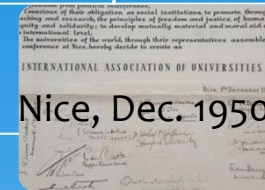# International Association of Universities

Facts and figures:

- Created in **1950**, IAU is the only **global** university association (NGO)

- Based at **UNESCO**, IAU acts as a independent voice for higher education

- IAU brings together more than **600** universities worldwide and Membership is growing

- Besides **Institutional** Members, IAU also has **Organizational** Members, **Affiliates** and **Associates**

Nice, Dec. 1950

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- Building a worldwide higher education community

Values and principles

Academic freedom

Accountability

Justice

Institutional autonomy

Institutional effectiveness

Condemns all forms of discrimination

Human dignity

Academic mobility

Solidarity

Intercultural dialogue

Internationalization of knowledge

Knowledge accessible to all

Respect for divergent opinion

Freedom

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Functions

- **Brings** higher education leaders **together** building a global platform for exchange on key topics and emerging issues

- Maintains a unique **database of higher education institutions and systems** worldwide (WHED)

- **Analyzes, monitors** and **informs** about trends in higher education from comparative and international perspectives

- **Advocates** and **promotes** the interests of the higher education community to international governmental bodies such as UN, OECD, WB, CoE, EU, ASEAN, AU etc.

- **Builds capacity** and provides **policy advice** upon demand from institutions in several areas of expertise

Capacity buil
Advocacy
Policy Advice
Information
Disseminatio
Research
Convening
Analysis

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Governance structure

President

2012-2016 Prof. Dzulkifli Abdul Razak

Administrative Board

21 Members representing all regions

Secretary-General

Eva Egron-Polak

Secretariat

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Global conferences and meetings

IAU has a **unique capacity to convene world leaders** in higher education and offers a platform for discussion, reflection and collective action on common priorities.

IAU organizes:

➤ **Thematic Annual International Conferences**

➤ **Quadrennial General Conferences**

➤ **Bi-annual Global Meetings of Associations (GMA)**

➤ **Training workshops and seminars**

IAU **involves experts from its Members** in the Conference programme and Members also benefit from **preferential registration rates**.

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Global conferences and meetings

IAU International Conference 2014

- Date and place: **Universidad Cientifica del peru**, Iquitos, Peru on 19-21 March 2014.

- Higher education leaders from all around the world discussed the theme: *Blending Higher Education and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development and **the draft IAU Iquitos Statement on Higher Education for Sustainable Development.***

- The IAU Conference is a milestone in the preparation of the ***UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development** in Japan, November 2014*

- The Conference offered an opportunity for higher education leaders to share experiences, exchange and to discuss the unique position higher education institutions have to drive societal change towards sustainable development.

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Global conferences and meetings

Upcoming events

- **IAU 2015 Global Meeting of Associations (GMA)** , hosted by the Association of African Universities in collaboration with the University of Ghana, **Ghana, May 2015**

- **IAU International Conference 2015**: on the internationalization of higher education, University of Siena, **Siena, Italy, 28-30 October 2015**

- **15th IAU General Conference 2016**: **Bangkok, Thailand**, hosted by Siam University, Chulalongkorn University and Suranaree University of Technology
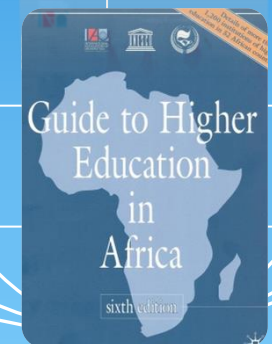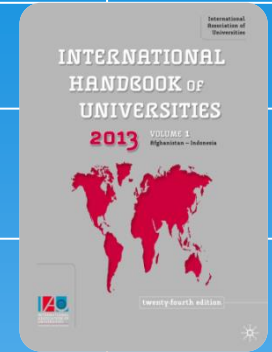
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Mapping higher education

The World Higher Education Database (WHED)

- Contains information on more than **18,000 higher education institutions** and describes **national education systems** worldwide.

- The information is published annually in a **3 volume Handbook** and is accessible through the **WHED portal (www.whed.net).** IAU Members benefit from advanced access to the portal.

- The information is used as a reference for **higher education institutions worldwide** by a large variety of users from students to heads of institutions as well as corporate HR.

