

# EUA : Brussels 2010

Enhancing Europe–Africa university partnership and  
its contribution to development cooperation

**How can the relationship between  
development cooperation and  
university internationalization  
strategies be better conceived?**

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# 1. EU Development Cooperation Policy

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT COUNCIL COMMISSION

Joint statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission on European Union Development Policy: 'The European Consensus'

(2006/C 46/01)

## THE EUROPEAN CONSENSUS ON DEVELOPMENT

Development cooperation is a **shared competence** between the European Community (3) and the Member States. Community policy in the sphere of development cooperation shall be **complementary to the policies pursued by the Member States**. **Developing countries have the prime responsibility for their own development**. But developed countries have a responsibility too. The EU, both at its Member States and Community levels, is committed to meeting its responsibilities. Working together, the EU is an important force for positive change. The EU provides over half of the world's aid and has committed to increase this assistance, together with its quality and effectiveness. The EU is also the most important economic and trade partner for developing countries, offering specific trading benefits to developing countries, mainly to the LDCs among them.

The primary and overarching objective of EU development cooperation is the eradication of poverty in the context of sustainable development, including pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The eight MDGs are to:

1. eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
2. achieve universal primary education;
3. promote gender equality and empower women;
4. reduce the mortality rate of children;
5. improve maternal health;
6. combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases;
7. ensure environmental sustainability and
8. develop a global partnership for development.

**THIS IS TO BE ACHIEVED BY MEANS OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES, WHERE THE EU AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SHARE RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THEIR JOINT EFFORTS IN PARTNERSHIP.**

## 2. Internationalization of H.E.

Internationalization of Higher Education (H.E.) is a term used to describe a broad range of activities in the Higher Education sphere all involving H.E. activities that include an international component. Jane Knight's definition “... *a multifaceted process of integrating an international and intercultural dimension into the curriculum, research and service functions of a university*”\* has been widely adopted by Universities in many different countries to inform H.E.I. and even national Internationalization policy statements.

\*Knight, Jane (2003). Internationalization of Higher Education : Practices and Priorities. 2003 IAU Survey Report

**INTERNATIONALIZATION HAS BECOME A POWERFUL FORCE IN MODERN H.E., AND IS NOW CONSIDERED SO IMPORTANT TO HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (H.E.I.s) THAT MANY UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLANS HAVE INTERNATIONALIZATION EMBEDDED IN ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR STRATEGIES.**

## Top Reasons to the H.E.I. to actively pursue Internationalization\*

\*Knight, Jane (2003). Internationalization of Higher Education : Practices and Priorities. 2003 IAU Survey Report

- ▶ Teaching and Research Collaboration
- ▶ Academic Standards and Quality
- ▶ Research Projects
- ▶ Co-operation and Development Assistance
- ▶ Curriculum Development
- ▶ Mobility and Exchanges for Students and Teachers
- ▶ International and Intercultural Understanding
- ▶ Promotion and Profile of Institution
- ▶ Diversify Source of Faculty and Students
- ▶ Regional Issues and Integration
- ▶ International Student Recruitment
- ▶ Diversify Income Generation

**HOW CAN THESE ACTIVITIES BEST BE ENABLED?**

***“THIS IS TO BE ACHIEVED BY MEANS OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES” (QUOTE FROM THE EUROPEAN CONSENSUS ON DEVELOPMENT )***

### 3. Development Cooperation and H.E.I. Internationalization

**THUS OPERATIONALIZATION OF INTERNATIONALIZATION CAN BE ACHIEVED BY MEANS OF THE SAME STRATEGIES AS DEVELOPMENT.**

H.E.I. international collaboration between and among African institutions is essential to Africa's development. It is also first on the UNESCO WCHE 2009 Africa Focus Group list of key action areas.

Africa is HUGE. We must share our facilities and our expertise.

So the easiest and most effective way to develop an H.E.I. is through collaborative international Partnerships at all levels of the H.E.I.

**THIS MEANS THAT H.E.I. DEVELOPMENT CAN AND WILL BE ACHIEVED *TO A VERY GREAT EXTENT* BY MEANS OF COOPERATIVE PROGRAMMES ADDRESSING INTERNATIONALIZATION GOALS.**

# 4. How UCT conceives the relationship between its internationalization and development cooperation portfolios

## The Strategic Goals for the University of Cape Town (2010–2014)

### Introduction

The strategic goals for the University of Cape Town highlights the interventions we believe we need to make in order to develop UCT in particular ways over the next five to 10 years.

The goals takes as given that the core business of the institution, viz. research, teaching and learning, will continue and that most of this activity is being conducted very successfully and at a very high level. As a result, they may not appear explicitly in the strategic goals, which is rather a **focus on the change** we need to introduce. Nor does the sum of every department's activities need to be reported within the framework of the strategic goals since many are continuations of what we have been doing and the main task is to improve how we do them. They do not need to be redefined in terms of new strategic goals.

In developing the strategic goals and in an attempt to highlight what changes we want to visibly achieve by 2014, we have focused on how to promote what is distinctive about UCT in the higher education landscape. We suggest these distinctions are:

- ▶ UCT's particular **responsibility to produce the next generation of academics for South Africa and the rest of the continent**
- ▶ UCT's tradition of commitment to **social justice and democratic values** and its desire to foreground this through its research, the values of its graduates and its social responsiveness activities
- ▶ UCT's leading position as a university on the African continent and its role as a **global meeting point between North and South.**

In addition, the strategic goals address these questions:

- ▶ What would make UCT the **preferred university** – the destination of choice – for students, young postdoctoral research fellows and senior academics in South Africa, Africa and internationally?
- ▶ How can UCT **augment its activities to better answer the pressing social, economic and developmental problems facing South Africa and the rest of Africa?**

Each of the goals that follow has relevance to – and directly addresses – at least two but in some cases all five points. Each goal is elaborated through a number of strategies. Although some strategies support more than one goal they have not been repeated as they form part of an integrated plan.

## 1. Internationalising UCT via an Afropolitan Niche

- Strengthen UCT's International Research Profile
- Internationalise Graduate Attributes
- Strengthen Internationalisation at Home
- Promote transformation through internationalisation
- Engage with government policy

## 2. Transformation of UCT Towards Non-Racialism – Redress, Diversity, Inclusiveness and the Recognition of African Voices

- Demographic change
- Strengthening student support to improve course success and throughput rates
- Inclusiveness: UCT as a place that is 'owned' by all its staff and students, and by the community
- Inclusive curricula and engagement with African voices

### 3. Working Toward a Desired Size and Shape for UCT

- Increasing numbers in the research-oriented postgraduate qualifications
- To ensure a critical mass in all UG courses
- Enhancing our contribution to addressing scarce skills
- To support continuing education

### 4. A Vision for the Development of Research at UCT: Greater Impact, Greater Engagement

- Impact: The Measure of Excellence
- Increased focus
- Increased internationalisation
- Increased visibility
- Increased support
- Engagement: Making research relevant to teaching and socially responsive work
- Bringing research into teaching
- Bringing research into the community: Being Afropolitan

## 5. Enhancing the Quality and Profile of UCT's Graduates

- Identifying distinctive features of the UCT Undergraduate curriculum
- Preparing UCT graduates for a global workplace
- Providing opportunities for more breadth within our undergraduate curriculum
- Ensuring graduates are critical thinkers and stimulating interest in postgraduate research
- Strengthening student support to improve success and throughput rates and develop organisational skills
- Expanding academic staff development and promoting innovative teaching and learning methodologies

## 6. Expanding and Enhancing UCT's Contribution to South Africa's Development Challenges

- Enhancing UCT's contribution to social reconstruction and development through engaged research and teaching
- Promoting democracy, respect for human rights and commitment to social justice
- Strengthening partnerships with various levels of government, civil society and universities in South Africa
- Promoting the scholarship of engagement
- Creating an enabling institutional environment

## 5. Conclusion

Foreword to the Access to Success Project White Paper  
(Lesley Wilson, EUA Secretary General)

*“Partnerships of institutions to address common challenges, build capacity, and produce globally and locally relevant knowledge, Partnerships of university associations to guide more regionally oriented discussions and projects ...”*

**THE CONCLUSION IS THEREFORE THAT H.E.I.s CAN ADDRESS SIGNIFICANT H.E. DEVELOPMENT NEEDS BY INCLUDING INTERNATIONALIZATION PROJECTS IN MANY ASPECTS OF THEIR BUSINESS.**

**AND THAT H.E. DEVELOPMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY.**

