

# Keynote Speech – Mariam M. Lulida

Founder & Managing Director – LASDGs

## Opening / Introduction

- Good morning, distinguished colleagues and friends from HWPL.
- I am Mariam Mohamed Lulida, elected local leader for Mchafukoge Ward, Ilala, Dar es Salaam. I have served two full terms and now entering my third term representing our community.
- Today, I am honored to introduce the Leadership Alliance for Sustainable Development Goals (LASDGs) and explore opportunities for collaboration with HWPL.

## Journey & Background

- In 2018–2021, I participated in the International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD) program, Sweden, for women leaders.
- Through this training, I developed leadership skills and translated sustainable development goals into local government action plans.
- Inspired by this, I founded LASDGs to advance SDG localization, empower communities, and promote gender, youth, and disability inclusion.

## Key Achievements

- Implemented gender equality and financial inclusion initiatives:
  - Revolving loan program: 10% allocation — 4% women, 4% youth, 2% persons with disabilities — interest-free loans to empower local economic participation.
- Advocated for local leadership in SDG adoption: Influenced ALAT and LGTI to integrate SDG targets into councils, ensuring practical application of Goals 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, and 17.

- Led blue economy and coastal resilience initiatives across Indian Ocean Member States, supporting livelihoods and sustainable adaptation practices.
- Influenced national policy and manifestos: Integrated global SDG agenda into Tanzania's 2020–2025 development plans and Vision 2050 framework.

## **Partnerships & Institutional Strength**

- LASDGs maintains strong collaboration with LGTI (Local Government Training Institute) and ALAT (Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania).
- Through Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), we have formalized advocacy, leadership training, and outreach programs to strengthen SDG implementation.
- Our institutional goal is to build strong, inclusive, and resilient governance structures supporting SDG localization and international cooperation.

## **Vision for Collaboration with HWPL**

- I am confident that LASDGs and HWPL can champion peace and SDG goals together:
  - Integrate DPCW principles within SDG frameworks.
  - Co-host policy dialogues and capacity-building programs.
  - Foster joint advocacy for peace, justice, and strong institutions.
  - Formalize partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding.

## **Closing**

- Together, we can promote a culture of peace, empower local leaders, and advance sustainable development in Tanzania and the region.
- I look forward to productive discussions and meaningful collaboration with HWPL.

**Thank you.**