LEAD PEOPLE PARTNERS



«Internationalisation Strategy 2022-2025»

Queen Maud University College of Early Childhood Education

For a better childhood

Queen Maud University College of Early Childhood Education (QMUC) shall have a clear international profile. This strategy is QMUC's steering document that shall make the frames, give direction and ambitions for the institution's international engagement. This strategy aims to help the university college achieve a deep-rooted and rewarding international culture, and global impact in its work.

The internationalisation strategy is a tool to promote and increase the quality of QMUC's education and research. QMUC runs professional education and increased internationalisation measures are important to strengthen the institution's quality, relevance, position and recognition. It is also a stepping-stone to QMUC's ambition/road to establish its own PhD programme and to become a university college of applied sciences.

QMUC has extensive collaboration with partners abroad and, among all, has a longstanding history of collaboration with partners in Southern and Eastern Africa. It is a priority to strengthen this further for mutual benefit and quality enhancement. Collaboration with partners in Scandinavia and Europe has been an important part of QMUC's international engagement. Being an Erasmus Charter holder and participating in the Erasmus+ programme give QMUC a quality framework for collaboration activities. Currently, QMUC has the following regional priorities: Europe, Southern and Eastern Africa, North America and South Korea.

The internationalisation strategy is closely linked to <u>QMUC's overall strategy</u> and the strategic priorities for the period 2022-2026, as well as QMUC's wish to participate in realizing the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). As a provider of early childhood teacher education, the institution's educational offer and research ethics build on UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. QMUC's international actions shall contribute to the sustainability of nature, climate and local communities.

The strategic goals

LEAD Be an internationally recognized higher education institution within the field of early childhood education and care

QMUC wants to be a leading actor locally, regionally and nationally. Such a position is not possible without also being internationally engaged and be internationally recognized within the field of early childhood education and care. QMUC aspires to expand its global reach and participate internationally in knowledge development to create, understand and implement quality early childhood (teacher) education in a world not yet seen.

PEOPLE Create inclusive and international learning environments

QMUC strives to give *all* its students inclusive and international learning environments. This requires that academic staff members are part of and draw on international research and educational communities. The students shall become competent in using internationally available resources and be informed by a range of global perspectives in their professional development. The international learning shall be more than a one-time experience, and have deeper impact; it shall help students prepare for a diverse and ever-changing world of tomorrow. Such learning is based on educators reflecting on their own intercultural learning processes and helping students foster intercultural learning and global awareness.

PARTNERS Strong partnerships for quality in education, research and innovation

QMUC will build strong and equal international partnerships in order to promote quality professional education, research and innovation. It is a priority to strengthen relationships with key higher education institutions and early childhood education and care institutions internationally. Together QMUC and key partners will collaborate to co-create and build capacity in early childhood education and care that support lifelong learning opportunities and strengthen the ties with the world of work.

QMUC's international efforts shall honour and show respect for human rights and students' freedom. This means that the work should be carried out without discrimination based on race, sex, gender identity, social status, sexual orientation, disability, age, religious or political affiliation. The principle of academic freedom is of fundamental importance.

A schematic overview

An overview to illustrate the connection between the international strategy goals, QMUC's strategic priorities and the SDGs.

Strategic Goal	QMUC's strategic priorities	SDG
Be an internationally recognized higher education institution within the field of early childhood	QMUC's national role, increased visibility and reputation building	SDG 4 Quality Education
education and care	Research education and establishment of a PhD programme in Early Childhood Education and Care	SDG4.2: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education so that
	Strengthened quality and quantity in research and development	they are ready for primary education
Create inclusive and international learning environments	QMUC's national role, increased visibility and reputation building	SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions
	Teachers' competence in teaching and supervision Lifelong learning and flexible education	SDG5 Gender equality
	Lifelong learning and nexible education	SDG 4 Quality Education
Strong partnerships for quality in education, research and innovation	Strengthened quality and quantity in research and development	SDG17 Partnerships for the goals
	QMUC's national role, increased visibility and reputation building	SDG10 Reduced inequalities
	Teachers' competence in teaching and supervision	SDG13 Climate Action 13 to the second secon
	Lifelong learning and flexible education	