- IAU counts on all institutions to provide information to ensure the constant accuracy and quality of information.
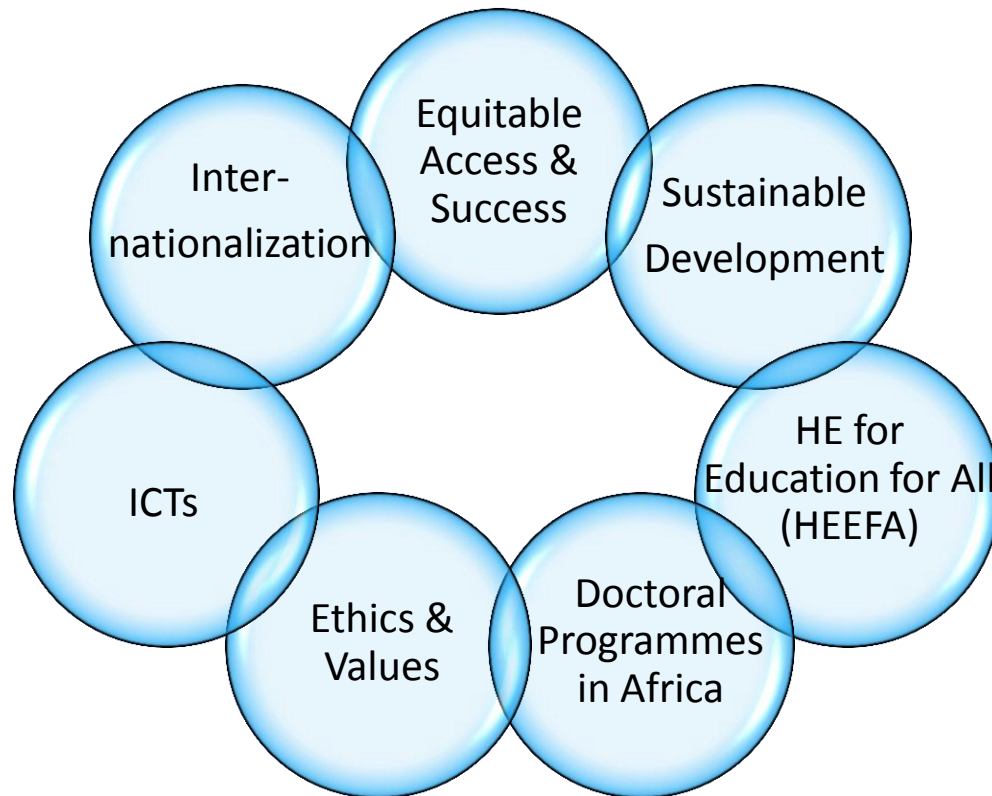
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Information clearing house

- Monthly **E-bulletin**, the most comprehensive source of links to higher education policies, opportunities and news worldwide available online.

- **IAU Horizons**, the thematic tri-annual magazine debating important higher education issues, presenting perspectives from all regions.

- Monthly **IAU Highlights from the Press,** focusing on a selection of articles on higher education in the world press.

- Quarterly indexed journal, **Higher Education Policy** presenting advanced analyses available on policy processes applied to higher education.

E-Bulletin
Sharing information or

IAU Horizons

Highlights
Monthly Press Review

HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY

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Thematic priorities

Equitable Access & Success

Inter-nationalization

Sustainable Development

ICTs

HE for Education for All (HEEFA)

Ethics & Values

Doctoral Programmes in Africa

Capacity bui[...]
Advocacy
Policy Advice
Information
Disseminatio[...]
Research
Convening
Analysis

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Thematic priorities

Internationalization

- **Global Surveys on internationalization of higher education** undertaken since 2013, providing unique data on trends and developments. 4th edition will be based on responses from 1300+ institutions from 131 countries. The **4th Global Survey report entitled:** *Growing expectations, fundamental values* was published in April 2014. Members benefit from a preferential rate.

- **Re-thinking internationalization**: with a number of experts, IAU develops **policy statements** highlighting the advantages of internationalization as well as the possible adverse effects it can bring. IAU advocates for HEIs to create a just and inclusive global higher education space.

- IAU Members can benefit from the **Internationalization Strategies Advisory Service (ISAS)** at a preferential rate, taking advantage from experts ready to assist them in clarifying and refining their institutional internationalization strategy. Services are tailored to specific needs and contexts.

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Thematic priorities

Equitable access and success

- IAU experts from Members developed the **Policy statement**: *Equitable Access, Success and Quality in Higher Education* to advocate for the importance of these twin objecticves at the global level.

- Moving from policy to action, IAU designed an **Institutional Self-Study Instrument** to enable institutions to examine their policies and programs for **improving equitable access and success** for learners from marginalized groups. A pilot project served to test the approach and instrument in 2010.

- 28 IAU Member institutions undertook a self-study exercise in 2013. IAU prepared a summary **report on equitable access and success policies and programmes** as background for an IAU Workshop held during the first *World Congress on Access to Postsecondary Education* 2013.

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Sustainable Development (HESD)

- The *Kyoto declaration on Sustainable development* (SD) was adopted in 1993. Since then the Association has developed projects, taken part in international or regional initiatives and regularly organized events to foster **universities' roles in promoting sustainable development**.

