MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

Urunji Child-Care Trust

and

DEVI Sansthan (Dignity Education Vision International)

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") is made on 10 July 2026 by and between:

1. Urunji Child-Care Trust

A non-governmental organisation registered and operating in Malawi.

Email: info@urunjichildcare.org

Telephone: +265-997-400-948

Website: https://urunjichildcare.org

Hereinafter referred to as "**Urunji.**"

and

2. DEVI Sansthan (Dignity Education Vision International)

A Society established under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, having its registered office at 10, Station Road, Lucknow – 226001, India.

Email: info@dignityeducation.org

Telephone: +91 740 840 6000

Website: https://dignityeducation.org

Hereinafter referred to as "**DEVI.**"

Urunji and DEVI are hereinafter collectively referred to as "**the Parties**" and individually as a "**Party.**"

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a collaborative framework through which the Parties shall jointly plan, mobilise resources for, implement, monitor and evaluate a Rapid Results Initiative ("RRI") in Foundational Literacy and Numeracy ("FLN") using the ALfA (Accelerating Learning for All) pedagogy in selected schools and/or community-linked learning centres in Malawi.

The collaboration seeks to improve foundational literacy and numeracy, strengthen teacher capacity, generate evidence for effective educational practice, and support informed decisions regarding future scale-up and sustainability.

Nothing in this MoU shall be construed as creating a donor-recipient relationship. The Parties acknowledge that this is a collaborative partnership in

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which each Party contributes its respective expertise, networks and resources.

2. Scope of Collaboration

Subject to the availability of funding and all necessary approvals, the Parties intend to collaborate in:

- identifying participating schools, teachers and communities;
- programme planning and implementation;
- teacher training and coaching;
- provision or development of teaching-learning materials;
- research design, baseline and endline assessments;
- monitoring, evaluation and reporting;
- stakeholder engagement;
- dissemination of learning;
- resource mobilisation;
- exploration of opportunities for scaling successful approaches.

Specific activities may be refined through mutually agreed implementation plans.

3. Responsibilities of DEVI

Subject to available funding and applicable approvals, DEVI shall:

3.1 Provide the ALfA pedagogy framework and associated technical expertise.

3.2 Lead or support programme design, research methodology, assessment tools, analysis and reporting.

3.3 Provide trainers, technical experts or consultants as required.

3.4 Ensure technical quality of materials provided.

3.5 Support obtaining any approvals or technical clearances required from its side.

3.6 Consult Urunji before public communications relating specifically to this collaboration.

3.7 Jointly identify, develop and pursue funding opportunities with Urunji.

3.8 Participate in joint programme planning, monitoring and review.

4. Responsibilities of Urunji

Urunji shall:

4.1 Coordinate participating schools, communities and stakeholders.

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4.2 Facilitate engagement with Government authorities, school leadership and community representatives.
4.3 Coordinate local implementation activities within its operational capacity.
4.4 Provide contextual knowledge and programme experience.
4.5 Participate in programme monitoring, evaluation and review.
4.6 Support alignment with national education priorities.
4.7 Ensure appropriate financial accountability for funds directly received and managed by Urunji.
4.8 Comply with applicable safeguarding, legal and donor requirements relating to activities under its responsibility.

5. Funding and Financial Responsibility

5.1 The Parties recognise that successful implementation of the Initiative depends upon mobilisation of adequate financial resources.
5.2 The Parties shall jointly identify, develop and pursue funding opportunities from governments, development partners, foundations, corporations, multilateral agencies and other funding organisations.
5.3 Neither Party shall be obligated to finance the Initiative from its own unrestricted resources unless expressly agreed in writing.
5.4 Programme budgets shall be jointly prepared, reviewed and approved by authorised representatives of both Parties.
5.5 Allocation, reallocation and utilisation of programme funds shall be determined jointly and used solely for implementation of the Initiative and advancement of children's education in accordance with approved budgets and applicable donor requirements.
5.6 Each Party shall remain solely responsible for managing, accounting for and reporting on funds received directly by that Party.
5.7 Neither Party shall commit the other Party to any financial obligation without prior written consent.
5.8 Neither Party shall be required to pre-finance activities unless expressly agreed in writing.
5.9 Both Parties shall maintain accurate financial records relating to funds under their management and shall provide reasonable financial reports where required by donors or mutually agreed reporting arrangements.

