

UNITAR Ref: MOU.PFTP.2025.033

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

THE UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (UNITAR) having its headquarters at 7 bis, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1202 Geneva 2, Switzerland, represented by Ms. Michelle Gyles-McDonnough, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director.

And

GREYCELLS, having its headquarters at Domaine La Pastorale (Maison Rose), Route de Ferney 106, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland, represented by Dr. David M. Dror, Chairman of the Board

WHEREAS the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (hereinafter referred to as “UNITAR”) is an autonomous body within the United Nations that was established in 1965 pursuant to a UN General Assembly resolution, with the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the UN through appropriate training and research. UNITAR’s mission is to develop the individual, institutional and organizational capacities of countries and other United Nations stakeholders through high-quality learning solutions and related knowledge products and services to enhance decision-making and to support country-level action for overcoming global challenges;

WHEREAS Greycells, founded in 2008 by former international civil servants as the non-profit Association of Former International Civil Servants for Knowledge Sharing, distinguishes itself through its commitment to development issues aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. At the core of Greycells’ mission is the dissemination of UN values, achieved by leveraging the knowledge and experience of its former staff members. This mission is pursued through two interconnected strategies: facilitating intergenerational dialogue between seniors and millennials, and fostering exchanges between the Geneva-Swiss population and the international expatriate community. A further priority for Greycells is the pro bono sharing of practical knowledge accumulated by its members with students and young professionals—an essential element in strengthening ties between the international and local communities in Geneva. Greycells also plays an active role in the Coalition for the UN We Need, collaborating with more than 40 global think tanks and NGOs.

WHEREAS UNITAR and Greycells (who may be referred to individually as the “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”) share common goals in advancing talent development and knowledge exchange, with joint efforts aimed at enhancing the quality of higher education, developing the expert pool, and contribute to social progress and economic growth. The Parties agree to sign this Memorandum of Understanding to establish a framework for cooperation and to implement specific projects and activities;

NOW THEREFORE, based on mutual trust and in spirit of cooperation, the Parties hereby agree to the following:

Article I- Objectives

1. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MoU”) is to provide a cooperative framework within which the Parties can develop and implement activities.
2. The Parties intend to utilize and leverage their existing resources and facilities for mutual benefit, and for the benefit of the activities’ beneficiaries.

Article II – Scope and Extent of Cooperation

1. The Parties agree to jointly pursue cooperation based on their respective mandates, mission, goals, needs, expertise, networks, and work programmes.
2. Forms of cooperation to be developed and implemented under this MoU may include, *inter alia*, the following:
 - a) **Jointly develop an expert pool** to support UNITAR and the UNITAR Prosperity Alliance initiative, engaging academic and professional talent for project implementation, research, and advisory roles.
 - b) **Collaboratively design and deliver workshops, training courses, and study visit activities** for youth, government officials, and other target beneficiaries, with a focus on capacity building for sustainable development, governance, and innovation.
 - c) **Participate as guest speakers, facilitators, or co-organizers** in high-level forums, conferences, and policy dialogues hosted by either Party, contributing thought leadership and technical insights.
 - d) **Conduct joint research** on sustainable economic growth and educational reform, resulting in policy recommendations, white papers, and initiatives that support academic exchange and institutional development.
 - e) **Promote multi-stakeholder partnerships, knowledge sharing, and the application of sustainable development solutions** on a scale through engagement with the UNITAR Prosperity Alliance and other collaborative platforms.

