

Addendum to the Research Strategy

Global research networks

The IT University and its faculty have extensive and excellent networks within the university's fields of research in many areas of the world. These networks are highly relevant and important and should be maintained. Nevertheless, there are also regions in which the university's global network could benefit from further development. This is the case with networks for example in the BRIC countries and other countries outside Western Europe and North America.

These regions and their organisations are becoming increasingly important actors within research and education, as well as in the world at large (politically, economically, culturally, etc.). Therefore, building and maintaining strong networks in these regions, with the right partners from a research point of view, is of relevance for the university's future ability to conduct high quality research, ensure new opportunities for collaboration, attract external funding, etc. Not because networks in these regions are more important than networks in other regions, but because the IT University's networks here are currently less developed and therefore need special attention for a period of time.

Strategic objective

It is therefore the strategic objective of the research strategy that the IT University shall:

Establish new and develop already existing networks that are considered relevant and advantageous in terms of IT research and education, in countries located outside Western Europe and North America.

Networks may include one or more of **several types of organisations** such as universities, private companies, NGOs, government bodies, art and design collectives, as well as other types of organisations.

Networking **activities can be manifold**, ranging from joint research publications, joint project proposals and grant applications, doing field work at designated locations, to working with research subjects directly related to these regions or related to globalisation itself, etc.

For each of the six sections in the research strategy, a small supplement is given below.

Move up the reputation spiral

Strengthening the IT University's global network may contribute to increasing its reputation locally as well as globally.

Increase externally funded research and research collaboration

Pursuing funding opportunities aiming a joint research with researchers located in the designated regions may help increase externally funded research and research collaboration.

Contribute with valuable research

It is important that the research conducted at the IT University is well attuned to societal development,

including the reality of globalisation. For this there are several approaches, however, many of these approaches would benefit from the connection with a strong global network.

Identify and further develop a small number of strategic areas.

Since the strategic areas aim at addressing major challenges faced by society, many of them will also address various aspects of globalisation and possibly have links to research in the designated regions. However, it is NOT suggested to add additional requirements (characteristics) to strategic areas.

Stimulate strong research culture.

Visits and secondments are key elements in networking. The opportunity and willingness of both individual faculty and delegations of faculty and staff to plan and engage in outgoing as well as incoming partner visits of different durations must therefore be present in order to establish new and develop existing global networks.

Strengthen the PhD school.

PhD education may play an important part in establishing global research networks. PhD students from partner institutions may help create new network ties. The same goes for excellent PhD students, e.g., doing part of their PhD with partners in the aforementioned regions.

Activity examples

The following is a non-exhaustive list of *examples* of activities that can contribute to establishing new and developing already existing global research networks.

- **Employee mobility:** Visits by ITU faculty and staff to the designated regions, as well as visitors to ITU from the designated regions, ranging from sabbaticals to shorter research and/or education related visits, participation in seminars, conferences, etc.
- **Recruitment and retention of employees:** Recruitment and retention of faculty members who have the competences, the already established networks, and a serious commitment to engage in close research and/or education collaboration with partners in the designated regions.
- **Research projects:** Pursue funding grants in partnership with institutions in the designated regions.
- **Research publications:** Publications of ITU faculty written with co-authors from the designated locations or on related subject matters.
- **Visibility:** Ensuring that ITU, its faculty and research projects are visible in international research databases, on relevant web portals, etc., is fundamentally important in terms of continuous advancement up the reputation spiral. In relation to research, visibility is inherently global in scope. Also, the sort of visibility in question is an essential requirement for the university's and faculty's ability to grow the reach of its research and establish new fruitful collaborations in the designated regions.
- **LABS:** The visibility of ITU research related artefacts - e.g. demonstrations, exhibits, software, prototypes, etc. - is an important part of ITU visibility nationally and internationally. Artefacts put forth in collaboration with/shared with/done in the relevant regions may therefore be relevant activities.
- **PhD education:** The ability of the PhD school to attract excellent PhD applicants from around the world.
- **Invitations:** Invitations to ITU faculty to attend e.g. programme committees, research consortia, keynotes, etc.

Final remarks

The objectives in this strategy addendum are part of the Research Strategy. Hence, the decision on which activities that are to be carried out and the allocation of resources in relation to this addendum are part of the regular budget negotiations, yearly goal processes, and other decision making and resource allocation structures already in place. As for all strategies, Management intends to prioritise resources to fulfil the strategy objectives.