



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

STRATEGY

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Vice-Chancellor

## **Lund University's strategy for cooperation with Africa**

*Approved by the vice-chancellor on 27 November 2014*

### **A. Summary**

Lund University wishes to reinforce its cooperation with African universities. Internationalisation is one of the University's prioritised strategies and increased cooperation with Africa is in line with this strategy. Rapid societal changes are underway in several African countries and a mutual need for cooperation and exchange is now evident. Lund University has previously built up cooperation in Asia, not least in China, and the time is now ripe for strategic investment in Africa. In a time of accelerating globalisation, we see an increased interest among our lecturers and students in collaboration with Africa, among other things. However, the developments of recent years entail that some funding bodies, such as the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, SIDA, or the European Commission, require university-wide strategies, agreements or contracts. In this context, higher education institutions with well-developed strategies and a well thought-out organisation have a clear competitive advantage. The proposed strategy can be seen as a first step towards achieving this.

#### ***Lund University shall:***

- Develop university-wide cooperation and student exchange with the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, the University of Nairobi, Kenya and Makerere University, Uganda, and develop its cooperation with Addis Abeba University, Ethiopia, the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Cairo University, Egypt and the University of Ghana.
- Work towards increased funding for the above collaborations from various funding bodies such as the European Commission (e.g. Erasmus+ and H2020), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, SIDA (e.g. Research Training Partnership Programme) and the Swedish Council for Higher Education (e.g. the Linnaeus-Palme programme).
- Within commissioned education, prioritise the thematic collaboration areas of sustainability, health, rights, democracy, security, commerce, and schooling.
- Invest in increased recruitment of African students from Uganda, Mozambique, Rwanda and Tanzania and investigate the possibility of marketing the University in collaboration with the Swedish Institute in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia.
- Arrange an annual Africa Day at the University as of 2015, and investigate the possibility of implementing a larger Africa forum.
- Establish a website/portal for internal and external agents and set up an internal mailing list.
- Better exploit the University's networks.
- Investigate the possibility of setting up a scholarship programme for incoming exchange students from Africa with the help of the Lund University Global Scholarship Fund, the 350 Club and the Development Office.
- Work to obtain more donations intended for scholarships for African students – both exchange students and programme students.
- Establish an external reference group and an internal working group, and employ a young researcher at 50% for a year.

- Implement a meeting with SIDA and the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs to inform them about the strategy, contact the Nordic Africa Institute to investigate the possibility of developing cooperation and investigate the opportunities for cooperation with UNESCO.

## **B. Institutional context**

The vision for Lund University is to be "a world-class university that works to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition". The objective is the highest quality in education, research, innovation and cooperation with wider society, to be achieved through four strategies, of which one is internationalisation. As part of the University's action plan for internationalisation 2010–2011 (reg. no 2010/499), it was decided to establish a university-wide strategy for cooperation with Africa; a project plan to draw up a strategy was approved (reg. no SAMV 2014/176).

The aim of the strategy for cooperation with Africa is to initiate, reinforce and deepen collaboration with African higher education institutions and other relevant African institutions; to contribute to reinforcing capacity at Lund University and at African universities – research, education, innovation and administration; to highlight and present a cohesive picture of existing LU activities with connections to Africa; and to prioritise university-wide activities for student exchange, recruitment and other joint initiatives. The strategy is to constitute support for the work of the faculties and departments. Due to a change in recent years, the entire University is now more often required to back applications, investments or other activities. In the work with the present strategy, valuable experience has been taken from strategic work with Asia and in particular with China.

## **C. Swedish context**

Swedish commitment and participation in global development issues depends on Swedish research expertise for qualitative and relevant participation in various collaborations – bilaterally, regionally and internationally. In addition, cooperation with researchers and institutions internationally and in low and middle income countries is crucial as, without it, Swedish research of particular relevance to developing countries risks overlooking important knowledge and quality dimensions.

Sweden's policy for global development (PGU) states that close cooperation with agents in Sweden and in our cooperation partner countries in the drafting and implementation of the policy further reinforces its impact. Education and research in Sweden play a central role here, insofar as they constitute key components for an increased understanding of global development processes. The government considers that education at all levels should be permeated as much as possible by a global perspective. International cooperation is required for research and education initiatives to be successful. Internationally competitive Swedish research expertise within the field of development is also an important resource for the activities of the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, SIDA and other relevant agents. In addition, one of the targets for the area of activity stated in SIDA's strategy for support to research cooperation 2010–2014 is increased production of Swedish research relevant to combating poverty in developing countries.

