

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN**  
**Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE)**  
**AND**  
**Centre for Environment Education, India (CEE)**

4 November 2005

**I. PARTIES**

This document constitutes an agreement between the Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) and the Centre for Environment Education, India (CEE), both not-for-profit environmental education associations.

**II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to strengthen the relationship and develop a constructive connection between the two associations.

Through this MOU, the signatories recognise each other as important organisations in the national effort to improve environmental - including marine – education and move towards more sustainable practices.

**III. BACKGROUND**

**1. Australian Association for Environmental Education**

The Australian Association for Environmental Education Inc. (AAEE) is the peak professional association for environmental educators in Australia. It has built strong relationships in Australia with government agencies, all levels of governments and a wide cross-section of non-government organisations. AAEE has a national executive and a chapter in each state and territory.

The objectives of the AAEE are to:

- Promote environmental education as defined by UNESCO/UNEP.
- Promote co-ordination among bodies engaged in environmental education and training.
- Co-operate and/or affiliate with any other bodies with similar aims for the more effective furtherance of these aims.
- Promote the co-operation of relevant voluntary organisations and statutory bodies, incorporated bodies and individuals.
- Publish, distribute, and disseminate matters arising out of and in connection with the Association and its objects.
- Hold conferences, meetings, seminars and gatherings to promote the objects of the Association.

- Publish regularly a journal to promote the objects of the Association.
- Lobby and advocate for environmental education.

## **2. Centre for Environment Education**

The Centre for Environment Education is a premier organization in the field of environmental education with over 30 offices across India and international offices in Australia and Sri Lanka. CEE is committed to promoting Environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development through the development of materials, programs and capacity building efforts in India and internationally. CEE hosted the first international conference of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development in January 2005 which was attended by over 900 educators and experts from 50 countries. CEE has received the 2005 Global Award for outstanding service to Environmental Education from the NAAEE (North American Association of Environmental Education), works in over 44,000 schools in India and internationally and manages 173 projects in 550 villages in India with a direct impact on over 525000 people. CEE interacts with a wide range of NGOs in its capacity as the National Host Institution for the UNDP GEF Small Grants Program in India as well as Coordinator of several of the Government of India's national environment education programs.

The objectives of CEE are to:

- Promote education for sustainable development and actively participate in the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD).
- Develop, trial, publish and disseminate materials for Environmental Education and ESD.
- Develop, manage and document projects and programs for EE and ESD.
- Promote knowledge management and networking for EE and ESD.
- Create capacity through training and education for EE and ESD.
- Promote co-ordination and cooperation among bodies engaged in environmental education and training.
- Co-operate and/or affiliate with any other bodies with similar aims for more effective furtherance of these aims.
- Promote the co-operation of relevant voluntary organisations and statutory bodies, incorporated bodies and individuals.
- Publish, distribute, and disseminate materials on EE and ESD.
- Hold conferences, meetings, seminars and gatherings to promote EE and ESD.
- Publish journals, produce films and other materials in order to promote EE and ESD.
- Lobby and advocate for education for sustainable development.

#### **IV. MUTUAL INTEREST OF THE PARTIES**

The AAEE and CEE have a number of mutual interests. Specifically, these are to:

- Maintain a high level of services and benefits to members – and partners, as the case may be – including such things as: distribution/sharing of information and resources; holding regular meetings and workshops; and convening conferences.
- Publish regular newsletters and journals that promote and support the objectives of each association.
- Provide greater coordination of environmental and sustainability education and improve the sharing of resources across Australia and the Asia Pacific Region.
- Promote greater coordination of environmental education and training.
- Cooperate and/or affiliate with any other organisations to improve communication channels and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Create networking and professional development opportunities and education.
- Promote networking and cooperation between Australia and India for ESD.
- Develop a common resource pool on ESD for the region.

#### **V. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES**

This MOU identifies the following areas where AAEE and CEE agree to support each other:

##### **1. Communication and Promotion**

- Exchange annual calendar of events, including conferences, tours, timing for distribution of journals and newsletters and deadlines for information input.
- Share information and provide opportunities to distribute information to each other's networks through cross-promotions in newsletters and other communication channels.
- Establish a reciprocal arrangement where relevant activities of each association/network are given space upon request in newsletters or journals.

- Establish links to each other's websites.
- Promote each other at association conferences (e.g. brochure in conference satchel).
- On-sell each other's publications and resources to members at membership rates.

### 2. Conference Support

- Provide planning advice and professional input for conferences where requested.
- Provide controlled access to membership lists for marketing of conferences, seminars and workshops.
- AAEE and CEE members access conference and workshop registrations at the membership rates.
- Extend a formal invitation to speak and waive the conference attendance fees for the Association President or a nominated Association representative.

### 3. Joint Activities

- Seek opportunities to hold joint conferences, meetings, events and networking opportunities.
- Investigate opportunities for cooperative ventures that meet the objects of the Associations and build capacity of members.
- Investigate opportunities for collaborative professional development and training.

## **VI. MEMBER BENEFITS**

This MOU will benefit AAEE and CEE members through the following:

- Improved links to each other's professional networks.
- Opportunity for members to establish professional contacts in a like organization.
- Provision of new communication opportunities to share information.
- Access to resources at reduced rates.
- Opportunities to participate in collaborative activities.

## **VII. EQUITABLE APPORTIONMENT OF COSTS**

The costs of this activity are equitably apportioned, and each party shall bear the costs of its own activities under this Agreement.

**VIII. PERIOD OF AGREEMENT AND  
MODIFICATION/TERMINATION**

This Agreement will become effective when signed by both parties. The Agreement will be formally reviewed and updated on an annual basis, but may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the parties. Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing one hundred twenty (120) days written notice to the other party. It is agreed to consider affiliate memberships for the 06/07 Agreement.

**IX. PRIMARY CONTACTS**

The primary contacts for this MOU will be as follows:

CEE: Prithi Nambiar, Executive Director, CEE Australia.

AAEE: Phil Smith, Vice President, AAEE.

This MOU is ratified by the following signatures:

**Grahame Collier**

**Kartikeya Sarabhai**

**President**

AAEE

Date

**Director**

CEE

Date