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(Accredited by NAAC)

GU/DTT/DI3P/GUIISS/55/2024/238

Date: 21/05/2024

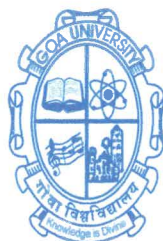
## NOTIFICATION

It is notified for the information of all the concerned that the Academic Council and Executive Council of Goa University have approved the Goa University Innovation, Incubation and Start-up Scheme (GUIISS). This scheme serves in guiding, nurturing and implementing innovation, incubation and start-up ecosystem on the Goa University campus.

  
(Prof. V.S. Nadkarni)  
**REGISTRAR**

Copy to:

1. The Secretary to Hon'ble Governor of Goa and Chancellor of Goa University, Dona Paula – Goa.
2. The Vice Chancellor, Goa University.
3. The Director, Directorate of Higher Education, Govt. of Goa, Goa Education Complex, Alto, Porvorim-Goa.
4. Goa Start-up Promotion Cell.
5. The Principal of all affiliated Colleges.
6. The Deans of Schools on Campus.
7. Director, Directorate of Research Development & Resource Mobilization- (RDRM), Goa University.
8. Director, Directorate of Internships, Incubation and Industry Partnership (DI3P), Goa University.
9. Directors of University Directorates.
10. Goa Government Ministry of Industry.
11. Goa Government Ministry of Information.
12. Chairperson, GCCI
13. Chairperson, Research Park Committee.
14. Chairperson, GUIISS.
15. Director, Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance, Goa University.
16. Office file.
17. Guard file.



## Goa University Innovation, Incubation, and Start-up Scheme

### **1. Preamble**

Goa University with its impeccable research track record and expert faculties offers a perfect crucible for creating innovation and entrepreneurship in Goa. Goa needs inculcation of innovation and entrepreneurial culture. This policy serves in guiding, nurturing and implementing innovation, incubation, and start-up ecosystem on the Goa University campus.

To facilitate the implementation of this policy, Goa University will establish a research park, known as **Goa University Research Park** with dedicated infrastructure and incubators to promote innovation, incubation and Start-up programmes.

This policy defines preferred approaches, anticipated outcomes, and potential impacts at both micro and macro scales, spanning short and long-term durations. It encompasses elements concerning Intellectual Property Rights, revenue-sharing frameworks, guidelines for technology transfer and commercialization, equity distribution, and related facets. Strategies for resource mobilization will be devised to bolster support for pre-incubation, incubation infrastructure, and ancillary facilities. It elucidates the role of startups in fortifying institutional infrastructure and methodologies that foster innovation. Furthermore, it elucidates the innovation pipeline and avenues available for entrepreneurial ventures within the institution, alongside educational approaches and interventions fostering entrepreneurship. The policy seeks to facilitate business collaborations and knowledge exchange through a scheme, known as **Goa University Innovation, Incubation and Start-up Scheme (GUIISS)**. Aligned with Goa University IPR statutes encompassing intellectual property ownership management, and technology licensing, this policy strives to catalyse a startup revolution at Goa University.

### **2. Objectives**

- (i) To create innovation, incubation and start-up ecosystems.
- (ii) To encourage, facilitate, and support innovators and entrepreneurs, for creating self-sustainable business models.
- (iii) To identify innovators, promote and support them.
- (iv) To actively support any potential innovator in Goa to participate in innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) related activities, thus encouraging start-ups and entrepreneurship as a career option.

### **3. Thrust areas**

Keeping in mind the realisation of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Swayampurna Goa, the following thrust areas are identified: Smart cities, urban management, mining, tourism and

hospitality, food, agriculture, pharmaceutical, gaming, waste management, renewable energy, education, health care, communication, entertainment, aquaculture, mariculture or any other relevant areas identified by Goa University for the societal upliftment of Goa.

#### **4. Goa University Research Park**

A dedicated space consisting of a cluster of office spaces, laboratories, workrooms and meeting areas and facilities such as teleconferencing facilities, Meeting/Conference rooms with projection equipment common secretarial pool/staff to facilitate innovation, research and development in all areas of science including human and social sciences and technology. This dedicated space with all its facilities will be known as Goa University Research Park.

