



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Global Engagement

2024



Global Engagement – working together on global challenges

Driven by a global perspective, Lund University is committed to enhancing impactful collaborations in education, research and innovation worldwide.

Lund University is consistently ranked among the world's top 100 universities. We are characterised by our wide disciplinary range and unique research infrastructures – cornerstones of Lund Innovation District.

Being member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), Universitas 21 (U21) and the European University Alliance for Global Health (EUGLOH), we are part of a vibrant global network. Lund University is distinctly international – 37% of our employees, 57% of our researchers and 44% of our Master's students are international. We have more than 560 partner institutions for staff and student exchange in some 70 countries.

We firmly believe in working across national and institutional boundaries. This commitment is realised through the Global Dynamic Engagement (GDE) approach, fostering cooperation and synergy on a global scale. GDE is an integral aspect of our continued efforts to advance as an internationally leading institution which defends democracy, human rights and academic freedom.

Through global hubs and together with partners around the world, we actively take on key global challenges. Ultimately, Lund University educates tomorrow's leaders by fostering a global mindset focused on sustainable, innovative and digital solutions.

Kristina Eneroth

Pro Vice-Chancellor for Strategic Engagement and International Affairs

Strategic directions

The world is undergoing rapid changes and growing complexity. Geopolitical conflicts, health crises, demographic changes, rising inequalities, increased autocratisation and decreased trust in knowledge organisations are impacting higher education institutions in a profound way, not least in terms of their internationalisation and global collaborations.

Additionally, many universities worldwide are experiencing growing constraints on academic freedom, along with regulations that impede international collaboration and recruitment.

With the Strategic Platform, we can respond to these challenges in new and faster ways, using our collective capabilities. The Platform is a tool for focusing, accelerating, structuring and inspiring development work.

The four priority areas of the Platform are:

- Strong research today and for the future
- Education in transition
- A creative learning and work environment
- Democracy and global engagement

Unlocking success lies in embracing three pivotal elements woven into every aspect of our prioritised areas:

- Sustainability
- Innovation
- Digitalisation

By seamlessly integrating these pillars into our development strategies, we not only propel towards growth and achievement but also pave the way for international impact.



Global Dynamic Engagement

Lund University is dedicated to fostering meaningful partnerships in education, research and innovation on a global scale.

As one of four priority areas in the Strategic Platform, Global Dynamic Engagement means:

- **Partnerships that make an international impact over time and match the University's direction and objectives within research, education and innovation.** Positioned strategically across the globe, global hubs serve as focal points for innovation where faculty, students, alumni and local communities converge to foster collaboration, learning and discovery. A global hub can be a city, a region, a country or any defined geographical area. Anchor universities and global hub partners offer high impact collaboration opportunities for students and staff.
- **Collaborations that enrich research and education and lead to global development and strengthen the University's competitiveness and attractiveness.** Connecting continents, cultivating collaboration and catalysing innovation – our international collaborative projects redefine education and research and make a long-lasting impact.

- **Memberships in networks and alliances that maximise the quality of the University's activities and increase the opportunities to influence developments in Europe and beyond.** Being part of prestigious networks like LERU, U21 and EUGLOH, we pave the way for excellence in education and research, influencing global developments. Through collaborative initiatives, we empower students with diverse learning experiences, foster lifelong learning partnerships with industry leaders and enhance employability and entrepreneurship. Together, we shape the future of education and drive innovation across borders.

Annual roadmaps outline prioritised activities for the University by bringing faculty, students, alumni and local communities together to learn and develop by innovative collaboration.

International Impact Actions, encompassing initiatives like seed funding calls, mobility schemes, workshops and global hub events, provide significant collaboration opportunities for both students and staff, driving high-impact outcomes.



Africa 2024

Lund University (LU) has long-standing partnerships in Africa, along with programmes focusing on or intersecting global and sustainable development. To promote collaboration, we operate through an internal Africa Strategy Group, an external advisory group and an annual university-wide Africa Day.

South Africa is the primary collaborator for research, followed by Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. Additionally, the University fosters connections with non-academic organisations and offers tailored capacity-building courses in partnership with institutions like AUDA-NEPAD.

Through the SASUF and SANORD platforms, LU prioritises collaboration with Global hub Southern Africa, aligning activities with overarching goals such as contributing to the UN's sustainable development agenda.

Despite reduced Swedish government funding for collaborative initiatives for students and staff and challenges faced by African institutions, **significant opportunities exist to further collaborations**, including expansion of mobility to countries beyond South Africa.



Through active participation in the SANORD and SASUF initiatives, and our commitment to global and sustainable development, we endeavour to nurture partnerships within Global hub Southern Africa, fostering collaborative connections across continents to tackle common challenges.

Asia 2024

Lund University (LU) has strong ties with higher education institutions in Asia and we are an attractive study destination for students from the region. Despite geopolitical tensions, the Asian countries, with their dynamic societies, rapid economic growth, educational needs and substantial research investments, are of significant interest for the University.

We have a long tradition of being actively engaged with low- and middle-income countries to support research of relevance to sustainable development, for example through centres and networks. Despite recent funding reductions in Sweden for such collaborations, we remain committed to responsible internationalisation in Asia.

Hong Kong, Korea and Singapore have been identified as Global hubs, making collaborations with local academic institutions and business actors a priority for the coming years. Moreover, Korea's expected association to Horizon Europe and the LU-coordinated project SKERIC – a partnership between eight Swedish and Korean universities – open new opportunities for collaboration in research and innovation.

With robust partnerships in Asia, not least in Global hubs Hong Kong, Korea and Singapore, we spearhead innovation, paving the way for transformative academic endeavours.



Europe 2024

Lund University (LU) maintains strong research and educational partnerships across Europe, acknowledging the region's pivotal role for advancing sustainability agendas and fostering transnational cooperation in higher education and research. Our commitment remains steadfast amid ongoing geopolitical uncertainties. It extends to prioritising cooperative initiatives in research, education and cooperation with key European partners, alongside fortifying collaborations with Ukraine.

Lund University actively engages in European alliances and networks such as LERU and EUGLOH. Through these engagements, we catalyse collaborative ventures and leverage their leadership roles to influence the development of higher education in Europe and beyond. Aligned with LU's research strategy, we have emerged as one of Europe's foremost participants in Horizon Europe. Considering the UK's recent and Switzerland's expected re-association to the programme, **we are initiating seed funding, workshops and mobility-enhancing initiatives** aimed at fostering collaboration, particularly among early career researchers.



Expanding collaborations in Global hub Europe with LERU, U2I and EUGLOH for stronger partnerships, greater institutional advancement and for shaping the future of European higher education.

Latin America 2024

Lund University boasts a wide range of partnerships with Latin American organisations and networks, and more student exchange agreements are being developed. We are the leading Swedish co-publishing partner with academic institutions in Latin America.

The EU and Latin American funding agencies are becoming more important to support collaborations on the continent. Our collaboration with Brazilian academic and non-academic actors continues, including research foundations and networks such as the São Paulo Research Foundation.

Global hub Chile will be our primary focus in consolidating our present partnerships for the years to come, with the support of a well-established Latin America coordination group. Collaboration with universities and non-academic partners in Chile takes place via the ACCESS collaborative platform, through initiatives such as academic forums, the development of digital, joint courses and mobility for doctoral students.



Expanding research and educational collaborations in Global hub Chile through the ACCESS platform, broadening engagement across disciplines through mobility initiatives and joint courses for doctoral students.

North America 2024

Canada and the US are very important partners to Lund University. **We have an extensive portfolio of student exchange agreements and many well-established research collaborations** with highly ranked universities. The US is our largest global co-publication partner.

There are good opportunities to further expand collaborations with partners in North America. Fields connected to sustainability, the green transition and to MAX IV and ESS hold notable promise, not least thanks to new cooperation agreements between Sweden and the US. **Lund Innovation District has a unique potential to propel new cooperative initiatives** with higher education institutions and innovation partners that excel in the field.

For the next few years, collaborative initiatives are primarily directed towards three global hubs: Canada, the Bay Area and the East Coast. Canada's association to Horizon Europe brings increased opportunities to fund joint ventures in research and innovation. For this reason, **we are launching seed funding calls to stimulate new collaborations, especially for early career researchers.**



Cultivating partnerships in Global hubs, fostering innovation and research breakthroughs while capitalising on Canada's Horizon Europe association to fuel collaborative ventures.

Oceania 2024

Lund University (LU) has strong research and educational partnerships in Oceania, with Australia and New Zealand serving as highly sought-after exchange destinations. Our membership in Universitas 21 with five esteemed institutions from Oceania is a strong collaborative tool.

There is untapped potential to deepen the University's engagement in Oceania, especially in advancing the green transition. **New Zealand's association to Horizon Europe opens new opportunities for collaborative endeavours in research and innovation.**

To catalyse partnerships, LU is initiating seed funding calls and implementing a mobility programme for doctoral students and academic staff. While Australia and New Zealand collectively form Global hub Oceania, special emphasis is placed on the Melbourne region.



Fostering partnerships in Global hub Oceania: from U21 initiatives to Horizon Europe partnerships, we are paving the way for innovation and educational collaboration.

Working together on global challenges

SUSTAINABLE | INNOVATIVE | DIGITAL



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