



IFCU-African Catholic Universities Partnership Policy

This policy takes place on the one hand within the framework of the 2018-2021 strategic plan decided by the Board of Directors in November 2018, on the proposal of the presidency, and on the other hand of the partnership policy of institutional development and capacity building, accepted by the Board of Directors in November 2019, on a proposal from the General Secretariat.

1- General approach

In its partnership policy, IFCU must behave like other professional higher education organizations; his ambitions must also be realistic and pragmatic. It is also necessary to break out of a culture of support based solely on the financial approach.

The Federation's partnership approach must also take into account and if possible integrate into public higher education policies, as deployed within UNESCO, the European Union or the Union African, or between the EU and the AU. The logic of institutional development in higher education, the quality criteria proposed or adopted by these regional organizations and, more generally, by international bodies whose work is the subject of a broad consensus, must be known within FIUC and the African universities concerned, which in no way prevents reflection on the specific characteristics of Catholic higher education establishments. This is, moreover, what the IFCU offers with its policy of Social Responsibility for Catholic universities.

2- IFCU partnership policy with African Catholic universities

Regarding African Catholic universities, the IFCU proposes to deploy its efforts on two levels:

1 - Work carried out with ASUNICAM, in order to strengthen its existence and its relevance.

→ This work will be carried out in particular through the quarterly meeting of the secretaries general of regional associations of Catholic universities, around the general secretariat of the Federation.

→ IFCU will also work with Catholic non-governmental organizations sending volunteers, in order to send a volunteer to ASUNICAM and thus support and strengthen the activities of its General Secretariat.

2 - Work carried out with 6 African Catholic universities, two by linguistic zones, each one chosen according to its already recognized capacities and its potential for regional deployment in terms of "hub" of higher education and research:

- Catholic University of Mozambique
- Catholic University of Tanzania (St Augustine University)
- Catholic University of Angola

- Catholic University of Madagascar
- Catholic University Institute of Buea, (Cameroon)
- Catholic University of West Africa (Ivory Coast)

3 - The partnership may take the following routes (non-exhaustive list)

Student grants (intercontinental mobility, intra-African mobility)

Training: through the activities of its continuous training department, the IFCU develops programs relating to managerial skills and the specific challenges of Catholic universities. Special programs may be offered and located within African Catholic universities

Institutional development and capacity building: the work of IFCU, based on an audit or on specific requests formulated by African Catholic universities, is to deploy inter-Catholic university collaborations, in other words to organize relationships based on sharing of experiences between administrative staff, teaching staff and researchers. Relations of this kind have already been established between universities, African and European in particular. It is this already existing reality that IFCU wishes to develop and disseminate.

Among the possible themes :

- Development of a strategic plan
- Development of a quality plan
- Editing of licenses, masters,
- Help in setting up a doctoral school
- Access to documentary resources
- Strengthening of the Human Resources department,
- Strengthening of general secretariats, rectors, vice-rectors and top managers,
- Help with budgeting,
- Support for the implementation of an RSU strategy / approach.

Strategic partnership

This will include assistance in building relationships with foundations, businesses, state aid agencies, international institutions.