



Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) on its website within one month after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

International (EU and non-EU) strategy

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is a world-leading centre for research and postgraduate education in public and global health.

- Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.
- Our vision is to be a world-leading school of public and global health, working closely with partners in the UK and worldwide to address contemporary and future critical health challenges.
- Our values: we seek to foster and sustain a creative and supportive working environment based upon an ethos of respect and rigorous scientific enquiry.

The School is now rated among the top three higher education institutions in the UK for research impact, and one of the top four in the world for collaborative research (Leiden Rankings April 2013).

(a) How we choose our partners

As part of the process of Strategy development in 2011/12, there was extensive discussion of existing collaborative relationships and of which partnerships merited special focus. Criteria were drawn up for distinguishing certain partnerships as 'strategic', namely:

- Enhances LSHTM's positioning globally, regionally or in UK
- A partnership of mutual benefit (clearly defined, long-term and readily assessed benefits)
- Compatible institutional mission, values and ethical stance
- Cross-institutional/ comprehensive OR Building a strategic area which is globally unique to the partnership
- Multi-project/ initiative, multi-disciplinary, joint production, and involving at least one of research and education/training, plus knowledge translation emphasis
- Some degree of pooled resources, e.g. joint appointments & studentships, honorary positions, academic secondments/visitors, joint investments
- MoU (or similar, such as collaborations within the Charter) in place with an appropriate governance mechanism

- LSHTM Champion: each strategic institutional partnership should have a senior LSHTM staff member who acts as its champion, taking the lead on the maintenance of the relationship with the partner organisation(s).

(b) Geographical areas

The School wishes to develop and strengthen strategic institutional partnerships with higher education and research institutions, including in:

- UK, in particular Public Health England, National School of Public Health Research (NSPHR), University College London,
- University College London Partners (UCLP), Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute
- Africa, to be determined
- Asia, in particular China, India and Singapore
- Latin America, in particular Brazil

The School has many established collaborations in Europe and we will seek to use the Erasmus Charter and the new EU Framework programme to strengthen links.

(c) The most important objectives and target groups of our mobility activities (staff and students in second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles).

Our objective in mobility is to allow our students and staff the maximum possible exposure to international health systems, policy and practice internationally in order to address our institutional mission. In fact, mobility and internationalisation is embedded in everything we do. Our focus is on postgraduate level training (that is, second and third cycle) and we do not deliver undergraduate programmes. Taught Master's programmes are delivered both in the UK and by distance learning, in each case involving students from over 100 countries. The Master's programme is complemented by a comprehensive programme of research training for awards up to doctoral level (PhD and professional doctorate), where again there is a significant element of mobility. Our professional education programme of short courses is well established but there is significant room for growth of this area, often utilising elements of our Master's programmes and this is an area of focus for us for the future.

The School currently offers joint degrees with other colleges in the University of London. A key objective of our Strategic Plan 2012-17 is to develop joint degrees with HEIs outside the UK. A clear framework for the development and approval of new degree courses, and for quality assurance monitoring purposes, is used.

The School actively seeks opportunities for international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training as part of its overall strategy of modernisation and internationalisation. The modernisation agenda includes making greater use of e-learning opportunities and providing more flexible study arrangements such as increased use of mixed mode and blended learning.

School strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and learning implemented under the Scheme.

The internationalisation agenda includes increased mobility of staff and students. Some courses are now provided outside of Europe, and distance learning programmes are delivered to students in over 120 countries. The School actively encourages outward mobility of its own staff and inward mobility of staff from other institutions. It will take a leading role in the organisation and implementation of such projects where appropriate.

The School monitors opportunities for international cooperation closely and considers invitations to cooperate received from other institutions. It weighs up the costs and benefits of all such projects. Any agreements to participate in such projects are approved by the head of LSHTM - the Director - and are of fixed duration, with the opportunity for renewal. The School undertakes such cooperation projects through established networks where these exist.

The School currently has a number of existing international cooperation projects in teaching and training. It cooperates with other institutions in the delivery of Master's training in international health through its membership of tropEd, the Network for Education in International Health. It cooperates with other institutions in the development of doctoral level training in health leadership, through its membership of NETDOC, the International Network for Doctoral Training in Health Leadership.

It also cooperates with other institutions within Europe in the harmonisation and promotion of post-graduate medical education through its membership of MEDINE2, the EU-funded Network for Medical Education in Europe.

Expected impact of participation in the scheme on the modernisation of the School

The expected impact of participating in the Programme on the modernisation of the School, for each of the priorities of the Modernisation Agenda, may be summarised as follows:

1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs
2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education
Our vision is to be a world-leading school of public and global health, working closely with partners in the UK and worldwide to address contemporary and future critical health challenges. Our participation in the Programme addresses this vision with particular reference to these two priorities. Primarily through strategic partnerships for course delivery outside the UK and expansion of our international distance learning programme, the School aims to increase the number of graduates in public and global health to enhance capacity for addressing these health challenges.
3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation
4. Making the knowledge triangle work: Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development
We believe that strengthening mobility is a key element of knowledge translation, both in terms of human capital and skills and the relationship with business. The School is now rated among the top three higher education institutions in the UK for research impact, and one of the top four in the world for collaborative research (Leiden Rankings April 2013). Making a difference to people's lives and translating knowledge into practice are enshrined within our

values. Our extensive research network is a valuable vehicle for creating new educational collaborations both within the EU and beyond. Participation in the programme will allow us to translate many more of our research links into collaborative education, by providing significant additional impetus to our ability to address capacity issues worldwide

5. Improving governance and funding

The School has diversified its research funding profile significantly in recent years and it is our goal to bring similar diversification to our funding for teaching programmes. We believe that by combining our particular funding portfolio with that of other institutions we will help to generate a sustainable funding stream for new programmes and by extension more skilled graduates. In addition, it is anticipated that growth in strategic partnerships will bring mutual benefits in terms of improving governance, for example in establishing the quality framework within which collaborative education programmes are delivered.

Mr Richard Benson
Secretary and Director of Resources and Planning

Dr Stuart Anderson
Associate Dean of Studies
Division of Education

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