

# Africa-Europe Conference on Higher Education Collaboration, 25 October 2019, Brussels: „Investing in people, by investing in higher education and skills in Africa“



## 20 years of Sharing Minds, Changing lives VLIR-UOS

### Organisation Presentation

As part of the Flemish Interuniversity Council (abbreviated in Dutch to VLIR), VLIR-UOS is the platform in which the Flemish institutions of higher education join forces within the context of university cooperation for development (abbreviated in Dutch to UOS).

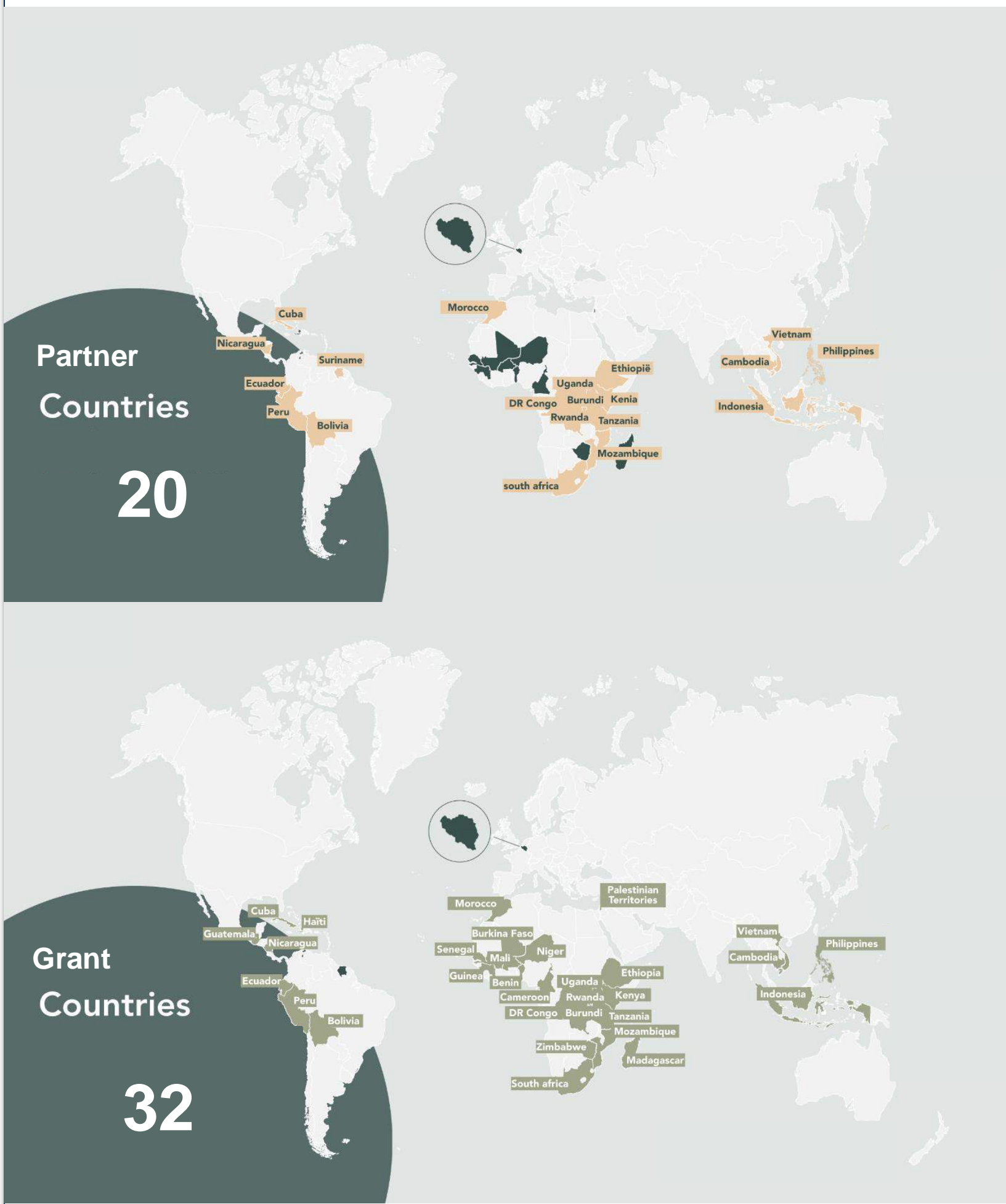
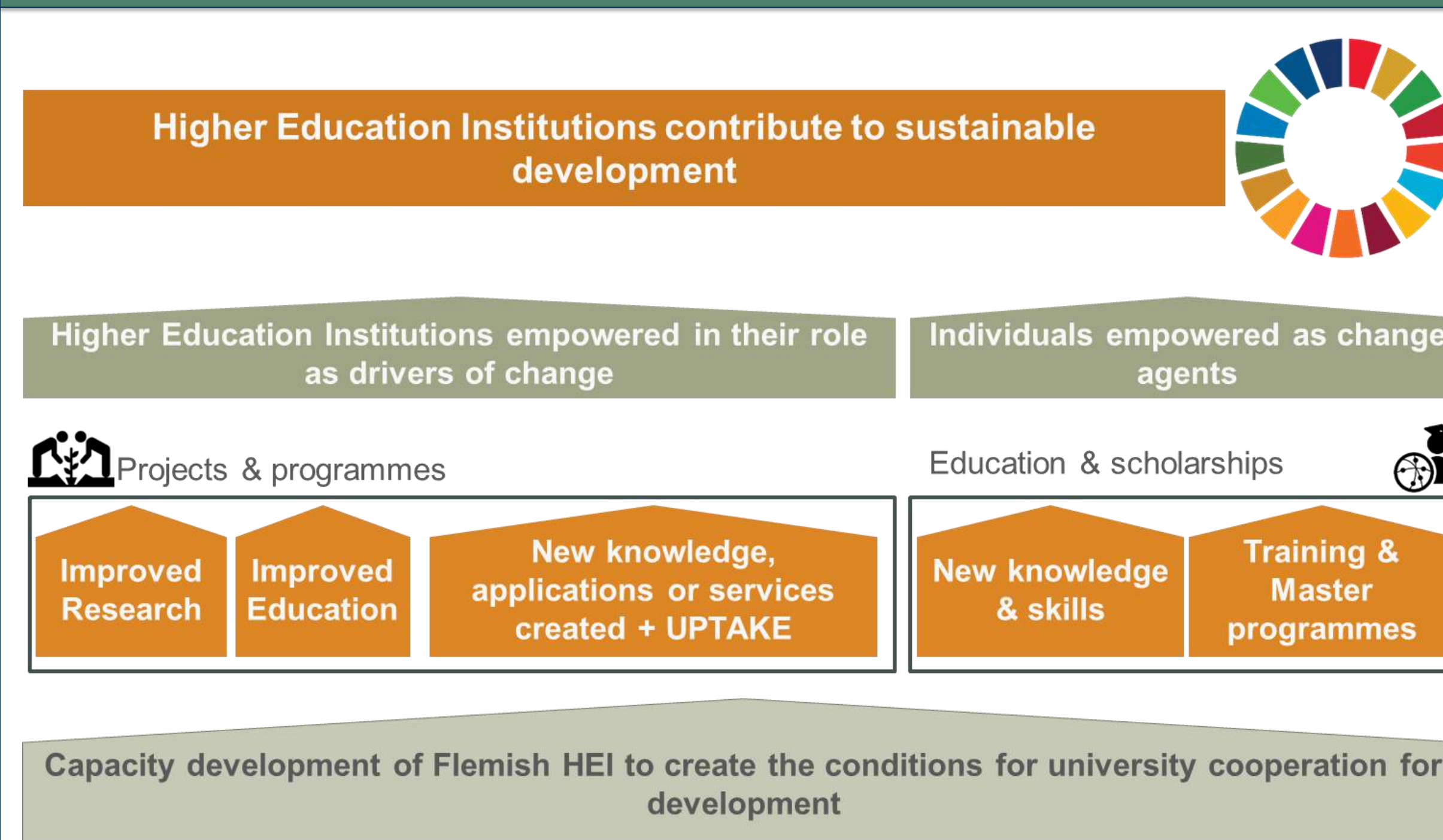
The organisation is the most important funder of cooperation projects between academics from Flanders and the South, as well as of mobility grants to students from Flanders and of (master) scholarships to students and professionals from the South.

