



BOKU UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION 2015 – 2025





University development today has to take into account the international context. We face a global competition for the best scientists and the best students. BOKU is a leading university in Life Sciences and aims to be a globally active university, with a clear focus on its strengths and core competences. International recruiting of faculty members and of students is a basis for the future development of BOKU. Strong international partners guarantee further options in developing joint curricula, exchange of students and faculty and development of co-operative research programs. To bolster further the internationalization process, fostering quality management and development of international university networks are important core activities for the future.

Rector Univ. Prof. DI Dr. Dr.h.c. mult. Martin H. Gerzabek



PHOTO © RECTOR MARTIN GERZABEK

FROM THE BOKU MISSION STATEMENT

“The BOKU professes to being an international performer in research and teaching, cooperating across national and international borders, and initiating open-mindedness towards new developments.”

BOKU is the most important Austrian resource for research for development (experts, teaching and research); it is also to become the first point of reference for relevant international and Austrian organizations in this field by 2025. A key aspect of the identity of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna is its own development research strategy. It is the only Austrian university with an organizational unit specialized in this area: the Centre for Development Research.

The activities of BOKU in non-OECD countries and in the primary focus regions with regard to the strategy for the internationalization of BOKU are to be continued at the current level and intensified, if possible; first, to underpin the importance of BOKU's collaborations in the area of Research for Development and second, as a support measure.

An interdisciplinary approach is contemplated as a priority and realized more strongly within BOKU. Quality standards for co-operation networks are developed. An interdisciplinary international Alumni-Network is developed and used in the long run for fundraising purposes. BOKU is committed to international

university benchmarking in teaching and research, to collaborations across boundaries and to a proactive openness towards new social, economic, political and sustainable developments.

THE UNIVERSITY'S INTERNATIONAL AMBITION

To be, within its area of expertise, the first point of reference in Austria for international education, research, innovation and development, and to be ranked within the top leading international Life Science universities.

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION

BOKU is committed to engagement in education, research, innovation and development beyond its national boundaries, in its region and globally.

BOKU WILL FULFIL THIS MISSION BY FOCUSING ON THE FOLLOWING GOALS

- Increase in both incoming and outgoing student mobility in order to accelerate the internationalization of the university.
- Continuation of „Internationalization at Home“ meaning increased teaching staff mobility, the offering of international and interdisciplinary study programs as well as measures to improve the „international classroom“ (e.g. by offering intercultural training to students and staff). This should reflect the



O.Univ. Prof. Josef Glöckl, Vice-Rector for Research and International Research Collaboration; **Ao.Univ.Prof. Barbara Hinterstoisser**, Vice-Rector for Teaching and International Affairs; **Univ.Prof. Georg Haberhauer**, Vice-Rector for Human Resource Management and Organizational Development; **Univ.Prof. Martin Gerzabek**, Rector; **Mag. Andrea Reithmayer**, Vice-Rector for Finance. PHOTO © ROBERT NEWALD

fact that not every student is interested in or able to study abroad.

- In order to take better advantage of synergies in the areas of both teaching and continuing education, as well as research, the development of international cooperation networks with both European and non-European states (especially in the field of development assistance) should be strengthened. Attention should be paid primarily to interdisciplinary approaches, which are to be implemented to a greater extent within BOKU itself. BOKU's involvement in cross-disciplinary networks (EUA, EUCEN, Euroleague for Life Sciences – ELLS, ICA, IROICA, AGRI-NATURA) should be continued and taken forward. BOKU has established a Central and South Eastern European network in 2010 (CASEE) as a regional sub-group of the ICA.
- BOKU cooperates with international organizations with offices in Vienna (e.g. IIASA, UN) in terms of teaching (guest teachers at BOKU, student visits and internships) and research (topics of theses and dissertations, joint projects). In principle, this should begin with research cooperation and be followed by teaching activities. International alumni and alumni in international organizations are key individuals for BOKU's internationalization strategy and contact points in these international networks. International, cross-disciplinary alumni networks are given a central role within BOKU; the same is true for the international, cross-disciplinary alumni network.

CORE OBJECTIVES

■ LEARNING AND TEACHING

FOREWORD BY THE VICE-RECTOR FOR TEACHING AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Our vision is to be a leading, attractive international university, as international recognized partner for students and researchers as teachers from all over the world; in order to train a new generation of decision-makers in sustainable development. International mobility among researchers and students is a driving force in higher education for information exchange, critical thinking interaction and dialogue between lecturers and students, necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century. BOKU wishes to strengthen its position by strongly supporting „internationalization at home“ and „cross-border“ to bring forward international talent development and knowledge exchange. Increased efforts to implement international curricula and Joint-study programs set up with partner Universities underpin the internationalization strategy of BOKU.

As teaching is contextually close to research, the international aspects of the strategic plans for teaching and learning are oriented towards the key areas of research.

