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TOOLKIT Internal Cascade Training

International Relations Office
University of Peradeniya



Internationalization at University of Peradeniya

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Internationalization at University of Peradeniya

Activities of the International Relations Office, UoP are aligned with the

University Cooperate Plan* 2017-2021:

GOAL 1: Enhance quality and relevance of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the University, complying with international standards

GOAL 2: Develop resources to enhance the quality of research in order to contribute to the national and international requirements



*UoP Strategic Plan for 2022-26 is currently in the making



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Mission of International Relations Office

To promote international engagement of the University of Peradeniya through facilitating international academic exchange programmes and provide resources, platforms and scholarly exchange activities via improving institutional capacity building



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Internationalization at University of Peradeniya

OBJECTIVES

To improve visibility of the institution at regional and global standing

To maintain highest possible academic standards where students are prepared for a global career as world citizens with an international mindset

To build capacity for innovative research with national and global impact in partnership with leading overseas institutions

To improve institutional procedures by sharing international best practices in higher education and research

Increase presence of international experts and students within the university community enhancing the exposure level of all local stakeholders



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Internationalization at University of Peradeniya

How to Achieve

Development of current web-sites (University and InRO) in compliance with international standards.

Enhance the participation of University of Peradeniya in international organizations and associations to facilitate the University to find partners to accomplish joint educational and research programs

Promote international collaborative research/Joint PhDs while still catering to research that address/fulfill local issues/needs

Strengthen internationally-focused degree programs by developing the content of the curriculum to match international standards.

Increase the mobility of students, faculty members, and staff to expand their education capacity and other capabilities.

Actively pursue accreditation and educational partnerships with well-reputed overseas institutions.



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Internationalization at University of Peradeniya

ACTORS OF INTERNATIONALIZATION:

- ✓ Vice-Chancellor
 - ✓ International Relations Office
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- In addition, groups or individual faculty members initiate their own collaborative research and other projects at Faculty, Center and PG institutes level
 - Therefore, individual Faculty members, Heads of Departments, Deans, PG Directors and Centre Directors are also involved in the internationalization process



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Challenges for Internationalization at UoP

1. Negotiating and approving MOUs

- Government regulation changes /time-consuming procedures

2. Engaging professors and students in mobility schemes

- Quality in-campus accommodation for international students
- In-campus shopping and good quality dining
- Language issues with some incoming academics

