

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

TOOLKIT Internal Cascade Training

International Relations Office
University of Peradeniya
13th September 2021 @ 1.00 pm



Internationalization Strategies

Prof. Nimal Dharmasena

Member: TOOLKIT Project

Director/Career Guidance, University of Peradeniya



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Internationalization at a Glance



- The process of integrating an international, intercultural, or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery of postsecondary education (Jane Knight, 2004).
- Internationalization is not a goal in itself, but a means to **help HEI to implement strategic goals and priorities.**
- Internationalization aids developing **teaching, research and innovation** in an HEI, while **improving the institutional prominence and expanding the impact of the institute both nationally and internationally**



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Reasons for Internationalization



- At national level: political, economic, social and cultural, but also academic.
- Academic reasons: **international branding and profile, quality enhancement/international standards, student and staff development, income generation, strategic alliances and knowledge production** (Knight, 2018)
- In the past, internationalization means student mobility, but now the concept is much wider and is a strategic process



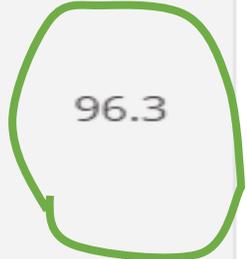
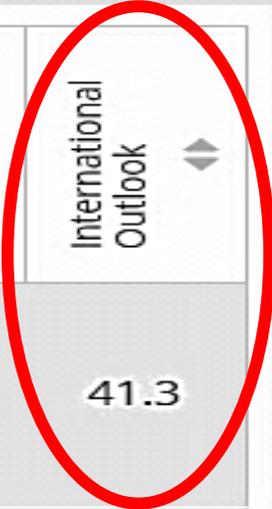
Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Internationalization and University Ranking



SCORES

Rank	Name Country/Region	Overall	Teaching	Research	Citations	Industry Income	International Outlook
401–500	University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka	40.9–44.0	17.4	8.4	100.0	35.6	41.3
1	University of Oxford United Kingdom	95.7	91.0	99.6	98.0	74.4	96.3



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Internationalization and University Ranking

- Internationalization improves international outlook of the university:
 - International : Domestic **Staff** Ratio
 - International : Domestic **Student** Ratio
 - **International Collaborations**



- **Internationalization is a major factor in International Ranking Platforms**



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Internationalization Strategy: as a two way street

INTERNATIONALISATION

Student /staff mobility
cross-boarder delivery

Internationalisation
at home (studies,
research, service)

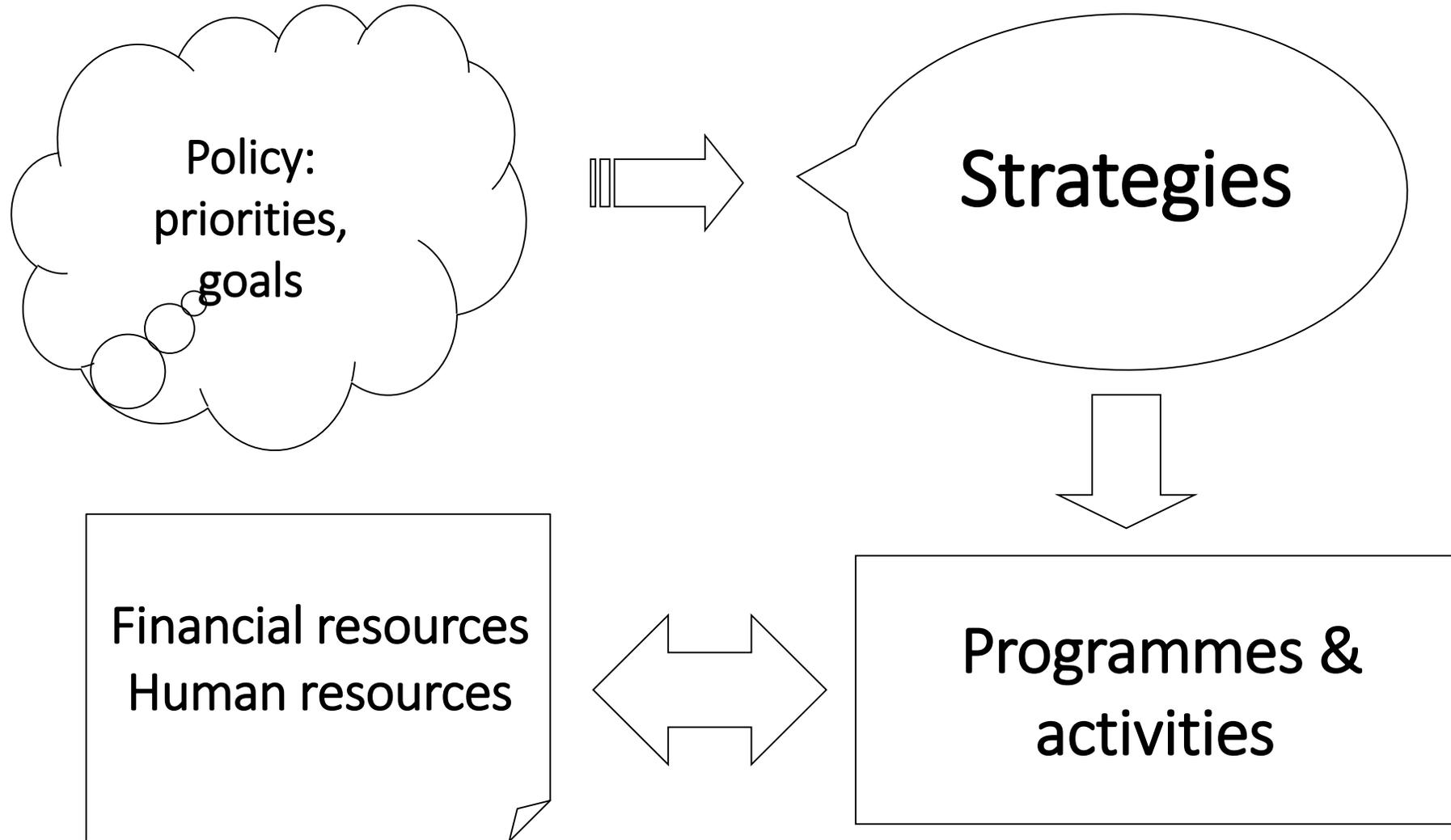
The most visible part of
internationalization