VLIR-UOS as **broker** and **platform**:

- Facilitate **win-win** partnerships between Higher Education Institutions
- Enable **peer-to-peer** cooperation between academics
- Strengthen international **networks** growing from projects
- Manage **competitive** calls
- Focus on **impact**



### Current portfolio 2017 - 2021



Interest from Flemish HEI for projects is growing (59% increase in proposals received for projects between 2016 - 2019).

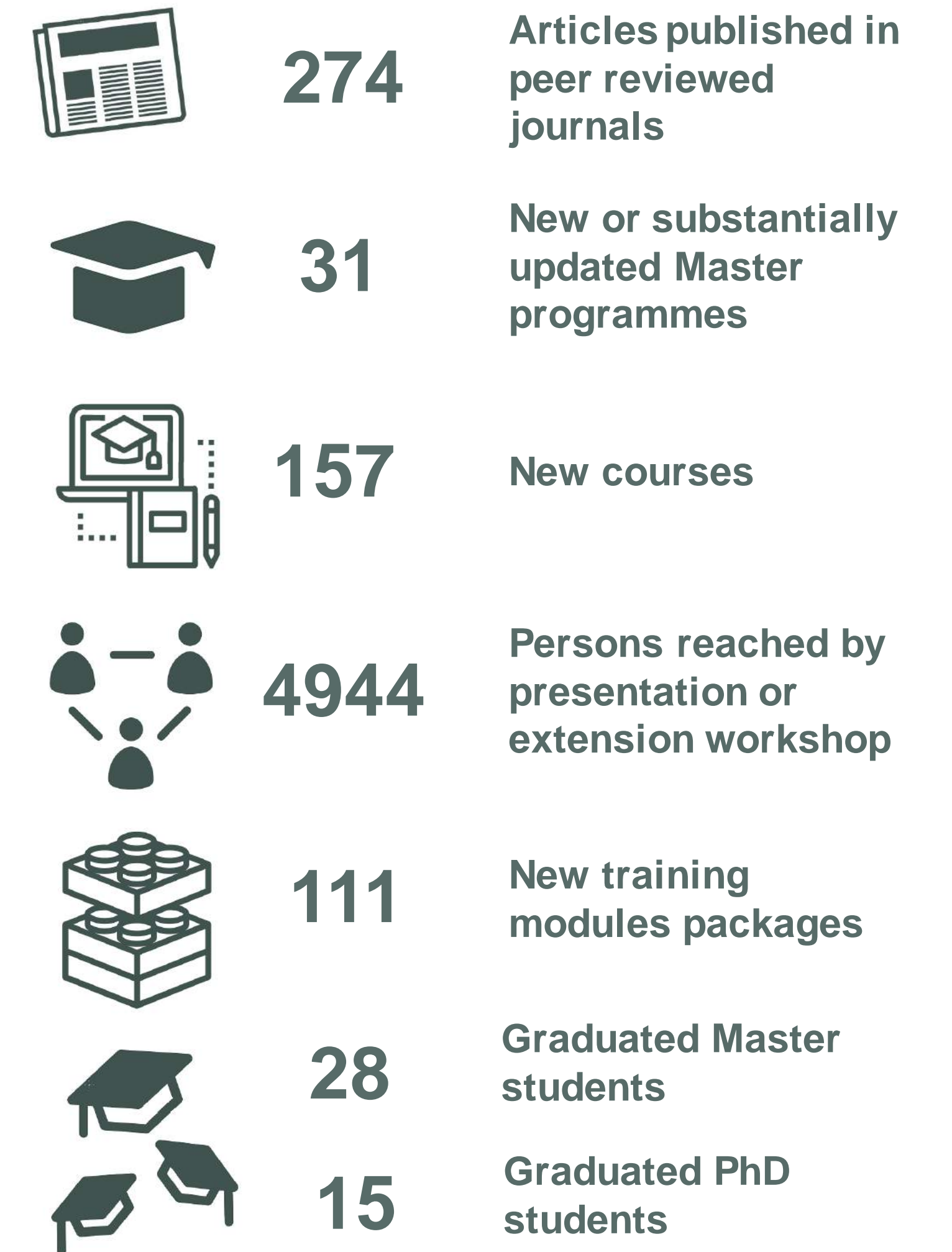
Since 1998, we supported:

- Number of international projects: **764**
- Number of institutional programmes: **34**
- Number of policy supporting (Belgium) projects: **65**
- Scholarships - Number of Masters (Belgium): **3.615**
- Scholarships - Number of persons trained (Belgium): **2.610**
- **Global Minds** programmes with the Flemish university colleges, Ghent University, KU Leuven, UHasselt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, University of Antwerp

Current budget 2017-2021: € 158 million

### First project results for projects in Africa started in 2017 - 2018

Since 2017: 58 **new** partnerships with African universities and university colleges