OBJECTIVES

- With regard to outgoing student mobility we strive to meet and exceed the goal that at least 55% of all BOKU graduates (based on graduate numbers of 2014) will have spent some time abroad as part of the studies by 2025
- Increase in the proportion of international students to 25% of the Bachelor and Master graduates number and 35% at Doctoral level alumni by 2025. In particular students from the primary focus regions as set out in the strategy for the internationalization of BOKU as well as from non-OECD countries are to be attracted to study at BOKU →

- Strengthen interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary courses addressing sustainability transitions with regard to the management of renewable natural resources, world agriculture, and food systems.
- Implementation of measures to increase student mobility with Bachelor Curricula designed to facilitate mobility and to ensure recognition by BOKU; e.g. for internship mobility, or successful implementation of ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). Once the required technical changes and staff increase have taken place, additional information will be included in the Diploma Supplement.
- Increase in and structured expansion of the classes taught in English in the Master's programs.
- Expansion of classes taught in English within the framework of doctoral programs, particularly for "Doktoratskollegs".
- In non-OECD countries and in the focus regions, BOKU is to be more actively involved in teaching, or win BOKU students from non-OECD countries/focus regions.
- Increase in the number of international guest teachers (= guest lecturers and guest professors) – in the middle run, on the level of Bachelor degree programs, 2 ECTS in each study program are intended to be held by guest teachers and on the level of Master degree programs it should be 4 ECTS in each study program.
- Development of foreign language, international and interdisciplinary study programs (e.g. Joint- or (only in cases where the national law does not allow to issue Joint Degrees:) Double/Multiple-Degree programs), e.g. in the framework of the ERASMUS+ or H2020 MSCA-ITN-programs. In the middle run the goal is to develop foreign-language specification possibilities (in accordance with the target group) in cooperation with several universities for every Master degree subject area. In the long run these specification possibilities should be extended after respective evaluations have been carried out and taking the degrees for international Master degree programs into consideration. Co-operation with enterprises is to be encouraged in both regular and continuing education.
- Development of international continuing education courses which are geared to the competence fields, such as Summer Universities, specific short courses on-site (for example organized via the Centre for Development Research), but also specific additional offers for university alumni. These have to be held on a regular basis and need to be marketed internationally. Quality standards for continuing education have to be developed together with incentives for the providers of advanced vocational training and used as a basis in determining guidelines for the number of continuing education programs that have to be developed.

■ RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

FOREWORD BY THE VICE-RECTOR FOR RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATION

Our vision is to be recognized as one of the leading European Life Sciences Universities performing cutting-edge research in order to address globally as well as regionally significant research problems within its fields of competencies. Our core strategic goals focus on:

Young Scientists & Recruiting

- › Attracting and recruiting international top scientists, excellent doctoral candidates and encouraging academic exchange to further develop a high-quality research profile
- › Further development and implementation of internationally oriented doctoral study programs

Research for Development, Capacity Building

- › Recognition of our social responsibility by conducting development research and education for developing countries in areas related to sustainable natural resource management
- › Contributing to capacity-building in research, innovation and education with special emphasis on the Danube Region and Non-OECD countries
- › Strengthening the interdisciplinary collaboration in Global Development Research across departments and thematic areas.

International Cooperation & Visibility

- › Active participation of BOKU researchers in international conferences and hosting an increasing number of international conferences at BOKU to further increase the international visibility and scientific profile of BOKU
- › Encouraging the involvement of BOKU scientists in activities of the international scientific community
- › Stimulating international cooperative research projects and programs by networking with European and international partners

ERA – European Research Area

- › Maintaining strategic contacts with ERA-Representatives
- › Increasing visibility of BOKU's ERA-Activities
- › Addressing European Research Funds (e.g. H2020, COST, EFSA)

Societal Responsibility

- › Through its Smart Specialization Strategy BOKU – together with its international and European partner institutions and university networks – is contributing to capacity-building in research, innovation and higher education with special emphasis on geographic target regions, in particular the Danube Region and Non-OECD countries
- › BOKU is committed to the principles of sustainability and continues to stimulate and carry out research supporting sustainable development

A strengthened internationalization of research is closely linked with an excellent quality of research (performance).

OBJECTIVES

Young Scientists, Recruiting

- Maintaining HR Excellence Logo of European Commission
- Strengthened integration of foreign doctoral students and post-docs in current research projects

Research for Development, Capacity Building

- Intensifying R4D-Activities (e.g. projects funded through CO2-compensation scheme)
- Strengthened international co-operation and exchange of scientists
- Improved mobility of scientists