- Consists of incorporating **intercultural and international dimensions into the curriculum, teaching, research and extracurricular activities**
- Help students to develop international and intercultural skills **without leaving their country.**



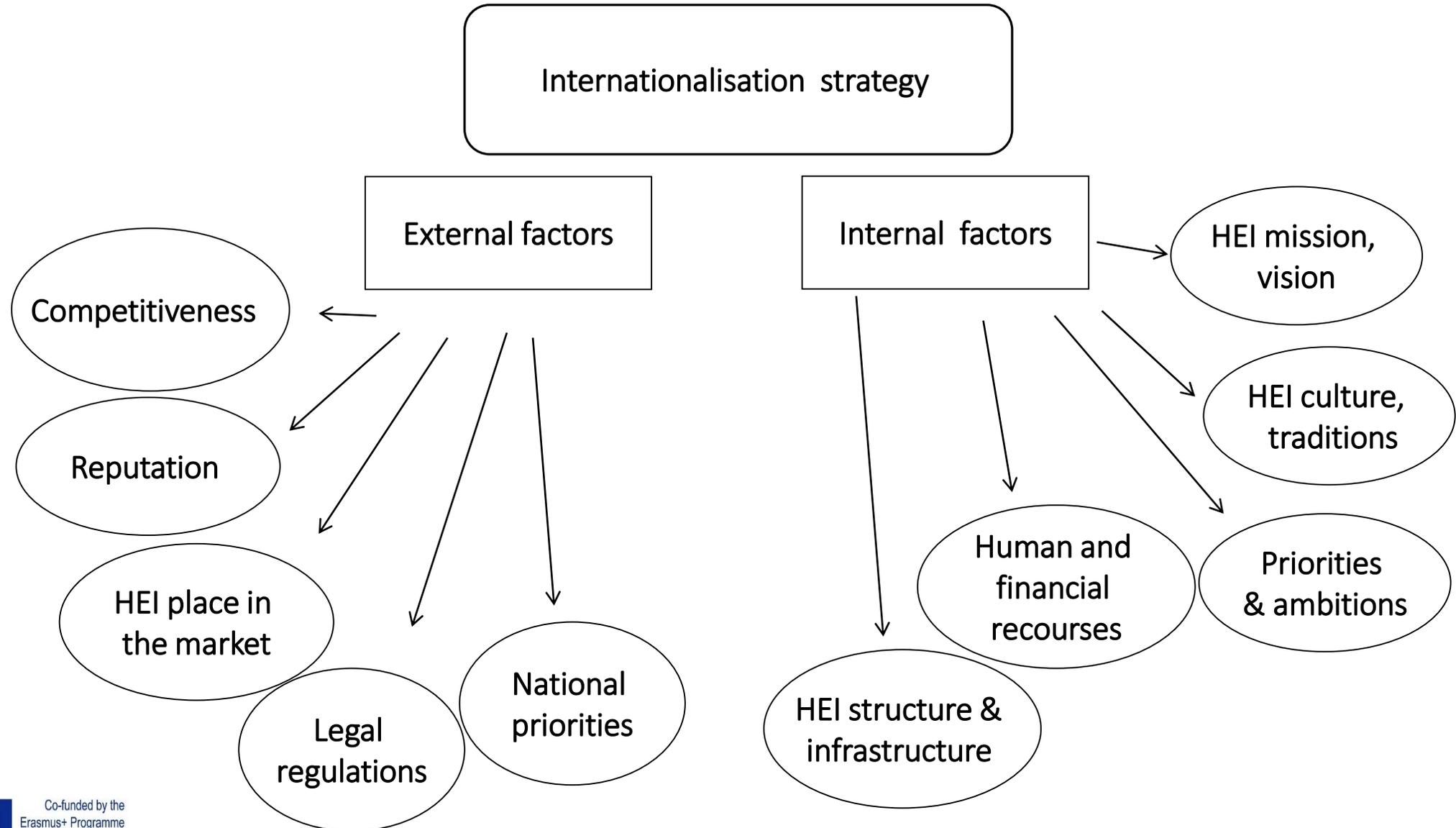
Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Process of Internationalization



