



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

AMUDAT DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT

AND

STAND FOR DIGNITY UGANDA (SDU)

**FOR COLLABORATION ON INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,
LIVELIHOODS, DIGITAL INCLUSION, ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL
TRANSFORMATION**

I. PARTIES

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into between:

1.1 Amudat District Local Government (hereinafter referred to as “the District”), a local government established under the laws of the Republic of Uganda, with its headquarters in Amudat District; and

1.2 Stand for Dignity Uganda (SDU) (hereinafter referred to as “SDU”), a community-focused development organisation working with communities and partners to promote dignity, inclusion, livelihoods, skills, protection and sustainable development.

The District and SDU are collectively referred to as “the Parties” and individually as “a Party”.

2. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Amudat District Local Government is responsible for coordinating local public service delivery and development within the District. Its institutional functions include Finance and Planning, Education, Health, Natural Resources, Community Based Services, Works and Technical Services, and Production and Marketing. These functions provide a basis for collaboration on livelihoods, skills, community empowerment, enterprise development, health, environmental management and local development.

The District’s development priorities include improving household incomes and livelihoods, strengthening access to markets, empowering women and youth, supporting agricultural production, improving education and health outcomes, strengthening water and environmental management, promoting community participation and implementing relevant Government programmes.

SDU works with communities in Karamoja and Teso on food security and sustainable livelihoods, youth and women’s empowerment, business incubation and mentorship, digital skills, WASH, environmental and climate resilience, human rights and civic engagement, protection and safeguarding, and peacebuilding and conflict prevention. SDU has experience supporting young people and communities with digital literacy, enterprise development, community mobilisation, leadership and practical skills.

The Parties recognise that sustainable local development requires collaboration between Local Government, communities, civil society organisations, private-sector actors, development partners, financial institutions and other stakeholders. The proposed Amudat Innovation & Leadership Centre shall be one area of collaboration under this broader partnership and provide a practical platform for skills, enterprise support, leadership, digital inclusion, innovation, mentorship, networking and access to markets, finance and opportunities.

3. PURPOSE OF THE MoU

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a framework for cooperation between the District and SDU for inclusive community development and local transformation.

This MoU provides a framework for joint planning and implementation, community mobilisation, technical collaboration, knowledge sharing, institutional strengthening, partnership development and resource mobilisation. It is a master institutional agreement; specific programmes, projects, facilities or funding arrangements may be implemented through annual work plans, project-specific agreements, addenda, letters of collaboration or other instruments agreed by the Parties.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTNERSHIP

- Strengthen collaboration in addressing locally identified development priorities.
- Promote inclusive livelihoods, entrepreneurship, employability, digital inclusion and economic participation among youth, women and other community groups.
- Support access to information, skills, innovation, markets, business development services and finance-readiness opportunities.
- Strengthen community participation, leadership, accountability, social cohesion and protection of vulnerable groups.
- Complement Government programmes and District priorities without duplicating or replacing statutory Government functions.
- Mobilise technical, financial, knowledge and other resources for agreed development interventions.
- Promote innovation and practical solutions to local development challenges.
- Generate evidence and learning to inform local development planning and scale-up.

5. AREAS OF COLLABORATION

5.1 Food Security, Sustainable Livelihoods and Agricultural Development – Sustainable livelihoods, climate-smart agriculture, agroecology, agricultural value chains, household enterprise development, market linkages and financial literacy.

5.2 Youth and Women's Empowerment – Skills, leadership, entrepreneurship, employability, enterprise development, financial literacy, mentorship and access to opportunities.

5.3 Entrepreneurship, Business Incubation and Innovation – Business development services, enterprise diagnostics, mentorship, networking, market linkages, procurement readiness and finance readiness for entrepreneurs, micro and small enterprises, producer groups and innovators.

5.4 Amudat Innovation & Leadership Centre – Establishment, activation and sustainable operation of a practical platform for digital inclusion, enterprise development, leadership, skills, innovation, mentorship, networking, market access and finance readiness.

5.5 Digital Inclusion and Digital Transformation – Digital literacy, productivity, access to digital tools and information, digital entrepreneurship, digital financial literacy, digital security awareness, digital marketing and relevant ICT initiatives.

5.6 Education, Skills and Leadership Development – Practical skills, non-formal learning, career guidance, enterprise education, leadership development, mentorship and civic participation.

5.7 WASH, Health and Community Wellbeing – Community awareness, WASH promotion, hygiene and sanitation, menstrual health and hygiene, health mobilisation, prevention activities and referrals, subject to Government policies and technical guidance.

5.8 Environment, Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management – Environmental awareness, climate adaptation, agroecology, natural resource management, restoration, waste management and community resilience.

5.9 Human Rights, Protection, Gender and Safeguarding – Protection mainstreaming, child protection, GBV prevention and response, safeguarding, gender equality, disability inclusion, referral pathways and rights awareness.

