



**Intergovernmental Institution for the use of Micro-algae Spirulina Against Malnutrition  
Permanent Intergovernmental Observer to the United Nations Economic and Social Council**

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***“There are people in the world so hungry that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread”***

***Mahatma Gandhi***

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***Official Press Release***

**IIMSAM explores avenues of cooperation with the University of Oxford,  
United Kingdom for the IIMSAM-KSF Model of Grassroots Development**



(IIMSAM's Special Envoy to South Asia H.E. Ambassador Manish Uprety with Mr. Stephan Chambers, Director Said Business School, and Mr. Vikrant Sandal, Chairman of Hash Biotech Labs Pvt. Ltd, India at Pembroke College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom)

**(United Nations Headquarters, New York, 22nd May 2009)** To realize its ambition of a world free of malnutrition and hunger, and to empower small and marginalized farmers through IIMSAM-KSF Model for Grassroots Development, IIMSAM explored an alliance with the University of Oxford, United Kingdom.

H.E. Ambassador Manish Uprety, IIMSAM's Special Envoy to South Asia and a Special Emissary of the IIMSAM Director General H.E. Ambassador Remigio Maradona along with Mr. Vikrant Sandal, Chairmain Hash Group of Companies met with Mr. Stephan Chambers, Director-Said Business School, University of Oxford to discuss and sort out the possible avenues of cooperation between IIMSAM and the University of Oxford.

IIMSAM-KSF model for Grassroots Development is developed by H.E. Ambassador Manish Uprety along with the noted Hash Biotech Labs Private Limited- an IIMSAM Official Working Partner and

Technology Facilitator and the Kanwaljit Sandal Foundation from the Republic of India. It is a unique self-sustainable micro-entrepreneurship programme based on Spirulina cultivation by the farmers. Kanwaljit Sandal Foundation (KSF) is named after an eminent social and peace activist, and renowned educationist Late Prof. Kanwaljit Sandal from Dasuya, district Hoshiyarpur of Punjab in India.

IIMSAM-KSF Model for Grassroots Development shall have an essential component of a unique Spirulina buy-back guarantee scheme that shall safeguard the economic interest of small and marginal farmers while continually upgrading the scientific inputs in the cultivation. It has a specific relevance for countries where land holdings are getting smaller with each passing generation and also a tool of socio-economic empowerment in countries where debt ridden poor farmers are committing suicide.

Spirulina that was declared as the *best food for the future* by the United Nations World Food Conference in the year 1974 holds tremendous potential to eradicate malnutrition, achieve food security and bridge health divide especially in the context of developing and the least developed countries.

IIMSAM-KSF Model for Grassroots Development shall be implemented in a phased manner across the developing world.



**H.E. Ambassador Remigio Maradona, Director General of IIMSAM stated-** *I am confident that the globally renowned University of Oxford shall help IIMSAM academically explore its approaches and programmes so that we could fine tune them to realize our ambition of a world free of malnutrition and hunger.*

*The University of Oxford, which is the oldest university in the English speaking world and institution in itself as a knowledge partner of IIMSAM shall provide its knowledge inputs when the IIMSAM-Kanwaljit Sandal Foundation(KSF) Model for Grassroots Development is launched across the developing world.*

*I congratulate Mr. Stephan Chambers, Mr. Vikrant Sandal and our Ambassador Manish Uprety who envisioned to develop this unique partnership that once accomplished shall not only play a significant role to eradicate malnutrition but also secure the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in the Developing and the Least Developed countries. It shall also be a humble medium to realize the noble vision of late Prof. Kanwaljit Sandal for a better world and humane society where the basic needs of all are fulfilled.*

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