

Partners In Learning

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

**The Government of Pakistan
(Ministry of Education)**

And

Microsoft, South Gulf FZ, LLC

Article. I

Introduction. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is signed by Ministry of Education Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan (hereinafter referred to as Government of Pakistan), and Microsoft Corporation on this day 20th January, 2004, at Islamabad Pakistan. The MOU aims to improve access to and use of information and communications technology (“ICT”) in primary and secondary schools all over the country. Microsoft and Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan, recognise the value of technology in schools and community access centres, and seek to jointly improve both access to, and skills in the use of ICT for teaching and learning. **Partners in Learning** seeks to achieve this through its 5 years commitment to help:

- Empower schools to significantly raise the level of ICT Literacy amongst their staff.
- Support teachers and schools to develop an internal culture of innovators.
- Work with schools in preparing students for the digital workplace.

Article. II

Purpose of Memorandum of Understanding. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to express the intent of The Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Education and Microsoft South Gulf FZ, LLC. (“Microsoft”) to:

- *Establish an ICT Leadership Forum of key and strategic organizations to help plot a course for creation of an ICT literate society and therefore provide the infrastructure for wealth creation.*
- *Support an ICT Strategy for Education in Pakistan, in collaboration with Development Partners, so that computer hardware and software may be used effectively and affordably to create a digitally literate society for students, teachers, and the wider community.*
- *Promote broad access to ICT skills training throughout schools in Pakistan.*
- *Work to establish a sustainable support network for technical needs of the schools and community technology learning centres.*
- *Introduce Microsoft IT Academy throughout Pakistan.*
- *Promote a Culture of Innovators amongst the Teachers of Pakistan.*
- *Support community based Community Technology Learning Centres (CTLCS), which serve the broader community and lifelong learners through Microsoft’s Unlimited Potential Program.*
- *Support affordable access to software for refurbished PCs through Microsoft’s Fresh Start and the Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher Programs.*

Article. III

Activities. In order to realize these objectives, the Government of Pakistan and Microsoft hereby agree to work together and undertake the following actions:

A - Education ICT Leadership Forum

In partnership with the Ministry of Education, Microsoft will participate in an ICT Leadership Forum and help the Government of Pakistan, to recruit key infrastructure and subject matter expertise to this forum. This would include donors, telecommunications organizations, NGOs, corporations, and key ICT system integrators. The aims of this strategic ICT Leadership Forum would be to advise the Ministry of Education on an ICT blueprint for Pakistan's schools and teacher training institutions, and discuss any other ICT issues germane to the Education Sector including distance education.

The Leadership Forum would create a platform for streamlining various efforts of all the relevant parties to improve the quality of education through ICT in Pakistan. This collaboration could happen over phone, via e-mails or through face-to-face meetings for which participants can fund their own travel expenditures without any reliance on GOP or any other participants of the Forum. The Forum could have anywhere from 6-20 members who have insight and experience of ICT in education and they can be selected by the MOE and other parties who intend to participate in such platform. *There is no financial commitment the GOP has on this initiative.*

B - Microsoft IT Academy

Microsoft IT Academies will be available to all educational institutions in Pakistan. To help kick start this, Microsoft will assist the Government of Pakistan in establishing Microsoft IT Academies at 5 selected provincial institutions, which already have the basic ICT Labs. Infrastructure available and could benefit from such a program. Under the duration of this agreement, Microsoft will commit to funding 5 IT Academies/year, for a total of 25 annual subscriptions to Microsoft IT Academy, IT Pro Plus level. Microsoft will provide training for 2 IT Academy Instructors (MCP level) per institution.

C -Partners in Learning Training Material for Schools

Microsoft also will make available Microsoft IT Academy *Partners in Learning* content to all schools in Pakistan. This includes training material for students, teachers and school leaders on effectively using ICT, and integrating ICT into the school environment. Training materials include modules for ICT literacy, desktop IT skills, teacher mentoring, school administration, junior developers, and more. Microsoft will work to adapt this and/or other training material to meet local needs.

D - Support Centre for ICT in Education

Microsoft Partners in Learning will work with the ICT support center to be based in Islamabad to multiply its support to the broader country. This initiative is proposed in the larger proposal to GOP where Microsoft will establish a support center for GOP and Public Sector Education entities and offer free phone based support on Microsoft software. This support center will be fully funded by Microsoft, given there is an agreement between GOP and Microsoft on the larger proposal. *Partners in Learning* would work to expand the

benefits of the support centre to the provincial level, helping teachers secure technical support for PCs and network infrastructure.