### Proven impact of VLIR-UOS

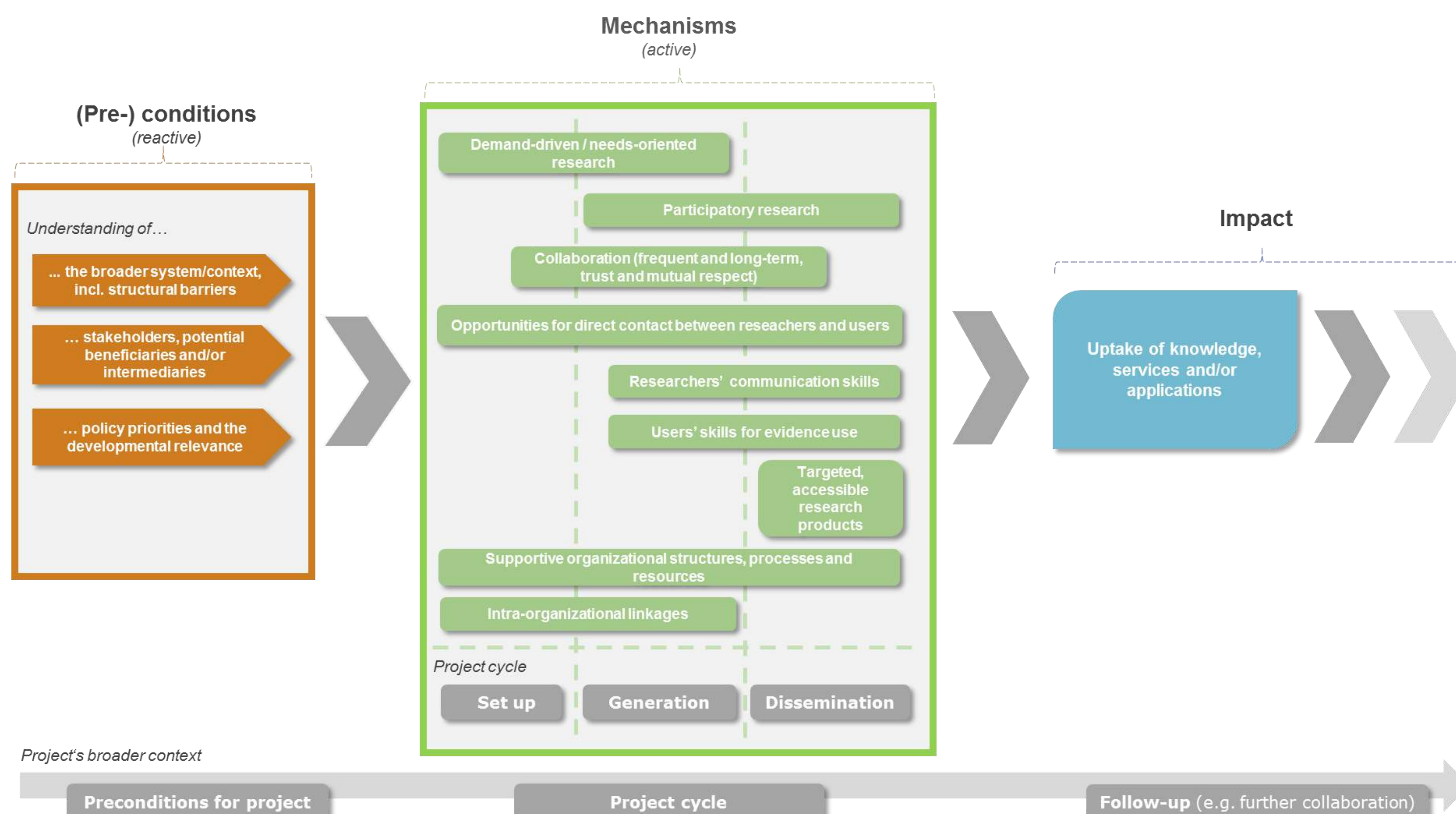
Evidence from recent, rigorous ex-post impact evaluation (see QR code)



- Project and programmes have a sustainable impact, both on universities and on society
- VLIR-UOS scholarship students:
  - low drop-out rates (0,8%) compared to other scholarship schemes (10,2%)
  - highly satisfied about their education programmes
  - become real change makers in their society after graduation



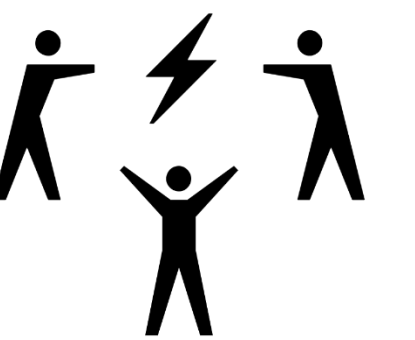
### Emerging Framework for creating the conditions for the uptake of new knowledge, services and/or applications outside Higher Education Institutes



### Synergies

#### VLIR-UOS portfolio

- Internally synergetic
- Pooling of Flemish expertise
- Emerging international networks



#### Synergy in partnerships

- Synergies with NGOs, private sector, etc stimulated through integration in all calls for proposals and selection processes
- Country-based joint strategic frameworks

### Information

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