6. Joint Governance

The Parties shall make all major strategic, technical and financial decisions jointly through designated representatives.

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The Parties may establish a Joint Steering Committee or designate focal persons to oversee planning, implementation, monitoring and review of the Initiative.

7. No Guarantee of Results

The Parties acknowledge that educational programmes may be affected by factors beyond their reasonable control.

Neither Party guarantees any particular educational, financial, research or policy outcome.

Each Party shall remain responsible only for those obligations expressly assigned to it under this MoU.

8. Safeguarding, Ethics and Legal Compliance

Each Party shall:

- comply with applicable laws;
- maintain appropriate safeguarding standards;
- protect children and vulnerable persons;
- obtain required ethical approvals and informed consent where applicable;
- promptly notify the other Party of any serious safeguarding concern affecting the Initiative.

9. Data, Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

Each Party shall protect confidential information received through this collaboration.

Personal data shall be managed in accordance with applicable law.

DEVI shall retain ownership of its pre-existing ALfA pedagogy, methodologies, trademarks, materials and associated intellectual property.

Urunji shall retain ownership of its pre-existing organisational materials, programme knowledge and intellectual property.

Programme data, reports, research outputs and materials jointly developed under this Initiative shall be jointly owned unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Neither Party shall publish or share jointly developed outputs without prior consultation and written agreement of the other Party.

10. Public Communications

Neither Party shall use the other's name, logo or branding without prior written approval.

Publications, fundraising materials and communications relating to the Initiative shall appropriately acknowledge both Parties unless otherwise agreed.

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11. Anti-Corruption

Each Party shall conduct all activities under this MoU in accordance with applicable anti-corruption, anti-fraud and ethical standards and shall promptly notify the other Party of any suspected fraud or misuse of programme resources.

12. Duration and Termination

This MoU shall take effect upon signature by both Parties and shall remain in force for 12 months unless extended by mutual written agreement.

Either Party may terminate this MoU by providing thirty (30) days' written notice.

Either Party may terminate immediately in the event of material breach, safeguarding failures, unlawful conduct or misuse of programme funds.

Upon termination, the Parties shall cooperate to conclude activities responsibly and account for funds under their respective management.

13. Force Majeure

Neither Party shall be liable for delays or failure to perform obligations resulting from circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including natural disasters, conflict, pandemics, government actions or other force majeure events.

The affected Party shall notify the other Party promptly and both Parties shall work together to minimise disruption.

14. Relationship of the Parties

Nothing contained in this MoU creates a partnership in law, employment relationship, agency, joint venture or authority for either Party to legally bind the other.

Each Party remains an independent organisation responsible for its own personnel, obligations and legal compliance.

15. Dispute Resolution and Governing Law

The Parties shall first seek to resolve any dispute through good-faith consultation.

If unresolved within thirty (30) days, the dispute shall be referred to mediation.

This MoU shall be governed by the laws of Malawi unless the Parties mutually agree otherwise in writing.

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16. Amendments

Any amendment to this MoU shall be made only in writing and signed by authorised representatives of both Parties.

17. Non-Binding Nature

This MoU records the Parties' intention to collaborate.

Clauses relating to confidentiality, safeguarding, intellectual property, data protection, financial accountability, dispute resolution and any obligations expressly stated to survive termination shall remain binding to the extent permitted by applicable law.

Detailed implementation plans, grant agreements or donor contracts may be executed separately and shall prevail where inconsistent with this MoU.

18. Signatures

For Urunji Child-Care Trust

Name: IAN CMALISENI

Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Signature:

Date: 10 JULY 2026

Witness:

Signature:

For DEVI Sansthan (Dignity Education Vision International)

Name: Dr. Sunita Gandhi

Title: Founder

Signature:

Date: 14 July 2026

Witness: Jasmine Lilly Mariyam

Signature: