



Ghent University's Strategic International Cooperation



Content

- Background
- Strategic Cooperation Models
- Implementation



Background

- **Ghent University**
 - Leading higher education institution in Flanders – Belgium – Europe
 - Comprehensive university
 - Research based education
 - Strong decentralized
 - 40.000 students
 - 9.000 staff members
 - 70th on Shanghai ranking



Background

- **Internationalisation @ UGent**
 - Erasmus success story
 - Top player in Erasmus Mundus
 - +40 English Master Courses
 - 35% International PhD-students
 - +4000 international guests per year
 - 2014: Integrated Policy Plan for Internationalisation



Strategic Cooperation Models

- International Thematic Networks
- Regional Platforms
- Strategic Institutional Partnerships



International Thematic Network





International Thematic Network

- A body for support, cooperation and advice consisting of Ghent University staff members and international partners concerning a specific topic of excellence in education and research at Ghent University
- Develop of new initiatives in mobility, research and education cooperation and service to society
- Minimum 3 Ghent University professorial and/or post-doc staff members
- Professorial/post-doc staff members of minimum 3 different international partner organization
- € 60.000 per year
- 25% cofunding



Regional Platform





Regional Platform

- A body for policy development within the university focusing on a specific region or country, bringing together relevant expertise concerning all kinds of collaboration with partners in this region and offering support, facilities and advice to Ghent University community who want to expand existing or set up for new forms of cooperation with that specific region or country
- Offer services in the broadest sense to the Ghent University community
- Currently: China, India & Africa
- 2015: 2 new platforms
- 2017: competitive call for 5 year funding
- Total budget: €900.000



Strategic Institutional Partnership





Strategic Institutional Partnership

- A structural, long term, and institution wide cooperation with one or more international partner(s) on an equal and/or complementary base and in full accordance with the principle of reciprocal governance
- Offers a framework for intensive cooperation in education, research, service to society and institutional management
- Strong focus on managerial knowledge exchange
- Exact level of funding depending on the number of partners and scope of the partnership
- Currently: U4 (Ghent - BE, Göttingen - DE, Groningen - NL, Uppsala -SE)



Implementation

- Call driven
 - Bottom-up
 - Competitive
 - Strategic choices on selection level
- Theme-Location-Institution
- Innovation and sustainability
- Total investment by 2020: €1.5 million



Opportunities

- Thematic approach
- Education
 - Student exchange (study/placement)
 - Mobility Windows
 - Summer schools
- Research
 - Joint PhD
 - Joint research project
 - Joint publications
- Impact on both sides



Contact

Policy Advisor for Internationalisation

Thijs Verbeurgt

Thijs.Verbeurgt@UGent.be