E - Affordable Access to Software

Under Partners in Learning, programs for refurbished and/or donated PCs will be available. Under Microsoft's Fresh Start program, an operating system transfer program for donated Pentium II computers and older is available for no cost. Fresh Start enables schools to register donated PCs and receive free Operating System license for Pentium II and older computers.

The Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher Program can offer refurbishing businesses Microsoft operating systems for exceedingly low cost, enabling them to sell the PCs with high quality software legally, and more affordably to the community. *There is no financial commitment GOP has on this initiative.* The Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher Program will be available to existing Refurbishers in Pakistan and aims to promote knowledge transfer and IT skills development. Program rules would apply, and is available through Microsoft's *Unlimited Potential* Program.

F - Community Technology Learning Centres

Through *Unlimited Potential*, Microsoft will engage with the government to explore opportunities to support existing and/or new community technology learning centres (CTLCs) as a key channel to empower underserved communities through the provision of IT skills training and capacity building programmes. *Unlimited Potential* is a separate global initiative that focuses on improving lifelong learning for underserved young people and adults by providing technology skills through community-based technology learning centers. Microsoft believes that by providing technical skills training to underserved individuals, it can partner to create social and economic opportunities that can change peoples' lives and transform communities.

The activities at such centres could include workforce skills training, entrepreneurship opportunities, micro credit access, and literacy training. Moreover, CTLCs can be used as hubs for accessing e-government services in the future as such services become available. In particular, Microsoft will look for opportunities to support centres which serve small and medium enterprises, train young people who may be out of school in literacy and/or ICT skills, and empower women and the broader community to realize their full potential.

Donations of cash, software, curriculum and technical expertise will enable individuals to learn about technology and gain the IT skills needed for employment in the IT field or other industry sectors. Microsoft will select partners, NGOs on their own merit and standard to decide if they would be eligible for *Unlimited Potential*. *There is no financial commitment GOP has on this initiative.*

Article. IV

Collaboration with Partners. *Partners in Learning* and *Unlimited Potential* will endeavour to work with national and international donor agency to be identified by Ministry of Education. The idea is to identify common objectives and possible areas for mutual support so there is no duplication of efforts. *Partners in Learning* encourages as many partners as practicable for collaboration.

Article.V

Understandings. The following is understood and agreed upon by the parties and their respective agencies:

1. The parties are participating in this effort in full compliance of all appropriate laws and regulations.
1. Through their designated Points of Contact (POC), the parties and their agencies will work to develop a list of mutually agreed upon tasks and incorporate those tasks into a project plan that identifies milestones, tasks resources assigned and scheduled.
2. Through their designated POC, the parties and their agencies will work to develop, as required and appropriate, follow-on agreements needed to facilitate further actions.

Article.VI

Review. The operation of this MOU should be reviewed at the end of the first and each subsequent year from the Effective Date.

Article.VII

Change Management. Once signed and enacted, all changes to the MOU must be agreed to, in writing, by the signatories or their designee.

Article.VIII

Effective Date This MOU is effective upon signature by all parties. It will be effective upto the 30th June, 2008. Either party may terminate this MOU upon the submission of three (3) months prior written notice to the other party informing of its intention to terminate the relationship.

Article.IX

Implementation Plan. The Partners in Learning Education Program Manager will develop an implementation plan for Microsoft's program in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education. This plan will take into consideration local needs, and where Microsoft's contributions can make an important impact. This document will be very fluid and can change and adapt according to outcomes and/or changing priorities. The implementation plan shall be developed within sixty working days from the signing date of this MOU.

Article.X

Legal Status. Notwithstanding the above, nothing in this Memorandum shall be deemed to constitute a legal partnership between the parties and neither party shall have the authority to bind the other party without prior written approval of the other in each and every case.

Article.XI

Stimulating understanding of and respect for intellectual property rights. The Government of Pakistan will communicate to all concerned regarding intellectual property rights vesting in Microsoft and the need to respect these rights. The Microsoft partnership with Ministry of Education Government of Pakistan under this MOU will not be linked with obligatory purchase of specific software.

Article.XII

Nature of this Memorandum. This Memorandum of Understanding is not legally binding and does not constitute a formal award of any contract to Microsoft and it does not constitute an agreement, offer or representation that any such contract will be awarded in accordance with the procedures referred to in this Memorandum, or at all.

Article.XIII

Confidentiality/Publicity. Parties agree that the terms of this MOU are not confidential and can be shared with interested third parties as necessary or expedient.

SIGNATURES:

The Government of Pakistan Ministry of Education	Microsoft South Gulf, FZ, LLC
Name & Designation	Name & Designation
Witnessed by	Witnessed by
Name & Designation	Name & Designation