- IAU partners with various actors, international organization and other bodies from around the world to build synergies aiming at developing solutions for the future. IAU sits on panels and reference groups at **UNESCO, UNU, UNEP**, contributes to the development of RCEs and more. Its activities will inform the *UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development*.

- The **IAU Portal on HESD** (**www.iau-hesd.net**) is a collaborative platform **mapping, centralizing** and **disseminating** information on activities and actions promoting sustainable development undertaken by HEIs around the world with a view to **share experience and lessons learned**.

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Thematic priorities

HE for Education For All (HEEFA)

- IAU **raises awareness** on the role higher education can play and **advocates** for better inclusion of the sub-sector in **EFA** (a UN initiative led by UNESCO) in order to offer quality education to all children, youth and adults.

- IAU organizes local **capacity building workshops** to inform the higher education community about EFA and EFA stakeholders about what higher education can bring to EFA. These workshops end with a commonly agreed upon statement that defines how to involve higher education in local EFA activities.

- The **IAU online HEEFA platform, disseminates information** about the work being undertaken by higher education in EFA-related fields and provides access and visibility to data on higher education projects, documents and experts active in EFA.

HEEFA
Higher Education (HE)
for Education For All (EFA)

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Doctoral Programmes in Africa

- In collaboration with institutional Members in sub-Saharan Africa, IAU is monitoring and analysing the changes taking place in doctoral programmes in in sub-Saharan Africa in order to:

  ✓ **Increase** and **disseminate** knowledge about different models and alternate approaches

  ✓ **Forster networking** and **exchange** of information among institutions

  ✓ **Enhance** and **strengthen** doctoral programmes and training in Africa.

- In support of the project an **institutional self-assessment tool** has been developed and serves to collect and analyze policies.

- The IAU portal on *Innovative Approaches to Doctoral Education in Africa (IDEA-PhD)* provides tools and information to assist HEIs in the development of their Doctoral Programmes.

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Thematic priorities

🔵 Ethics and Values

- IAU in collaboration with the Magna Charta Observatory (MCO), has elaborated a set of *Guidelines for an Institutional Code of Ethics in Higher Education*. The purpose of these Guidelines, adopted in 2012, is to serve as an instrument **to develop, improve and strengthen policies and ethical codes** in higher education institutions worldwide.

- Both organizations agreed to collaborate and set up a **Joint Working Group** to develop the next steps in bringing the Guidelines to life at the institutional level.

- The Joint Working Group will develop an **action plan for moving forward**, under consideration are possible offer of assistance to interested institutions in analysing, developing, improving policies and ethical codes and operationalizing the guidelines.

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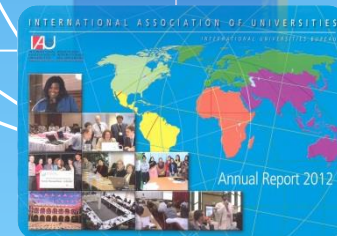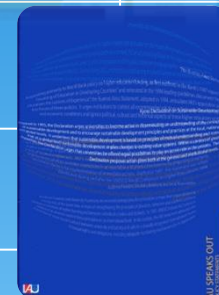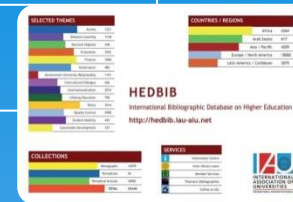
Thematic priorities

🔵 ICTs

- Training and Support programme for Academic Librarians on **Open Educational Resources (OER)** Use, Re-Use, and Production aims at raising awareness on the possibilities offered by OER for **improving access to higher education worldwide** and **increasing the re-use and production of OER** in regions where they are still under-developed;

- The **ICT for Information Accessibility Project (ICT4IAL)** – project led by the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education – aims at **raising awareness** and **increasing the visibility** of the issue of **accessible online information provision** and developing guidelines to support their development within organizations, including higher education institutions.

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IAU also offers

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- Access to the **International Bibliographic Database on Higher Education (HEDBIB)** containing more than **37,000 references** on higher education **systems, administration, planning, policy, and evaluation**.

- Internationally adopted **Policy statements** published online and in *IAU Speaks Out*.

- Competitive **LEADHER grants** to initiate institutional partnerships for **improved management** and **leadership.**

- More information about **IAU achievements** is available in the **IAU annual reports** and on the **IAU website** (www.iau-aiu.net).

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International Association of Universities

- **Be part of the global platform** and voice for Higher Education

- **Share your experience** and learn from others beyond national and regional borders

- **Help shape Higher Education** for a better world for all

Join IAU!

www.iau-aiu.net

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