VLIR-UOS programme:
Sharing Minds, Changing Lives

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VLIR-UOS: What’s in a name

• Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR) – University Cooperation for Development (UOS / UCfD)

• VLIR-UOS created in 1998 under the umbrella of the Flemish Interuniversity Council

• 100 % funded by the federal Belgian minister for Development Cooperation

• Average annual budget of € 31 million

• 20 partner countries in Latin-America, Africa and Asia
VLIR-UOS supports partnerships between universities and university colleges in Flanders and the South looking for innovative responses to global and local challenges.
SHARING MINDS

Projects & programmes

Scholarships & Education

CHANGING LIVES

social impact
21 country programmes
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Partner countries as of 2017</th>
<th>+ scholarship countries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Africa</strong></td>
<td><strong>Asia</strong></td>
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<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
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<td>DR Congo</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
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<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
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<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Lat.-Am.</td>
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<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Bolivia</td>
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<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
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<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
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<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Peru</td>
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<td>Suriname</td>
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<td>Benin</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
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<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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<td>Guinee</td>
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<td>Cameroun</td>
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<td>Madagaskar</td>
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<td>Senegal</td>
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<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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The role of universities in development – VLIR-UOS model

VLIR-UOS as broker and platform:

- Facilitate win-win partnerships between Higher Education Institutions
- Enable peer-to-peer cooperation between academics
- Strengthen international networks growing from projects
- Manage competitive “open” calls
Higher Education Institutions contribute to sustainable development

Higher Education Institutions empowered in their role as drivers of change

Individuals empowered as change agents

Projects & programmes

Improved Research
Improved Education
New knowledge, applications or services created + UPTAKE

Education & scholarships

New knowledge & skills
Training & Master programmes

Capacity development of Flemish HEI to create the conditions for university cooperation for development

The role of universities in development – VLIR-UOS model
## VLIR-UOS portfolio – South

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departmental level projects</th>
<th>SI</th>
<th>South initiatives, focused short-term projects of maximum 2 years, max. 70,000 EUR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TEAM</td>
<td>Departmental projects of maximum 4 years, max. 280,000 EUR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>JOINT</td>
<td>Joint International Academic Networking: synergy between VLIR-UOS partner, maximum 3 years, max. 135,000 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional level Programmes</td>
<td>IUC</td>
<td>Institutional University Cooperation (10 years), max. 570,000 EUR/year</td>
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<td>National level programmes</td>
<td>NETWORK</td>
<td>National Network, starting from a former IUC partner university, theme based (10 years), max. 250,000 EUR/year</td>
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VLIR-UOS portfolio - Belgium

- Education and training:
  - **ICP**: international master programmes
  - **ITP**: international training programmes
- **Scholarships** programme: scholarships for the selected ICP and ITP programmes (12 per programme)
- Capacity strengthening in university cooperation for development: **Global Minds** (per university)
Creating the conditions for impact: Trends & challenges

Unpacking the black box of development impact

- Impact oriented planning and monitoring (Theory of Change approach) …
- Impact evaluation …

… allowing double-loop learning about what works, what doesn’t, why, for who, and in what circumstances
Creating the conditions for impact: Trends & challenges

Creating conditions for development results … right from the start

- Selection of projects: going beyond “scientific quality” …
- Matchmaking & joint project proposals by academics
- Planning for impact
Creating the conditions for impact: Trends & challenges

- Regional calls for proposals
- Competitive selection
- 6 OECD/DAC criteria: Scientific quality, development relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, (potential) impact
- Selection by independent, regional selection committees (mix academic & development experts)
VLIR-UOS projects in “Oceans” theme

• Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management (‘Oceans & Lakes’)
  • 2-year Msc programme (supported since 2001)
  • Organised by Vrije Universiteit Brussel (lead), University of Antwerp and Ghent University
  • Includes a “South component” for which it receives funding
  • 12 scholarships per year
VLIR-UOS projects in “Oceans” theme

• GREEN DYKE: The use of natural barriers for coastal protection in Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka, 5y project, VUB)

• Development of bachelor level education at the Cambodia Maritime Institute (Cambodia, 2y project, UA)

• Impacts of open access to mangrove forests on benthic biodiversity (Kenya, 3y project, UGent)
VLIR-UOS projects in “Oceans” theme

- International inTEnsive Southern training proGRAmme and network Development for marine and lacustrine scientists (InteGRADE; Tanzania, 2y project, VUB)

- Zoobenthic biodiversity of Can Gio mangrove ecosystems and the dissemination of its status and importance to the local communities (Vietnam, 2y project, UGent)

- Functional characterization of antimicrobial peptides from marine invertebrates with potential use as therapeutics (Cuba, 2y project, KU Leuven)
What’s in it for you & your partners?

• Scholarships
• Calls for proposals:
  • Annual for departmental projects
  • Bi-annual for International Training Programmes (+ scholarships)
  • 5-annual for large institutional programmes or international Master programmes every 5 years
• Support through Global Minds (e.g. staff mobility for partnership development)