## **D. Production of documentation for mapping purposes**

**Collaborations with Africa:** Research collaborations with researchers from Africa have been mapped with the help of data on co-publications from the Lund University Publications database (LUP) and from Web of Science. A publication with authors from more than one country is counted once for each country. Collaborations, not restricted to research collaborations, were also mapped through a survey within LU. Researchers and lecturers have been offered the opportunity to complement the mapping done using the survey.

**Research on Africa:** Research on Africa has been mapped using data from the Lund University Publications database (LUP) and from Web of Science about publications which have "Africa" or an

African country or region in the title or in the abstract. Research on Africa was also mapped using the survey mentioned above.

**Exchange students:** The number of exchange students from Africa was retrieved from LADOK

**Free movers from Africa:** The number of incoming students from Africa outside the framework of agreements before the introduction of tuition fees, so-called free movers, was retrieved from the figures compiled by Statistics Sweden.

**Fee-paying students from Africa:** The number of fee-paying students from Africa was retrieved from the University's education database – KUBEN.

**Commissioned education students:** The number of commissioned education students was retrieved from the database managed by the office for commissioned education (LUCE).

**Alumni:** The number of alumni was retrieved from the University's alumni database.

## E. Results

### Delivery target 1: Mapping of ongoing activities at LU with connections to Africa.

The mapping shows that Lund University has a great breadth and many collaborations with researchers and lecturers at African higher education institutions. There are currently collaborations at all the faculties with varying scope and different formats. The University also has extensive research on Africa of which a part is conducted without direct collaboration with African researchers but is nevertheless of great importance for development globally and in Africa.

The data from Web of Science and the Lund University Publications database show that researchers at Lund University have co-published 513 articles together with researchers from 32 countries between 2004 and 2013. The largest number of publications is co-published with researchers from South Africa followed by Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Uganda, Kenya, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Tanzania, Gambia and Ethiopia. The largest proportion of co-published articles is from the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering. A division into two periods (2004–2008 and 2009–2013) shows that the number of co-publications has increased with most of the countries except Kenya, where there is no change and Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Ethiopia, where the number has decreased.

The compilation of the survey responses indicates collaboration with 34 countries. The forms of collaboration vary in scope and nature and concern both less extensive collaborations, such as individual contacts of lecturers or researchers, and large research collaborations spanning several years. South Africa is the country with most collaborations followed by Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. More extensive collaborations, funded via SIDA, are present in Mozambique, Uganda and Rwanda.

African higher education institutions or research institutes which have collaborations with the largest number of units within Lund University were mapped by combining the results on co-publication with the survey responses. There is cooperation with a relatively large number of units within Lund University at the most highly ranked universities in South Africa but also at higher education institutions in other countries. The following higher education institutions collaborate with relatively many parts of Lund University:

- Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- University of Cape Town, South Africa
- University of Pretoria, South Africa
- University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

- University of the Western Cape, South Africa
- Cairo University, Egypt
- University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
- University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Addis Abeba University, Ethiopia
- Makerere University, Uganda
- University of Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique

Collaboration with fewer units within Lund University exists with:

- University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda
- University of Botswana, Botswana
- University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- University of Ghana, Ghana

The higher education institution or research institute with the highest number of co-publications with Lund University was the Indepth Network Surveillance Site/Bandim Health Project in Guinea-Bissau. Similarly to the National Public Health Lab in Guinea-Bissau, which also has many co-publications with LU, these are published by researchers at Lund University's Faculty of Medicine.

Lund University has a lot of research on Africa. The total number of publications from Lund University (Web of Science and Lund University Publications database) which mention "Africa" or an African country in the title or the abstract between 2004 and 2013 is 692. "Africa" occurred most frequently in the articles followed by South Africa, Egypt, Guinea Bissau, Tanzania, and Uganda. The largest number of publications about Africa is written by researchers from the Faculties of Science and Medicine, followed by Social Sciences, Engineering, the School of Economics and Management and the Faculties of Humanities and Theology.

There is currently a university-wide Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Stellenbosch University, South Africa, Makerere University in Uganda and the University of Rwanda. There is a university-wide student exchange agreement with Stellenbosch University, while a similar agreement, together with an MoU, is in the process of being set up with the University of the Western Cape, University of Pretoria, University of Cape Town, and University of Botswana.

There are university-wide collaborations within the EU-funded Erasmus Mundus Action 2 programme EUROSA and the SANORD network. The University is also a technical partner in the Intra-ACP project TRECCAfrica. Within the framework of the Linnaeus-Palme exchange agreement, collaborations currently take place with Makerere University, Uganda, the University of Cape Town, South Africa and the University of Botswana, Botswana.

Most of the fee-paying students at LU currently originate mainly from Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The largest groups of Erasmus Mundus Action 2 students have come from Egypt, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana and Cameroon.

The University's commissioned education programmes with participants from Africa have contributed to development within several important societal sectors such as road safety, human rights and schooling, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Most students on commissioned education originate from Tanzania, followed by Uganda, Zambia, Ethiopia, South Africa, Malawi, Nigeria, Kenya and Namibia. Exchange mobility which is registered in LADOK shows that we have exchange students from South Africa, Kenya, Egypt and Zambia. Of the few students who are registered in the University's alumni database, most come from Tanzania followed by Egypt, Kenya and Uganda.

## **Delivery target 2: A list of priorities for formalised and university-wide collaborations to be developed**

A list of priorities for formalised and university-wide collaborations has the following parameters as its starting point: 1) established LU contacts, 2) opportunity for collaborations with more faculties within LU, 3) university ranking, 4) funding opportunities for collaborations, 5) conditions including security for sending students and lecturers, 6) interest on the part of LU and the partner university to develop collaboration. The University's ethical guidelines and principles are to be followed.

There is currently a university-wide Memorandum of Understanding with Stellenbosch University, South Africa, Makerere University in Uganda, the University of Rwanda, and within the framework of the Universitas 21 (U21) network, with the University of Johannesburg. Conditions are assessed as favourable for initiating broader university-wide collaborations and reaching partnership agreements with the University of the Witwatersrand, the University of Nairobi and Addis Abeba University. Also of interest are Cairo University and the University of Ghana as they already have some collaboration with Lund University, and because these two higher education institutions are among the most highly ranked outside South Africa. As Tanzania is a priority country for SIDA, it would be interesting for Lund University to approach the University of Dar es Salaam, with which it already has some collaborations. In the future, the University of Zimbabwe could also be of interest as collaboration already occurs and the level of education is still good. Faculties, departments and research teams develop their own collaborations with other higher education institutions. Where there is both need and interest, this can be done with university-wide support. Opportunities for university-wide collaborations should be investigated for:

- University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Addis Abeba University, Ethiopia
- Cairo University, Egypt
- University of Ghana, Ghana
- University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

For student exchanges, the aspects considered to be important are the potential for reciprocity in the exchanges, that the partner university has a sufficient range of courses taught in English of a sufficiently high quality, that the credits from the studies can be transferred, and student safety. In this context, the possibility of setting up a scholarship programme should also be investigated (see below under Delivery target 5). Lund University has a student exchange programme with Stellenbosch University. Lund University should finalise negotiations and initiate discussions on student exchange with:

- University of the Western Cape, South Africa, finalise
- University of Pretoria, South Africa, finalise
- University of Cape Town, South Africa, finalise
- University of Botswana, Botswana, finalise
- University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, initiate
- University of Nairobi, Kenya, initiate
- Makerere University, Uganda, initiate

Within the framework of these collaborations, the University should strive to obtain increased funding through various channels such as Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, Linnaeus-Palme, SIDA. Another important aspect in LU's cooperation with Africa is the work on increasing capacity, not only on the individual level but above all on the level of organisational development. For example, commissioned education at LU has as an explicit target to contribute to capacity development in Africa. In line with SIDA's Outcomes strategy for capacity development and exchanges 2014–2017,

in its commissioned education Lund University will focus on international capacity development programmes aimed at increasing expertise at the individual level and improving capacity in organisations to drive change processes for effective poverty reduction, a strong rights perspective and long term sustainable development. Through the networks created, these programmes are to lead to increased contact interfaces and established relations between individuals, organisations and institutions in other countries and Sweden. In line with existing demand and the Swedish Policy for Global Development, LU has the following prioritised thematic fields for cooperation: children's rights, above all in school and education; educational management; sustainable cities; sexual and reproductive health and rights; human rights, democracy, governance and anti-corruption; road safety and traffic planning, international commerce.

***Lund University shall:***

- Investigate the possibility of developing university-wide collaborations with the University of Nairobi in Kenya, Addis Abeba University, Ethiopia, the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Cairo University, Egypt, the University of Ghana, Ghana and possibly the University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
- Investigate the opportunities for student exchange agreements with the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, the University of Nairobi, Kenya, Makerere University, Uganda
- Within commissioned education, prioritise the thematic cooperation areas of sustainability, health, rights, democracy, security, commerce and schooling
- Within the framework of these collaborations, the University should work for increased funding through various channels such as Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, Linnaeus-Palme, SIDA

**Delivery target 3: A list of priority geographical areas for marketing LU**

Several study programmes within Lund University are based on a global classroom with students from various parts of the world. In order to support potential students efficiently with information on study programmes and scholarships, a number of countries should be prioritised on the basis of 1) the interest of students in applying to study at LU, 2) the number of applicants who were previously offered study places (competitive strength), and 3) the possibility of funding for studies in Sweden, mainly through scholarships. The number of students at Master's level has therefore been mapped.

The number of applications to study programmes at the Master's degree level from students with a home address in Africa increased from 1688 applicants for the 2013 admissions to 2051 for admissions in 2014. The 12 countries with the largest number of applicants for 2013 were Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia, Egypt, Cameroon, and Rwanda, South Africa and Sudan. For admission in 2014, these same 12 countries had the largest number of applicants, although in a somewhat different order. The vast majority of students from Africa who were registered, i.e. who paid the tuition fees, during 2013 and 2014, received funding either from the Swedish Institute (SI) or from the Lund University Global Scholarship Fund.

The three countries with the largest number of applicants for admissions in both 2013 and 2014 were Ethiopia, Ghana and Nigeria. Neither Ghana nor Nigeria is a prioritised country for SI scholarships. Few applicants from Nigeria were offered admission whereas there were relatively many from Ghana. Relatively few Ghanaians ended up receiving funding for their studies at LU. From Sudan and Cameroon, no applicants were offered a place in 2013 and five from Sudan and non from Cameroon in 2014. Neither Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan nor Cameroon are suggested as prioritised marketing areas whereas it could be interesting to collaborate on marketing with SI on Ethiopia as a prioritised country for scholarships.

Of the remaining 8 countries, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia, Rwanda are included in the highest priority category for SI scholarships. Egypt and South Africa are in SI's category 2. People from Rwanda and Tanzania apply to a relatively large extent to the UK whereas few of them apply to

Sweden. As these countries are given highest priority for SI scholarships, they are interesting for LU's marketing. Mozambique is also included in the highest priority category for SI scholarships so it is interesting for LU to market itself there, as the UK gets many applications whereas Sweden gets relatively few. The highest priority category also includes Kenya, Uganda and Zambia, but the relative advantage for an individual university to market itself in these countries is considered to be lower, and marketing is proposed in cooperation with SI in these countries. South Africa can also be interesting as there are special scholarships for South Africa but also because it can be a way of reaching Zimbabweans who make up 80 % of the international students in South Africa. Lund University should thus invest in increased recruitment of students with a chance to obtain an SI scholarship or an LU scholarship, but also of those who could potentially receive other funding.

In order to be able to welcome more incoming degree programme students, the University should work to obtain more donations intended for scholarships for African students.

***Lund University shall:***

- Invest in increased information and marketing activities in Uganda, Mozambique, Rwanda and Tanzania
- Investigate the possibility of marketing the University in collaboration with the Swedish Institute in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia

**Delivery target 4: Proposal for other university-wide activities at LU to stimulate cooperation with the continent.**

Lund University already has a number of activities related to Africa. With relatively limited means, several elements could be improved such as information within LU, visibility within and outside LU, and the use of existing networks. The Faculty of Medicine organised an Africa Day in autumn 2013 which contributed to highlighting the faculty's activities in research and education and to increasing cooperation and new collaborations. It would be possible to organise a similar event for the whole University once per year, starting in 2015. The responsibility for its organisation could rotate among the faculties. The possibility of implementing a larger event such as an Africa forum with invited external guests etc. should also be investigated.

Another prioritised issue is to highlight Lund University's activities in Africa. This can be achieved by setting up a website/portal to highlight activities at LU with links to researchers/research teams etc. The objective is to inform external and internal agents about what LU does. To make it easier to stay in contact and to disseminate information about Africa within LU, the proposal is to set up a mailing list within LU in 2015. In addition, an action plan aiming to increase the use of the University's strategic networks such as LERU, U21, SANORD, but also ESAMI (gm EHL/Trapca) is to be set up.

***Lund University shall:***

- Organise an annual Africa Day as of 2015
- Investigate the possibility of implementing a larger Africa forum
- Set up a website/portal for internal and external agents
- Set up a mailing list

**Delivery target 5: To investigate the possibility of setting up a scholarship programme for incoming exchange students from selected higher education institutions in Africa.**

Scholarships are needed for incoming exchange students from Africa at Lund University. Scholarship programmes at African higher education institutions are very limited and rare and the vast majority of students in Africa have no possibility of financing travel and living expenses for exchange studies in Sweden themselves. African students being unable to come to LU threatens the opportunity for LU students to travel as exchange students to African universities, as the University strives for reciprocity

in exchange agreements. The University therefore needs to build up some kind of financial support for incoming exchange students from Africa, such as a scholarship programme. The scholarships can be linked to strategic partners. The University should strive to obtain more donations intended for scholarships for African students. In this context, contacts should be made internationally, including with parts of the UN system such as UNESCO, as well as internally, with the Lund University Global Scholarship Fund, the 350 Club and the Development Office.

***Lund University shall:***

- Investigate the possibility of setting up a scholarship programme for incoming exchange students from Africa, with the help of the Lund University Global Scholarship Fund, the 350 Club and the Development Office.
- Strive to obtain more donations intended for scholarships for African students.

**Delivery target 6: To set up a more long term group with responsibility for developing the University's work regarding Africa.**

In order to work systematically and over the long term on developing the University's cooperation with Africa, the University should set up the following in 2015: a) an external reference group, b) a working group and c) a part-time project position.

The proposed external reference group would have the task of providing advice, inspiration and strategic recommendations, to generate initial contacts with important agents and networks. It is suggested that the reference group meet once or twice per year and that it consist of around 10 people. A representative of the University management would chair the group. Suitable expertise and experience would be a position as vice-chancellor of an African university, EU expertise and networks, business and industry contacts, support from SIDA and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, experience from the world of diplomacy, research experience.

The proposed internal working group would have the task of providing continuous support for the development of LU's cooperation with the region, to evaluate incoming suggestions and proposals, prepare documentation for the reference group and evaluate developments. It is suggested that the working group meet three times per semester and that it consist of around 4 researchers/lecturers from LU with relevant experience.

The project position is for a researcher/lecturer at the postdoc level with experience from Africa, for employment at 50% for one year. The appointment would be financed with central funds transferred to the project office. The assignment is to support the implementation of the strategy by running subprojects, building up contacts and communicating with faculties and departments. The holder of the project position would report to the working group.

***Lund University shall:***

- Set up an external reference group with the task of providing strategic recommendations
- Set up an internal working group to continuously support university-wide development
- Employ a young researcher at 50 % for a year to speed up the implementation of the strategy and to run sub-projects

**Delivery target 7: Proposal for how LU can reinforce communication with SIDA, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and other funders for cooperation in Africa.**

The University should continue to develop its contacts with SIDA and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs by taking the initiative for a meeting with the director general of SIDA, its head of research and a representative from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to discuss future developments and cooperation. Meetings with other funders should also be implemented but need to be planned together with the working group. Many Lund researchers have contacts with the Nordic Africa Institute in



Uppsala and it may be worth investigating how cooperation with the Nordic Africa Institute could be developed. We should also approach UN bodies concerned with higher education and research such as UNESCO.

***Lund University shall:***

- Implement a meeting with SIDA and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to inform them about its strategy
- Contact the Nordic Africa Institute to investigate potential for developing cooperation
- Investigate the possibility of cooperating with UNESCO