



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (SINU)

AND

ISLANDS KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTE (IKI)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered in Honiara on _____ of _____ 2024

BETWEEN:

Solomon Islands National University, (hereinafter referred to as the "SINU,") of P.O.BOX R113, Kukum Campus, Honiara, Solomon Islands, Represented by the Vice Chancellor.

AND:

Islands Knowledge Institute, (hereinafter referred to as the "IKI.") of 17 NPF Plaza, Mendana Ave, Honiara, SB, Represented by the Trustee

PREAMBLE:

WHEREAS SINU is the National University of Solomon Islands established by the Government of Solomon Islands under the SINU Act 2012 whose objectives is to *"promote scholarship, research, free inquiry, academic excellence, and trade competence and in this process create, disseminate, maintain, and advance knowledge and productivity by teaching, training and other means, for the welfare and needs of the communities in Solomon Islands and the region"*.

WHEREAS Island Knowledge Institute (IKI) is a charitable organisation incorporated in 2008 under the Charitable Trusts Act (Chapter 55). It is a network of individuals and entities that share common interest of developing knowledge for, by and of island peoples and places. In developing knowledge, IKI ensures the values of collegiality, accountability and transparency, excellence, service of public interest and professionalism. The IKI is managed by a Trust-Board. Since its inception in 2008 to present, it had engaged in several key research of national significance.

WHEREAS the Parties desire for SINU to become the centre of international excellence in indigenous in-territory education, in close association with place-based organisations and centres across Solomon Islands, and deriving financial self-sufficiency from international students and partnerships arising from this vision.; and

WHEREAS the Parties desire Solomon Islands becoming a place of excellence in learning, teaching and researching in the space of indigenous world-visions and lifeways, and experiencing significant national benefit from doing so.

WHEREAS the Parties wish to pursue their collaboration and to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (“the Memorandum”) under the terms and conditions stated hereafter.

Both are herein referred to as the “Parties”.

NOW THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. PURPOSE:

To collaborate on projects, programs, and initiatives that align with the educational and national development goals of the Parties.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of the agreement cover collaboration on projects, programs, and initiatives that align with the educational and national development goals of both the SINU and IKI but not limited to as follows:

- a. Developing joint research grant proposals to foster innovation and shared knowledge.
- b. Organizing annual master classes in Islands Knowledge and Islands Futures, attracting global fee-paying students, utilizing SINU's name under license.
- c. Creating advanced content delivered jointly by SINU and IKI, with commercial profits shared by SINU, to leverage our combined expertise for educational excellence.
- d. Identifying commercial opportunities to support SINU's sustainable operations, marking a significant step towards our mutual goal of academic and operational sustainability.
- e. Establishment of a Centre for Islands Futures.
- f. Development of a PG Diploma and Masters programs that have in-situ learning, "living lab" community hubs as integral sites of learning and instruction.

3. TERMS AND DURATION:

This MOU shall commence on the date of signing and shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years, unless terminated earlier by mutual written agreement or for cause.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

1. SINU Responsibilities:

1.1. Participation in WAOLANI as a University with Arizona State University

1.2. SINU will provide opportunities for students to engage in internships and volunteer programs with IKI, and encourage

student research and thesis projects that contribute to IKI's goals.

1.3. SINU and IKI will explore joint funding opportunities and share resources to enhance the efficiency and impact of our collaborative projects.

1.4. Joint monitoring with IKI on an annual basis on its programs covered under this MOU.

1.5. Provide a physical space at FAFF Kukum Campus for the IKI-ASU/Centre for Islands Futures

2. IKI Responsibilities:

2.1. IKI will coordinate, facilitate and sequester the capacity to make the vision happen both in-country and internationally.

2.2. IKI will provide the technical oversight and management of the program that will result in achieving Post-graduate and Masters programs.

2.3. IKI will provide the avenue for close collaboration with the SINU management to achieve the objective of this partnership.

2.4. IKI will leverage SINU's position to advocate for relevant issues and engage with local communities to promote our joint initiatives.

5. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Financial contributions for collaborative projects shall be determined on a case-by-case basis, and the responsibilities for funding shall be outlined in separate agreements for each project.

6. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.

The Parties agree that, in the event of research collaboration leading to patent rights, copyrights, or other intellectual property rights, a further agreement must be negotiated in each case in accordance with the policies of the Parties on intellectual property.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY:

Both Parties agree to treat any confidential information shared during the collaboration with the utmost confidentiality and shall not disclose such information without prior written consent by the Parties.

8. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute arise in the cause of implementation of this MOU shall be settle amicable between the Parties.

9. TERMINATION:

Either Party may terminate this MOU with a written notice of ninety (90) days, stating the reasons for termination.

10. AMENDMENT:

Any amendments or modifications to this MOU must be made in writing and signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.

11. FORCE MAJEURE

Neither Party shall be held responsible for non-fulfilment of their respective obligations under this MoU due to

exigency of one or more of the force majeure events such as, but not limited to, act of God, war, flood, earthquake, strikes, lockouts, epidemics, riots, civil commotion, etc., provided on the occurrence and cessation of any such events, the Party affected shall thereby give notice in writing to the other Party within one (1) month of such occurrence or cessation.

12. GOVERN LAW

This MOU is govern by the law of Solomon Islands and any interpretation and dispute on point of law shall be settle according to law enforce in Solomon Islands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the Effective Date first above written.

SIGNED on behalf of
SINU by

SIGNED on behalf of
IKI by

Professor
Transform Aqorau
Vice Chancellor
SINU

Assistant Professor
Joe Foukona
Trustee
IKI

Date: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Place: _____

Witnessed by

Witnessed by:

Signed:

Signed:

Name:

Name:

Title:

Title:

Date: _____

Date: _____