

**General Agreement between**  
**University of Malawi (UNIMA)**

**And**

**Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)**

**PREAMBLE**

The University of Malawi (UNIMA) and LISGIS share many philosophies and values, particularly in the area of human resource development in statistics and related disciplines.

Our institutions believe in excellence in setting up standards for human resource development and producing new knowledge and that they should be deeply engaged with the full range of the needs of the communities in which they are located. Our institutions engage in community and national problem solving through intensive research involving data collection, analysis, and dissemination, and both recognize the value of inter- and multi-disciplinary approaches to the full complexity of human problems. Cooperation between our institutions therefore is likely to create synergies within shared activities and benefits for all participating institutions.

In order to promote active and enduring cooperation between UNIMA and LISGIS and desiring to expand scholarly ties, facilitate academic cooperation, and promote mutual understanding, the parties agree to establish a framework for educational and scientific partnership as described herein.

**Objective**

To develop a "Sandwich" program which allows LISGIS to send its sponsored students to pursue Master's, PhD, and other short-term studies at UNIMA. The program has a multidisciplinary approach in order to provide advanced and high-quality training with particular emphasis on statistics and related disciplines. This program will be carried out under the supervision of academic/scholarship committee staff at LISGIS and UNIMA.

**ARTICLE 1**

**Title**

Cooperation in training to PhD level and related research between UNIMA and the LISGIS.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Description**

The cooperation will include the following activities:

1. Training and supervision of students pursuing Master's, PhD, and short-term trainings.
2. Exchange of training materials.
3. Joint publications and co-authorship.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Duration**

This memorandum will cover a period of five years, beginning May 2023. One year before the expiry of this memorandum, the participating institutions will express a desire to renew or terminate the cooperation.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Organization**

#### **Steering Committee**

Each institution will establish a team to operationalize the agreed work plans of the co-operations. In order to ensure that activities of the cooperation run smoothly, the composition of the team should be the respective Committee of Deans and Heads of Department at UNIMA and the Scholarship Vetting Committee at LISGIS.

### **Functions**

1. Identify students required to be trained.
2. Set priority areas of mutual interest by both institutions and coordinate the activities of the collaboration; identify those areas that may not need a large amount of resources that can easily be accommodated in the University budget.
3. Implement and monitor all activities of the collaboration and report the progress to the steering committee.

This Steering Committee shall seek approval of all financial transactions and report progress of the collaboration to their respective Vice Chancellors.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Funding and its Administration**

Each institution will be responsible for proper use of funds in accordance with the Financial Regulations operating at the Institution and any other requirements by the funding agency.

Each institution should also seed funds from its normal annual budget to fund those activities that cut across ordinary institutional activities.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **University of Malawi and LISGIS Obligations**

1. Commitment to implement this memorandum
2. To establish a framework to facilitate decision making and smooth carrying out of the activities in this memorandum.
3. To assist visiting staff in securing accommodation, offices and other facilities necessary to undertake the activities in the memorandum.
4. To assist visiting staff to obtain residence and other relevant permits.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Amendments and Interpretation**

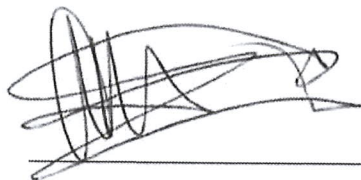
Any amendments to this memorandum shall be subject to approval by LISGIS and University of Malawi authorities. Interpretation of the articles of this memorandum rests with the Steering Committee.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Termination**

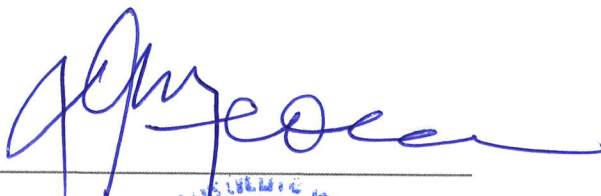
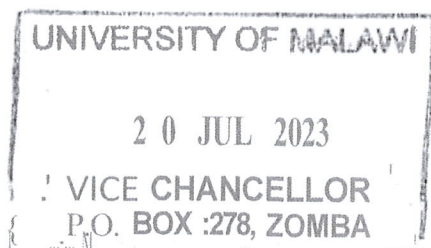
If any dispute arises relating to the implementation of this memorandum, there shall be mutual consultations between the two Parties with a view to secure a successful implementation of the collaboration.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, either party shall be entitled to terminate the memorandum by giving three months notice to the other party. This memorandum of understanding takes effect as of the date of signing.



University of Malawi

SUNDUZWABO MANKSE  
DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR



LISGIS

