

**PROJECT OF INSTITUTIONAL
INTERNACIONALISATION OF POSTGRADUATE
EDUCATION WITH A VIEW TO AN APPLICATION
SUBMITTED TO THE CAPES CALL 041/2017**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



**OFFICE OF THE PRO VICE CHANCELLOR OF POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION
UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE MINAS GERAIS**

2018

The drafting of the Institutional Project of Internationalisation of Postgraduate Education of Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), henceforth called PrInt/UFMG, was the responsibility of a working group made up of representatives of the Offices of the Academic Pro-Vice Chancellors (Undergraduate Education, Postgraduate Education, Research and Extramural Affairs), the Office of International Affairs and representatives of the three major knowledge domains at the University, namely, Arts and Humanities; Exact Sciences and Engineering; Biological and Health Sciences. The members of the working group searched for keywords in the internationalisation section of the four-year reports submitted by UFMG Postgraduate Programmes to the Capes Agency and converged to four major themes for which UFMG has the expertise and consolidated capacity to respond to contemporary challenges, namely (I) Sustainability, Risk Management and Governance; (II) New Technologies and Frontiers of Science; (III) Health and Well-being; (IV) Human Rights. Structured around these four themes, covering all domains of knowledge and bringing together 57 different Postgraduate Programmes, 28 projects were chosen as representatives of the internal demand for internationalisation at UFMG. This set of four themes and 20 thematic axes (28 projects) constitutes a matrix with several points of intersection, showing the transversal and multidisciplinary character of the UFMG proposal (see Figure 1). The PrInt/UFMG project thus developed was seen as a long-awaited initiative widely accepted by the UFMG community, which was ready and eager to embrace this challenge. The aggregating factor of the PrInt/UFMG project, which brings together Postgraduate Programmes ranked from levels 4 to 7 in the Capes quadrennial evaluation, will allow the initiative to benefit Postgraduate Programmes ranked at levels 4 and 5 from the internationalisation experience of other Postgraduate Programmes at UFMG ranked at excellence levels 6 and 7. This aggregating factor will stimulate less experienced Postgraduate Programmes to acquire international expertise already at place at UFMG excellence programmes while enhancing the international visibility and recognition of the consolidated Postgraduate Programmes.

The PrInt/UFMG project foresees a distribution of resources among Themes I, II, III and IV of, respectively, 20%, 30%, 30%, and 20% of the total budget. This is reflected by the number of Postgraduate Programmes associated to each theme. In terms of allocation of resources to actions abroad and actions at home, a strategic decision was made to allocate 60% of the total budget to fund UFMG actions abroad and 40% of the resources to fund international visitors at UFMG. This latter objective aims at increasing the capillarity levels of actions geared towards internationalisation at home. The promotion of each type of grant followed the consolidated demand put forward by the 57 Postgraduate Programmes that joined the PrInt/UFMG project, with priority being given to the training and capacity building of the student body through PhD grants for internships abroad, as well as to the recruitment of early-career researchers with experience abroad, by encouraging grants for Young Talents and Postdoctoral fellows. At a later stage, this latter initiative aims at recruiting a selected part of these early-career researchers, who are already highly internationalised, as permanent members of the UFMG teaching staff. Grants for international experience and capacity building of the teaching staff, both for Junior and

Senior Visiting Professorships Abroad, are also planned to increase the levels of international experience of the teaching staff. Additionally, funding will also be provided to support participation of the teaching staff in work assignments abroad. As part of an overall plan for internationalisation, UFMG envisages the attraction of senior visiting professors for short-term stays as an avenue to strengthening collaboration for carrying out joint research projects. The PrInt/UFMG project will provide funding for investment in all these different aspects of training and capacity building throughout the 4-year life span of the project, signalling a clear expectation towards the consolidation of the internationalisation process of UFMG within this timeframe.

