

# **IUC review – Online session Global South**

23 April 2024

# Objectives session

- Restitution evaluations IUC and NETWORK
- Open Brainstorm
- Integrate lessons learned into the new IUC call 2026



# Our Ambitions



# **IUC Session of 16 April / Brussels**

- **Restitution of final evaluations**
- **Brainstorm sessions:**
  - **Success factors in IUC coordination / profile of coordinators**
  - **Preconditions at the level of the Flemish HEI for IUC project management**
  - **Lessons Learned from NETWORK projects**
  - **Institutional assessments during IUC intake procedure, training needs..**
- **Developing a broad & diverse IUC consortium**
- **PhD trajectories**

# Programme of the day

9:55 – 10:05	Opening of session and introduction <i>Peter De Lannoy; Global Partnerships Coordinator</i>
10:05 - 10:50	Synthesis of 8 IUC/NETWORK evaluations: Lessons learned and future pathways.  Presentation by <i>Patrick Stoop (C-Lever)</i> from the evaluation consortium, followed by a Q&A
10:50 – 10:55	<b>Break &amp; Organizing Poll</b>
10:55 – 11:50	<b>Brainstorm along a number of guiding questions, organized via a poll</b>  <i>Laura Uwase facilitates poll, questions introduced by VLIR-UOS colleagues</i>
11:50 – 12:00	Closing of session



# **Brainstorm along guiding Questions - topics important for new IUC Calls**

- 1. Matchmaking approaches**
- 2. Profile of IUC coordinators**
- 3. How to go about MSP and stakeholder management?**
- 4. PhD trajectories within IUC**
- 5. Training Needs**

# Question 1 - Matchmaking

When you started your IUC, what were your experiences with matchmakings with Flemish teams? What approaches are feasible, and what strategies are most critical for achieving broad participation at the Flemish higher education level (universities/colleges)?

- The mapping should be done by the coordination teams, followed by targeted contacts for each subproject, facilitated jointly by the coordinators during the IUC Concept Note stage.
- Visits to Belgium are the first step and are undertaken exclusively during the IUC Phase In, after having a consolidated Concept Note.
- Light matchmaking occurs during the Concept Note stage, followed by limited team visits to Belgium during the Phase In to enhance and solidify contacts.

## Question 2 – Profile of IUC coordinators

A lot is expected from IUC coordinators. What constitutes the ideal profile of a partner coordinator? How do they differ from Flemish coordinators?

- Strong interpersonal skills, people management abilities.
- Solid relationship among coordinators. The coordinators need to know each other well, preferably before the IUC commences.
- Partner coordinator needs strong connections with local management
- The Flemish coordinator as the primary advocate for the IUC within the Flemish HEIs.



# Question 3 – MSP and stakeholder management

How should one approach MSP (Multi-Stakeholder Partnership) and stakeholder management effectively?

- Stakeholders should be involved in a later stage, mainly in Phase 2, when outreach activities are planned and early technology transfer are initiated.
- Given that an IUC is linked to (local) development challenges, Stakeholders should to be involved from the start, as a driver of change.
- Stakeholder mapping and analysis should lead to the establishment of a permanent stakeholder board.

# Question 4 – Phd trajectories

PhD trajectories within IUC are crucial. Which of the following statement(s) is/are relevant?

- PhD selection goes naturally through discussions among project leaders, eliminating the necessity for formal selection and follow-up procedures.
- A well-defined plan for PhD selection, incorporating pre-selection stages and potentially pre-programmes, should be developed starting from the IUC Phase In to ensure that PhD candidates can start their studies as promptly as possible.
- PhD candidates must have a clearly defined trajectory from selection to follow-up stages.

# Question 5 – training needs

Based on your experiences, what are the most critical training requirements during the Phase-In of an IUC?

- Technical presentations on the VLIR-UOS grant system and Theory of Change
- Financial guidelines and formats
- Higher education policies and management at level of the Flemish HEIs (incl. Phd trajectories, science policy, ..)
- SDG principles in project development
- Gender policy
- Uptake & Dissemination

## Key take aways and follow-up

- Evaluations testify success of programmes!!
- Importance of coordination team, at level of structures, but also in terms of interpersonal skills
- Building broad consortia is a challenge, interesting exchanges and ideas, also on how to go about matchmaking
- NETWORK also stimulates interinstitutional cooperation in-country and abroad
- Input of the day will be integrated in the upcoming IUC Call to be launched by summer 2024.