



Prot. 502/V0318
del. 12.09.2011.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

The National Council of Science Museums, having its Headquarters at Sector V, Block-GN, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata-700 091, hereby represented by Mr. Ganga S. Rautela, Director General;

AND

Fondazione IDIS-Città della Scienza having its office at 104, Coroglio St., 80124 Napoli, hereby represented by Mr. Vincenzo Lipardi, Executive Committee;

GRANTED THAT

- On the 13th of June, 2011, the City of Naples and the City of Kolkata signed a Twinning Agreement between Naples and Kolkata established on reciprocal friendship and brotherhood feelings to promote the relationship development in economical, cultural and social fields;
- The City of Naples will host in summer 2013 the Universal Forum of Cultures, world meeting about peace, solidarity and intercultural dialogue;
- Fondazione IDIS-Città della Scienza is a non-profit-making institution working on scientific culture diffusion, on the promotion of the use of science and technology. The foundation has established and is managing in the Bagnoli area in Naples an integrated structure called "Città della Scienza";
- The National Council of Science Museums, the network of Science Centres operating in India and in the world, has been working on promotion of science communication aimed at popularization of science and scientific awareness through non-formal education of science to the people in general and students in particular.

It is hereby agreed as follows:



The institutions mentioned herein above, due to their common set of principles and objectives will sign this Protocol Agreement regulated as follows:

1. The preliminary remarks are part of this Protocol.
2. This Protocol Agreement aims to orderly and systematically regulate the co-operation among the institutions that are signing it in order to achieve the educational project described at no. 3.
3. The project addresses to scientific communities, schoolteachers, children and teenagers living in these two large, divergent but fascinating metropolitan areas. Both linked by the serious issues they live, they show at the same time a rare cultural vitality within the Indian and the Italian context. Moreover, they are connected by their common will of redemption, which is mostly outstanding within education and culture. The project arises from the need of establishing a scientific and technological connection between these two communities starting from the already existing communication on a scientific and technological basis and on the existence of a Science City both in Naples and Kolkata, two interactive museums that are visited every year by a very large number of young people and students.

First stage of the project:

Setting-up of a teaching workshop in both the Science Cities, specifically planned and set-up for this project and experimentation within schools, on the topics of: Nanotechnologies/Nanosciences and Renewable energy and resources.

The first stage shall include the following actions:

- *Setting-up of the teaching workshops in both Cities of Science.*
- *Planning and developing the teaching programmes for students based on the need of both Science Cities.*
- *Training of the teachers.*
- *Testing of the project in the schools.*



- *Cross experimentation on the web.*
- *Results assessment.*

Second stage of the project:

Diffusion of the project scheme and activities exchange between Italy and India.

The second stage of the project includes following actions:

- *Launching of a competition among the participating schools*
- *Winners selection on a local basis*
- *Final event in Naples and Kolkata with the participation of the winners.*

Objectives of this project are:

1. **To enhance the Naples and Kolkata's prospective within scientific communication:** to recognize and improve already existing paths in these two cities, that are using science and technology as possible productive factors as well as primary components of everyday cultural life of all citizens and prepare them not only as experts but also to face important social and economical problems.
2. **To promote the intercultural dialogue based on the diffusion of scientific and technological culture** in two important world areas through the set-up and enhancing permanent relationship among science centres and schools, highlighting the importance of scientific and technological culture in the urban development.
3. **To set-up a network to link cultural institutions and citizens towards the Universal Forum of Cultures 2013:** this project is only the first step towards 2013, when Naples will be the meeting point of people and cultures from all over the world.
4. To design, develop and use easy to handle teaching materials on the subject of Nanotechnology to enhance understanding of science among the people including the students.



The activities developed during the project will also involve the families of the students through social activities and all visitors of both science centres.

5. Both the Science Cities will host the workshop in adequate areas and a team of management and scientific staff will be devoted to the development of the project. The two institutions will be responsible for the costs of the activities developed in their centres and will work to collect further resources, hopefully involving other public and private partners.
6. A workgroup, formed by selected participants representing the signing institutions, will guarantee the implementation of the project, including the preparation of an executive plan detailing technical and organizational aspects, other partners, time-line and costs of the project.

The above is read, approved and signed by the Parties herein.

Ganga S. Rautela
Director General
National Council of Science Museums
Kolkata (India)

Vincenzo Lipardi
Executive Committee
Fondazione IDIS-Città della Scienza
Naples (Italy)