In addition, the Research Park will consist of incubation facilities focussing on particular areas of interest to promote business collaborations and knowledge exchange. At first, the following three incubators will be a part of the Research Park.

- (i) Bio-incubator for supporting the development of innovative and creative processes or products using biological entity or part thereof. This facility will support startups in the fields of agriculture, fishery, energy, food, and allied sectors.
- (ii) Health incubator for developing innovative products and services for human health and pharmaceutical sectors with the purpose of drug discovery and development, disease detection and diagnostics, therapeutics, disease prevention and control, hygiene, etc.
- (iii) IT incubator for developing innovative products and services in artificial intelligence, robotics, networks, IT solutions, etc.

#### **5. Incubation Categories**

##### **(a) Pre-Incubation Stage /Category-I**

In this stage, innovators primarily identify the ideas that can successfully go through the incubation process. This phase of pre-incubation prepares entrepreneurs for the incubation phase by providing them with prerequisite skills and knowledge that will help them validate and assess their ideas as well as define their business model in detail.

In the pre-incubation planning phase, activities such as Identification of problem, Idea generation, Collection of Ideas, Screening of Ideas, Supporting, mentoring and strengthening of ideas, Business plan preparation, Prototype development, Basic Idea testing, consolidation and validation of Promoters Details, Registration of Start-up, and Admission to Incubator/ Co-working Space, are to be performed.

Any potential innovator having the intent of trying out a novel technological idea for up-gradation to a commercial proposition, scaling up a laboratory-proven concept, and setting up a technology business enterprise qualifies for a pre-incubation project.

The Category I innovators must have an idea and they shall undergo the pre-incubation stage.

The potential innovator is expected to commercialize the technology and graduate to Category II within 1 year from the beginning of the pre-incubation.

**(b) Incubation Stage /Category-II**

The incubation stage envisages a technology-based Start-up Company promoted by first-generation entrepreneurs, desirous of R&D partnership with Goa University or an institute or an industry, with the objective of commercializing a novel technological idea, scaling up a laboratory-proven concept and setting up a technology business enterprise.

The incubation stage involves the following activities:

- (i) The potential innovator has to come out with a prototype that solves the specified problem statement.
- (ii) The solution should be innovative.
- (iii) The proposal of the innovative solution should be uploaded on the Goa University website.
- (iv) This solution must be in Technology Readiness Level 4 (TRL4) or above. (TRL as defined by National Innovation and Startup Policy 2019 for Students and Faculty, Ministry of Education, Government of India).
- (v) Each group has to prepare a prototype or design, if necessary, under the mentorship of a faculty. The prototype must adhere to minimum Technology Readiness Level 3 (TRL3). Goa University may permit to use of its laboratory facilities to the groups to prepare the prototype. Due permission from the concerned officials of Goa University has to be obtained by the innovators to use the laboratory facilities.
- (vi) The prototype shall be evaluated by a Committee, consisting of experts from within and outside the University, appointed by the Vice-Chancellor. The evaluation will be based on potency, market value, etc. The committee shall also decide on the eligibility of support from Goa University, its continuation and any extension beyond the maximum time stated in this policy. whether it is eligible for continued support from Goa University.
- (vii) Once the idea/prototype is eligible for start-up as decided by the committee, it should be registered as a start-up under the form of a business entity like Partnership Firm, Limited Liability Partnership, Private Limited Company or One Person Company. Start-ups should provide a copy of the registration certificate/letter to Goa University.

**6. Eligibility criteria for Goa University to support start-ups**

- a. Any student, research fellow, faculty member, staff, alumni of Goa University and any interested innovator from Goa are eligible to incubate their ideas or start-ups. The innovator can be an individual or a team of the above categories of individuals.
- b. A company, except Category I innovators seeking to incubate at the Goa University Research Park, has to register as a start-up with the Registrar of Companies as per The Start-up Policy of the Government of Goa.
- c. A grace period of six months from the date of admission to Goa University Research Park may be given to companies migrating from Category I to Category II to register themselves as a start-up.