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Factors Influencing the Internationalization Strategy



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Five Broad Thematic Areas for Consideration

1. Internationalization policy/strategy
2. Benefits, drivers and values of internationalization
3. Risks and challenges of internationalization
4. Geographic priorities for internationalization
5. Internationalization activities and funding

Source: Internationalization of higher education, European Parliament study 2015



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Five Broad Thematic Areas

1. Internationalization policy/strategy

- Very important to have an internationalization strategy and assign responsibilities to the specific persons,
- Also very important to relate it to overall strategy of the university, vision and mission.



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Five Broad Thematic Areas

2. Benefits, drivers and values of internationalization

- Increased international awareness with global issues by students
- Improved quality of teaching and learning
- Strengthened institutional research and knowledge capacity
- Enhanced internationalization of the curriculum
- Enhanced prestige for the institution
- Increased international networking by faculty and researchers
- Increased/diversified revenue generation
- Opportunity to compare institutional performance within the context of international good practice



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Five Broad Thematic Areas

3. Risks and challenges of internationalization

- Opportunities accessible only for the students with financial resources
- Difficulty in locally regulating the quality of foreign programmes offered
- Over-emphasis on internationalization at the expense of other priorities of importance for staff and students
- Pursuit of international partnerships/policies only for reasons of prestige
- Brain drain
- Too much focus on recruitment of fee-paying international students



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Five Broad Thematic Areas

4. Geographic Priorities for Internationalization

- **Which countries/ regions we are targeting? & Why?**
 - World leading universities: Wide acceptability/reputation matters
 - High Impact Research output
 - Cutting-edge technology
 - Location of funding agencies
 - Providing a platform for good collaborations



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Five Broad Thematic Areas

5. Internationalization activities and funding Where do you focus?

- Outgoing mobility
- Incoming student priority
- International research collaboration/innovation
- Strategic partnerships
- Strengthening international/intercultural curriculum

**Funding is a major limitation in state funded public universities
in developing countries!!**



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Potential Sources of Funding

- International donors
- University's own resources (ie. Earned funds, Bond recovery)
- Support from government, ministries or external projects
- Fund raising (ie. Alumni)
- Private funding
- Others?

International donors



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

What activities are usually funded?

Scholarships and fellowships

Staff costs

Travel and per diems (both for going aboard and to host international staff)

Equipment (including lab furniture)

Consumable goods

Joint publications

Consultancy and external services



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Schemes supported by Funding Bodies

**Mobilities at all levels
(institution-based
exchanges or individual
opportunities)**

**Projects focused on
joint research, surveys,
feasibility studies**

**Projects enhancing
university
management or
specific university
services**

**Projects aimed at
restructuring and
internationalizing
curricula**

**Projects increasing
capacity of local
academic and
administrative staff in
any field**

**Projects contributing to
societal needs,
engagement or
development policies**

**Projects strengthening
university facilities
such as labs and or
empowering technical
capacity**

**Projects focused on
knowledge transfer
services**



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

