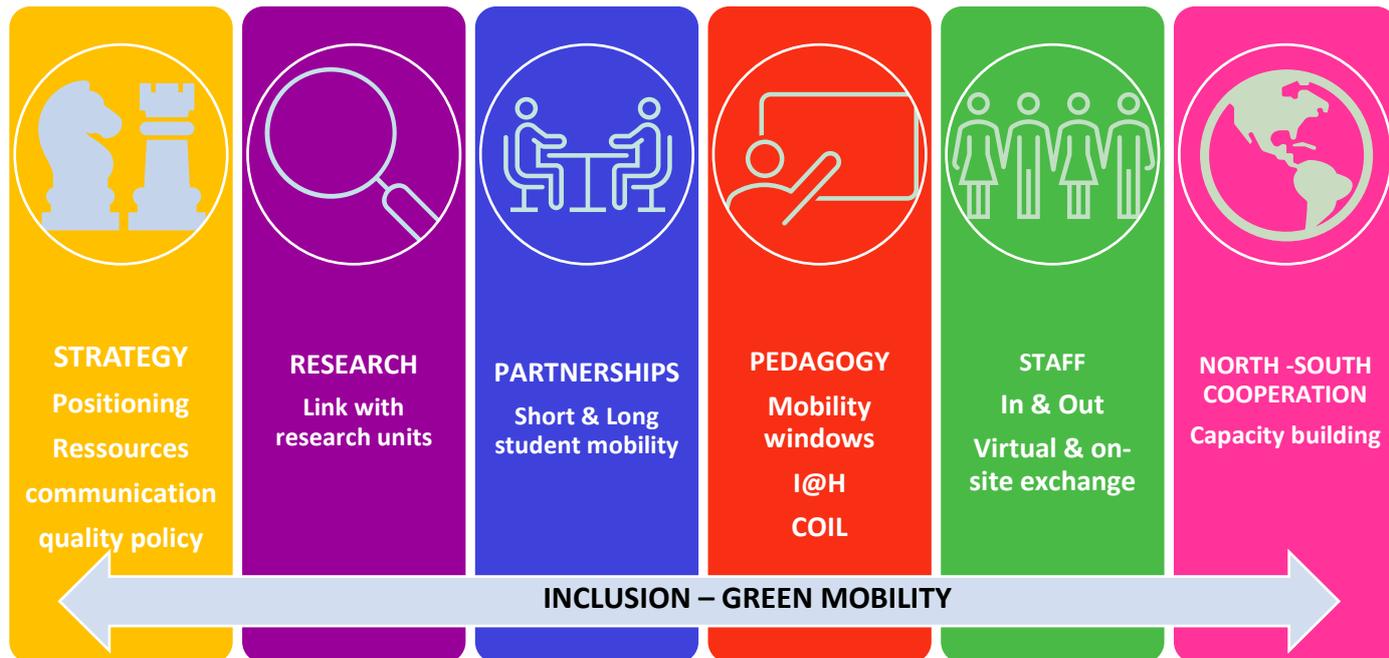


## INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY 2021-2027

Our strategy is developed around 6 axes.



### **Axis 1: Integration of the international dimension into the strategic plan of our institution (in coordination with the Vice-Chancellor)**

*The aim is to achieve a process of integration of an international, intercultural or global dimension in the aims, roles and organisation of our institution, enabling the development of international skills all. To this end, the international dimension will be translated into strategic and operational objectives within the new strategic plan 2021-2025.*

The international dimension will be transposed to the level of the study programmes in the Teaching Units / Learning Activities creating "Mobility Windows" within the different bachelor programmes.