5.10 Peacebuilding, Social Cohesion and Conflict Prevention – Community dialogue, peacebuilding, conflict prevention, leadership engagement and peaceful coexistence.

5.11 Civic Engagement, Governance and Accountability – Community participation, social accountability, access to information, feedback mechanisms, civic awareness and engagement between communities and duty bearers.

5.12 Research, Learning and Evidence – Joint assessments, research, documentation, learning events, evidence dissemination and use of data to improve programming and inform District planning.

5.13 Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation – Opportunities with Government agencies, development partners, foundations, private sector, financial institutions, academic institutions, investors and civil society.

6. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME AND DISTRICT PLANNING ALIGNMENT

The Parties shall seek to align jointly implemented activities with applicable national policies, Government programmes, sector priorities and Amudat District development and annual planning frameworks.

Where relevant and subject to programme guidelines and eligibility, collaboration may complement the Parish Development Model (PDM), Emyooga, Youth Livelihood Programme (YLP), Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme (UWEP), Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), and other current or future Government programmes relevant to agreed activities.

The Parties shall seek to avoid duplication and strengthen links between community initiatives and existing Government services. SDU shall not represent itself as a Government programme implementing agency, administer Government funds or exercise statutory Government functions unless formally authorised.

The Parties may establish referral mechanisms to connect eligible community members, enterprises and groups to relevant Government programmes. Referrals do not guarantee admission, funding or benefits, which remain subject to programme criteria and decisions of the responsible authorities.

7. AMUDAT INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP CENTRE

The Centre shall be a multi-purpose community platform rather than solely an ICT training facility. Its core value proposition is Space → Skills → Digital Tools → Business Advisory → Markets → Networks → Finance Readiness. Centre-specific arrangements concerning premises, equipment, staffing, operating procedures, membership, service charges, safeguarding, asset management, targets, partner contributions, maintenance, utilities and sustainability shall be set out in a separate addendum and/or annual work plan approved by the Parties.

Indicative service lines include:

- Digital and enterprise skills: short courses in digital literacy, entrepreneurship, business planning, bookkeeping, pricing, customer service, sales, digital marketing, productivity tools and digital financial services.
- Enterprise Clinic: basic enterprise diagnostics, mentorship and practical business improvement plans.
- Shared workspace: workstations, internet, meeting and training facilities, printing, scanning and digital equipment, subject to available resources.
- Leadership development: leadership skills, public speaking, communication, civic leadership, career development and mentorship.
- Expert Network: links to accountants, lawyers, ICT specialists, HR professionals, marketers, business advisers, agribusiness specialists and other technical specialists.
- Market and procurement readiness: enterprise profiling, buyer linkages, product showcases, market information, B2B networking and institutional market preparation.
- Finance and investment readiness: financial records, business plans, projections, investment profiles, pitch preparation, financial literacy and referrals to suitable banks, SACCOs, Government programmes, funds and investors. The Centre shall not operate as a lender unless separately authorised.

8. RESPONSIBILITIES OF AMUDAT DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Provide institutional coordination and facilitate engagement with relevant District departments and lower local government structures.
- Support alignment of activities with District priorities, sector plans and Government programmes.
- Where feasible and subject to applicable laws, policies and approvals, facilitate access to appropriate public space or facilities for agreed activities.
- Support community mobilisation and links with youth, women, producer groups, community structures, institutions and stakeholders.
- Provide relevant non-confidential information and guidance for agreed activities.
- Facilitate technical coordination with relevant Government officers where required.
- Participate in joint planning, monitoring, review and learning.
- Support resource mobilisation and partnership development where appropriate.
- Participate in appropriate Centre coordination mechanisms.
- Provide technical guidance within the District's statutory mandate.
- Not represent SDU programmes or the Centre as District programmes unless formally agreed.

9. RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAND FOR DIGNITY UGANDA

- Design and implement agreed activities in accordance with approved work plans, budgets, applicable laws and partner agreements.
- Provide programme expertise within its areas of competence.
- Support management and programming of the Amudat Innovation & Leadership Centre.
- Mobilise technical partners, experts, private-sector actors and other resources.
- Conduct agreed training, mentorship, enterprise support and community activities.
- Maintain appropriate programme and financial records and provide agreed reports.
- Apply safeguarding, data protection, accountability and risk-management measures.
- Support evidence generation, learning and documentation of results.
- Obtain approvals before using District facilities, branding, data or official information.
- Not represent the District or commit it to obligations without written authority.

10. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION

The Parties shall promote meaningful community participation in the design, implementation and review of activities, with particular attention to youth, women, persons with disabilities, vulnerable households, community leaders, marginalised groups and others facing barriers to participation.

