shall mutually support each other in developing existing institutional research infrastructures.

Article 17. The Parties shall have joint rights to all intellectual properties developed as a result of the implementation of all areas of cooperation

Article 18. Resources of both research center and NGO, may not be interpreted to mean financial resources, but others such as human, technical or physical facilities, except where jointly organized seminars, courses and conferences attract fee payment or where joint research and application projects attract funding.

Article 19. Where funds are to be generated as a result of the implementation of any area of cooperation, the sharing of funds shall be discussed on a case by case basis, commensurate with the level of responsibility of both Parties.

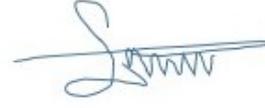
ENFORCEMENT:

Article 20. This Protocol shall enter into force on the date of signature by the authorities of both parties after being ratified by the highest authority to which the parties are bound and shall be valid for a period of five (5) years. 3 months before the end of the protocol, a commission composed of persons determined by the parties shall be convened and the status of the protocol shall be reviewed. According to the decision of the Commission, the protocol will be terminated or its term will be extended for another five (5) years. This protocol consists of twenty (20) articles and seven (7) pages and is prepared in two (2) copies.



05/12/ 2022

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