

Memorandum of Understanding
between
Council of Architecture (COA)
and
Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE)

This Memorandum of Understanding (this "MOU") is entered into between the Council of Architecture (hereafter referred to as "COA") and Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (hereafter referred to as "AEEE") on _____

AEEE and COA are hereinafter referred to as "party" individually and as "parties" collectively.

COA has been constituted under the provisions of the Architects Act, 1972, enacted by the Parliament of India, which came into force on 1st September, 1972. The Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education is the nodal ministry/department of COA. The Act provides for the registration of Architects, standards of education, recognised qualifications, and standards of practice to be complied with by the practicing architects. The Council of Architecture is charged with the responsibility to regulate the education and practice of the profession throughout India besides maintaining the register of architects. For this purpose, the Government of India has framed Rules and the Council of Architecture has framed Regulations as provided for in the Architects Act, with the approval of the Government of India. The COA through its Training and Research Centres works towards conducting various Training Programme for Architect, Faculty members, students and also conducts workshops, seminars and competitions and other activities of professional importance.

AEEE, formed in 2008, works on creating awareness about energy efficiency as a resource, supports policy implementation, and enables the energy efficiency market with a not-for-profit motive. AEEE collaborates with diverse stakeholders such as policymakers, government officials, academia, researchers, business and industry, consumers, and civil society organisations, thereby contributing towards meeting India's goals on energy security, clean energy, and climate change. AEEE promotes data-driven and evidence-based energy efficiency policy research and implementation. Each activity/project and task(s) executed by AEEE falls within the category of "Preservation of Environment". AEEE is jointly conducting SDI.

The Council of Architecture (COA) has its office at India Habitat Centre, Core 6A, 1st Floor, Lodhi Road, New Delhi and Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE) has its office at 37 Link Road, Lajpat Nagar III, New Delhi, collectively referred to as "the Parties" desire to enter into an agreement to establish a partnership with the purpose and conditions laid out in this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

In consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to exchange knowledge and develop capacity for designing and constructing Net Zero buildings in India.



This MOU should not establish or create any type of formal agreement or obligation. Instead, it is an agreement between the Parties to work together in such a manner to encourage an atmosphere of collaboration and alliance in support of an effective and efficient partnership to establish and maintain objectives and commitments with regard to all matters related to the above-mentioned purposes.

2. Objectives

2.1 The Parties have joined hands as Organizations that are keen to collaborate and share knowledge among institutions that impart architectural education in India, leading to better industry-readiness of students. The Parties shall exchange suitable information on the latest developments in their respective areas, in the context of Sustainability and the environment, and work in tandem towards conducting activities/programmes for the benefit of architecture students and institutions.

2.2 The Parties both hope to benefit from the knowledge, skills, and resources of each other, to develop initiatives and market transformation strategies for furthering the energy efficiency, environment protection, and sustainable development goals.

3. Areas of Cooperation

3.1 The Parties shall collaborate on joint activities for the wider reach out and impact of 'SDI (formerly Solar Decathlon India)' which is a **Net Zero Building Challenge for postgraduate and undergraduate students** from Indian institutions to learn and design net zero energy-water, affordable, healthy, and resilient design solutions for real, live projects, to combat Climate Change through the buildings sector.

Within SDI, student teams develop industry-ready solutions for real projects (such as Single-Family Housing, Multi-Family Housing, On-site Construction Worker Housing, Office Building, etc.) with expert mentorship provided during the SDI challenge. SDI is a hands-on, practical, innovation-based challenge to move India's building sector towards implementing net-zero solutions.

SDI is now the largest Net Zero Building Challenge in the world, engaging the highest number of students and faculty among all the Solar Decathlons held across the globe. SDI was initiated in 2020 and is conducted by AEEE and the Indian Institute for Human Settlements.