Activities shall be inclusive, accessible, culturally appropriate and responsive to local realities.

11. USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES AND SPACE

Where the District provides or facilitates access to premises, the facility, permitted use, duration, maintenance, utilities, security, equipment ownership and handover arrangements shall be documented in a separate facility schedule or addendum.

No permanent transfer of District property is created by this MoU. Use of public property remains subject to applicable laws, policies, approvals and asset-management requirements.

12. EQUIPMENT, ASSETS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Each Party retains ownership of assets it contributes unless otherwise agreed in writing. Donor-funded or partner-funded assets shall be managed in accordance with the applicable funding agreement. Equipment placed at the Centre shall be recorded in an asset register and managed in accordance with agreed asset-management, safeguarding, maintenance and accountability procedures.

I3. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND GOVERNANCE

The Parties shall designate focal persons to coordinate this MoU, support joint planning, communication, documentation, issue resolution, monitoring and review.

An Annual Joint Work Plan may set out activities, responsibilities, timelines, indicators, resource requirements, budgets and reporting arrangements. Specific projects may have additional implementation committees or technical working groups.

Where active implementation is underway, coordination meetings may be held at least quarterly, subject to available resources.

I4. FUNDING AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

This MoU does not itself create a financial obligation on either Party. Each Party shall meet its own costs unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Where funding is required, the Parties may jointly mobilise resources, submit proposals or enter separate project, funding or implementation agreements specifying budgets, disbursements, eligible costs, procurement, reporting, audit and asset ownership as applicable.

No Party shall commit the other to expenditure, debt or contractual obligations without prior written authority.

I5. SUSTAINABILITY

The Parties shall pursue sustainable approaches combining public institutional support, community participation, partner contributions, resource mobilisation, private-sector engagement and appropriate cost recovery.

For the Centre, possible mechanisms include sponsored cohorts, paid short courses, workspace services, memberships, enterprise advisory services, partner-supported programmes and other lawful income-generating services. Income shall be managed transparently under applicable laws, policies and agreed arrangements, while maintaining community access and inclusion.

I6. MONITORING, EVALUATION, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Parties shall agree indicators and reporting arrangements for joint activities. Monitoring may assess participation, outputs, outcomes, inclusion, quality, sustainability, community satisfaction and lessons learned.

Results and lessons may be documented jointly to inform future programming, District planning and resource mobilisation.

17. SAFEGUARDING, NON-DISCRIMINATION AND DO-NO-HARM

The Parties commit to safeguarding children and adults at risk and preventing sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, discrimination, violence, exploitation and other forms of abuse.

The Parties shall promote gender equality, disability inclusion and safe participation. Activities shall comply with applicable Ugandan laws, Government policies and relevant safeguarding standards.

The Parties shall maintain appropriate referral mechanisms for protection concerns and take reasonable measures to prevent harm and misuse of power.

18. DATA PROTECTION AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Each Party shall handle personal and confidential information responsibly and in accordance with applicable data protection laws and programme requirements. Information shall be collected, used, stored and shared only for legitimate purposes and with appropriate safeguards.

Neither Party shall disclose the other's confidential information without authorisation, except where disclosure is required by law.

19. COMMUNICATION, BRANDING AND VISIBILITY

Public communication concerning joint activities shall, where appropriate, acknowledge both Parties and relevant partners. Use of District logos, insignia, photographs, statements or official information requires appropriate authorisation.

Neither Party shall make public statements on behalf of the other without prior approval. Joint visibility arrangements may be established for the Centre.

20. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Pre-existing intellectual property remains the property of the Party that developed it. Ownership and permitted use of materials jointly developed under specific programmes shall be agreed in the relevant project agreement.

Neither Party shall use the other's intellectual property, trademarks or proprietary information for unrelated purposes without permission.

21. PARTNERSHIPS AND THIRD-PARTY ENGAGEMENT

The Parties may jointly engage Government agencies, development partners, private-sector organisations, financial institutions, academic institutions, foundations, investors and civil society organisations.

Such engagement shall not create obligations for either Party unless separately agreed in writing. Resource mobilisation shall be transparent concerning roles, responsibilities and funding arrangements.

22. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Disagreements shall first be addressed through consultation between designated focal persons. If unresolved, the matter shall be escalated to senior representatives. The Parties shall seek an amicable resolution before pursuing any other lawful remedy.

23. AMENDMENT

This MoU may be amended by mutual written agreement signed by authorised representatives of both Parties. Project addenda and work plans may be amended in accordance with their own provisions.

24. TERM, REVIEW AND RENEWAL

This MoU takes effect on the date of signature and remains in force for three (3) years unless terminated earlier. The Parties shall review the partnership at least annually and may renew the MoU by mutual written agreement.

25. TERMINATION

Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving thirty (30) days' written notice to the other Party.

