GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

The BOMA Project (BOMA)
Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. BOMA hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

   BOMA:

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.

3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.

4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission to *support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions.*

5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.

6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes,

focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector, skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.

7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.

8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

In particular:

Knowledge support commitments

BOMA:

Commits to make its best efforts to co-create and provide technical assistance, capacity building and strengthening, training and/or knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms in response to requests by Global Alliance member countries that choose to implement policy instruments and programmes in the Alliance's policy basket that are compatible with its areas of expertise.

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the alignment of its actions, including through the Global Alliance's coordination mechanisms, leveraging, and partnering with other actors to better support large scale, country-owned implementation of policies and programmes in the reference basket by Global Alliance member countries, aiming at enhancing country-level outcomes.

Commits to collaborate with other Alliance members to develop innovative solutions and share good practices in learning and knowledge exchange and dissemination on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, data collection and analysis, including by leveraging existing local, national, and international knowledge networks, coalitions, communities and other fora related to aspects relevant to the fight against hunger and poverty.

Informs its capacity and readiness to support Alliance member governments in implementing, improving or scaling-up the following policy instrument types, referenced in the Global Alliance's basket of policy instruments:

-Integrated programmes for climate and shock resilience, including programmes related to anticipatory, adaptive and shock-responsive social protection

- **REAP for Climate Resilience**: Through community level engagement, REAP for Climate Resilience is creating a network of climate-conscious entrepreneurs who can work at all levels to restore ecosystems and build resilience to future climate-related shocks.

-Integrated programmes for economic inclusion

- **REAP for Refugees**: By promoting economic and community integration, local representation, and advocacy within government spaces, we are helping to create complementary pathways to success.
- **Kenya Social and Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP):** As part of KSEIP, BOMA, in partnership with the World Bank's Global Development Incubator and Village Enterprise, assisted the Kenyan Ministry of Labor and Social Protection to integrate our graduation-based model into their social protection program. By the end of 2023 approximately 9,354 participants (along with 11,000 household members) in Marsabit, Taita Taveta, Makueni, and Murang'a counties had been targeted for program induction.
- **Kenya Social and Economic Inclusion Project II (KSEIP II):** As part of KSEIP Phase II, BOMA is working closely with government agencies to strengthen capacity for further scale up of the Graduation-based approach as part of the overall national protection strategy and a second cohort of 7,500 participants has been launched.
- **Kuza Jamii:** Transforming Communities (Kuza Jamii) is a government-adapted, gender-sensitive, and community-led poverty graduation project funded by the UK FCDO that builds the capacity of village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) and Ward-level producer cooperatives. The project also aims to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Kenya (GoK) so they can progressively assume full ownership over the national Economic Inclusion Program (EIP) in eight Hunger Safety Net Program (HSNP) counties: Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana and Wajir. The program is anchored under the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and implemented in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Development (DSD) and five other local nonprofit organizations. The core components of the 12-month initiative is built around best practices learned from previous government-led safety net programs such as HSNP1, HSNP2, as well as KSEIP.

-Support to livelihood diversification

- **Rural Entrepreneur Access Project (REAP) model/programming**: BOMA tackles extreme poverty through its innovative and adaptive REAP models. REAP addresses the multidimensional nature of extreme poverty through holistic, sequenced, and time-bound programming by fostering income generation, savings,

and economic diversification. Each model, or product, addresses a critical aspect of extreme poverty found across the drylands of Africa.

-Training

- -**REAP for Youth**: Our youth-adapted model is designed to equip young women and men, ages 18-34, with tools and resources needed to build lasting livelihoods. It enrolls an equal number of men and women and offers enhanced business training, coaching, and business development services. With a condensed 12-month timeline, it serves as a beacon of hope for young people.

-Maternity and early childhood nutrition

- -**REAP for Nutrition**: REAP for Nutrition prioritizes the nutrition of children and pregnant or breastfeeding women. Entire households, including men, are engaged in nutrition-centric education and interventions in addition to improvements in livelihood and savings.

Also informs its capacity and readiness to support Alliance member governments in implementing, improving or scaling-up the following policy instrument types:

-Integrated programmes for gender equality and empowerment
-Integrated programmes for human capital development, including health and education and early childhood development
-Child and family support
-Conditional cash transfers
-Support to smallholder farmers
-Prevention, detection and management of malnutrition

Informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities in support of the Global Alliance's objectives:

-**REAP for Government**: At the core of BOMA's work is our goal to reach millions of extreme poor households across the drylands of Africa. To scale our approach, partnership with government is key. By leveraging existing social protection programming and the resources, data, policy, and knowledge of national and local government agencies, we can expand our reach, further adapt our standard model, and serve a more diverse group of participants.

The following numbers represent the impact numbers for BOMA's program implementation and technical assistance interventions from 2008 to 2024:

Cumulative reach (since 2008): 1,021,614
Direct Participants supported: 170,269

Household members supported (indirect reach): 851,345
Businesses launch: 90,977
Savings Groups established: 6,885
Program or technical assistance reaching seven countries: Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, Chad, Cameroon, and Burkina Faso

At the heart of our data-driven approach to eradicating extreme poverty is our commitment to track program outcomes and measure the effectiveness and scalability of interventions. In short, data management is a core component of our work, not just an afterthought. Our R&L work and team cuts across design, implementation and post implementation. We partner with external researchers to conduct rigorous studies, including randomized controlled trials (RCTs), to evaluate the true impact of our work. Through regular "Pause and Reflect" sessions with our teams and partners, we gather insights from participants and stakeholders to adapt and improve our programs. These lessons are shared in workshops and our online Resource Library, driving ongoing program improvements and helping us refine our approach to make a deeper impact across the drylands of Africa.

General acknowledgments

Recognizes the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.