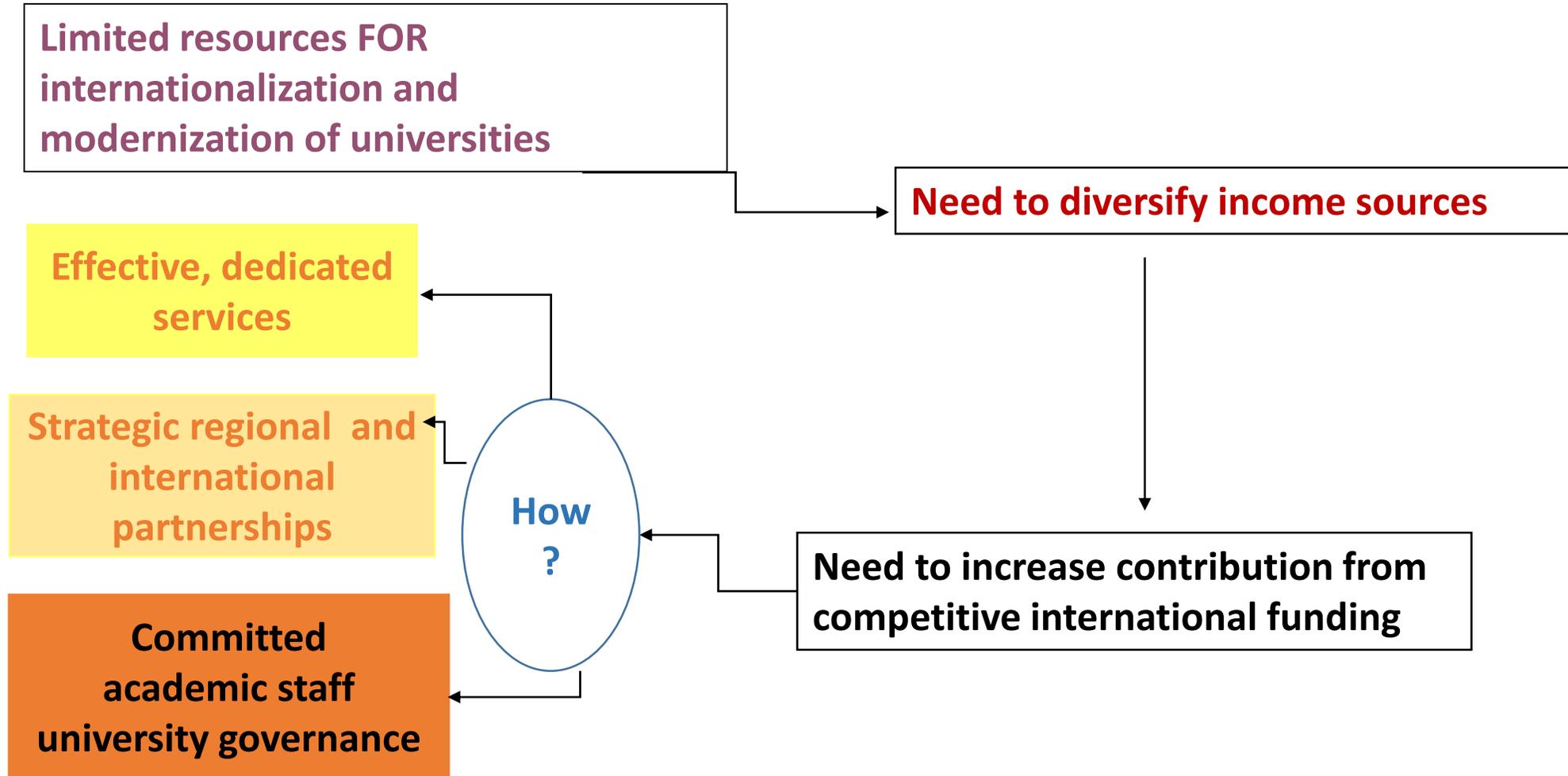
3. Funding grants

- Hardly any grants from local funding sources
- Faculty members have a negative attitude towards application of grants due to difficulties they have to face in financial management
- Present Financial Regulations are too cumbersome and impractical, sometimes incompatible with granting bodies