## **7. Admission Procedure**

- a. To avail admission to the Goa University Research Park under GUISS, the innovator shall register through the link provided to the Goa University website ([www.unigoa.ac.in](http://www.unigoa.ac.in)) or YUKTI Portal (<https://yukti.mic.gov.in/>) of the Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- b. Innovators shall submit the details about ideas, registration certificates, any other licences as mandated by law in any particular sector etc. as per the category I or II in the specified format.
- c. The confirmation of application shall be notified on the Goa University website.
- d. The proposal shall be evaluated by an expert committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor, Goa University, and the decision shall be notified on the Goa University website. The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding on the innovator

## **8. Nurturing Innovation and start-ups**

Goa University through GUISS shall provide support for the easy creation and nurturing of start-ups, such as:

- (i) Admission to the Research Park and access to common infrastructural facilities and facilities available in the incubators.
- (ii) Access to pre-incubation and incubation support on mutually acceptable terms and conditions.
- (iii) Access to the infrastructural facilities available in the incubators and common/shared infrastructure in the Research Park to the start-ups. Goa University may also explore the possibility of having MOUs with other institutions and industries in the state and provide access to the certain infrastructure for facilities covered under the MOU to the start-ups.
- (iv) Facilitate access to the laboratories and other resources of Goa University for their product development purposes on a payment basis.
  - a. Access to resources in the laboratories and other resources shall be through a request made in writing to the concerned officials of the Goa University.
  - b. Usage of the laboratories and other resources should not conflict with the regular teaching and research activities of the University.
  - c. The University reserves the right to decide, on a case-to-case basis, the rent to be charged for the facilities extended to the start-up.
- (v) Access to Support Services such as:
  - a. Pool of mentors, experts in technology, legal, financial and related matters.
  - b. Organizing events to help companies in networking and showcasing their technologies.
- (vi) Training to start-up companies by coordinating with other incubators, allied partners and training providers.
- (vii) Permit the innovators to take a license on the technology developed and co-developed by them on easy terms either in terms of equity in the venture and/or license fees/royalty/one-time settlement, to obviate the early-stage financial burden.

## **9. Participation of Goa University students and faculty in the Start-ups**

- (i) Students and faculty members will be permitted to work on a part-time basis on their innovative projects and start-ups, on a case-to-case basis.
- (ii) The faculty shall seek approval of Goa University for engagement with the start-up. The faculty member must apply for approval for engagement with the start-up and the start-up must enter into an agreement with Goa University. Such an agreement should establish the mode of engagement of the faculty members with the start-up besides including the Goa University's technology/intellectual property being licensed to the start-up.
- (iii) Student Entrepreneurs shall be eligible to earn academic credits for their Dissertation by working on innovative prototypes/Business Models, with the approval of the Board of Studies in the respective subject.
- (iv) The student innovator may also be allowed to opt for a start-up in lieu of their mini project/major project, seminars, and summer training. The area in which the innovator wants to initiate a start-up may be interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary. Assessment of the work done as a start-up will be as per the ordinance applicable to the student.
- (v) Student incumbents pursuing entrepreneurial ventures while studying would be allowed to use the University address to register their company with due written permission from the University.
- (vi) Student incumbents may be given relaxation in the requirement of attendance to appear for examination, on a case-to-case basis.
- (vii) Students may be permitted to take a semester/year break to work on their start-ups and re-join academics to complete the course, as per the provisions of the existing UG/PG/PhD Ordinances.
- (viii) Faculty members shall be allowed to take off for a semester/year (or even more depending upon the decision of the review committee constituted by the University) as unpaid leave, as per the provisions of the Statute SB-15, for working on start-ups and joining back. The seniority and other academic benefits during such period shall be preserved for such staff or faculty.

## **10. Facilitation of the start-up activities**

Goa University shall facilitate the start-up activities in the following manner:

- (i) Providing exposure to innovators through Short-term/six-month/ one-year part-time entrepreneurship training.
- (ii) Providing mentorship support on a regular basis.
- (iii) Facilitating technology development, ideation, creativity, design thinking, fundraising, financial management, cash-flow management, new venture planning, business development, product development, product costing, marketing, brand development, human resource management as well as law and regulations impacting a business.

