Action Plan for Internationalisation 2016–2018

Adopted by the Vice-Chancellor on 14 June 2016
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1 Introduction, point of departure and objective

The point of departure for this action plan is Uppsala University’s Programme for Internationalisation (UFV 2015/280). The action plan aims to support and facilitate internationalisation efforts in education, research and external collaboration during the 2016–2018 period.

The action plan presents which of the University’s central-level internationalisation goals should be prioritised in particular during the period, and measures to achieve them. The measures will be included in the University’s operational planning. The action plan presumes that the disciplinary domains have their own priorities in their respective areas.

2 General measures

2.1 Networks and partnerships in research, education and external collaboration

In both University-wide and subject-specific networks, Uppsala University strives to form strong strategic partnerships that enhance the quality of research, education and external collaboration, and to further international partnerships between higher education institutions, such as U4, Matariki, Coimbra, Sanord and the Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities (planned start: June 2016). Crucial initiatives take place in subject-specific international networks, for example in EU framework programmes and in the many formal and informal networks between individual researchers. Other forms of collaboration are also significant, such as Erasmus+ and the Swedish Academic Collaboration Forum (SACF: a partnership between six Swedish universities partly funded by STINT).

The University will

- actively develop and increase its participation in international networks and partnerships that add value and can generate external funding.

_Responsibility:_ The Vice-Chancellor together with the vice-rectors.

_Funding:_ Funds are allocated in the operational plans for the University Board, disciplinary domains, faculties and departments.

2.2 Regional priorities and strategies

As stated in the Programme for Internationalisation, section 3.3, the University will _develop institutional relationships with the most prominent international research environments_. The partnerships will primarily be run according to the needs and interests of individual researchers and research groups. In addition, the University overall needs to increase collaboration in various regional contexts in order to enhance its visibility and presence in relation to other universities, financiers, prospective students and, especially, to develop deeper strategic partnerships. In this context, it is also essential for the disciplinary domains to set their own regional priorities from a subject perspective. Development of international alumni activities should also be connected to
regional priorities, with a focus on areas that can strengthen the University’s overarching development.

The University already works with various forms of regional presence, for example in Vietnam, China and southern Africa. These efforts should continue to be developed and enhanced during this period. In addition, the University will formulate collected regional strategies for four to five areas. These strategies may take various forms, but they should aim to improve the University’s practices and should be able to be evaluated. Each strategy should be associated with one or more resource people.

The University will

- formulate collected regional strategies for four to five areas.
- formulate ways to ensure the University’s presence in priority regions.

**Responsible:** The Advisory Board for Internationalisation, in consultation with the vice-rectors and disciplinary domains, formulates proposals for priorities.

**Funding:** Within existing frameworks.

The disciplinary domains will

- identify regional priorities in each disciplinary domain.

**Responsible:** The vice-rectors.

**Funding:** Within existing frameworks.

3 Measures that contribute to first-class education

3.1 Courses and degree programmes in English

According to the Programme for Internationalisation, section 4, *First-class education*, the University will increase its offering of courses and degree programmes taught in English. Teaching in English improves opportunities for international students to participate in the University’s programmes. In the 2016/2017 academic year, Uppsala University is offering 797 courses and 47 Master’s programmes (80 specialisations) taught in English, as well as many PhD courses.

The University will

- develop and increase its offering of degree programmes and courses taught in English at the Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD levels.
- offer at least five Bachelor’s programmes taught in English with a call for applications for the autumn semester 2018.
- develop a cohesive programme offering in English in Uppsala University Summer School for summer 2018.
3.2 Continuing professional training for teachers

A teacher’s knowledge of the language in which a course is taught is essential for high-quality teaching. Educational challenges also arise when teaching a culturally diverse group. To improve teaching quality, teachers must be given the opportunity to improve their ability to teach in English and Swedish.

The University will

• develop continuing professional training courses in English for teachers.
• support teachers who need to improve their Swedish.

*Responsible:* The University Director (The Human Resources Division).

*Funding:* Funds are set aside by the Vice-Chancellor.

3.3 Scholarships

Scholarships are important for recruiting talented students from a variety of countries. The University actively fundraises in order to be able to preside over the allocation of certain scholarships. The University also actively works to increase collaboration with external financiers for study support at Uppsala University. In addition to scholarships for students required to pay tuition, which are awarded through the Swedish Council for Higher Education, there are a number of scholarships in 2016 for specific countries or programmes from, for example, the Anders Wall Foundation, the Rotary Peace Center, the Swedish Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and the Swedish-American Chambers of Commerce.

The University will

• work to increase the number of scholarships at Uppsala University for non-European students at Bachelor’s and Master’s levels.
• work to increase the number of scholarships associated with Uppsala University via other financiers or external scholarship foundations.

*Responsible:* The Vice-Chancellor and the University Director (The Division for Communication and External Relations, and the Student Affairs and Academic Registry Division).

*Funding:* Within existing frameworks.

3.4 International student recruitment

The Programme for Internationalisation, section 4.2, states that the University will *strive for broad recruitment of the most motivated international students and develop its international programme offerings.* Achieving this goal requires a relevant offering of degree programmes with teaching in English and more scholarships. Continued improvement to recruitment is also necessary.
The University will

- broaden recruitment measures so that the number of EU/EEA students who are funded within the cap during autumn semester 2017 is at least equal to the number from autumn semester 2014. Furthermore, the number of non-European students will increase from about 460 in autumn semester 2015 to at least 750 in autumn term 2018.

_**Responsible:**_ The vice-rectors and the University Director (The Division for Communication and External Relations, and the Student Affairs and Academic Registry Division).

_**Funding:**_ Within existing frameworks.

### 3.5 Integrated internationalisation

According to the Programme for Internationalisation, section 4.1, each degree programme will have _the opportunity to participate in international exchanges through University-wide or programme-specific exchange programmes, e-learning or other forms of teaching that provide an international dimension_. Students will be given a foundation that allows them to place the programme’s field of knowledge in a global context and to make _international comparisons and reflections_. In the 2015 calendar year, 962 students were registered for exchange programmes in Ladok. However, it is important to note that several forms of international mobility are not registered as exchange programmes in Ladok, such as internships, degree projects, Minor Field Studies (MFS) and clinical internships.

The University will

- develop a model that better reports on the outgoing mobility of students.

_**Responsible:**_ The University Director (The Student Affairs and Academic Registry Division, and the Faculty Offices).

_**Funding:**_ Within existing frameworks.

- work to increase the number of students who participate in some form of mobility to 2,000 by autumn semester 2018.

_**Responsible:**_ The University Director (The Student Affairs and Academic Registry Division) and the vice-rectors.

_**Funding:**_ Within existing frameworks.

- work for all degree programmes to include relevant international dimensions.

_**Responsible:**_ The vice-rectors.

_**Funding:**_ Within existing frameworks.
• produce information for employees and students in English on the University websites.

**Responsible:** The University Director (The Division for Communication and External Relations together with the divisions concerned).

**Funding:** Within existing frameworks.

• develop and follow up on quality aspects related to internationalisation in conjunction with the planning and evaluation of degree programmes.

**Responsible:** The vice-rectors.

**Funding:** Within existing frameworks.

## 4 Follow-up

The action plan will be followed up every other year and prior to revision. The follow-up will be synchronized with follow-up of the Programme for Internationalisation. The Advisory Board for Internationalisation will support the revision and follow-up process. There must be a readiness for continuous evaluations and re-prioritisation. The disciplinary domains and University Administration will describe planned and completed measures related to the action plan in their operational plans and follow-up.