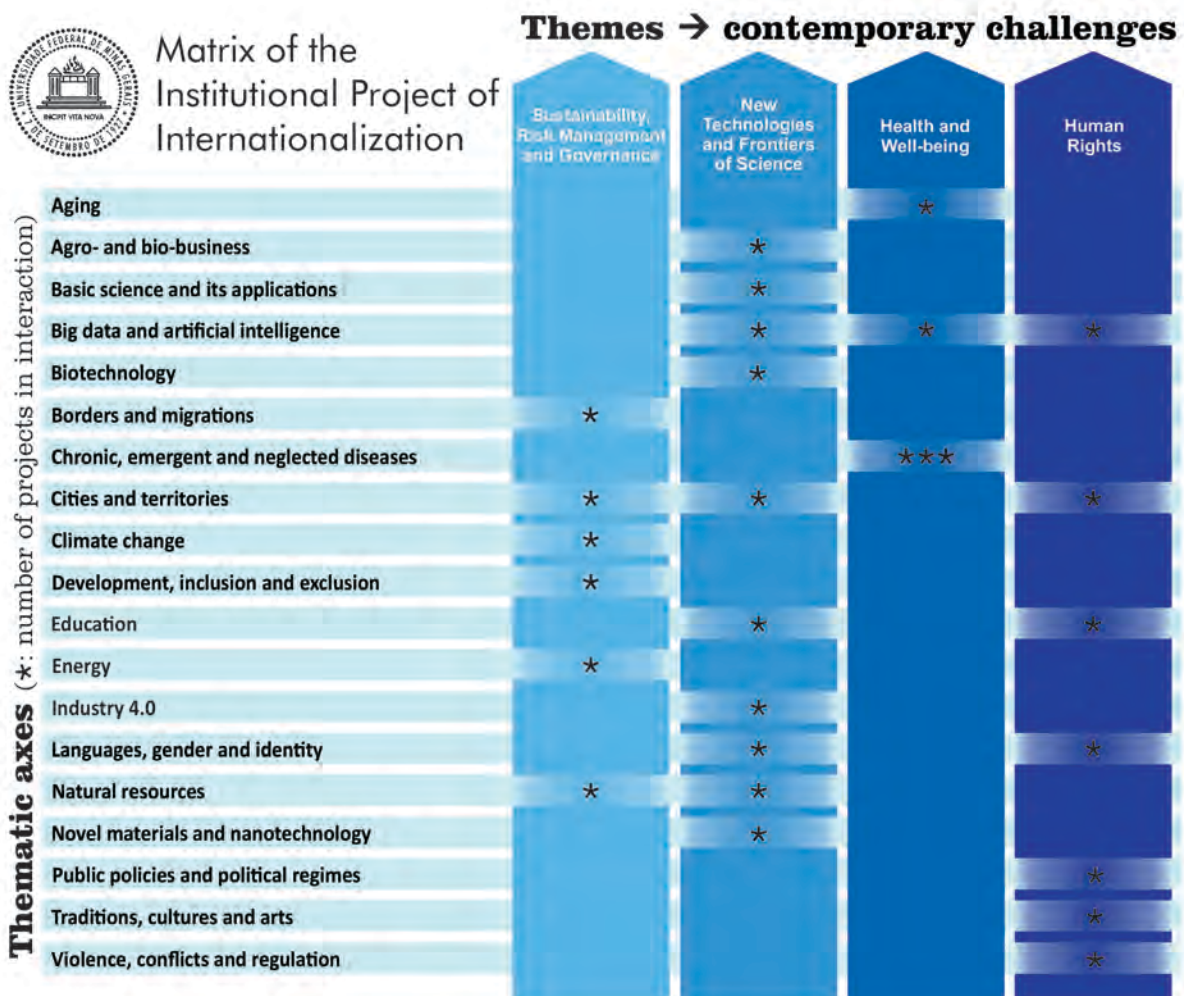


Figure 1: Matrix of Themes and Projects of the PrInt/UFMG application. The asterisks point out to intersections between the 20 Thematic Axes (28 projects) e and the 4 Themes.

In the medium run, UFMG research groups, working together with research groups from partner institutions of higher education abroad that become partners in the PrInt/UFMG project, are expected to form international clusters of excellence with an impact on knowledge production and on the visibility and recognition of UFMG as a world-calls university.

In its design and strategic goals, the PrInt/UFMG project constitutes a change of culture that is irreversible within UFMG. The project was warmly welcomed and led to a decision to organize four international seminars over the next two semesters, each one on one of the themes proposed in the PrInt/UFMG project, with the aim of stimulating the discussion about the internationalisation of the Postgraduate Programmes and fostering the interaction between research groups in the development of the four transversal and contemporary themes that constitute the central objective of the Institutional Project of Internationalization of UFMG.

In compliance with the requirements of item 8.2.1 of Capes Call 041/2017 (CAPES-PrInt), this executive summary was drawn up, highlighting the various points that indicate the alignment between the UFMG's application to the Call and the UFMG Strategic Plan for Internationalization, approved by the UFMG Council of Education, Research and Extension (CEPE) and in force from April 2018 to March 2023. This plan is attached to the application in its full version, accompanied by the CEPE Resolution 06/2018, dated 3rd April 2018, which established the scope of the UFMG Policy of Internationalisation.

The tables below highlight the alignment between items of the UFMG Strategic Plan of Internationalisation, focused on the internationalisation of Postgraduate Education and the items of the PrInt/UFMG project that reflect the **goals to be achieved by the Postgraduate Programmes which join the project**. There are short-term goals by March 2020, in the second year of the Strategic Plan, and medium-term goals by March 2023, at the end of the fifth year of Strategic Plan of Internationalisation. In order to facilitate the understanding of this executive summary, the original formatting of the document approved by CEPE is displayed on the left hand-side columns with blue highlights. Indicators and targets that are not relevant to the internationalisation goals for Postgraduate Programmes were excluded from this display. In the right hand-side column, the alignment of the Institutional Project of Internationalization of UFMG with the University's Strategic Plan is highlighted in green for ease of understanding.