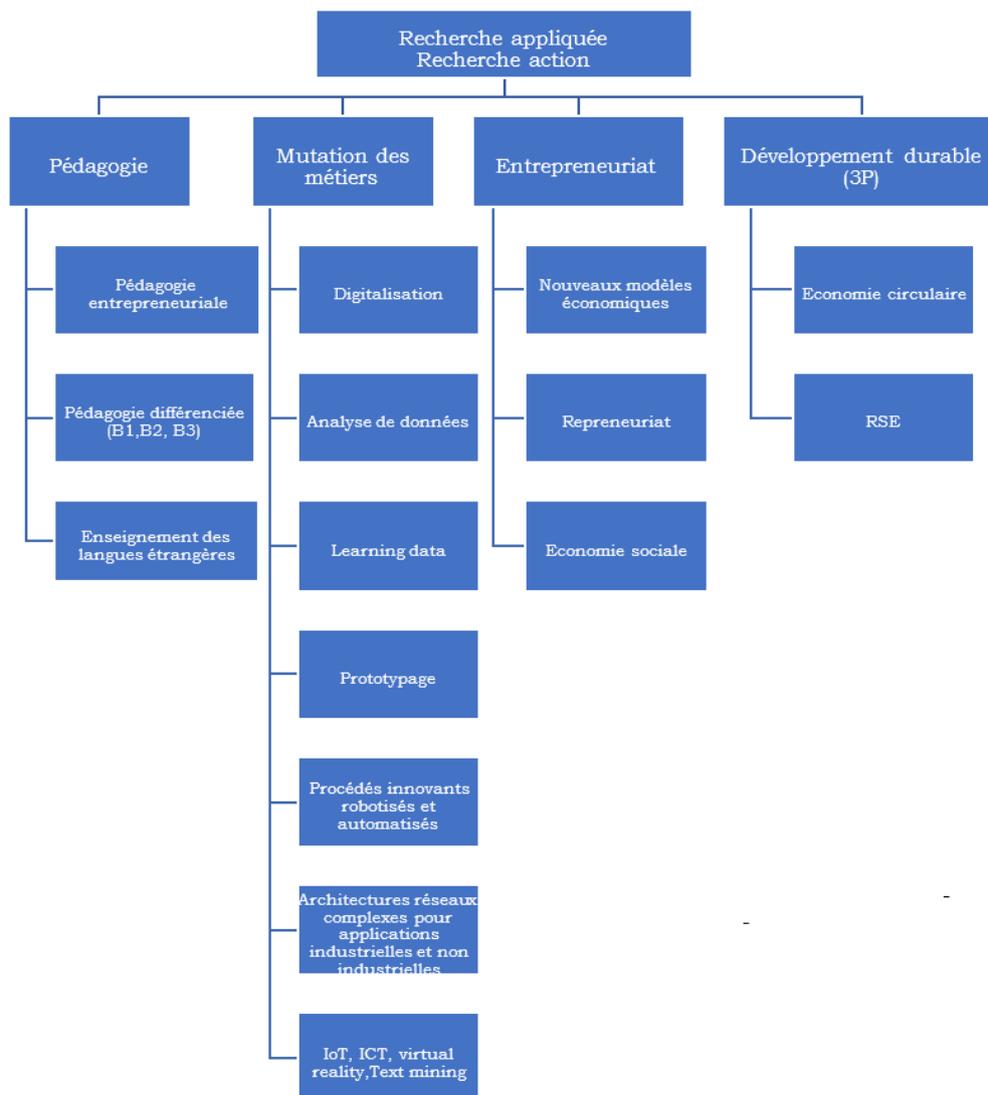
Various processes to evaluate the quality of our courses are regularly organised within our institution. The current quality audit is institutional and allows us to evaluate all our courses. Various reflections concerning international accreditations are also underway and could be implemented in the years to come.

Our communication (both internal and external) strategy will be optimized and new communication tools will be developed.

**Axis 2: Development of international research projects (in coordination with the Director of Pedagogy, Programmes and Applied Research)**

As for all the Haute Ecole of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, applied research is one of our missions.

The HE EPHEC has today an approval for two research units (a technical research unit and an economic research unit) within the framework of the Innovation Vouchers action, which will allow us over the next two years to develop the activities of these two units and to establish the positioning of our School as a research actor. In the short term, we will also develop action research (Susman and Evered, 1978) and a reflective approach to our teaching practices. In the medium term (5 years), we want to have a research centre structured in four areas to respond in a pragmatic, sustainable and innovative way to the demands of local and international actors in technological, social or economic matters. This will allow us to develop highly targeted expertise while being able to address the complexity of new challenges and solve them through interdisciplinarity.



### **Axis 3: Development of international academic and business partnerships (in coordination with the Director-President)**

*We wish to develop our network of academic partnerships in Europe and around the world, ensuring that we only enter into partnerships that transcend student exchange and are based on research projects, knowledge exchange, capacity building and strengthening global networks. In doing so, we aim to build equal and reciprocal relationships in which we learn from each other, in an intercultural dialogue, from the opportunities available and focusing on a multidisciplinary approach.*

Partnerships will be evaluated on an annual basis with quantitative and qualitative criteria, which will allow us to make the necessary corrections quickly.

This network of academic partnerships will enable us also to develop double-degree and articulation degrees which undoubtedly represents an added value for the professional skills of the participating students, attesting to their language skills and global citizenship.

The development of short mobility is also a priority for us as HE EPHEC organises international weeks for over 15 years. Within this framework, we also want to develop 100% virtual or blended mobility projects.

Finally we aim to develop a network of alumni who have participated in a long and/or short academic mobility / internship (International Week). This network would allow us to make the link between the professional and academic world.

### **Axis 4: Development of Internationalization at Home (I@H) programmes in coordination with the Director of Pedagogy, Programmes and Applied Research and the Pedagogical Coordination**

In order to develop international skills for all, we *will implement Internationalization at Home (I@H) activities which will allow us to integrate into the programmes activities that promote the acquisition of ICOMs (= international skills) which are*

- language skills
- intercultural skills
- interest in international or global issues and engagement as a global citizen;
- technical knowledge of the field of study in an international context;
- continuing education.

Within this framework, we also want to develop COIL Programmes. This implementation could be carried out in collaboration with the pedagogical service of our institution.

**Axis 5: Stimulating the mobility of academic and administrative staff for teaching and training purposes (in coordination with the Director-President and the Director of Teaching Staff and Student Affairs)**

The development of our international strategy involves the mobility of academic and administrative staff. Hence it's necessary to put in place a precise strategy which includes the following aspects:

- International mobility is part of the human resources policy of the institution
- International mobility is supported by management
- The administrative side
- Compensating for the absence of the staff member
- Supervision of the mobility
- Promotion and dissemination

**Axis 6: Setting up North-South cooperation and capacity building projects in coordination with the Director-President and the Director of Pedagogy, Programmes and Applied Research**

In order to fulfil our role as a global citizen, we intend to set up North-South cooperation projects and capacity building projects to support institutions in their modernisation and internationalisation processes.

In this way, we want to reduce inequalities and fight poverty, strengthen society by building local capacities and support the potential of institutions. These actions will also support staff mobility.