In this regard,

AEEE, through the organisers of SDI, shall:

- a) Bear responsibility for executing the SDI Challenge, including the following:
 - Carry out outreach activities among architecture colleges for participation in SDI
 - Wherever required, connect student teams with building owners and developers, materials and equipment manufacturers, for the SDI Challenge
 - Formation of a technical resource group to mentor the students
 - Organise webinars by industry experts on technical topics related to building science for the students



- Develop or disseminate self-learning modules, simulation software, competition guide, and other learning materials to faculty and students participating in the SDI Challenge
 - Provide evaluation and feedback on student team submissions done by experts
 - Organise an internship programme for the finalist students
 - Endeavour to provide incentives to students and faculty for undertaking study, research and innovation in the field
- b) Organise Faculty Development Programme(s)
- c) Prepare all the creatives, materials, and collaterals for media and PR activities related to the SDI challenge
- d) Make efforts to scale up the impact of SDI in the future

COA shall:

- a) Work as a knowledge partner and encourage all architectural institutions to participate in SDI initiatives:
- a. so that the students develop Climate Change and Sustainability expertise,
 - b. faculty members develop teaching and mentoring skills
 - c. to provide academic credits for students when SDI is integrated in studio or other courses conducted by the faculty from the college
- b) Allow the use of their logo on SDI website, collaterals, and certificates
- c) Nominate office-bearers to serve on the SDI Jury, participate in strategic discussions and major events.
- d) Recognise faculty members from architectural institutions who attend SDI's FDP under the requirements for career advancement in COA's circular - Guidelines for Career Advancement (Internal Promotion) Scheme for Architecture Teachers (Ref No: CA/5/Academic/2022/Circular-CAS dated 17 Nov, 2022)
- e) Provide certificates to faculty who complete the FDP conducted by SDI organisers
- f) On a best effort basis, encourage lectures by SDI organisers, presentations and exhibition of SDI participants' work, in events organised across India.

3.2 COA & AEEE to consider nominating Speakers with domain expertise to each other's Conferences/Seminars on Sustainability to facilitate the cross-flow of knowledge. Each party to also invite key office-bearers / board members to each other's major events on Sustainability.

3.3 COA & AEEE may also explore collaboration in other projects and programs, beyond SDI, in the domain of sustainable built-environment towards furtherance of the architectural profession and education. This includes decarbonisation initiatives such as mainstreaming climate-aligned building codes and standards, improving building design and operational efficiency, performance tracking, using products and materials with low carbon emissions, etc. The two parties may also engage with each other through pilot demonstrations, case studies, data sharing, peer reviews, and other related research and outreach activities.

The MOU is not intended to create any rights, benefits or trust responsibilities by or between the Parties. The MOU shall not obligate either Party to supply funds to maintain or sustain the activities involved during the collaboration.



4. Term and termination

This MOU will be valid for a period of five (5) consecutive years from the date of signing of this MOU by both Parties and thereafter, shall be renewed for a further period of up to 5 years upon mutual written consent from both Parties.

In case any of the Parties wishes to terminate the MOU, a written termination notice should be sent to the other Party. This notice should be sent at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of intention to terminate. In the event of termination, both Parties will take the appropriate steps to bring activities under this MOU to a prompt and orderly conclusion.

5. Intellectual Property Rights

Neither Party shall use the Intellectual Property of the other Party in any manner whatsoever, without the prior written consent of the other Party.

6. Privileges and immunities

No provision of this MOU will be construed so as to in any way interfere with the independent decision-making autonomy of the Parties, with regard to their respective mandate, activities, and operations.

This MOU in no way restricts the Parties from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organisations, and individuals.

No financial commitment is expected from either Party as a result of this MOU.


7. Dispute settlement

Any differences arising out of the interpretation, application, and implementation of this MOU shall be settled amicably through good faith consultations and negotiations underpinned by principles of transparency and trust.

8. Entire MOU

This MOU, together with any attachments, constitutes the entire understanding between the Parties with respect to its subject matter and supersedes all prior understandings and representations, whether written or oral, relating to its subject matter. In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of this MOU, and other written or oral understanding between the Parties, the provisions of this MOU shall govern. No amendment to this MOU will be effective unless in writing and signed by duly authorised representatives of each party.



<p>Authorised signatory for Council of Architecture (COA)</p> <p><i>Ar. Abhay Vinayak Purohit</i></p> <hr/> <p>Ar. Abhay Vinayak Purohit President</p> <p>Date:</p>	<p>Authorised signatory for Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE)</p> <p><i>Dr. Satish Kumar</i></p> <hr/> <p>Dr. Satish Kumar President and Executive Director</p> <p>Date:</p> 
<p>Witness</p> <p><i>Rajeshwar</i></p> <p>RAJESHWAR SHARMA SECRETARY, COA</p>	<p>Witness</p> <p><i>Pramod</i></p> <p>PRAMOD KUMAR SINGH</p>