Strategic Plan for the Internationalisation of UFMG (April/2018-March/2023)

**Alignment of the
Institutional Project of
Internationalisation of
Postgraduate
Education with the
University's Strategic
Plan**

3.1.1. Actions aimed at consolidating the institutional process of internationalisation of UFMG

a) Constant statement of the commitment with the institutional internationalisation of the University, both in the scope of the Central Administration as well as in all Academic Units:

Indicator	Current situation	Short Term	Medium Term	What PrInt is expected to achieve
Launching of internal Calls with opportunities for international staff mobility at junior and senior levels	INCIPIENT	+15%	+30%	Grants for Junior and Senior Visiting Professorships abroad, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Launching of internal Calls with opportunities for international student mobility, including support for applicants with socioeconomic indicators of low-income bracket	EXISTENTE	+20%	+30%	Grants for internships abroad at PhD level for students regularly enrolled at UFMG Postgraduate Programmes, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Increase in the number of PhD theses carried out as double degree (cotutele) with partner universities abroad	25 theses defended since 2016 + 17 underway	+20%	+50%	Grants for internships abroad at PhD level with priority given to students writing their theses under a double degree agreement, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Increase in the number of co-supervisions of PhD theses with international collaborators	NON-AVAILABLE DATA	STIMULATE	INCREASE	Grants for internships abroad at PhD level with priority given to students under international co-supervision, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span

3.1.2. Actions aimed at promoting the development of strategic international partnerships

a) promotion of the amplitude e density of activities carried out together with international partners:

Indicator	Current Situation	Short Term	Medium Term	What Print is expected to achieve
Number of papers published in joint co-authorship with international partners	1057 until 2016	+15%	+30%	Increase in the interaction with international research groups and related increase in the joint production of knowledge, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Number of PhD theses carried out as double degree (cotutele) with partner universities since 2016	25 theses defended + 17 underway	+20%	+50%	Increase in the number of PhD students doing internships abroad and support for theses carried out under a double degree agreement, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Number of PhD theses carried out as double degree (cotutele) involving foreign students from partner universities abroad UFMG since 2016	4 theses defended + 2 underway	+20%	+30%	Increase in the number of PhD students from partner universities doing internships at UFMG and support for theses carried out under a double degree agreement, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Number of UFMG teaching staff trained abroad	1136	+10%	+30%	Increase in the international training and capacity building of the members of the teaching staff at Junior and Senior levels, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span

Number of international visiting professors at UFMG from 2014 to 2018	74	+20%	+40%	Increase in the number of visiting professors at UFMG, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Number of PhD students at UFMG trained abroad from 2014 to 2018	230	+30	+50	Increase in the number of PhD students doing internships abroad, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Number of foreign post-docs with post-doctoral internship at UFMG	NON-AVAILABLE DATA	RECORD AND SUPPORT	+20%	Increase in the number of post-docs doing internships at UFMG, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Number of PhD theses with international co-supervision from international collaborators	NON-AVAILABLE DATA	RECORD AND SUPPORT	+20%	Increase in the number of PhD students doing internships abroad while carrying out their theses under international co-supervision, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span

3.1.3. Actions aimed at enhancing internationalisation at home

b) capacity building of the teaching staff with a view to reducing endogenic factors:

Inclusion of relevant topics of interest to junior members of the teaching staff, not yet internationalised, in training programmes for early-career researchers abroad	INEXISTENT	IMPLEMENTATION	+25%	Increase in the number of grants for international training to junior member of the teaching staff, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Inclusion of junior members of UFMG teaching staff, not yet internationalised, to participant in scientific events abroad	INEXISTENT	IMPLEMENTATION	+25%	Support for junior member of the teaching staff to participate in scientific events abroad, with continued growth along a four-year span

e) promotion of academic and extracurricular activities in English and Spanish, as well as promotion of international event organised by research groups:

Indicator	Current Situation	Short Term	Medium Term	What Print is expected to achieve
Increase in the number of academic activities (seminar, courses and credits) carried out in English at postgraduate level at UFMG	45	+20%	+40%	Increase in the number of academic activities, primarily credit courses, carried out in English with a higher number of foreign students attending these activities, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span
Increase in the number of academic activities (seminar, courses and credits) carried out in Spanish at postgraduate level at UFMG	4	+30%	+50%	Increase in the number of academic activities, primarily credit courses, carried out in Spanish with a higher number of foreign students attending these activities, with expectations of continued growth along a four-year span