Termination does not automatically terminate specific project agreements already in force; those agreements shall be governed by their own provisions unless otherwise agreed. The Parties shall endeavour to avoid unnecessary disruption to activities benefiting communities.

26. NATURE OF THE MoU

This MoU expresses the Parties' intention to collaborate and does not itself create a partnership, joint venture, agency relationship, employment relationship or financial commitment. Each Party remains responsible for its own statutory mandate, decisions, personnel and obligations.

Nothing in this MoU transfers statutory powers or functions of the District to SDU or authorises SDU to exercise public powers on behalf of the District unless expressly authorised under applicable law.

27. NOTICES

Formal notices shall be delivered to the official addresses of the Parties or other addresses notified in writing.

Amudat District Local Government: Address _____; Telephone _____; Email _____; Attention: Chief Administrative Officer / Authorised Representative.

Stand for Dignity Uganda: Address _____; Telephone _____; Email _____; Attention: Executive Director / Authorised Representative.

28. ENTIRE UNDERSTANDING

This MoU constitutes the general framework for collaboration and may be complemented by annual work plans, project-specific agreements, Centre-specific addenda, facility schedules, funding agreements and other written instruments approved by the Parties.

Where a subsequent project-specific agreement conflicts with this MoU, the Parties shall clarify in writing which instrument governs the specific activity.

29. SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorised representatives of the Parties have signed this Memorandum of Understanding on the dates indicated below.

FOR AMUDAT DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FOR STAND FOR DIGNITY UGANDA (SDU)
Name: _____	Name: _____
Title: _____	Title: _____
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

Official Stamp (District): _____

Official Stamp (SDU): _____

WITNESS / TECHNICAL OFFICER

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

ANNEX 1: INITIAL COLLABORATION PRIORITIES

Priority Area	Potential Collaboration	District Linkage	Potential Outputs
Youth & Women Empowerment	Skills, leadership, enterprise, mentorship and referrals	Community Based Services / relevant departments	Training cohorts, mentorship, referrals
Enterprise & Livelihoods	Business diagnostics, BDS, market links and financial literacy	Production & Marketing / Finance & Planning	Enterprise plans and market links
Digital Inclusion	Digital literacy, tools, online services and digital safety	Relevant District departments and institutions	Digital skills cohorts and access
Amudat Innovation & Leadership Centre	Workspace, training, innovation, leadership and expert clinics	District coordination and facility links	Functional Centre and enterprise support
Agriculture & Climate Resilience	Climate-smart livelihoods, value chains and market links	Production & Marketing / Natural Resources	Demonstrations, links and learning
WASH & Health	Community mobilisation, hygiene, sanitation and referrals	Health / Works & Technical	Outreach and referrals
Protection & Safeguarding	GBV, child protection, safeguarding and referrals	Community Based Services	Awareness and referral activities
Peace & Social Cohesion	Dialogue, conflict prevention and community leadership	District leadership / community structures	Dialogues and peacebuilding actions
Civic Engagement	Social accountability, information and participation	Community Based Services / District structures	Community engagement and feedback
Research & Learning	Assessments, documentation and evidence generation	Finance & Planning / relevant departments	Learning products and review meetings

ANNEX 2: PARTNERSHIP IMPLEMENTATION ARCHITECTURE

- MASTER MoU – establishes the overall institutional relationship and broad areas of collaboration.
- JOINT ANNUAL WORK PLAN – translates priorities into activities, responsibilities, timelines, indicators and resource requirements.
- SPECIFIC PROGRAMME / PROJECT – defines an intervention to be jointly implemented or supported.
- PROJECT-SPECIFIC AGREEMENT / ADDENDUM – establishes detailed implementation, budget, reporting, asset, safeguarding and other arrangements where required.
- FUNDING / IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER AGREEMENTS – govern third-party funding or implementation relationships where applicable.

ANNEX 3: AMUDAT INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP CENTRE – INITIAL CONCEPT

Purpose: Provide a practical local platform through which young people, emerging entrepreneurs, women-led enterprises, community groups, innovators and community leaders can access skills, digital tools, leadership development, enterprise support, networks and opportunities.

Core value proposition: Space → Skills → Digital Tools → Business Advisory → Markets → Networks → Finance Readiness.

Participant journey: Discover → Start → Grow → Lead / Scale.

Indicative target groups: youth, women, emerging entrepreneurs, micro and small enterprises, innovators, community leaders, producer and enterprise groups, job seekers and young professionals.

Potential sustainability: sponsored cohorts, paid short courses, workspace services, memberships, enterprise advisory services, partner-supported programmes and other lawful income-generating services.

Detailed operating procedures, facility arrangements, equipment, staffing, service charges, safeguarding, asset management and annual targets shall be agreed through a separate Centre implementation addendum or annual work plan.