- (iv) Linking the start-ups to other seed-fund providers/ angel funds/ venture capital funds.
- (v) Setting up Seed-fund through Goa State Research Foundation or any other agencies.
- (vi) License University's Intellectual Property.

## **11. Conditions**

- (i) In return for the services and facilities, Goa University shall take a 2% equity/ stake in the start-up/Entrepreneur, for brand use, faculty contribution, the support provided, and use of the institute's IPR.
- (ii) In case of a start-up by one of its faculty members, Goa University shall take not more than 5% of the shares.
- (iii) Goa University shall execute a written agreement with the entrepreneur/start-up separately regarding the services provided and the equity model to be followed.
- (iv) In the case of a compulsory equity model, the Start-up can avail of a cooling period of 3 months to use incubation services on a rental basis to make a final decision based on satisfaction of services offered by the Goa University/incubator. In that case, during the cooling period, Goa University shall not force the start-up to issue equity on the first day of granting incubation support.
- (v) The Goa University shall also provide services based on a mixture of equity, and/or fee-based.
- (vi) Alumni and superannuated staff of Goa University can avail of the incubation facility of Goa University.
- (vii) Participation of the faculty members in the innovation and start-up, in addition to the normal duties, shall be considered for evaluating the annual performance under the appropriate criterion as per the Goa University Statutes.
- (viii) Goa University shall prepare, announce, and update the list of probable mentors along with their expertise from time to time.
- (ix) The start-up project shall be given a maximum of 3 years' time and shall be extendable by 2 years subject to assessment and approval by the expert committee. The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding on the innovators in all respects.

## **12. Intellectual Property Rights**

SA-39 shall be applicable for governing Intellectual Property, trademark and copyright of the innovation and start-up. The IPR shall be jointly owned by the Innovators and GU and shall be governed by Statute SA- 39 of GU as amended from time to time. In case of any dispute on ownership of the IPR wherein the GU's facilities/funds were used, the Governing Committee shall examine the issue and finally settle and decide on the ownership of IPR. The decision of the Governing Committee shall be final and binding on all the parties.

### **13. Exit Option / Termination**

- (i) An innovator may prematurely Exit from the scheme. Those who voluntarily exit shall submit an application citing the reasons for the same.
- (ii) The university may terminate an innovator from the scheme due to the following reasons: inconsistency, voluntary withdrawal, domestic reasons, infringement, integrity issues, violation of terms stipulated in the Policy/Scheme, and any undesirable terms etc. The decision to terminate the scheme, for whatever reasons, shall be based on the recommendation of the Committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor.

### **14. Governing Committee**

There shall be a Governing Committee consisting of the following members to make important decisions pertaining to the GUISS.

- (i) Vice Chancellor - Chairman
- (ii) Director RDRM - Member
- (iii) Director IQAC - Member
- (iv) Convener, Human Ethics Committee – Member
- (v) Convener, Animal Ethics Committee – Member
- (vi) Member Secretary, Institutional Bio Safety Committee - Member
- (vii) Registrar - Member
- (viii) Finance Officer - Member
- (ix) Director- DIIP – Member Secretary

The Members of the Committee shall serve a tenure for up to three years and can be re-appointed for further periods.

### **15. Settlement of dispute:**

Normally it is expected that no dispute will arise in the assignment. Should any dispute arise, the same shall be amicably settled by the Dispute Resolution Committee constituted by both the parties. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall consist of Senior representatives of the Goa University who shall be nominated by the Vice Chancellor of the Goa University and the representative of the aggrieved party. The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding on the parties and no appeal shall lie against the decision of the Vice Chancellor.



**16. Jurisdiction:**

Any dispute arising out of or in relation to the terms of this Policy shall be subject to the Courts jurisdiction at Panaji Goa.

This Goa University Innovation, Incubation and Start-up Scheme (GUIISS) is approved by the competent authority of Goa University and notified on 21/05/2024

  
(Prof. V. S. Nadkarni)  
Registrar