Article III - Thematic Areas of Work

1. As a first step towards achieving the overarching objective mentioned above the Parties have identified thematic areas to explore for collaboration, which can reasonably be expected to be realized in the framework of this MoU. They will be considered and complemented at any time when opportunities arise. They include, *inter alia*, the following:
 - a) Capacity Building and Vocational Education
 - b) Leadership Development and Youth Empowerment
 - c) International Communication and Exchange
 - d) Trade, Finance, and Economic Development
 - e) Frontier Technology and Innovation

Article IV - Modalities for Cooperation

1. For every specific area of cooperation falling under this MoU, a specific agreement will be signed allowing the Parties to agree on technical and financial settings. Such agreements will include a detailed work programme and a breakdown of costs and will indicate funding modalities.
2. New initiatives under this MoU may be proposed by either Party and shall be subject to joint review and mutual agreement before implementation.
3. The activities associated with the MoU shall be contingent upon the availability of sufficient human and financial resources, and the Parties will jointly devise strategies for seeking resources to meet desired objectives.
4. The Parties shall designate representatives that will serve as primary contacts for the implementation of this MoU. The primary contacts will manage institutional communications between the Parties. If necessary, thematic contacts designated as the need arises will manage communication on substantive issues.

UNITAR's primary contact:

Michael Adalla

Senior Programme Specialist

Technology, Finance and Trade Programme Unit

Division for Prosperity, UNITAR

Email: michael.adalla@unitar.org

Greycells' primary contact:

Cécile Molinier

Vice-President, Greycells Board

Email: greycells08@gmail.com, cecileannie.molnier@gmail.com

Article V – Use of Name and Emblem

1. Neither Party shall use the name, emblem, logo, trademark or any other elements of corporate identity to which the other Party holds the intellectual property rights or any abbreviation thereof, without the express prior written consent of the other Party in each case. In no event will the use of the Parties' name, emblem, logo, and trademark be granted for commercial purposes.
2. The Parties acknowledge that they are familiar with each other's ideals and objectives and recognize that the UNITAR or Greycells name and emblem may not be associated with any political or sectarian cause or otherwise used in a manner inconsistent with the status, reputation, and neutrality of UNITAR or the United Nations or Greycells.

Article VI - Entry into Force, Renewal and Termination

1. This MoU shall enter into force on the date of its last signature and will remain in force for three years.

2. This MoU may be amended by the mutual written agreement of the Parties. Unless otherwise agreed, amendments may apply to any activities which have not yet been implemented.
3. This MoU can be renewed through a further MoU or through an exchange of letters.
4. This MoU may be terminated by either Party on six months' written notice to the other Party. Such termination shall be without prejudice to a) the orderly completion of any on-going activity and b) any other rights and obligations of the Parties accrued prior to termination.
5. This MoU may be executed in separate counterparts by each of the Parties, both such counterparts together constituting but one and the same instrument. Such counterparts may be exchanged by confirmed facsimile transmission or in portable document format by electronic mail.

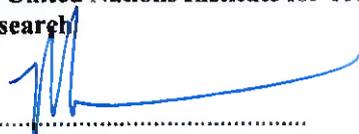
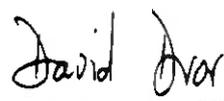
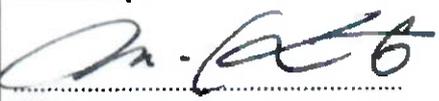
Article VII – Limitations

1. This MoU is not intended to be a legally binding document.
2. Nothing in or related to this MoU is intended to be a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research or the United Nations under the terms of the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

Article VIII – Disputes

1. Any disputes between the Parties arising out of this MoU shall be settled amicably through negotiation. Any difference that may not be so settled shall be brought to the attention of the signatories of this MoU or duly authorized representatives of the Parties for final resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Agreement in English language in two copies.

<p>For the United Nations Institute for Training and Research</p>  <p>.....</p> <p>Michelle Gyles-McDonnough UN Assistant Secretary-General Executive Director, UNITAR</p> <p>Date: 29/05/2025</p>	<p>For Greycells</p>  <p>.....</p> <p>Dr. David M. Dror Chairman of the Board, Greycells</p> <p>Date: Geneva, 23 May 2025</p>
<p>Cleared by:</p>  <p>.....</p> <p>Mihoko Kumamoto Director, Division for Prosperity UNITAR</p> <p>Date: May 23, 2025</p>	