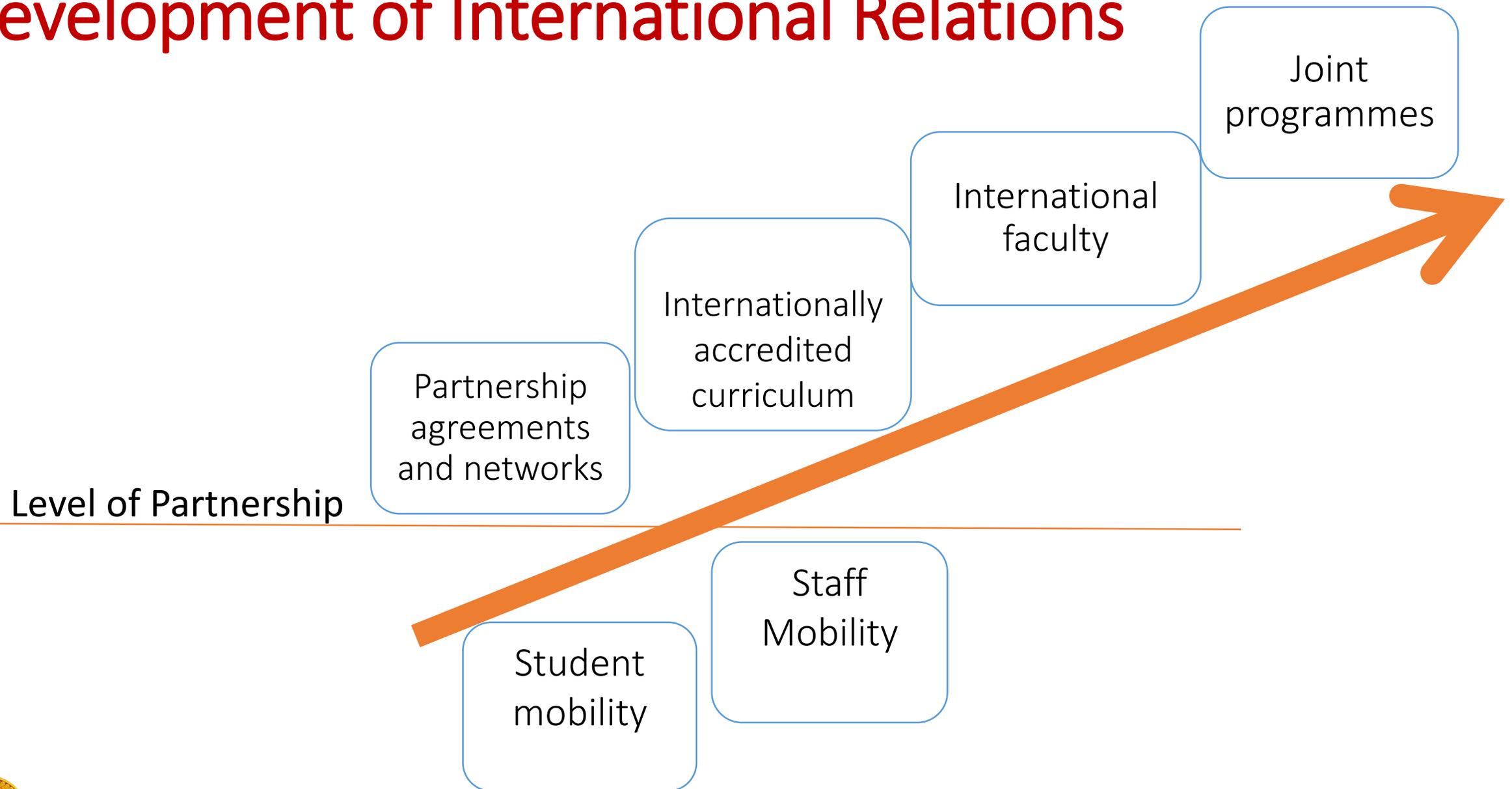
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From Limited Resources to International Funding



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Development of International Relations



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Role of InRO in Internationalization

- Initiating MoU and Partnerships
- Exchange of academics, administrative staff, & students, educational material & produce joint publications
- International research collaborations
- Consultancies for international partners
- Communications with foreign universities
- Consultancies for international projects
- Develop joint research/degree programmes
- Organize international symposia, seminars and conferences
- Financial assistance for international activities of the University
- Database management related to international activities of the University
- Dissemination of information with the university community



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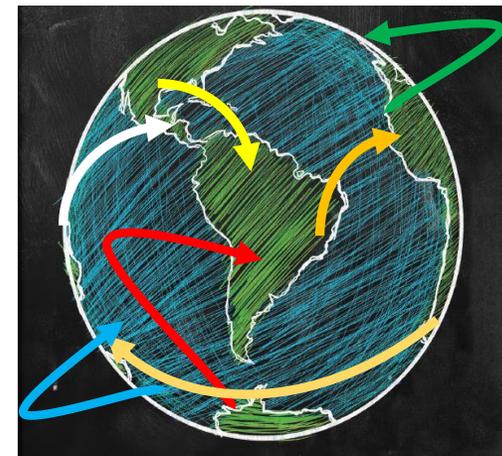
Networking Methods

- Conducting of seminars, awareness sessions
- Organising events to bring university representatives
- Participating in international events, visits etc.
- Applications for Grants
- Establishing and maintaining good contacts



Building Strategic Partnerships

- Identification of suitable institutions
- Initiate Discussions
- Effectively communicate to share intentions
- Preparation and signing of MoU/MoA etc.
- Organize and conduct activities based on the MoU/MoA



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Thank you!



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