International Cooperation & Visibility

- Strengthened international co-operation and exchange of scientists
- Improved mobility of scientists
- Better use of sabbaticals
- Easier access to BOKU travel funds. In this context, it is essential to establish mobility in the framework of the EU programs, the FFG, FWF (Lise Meitner, Erwin Schrödinger) and the ÖAW (APART etc.) as well as similar national and international programs serving internationalization. International contacts have to be facilitated for post-doc exchange (incoming and outgoing Marie-Curie-Fellows). In this area, no exact figures should be stated, but the goal is to raise awareness of these possibilities and to increase the mobility (compared to the level obtained in 2010).
- Improved support at project initiation and application in the area of international research programs (H2020, COST, etc.)
- Internationalization of research support staff (staff exchange, participation in European networks of research support staff)

ERA- European Research Area

- Annual visits to European institutions in Brussels, workshops with representatives of the EC, EP, etc.
- Active participation of BOKU researchers in European committees & networks (e.g. focus groups, JPIs, PPP Biobased Industries, ...)
- Establishment of an “ERA-Working Group” to make better strategic use of knowledge gathered in European committees & networks

■ PEOPLE

FOREWORD BY THE VICE-RECTOR FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our vision is to be an attractive place to study and to work – BOKU professes to being an open-minded, interculturally sensitive university that values diversity and provides the best study and working conditions for its students and employers, irrespective of their nationality.

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce English as the second internal BOKU working language: this means that documents and applications are accepted, processed and answered in English. English skills are a precondition for appointment to an academic post at BOKU.
- When appointing administrative personnel, priority is given to those with knowledge of English; corresponding continuing education courses should be expanded. BOKU graduates should be able to work in at least two languages and when possible also have knowledge of a third language.
- Targets in relation to academic and administrative personnel: experience abroad for academic personnel in their specialist field should be supported. For this, leaves of absence should be encouraged and the sabbaticals envisaged in the collective contract (Kollektivvertrag) should also be made use of. Administrative personnel should also be enabled to spend work-related time abroad.
- In the long run, measures for supporting internationally active BOKU staff members should be identified.

■ FINANCE

FOREWORD BY THE VICE-RECTOR FOR FINANCES

Our vision is to provide the infrastructure and possibilities to enable all our students and staff to co-operate with international partner institutions – either by “Internationalization at home” (which means fostering incoming teaching staff mobility or virtual mobility) or by student or staff mobility.

OBJECTIVES

In view of the current financial situation of Austrian universities, it has to be seen already as a success if BOKU manages to maintain the actual level of activities. However, of course it is BOKU's objective, in the framework of the financial possibilities given, to fulfil all the objectives stated in this strategy document.

Although there is an “international budget” for financing study abroad scholarships and teaching staff mobility with overseas partner universities (incoming and outgoing), the full implementation of the goals of the internationalization strategy cannot be financed exclusively by university-internal funds. Fundraising for scholarships, language courses and similar “international” activities is thus essential for maintaining and expanding BOKU's international activities.



Danube (left). PHOTO © SIKORSKA
Wetland vegetation (right). PHOTO © VITASOVIĆ

SHOWCASES

The projects and activities listed on the following pages just reflect some highlights of the huge amount of research and educational projects carried out.

■ 1. DANUBE REGION

As the leading Central European University in the area of Life Sciences, BOKU puts strong emphasis on fostering international co-operation in this region.

The **Danube Rectors' Conference (DRC)** has almost 70 member institutions of different thematic areas which are located in the 3 founding countries of DRC (Austria, Germany and Hungary) as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Moldova, Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

Current important topics of DRC activities are:

- to include the DRC in strategic discussions at regional and EU level on Higher Education / on topics of relevance for DRC members
- To contribute to the development of the EU strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- improved performance of the Higher Education Institutions in general,
- development of joint projects e.g. for curricula development or evaluation of education and research.

www.danube-region.eu/about

The **ICA Regional Network for Central and South Eastern Europe (ICA-CASEE)** was founded upon initiative of BOKU in 2010 and comprises almost 20 member universities from Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia and Austria.

The objectives of the network are:

- to support the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube region
- to strengthen research, education and University Development in this region

- to develop joint research, educational and other projects (e.g. joint curricula, joint continuous educational offers, structural development, human resource development, QA, know-how-transfer, e.g. via an e-platform)
- to represent the Life Science-oriented Higher Education Institutions of Central and South Eastern Europe.
- The high involvement of CASEE in the implementation of the EUSDR is reflected via its active co-operation with the workgroup of Priority Area 7 of the EUSDR.

www.ica-casee.eu

In 2009, the **Regional Office for Central and Southern Europe of the European Forest Institute (EFI CEEC)** was founded at BOKU – this emphasizes the leading role of BOKU in the area of Forest Sciences. EFICEEC is an international research unit providing integrative forestry-related research and capacity building with a special focus on Central East European (CEE) countries. In times of global environmental changes and changing demands of modern society it strives to support sustainable land use and innovation in the forest sector through research, networking, capacity building and advocacy.

EFICEEC aims to become an inter-disciplinary focal point building on three work areas.

- Forest sector policy and economics
- Land Use Change
- Forest Ecosystem Management

www.eficeec.efi.int/portal

EU-Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

DRC and CASEE are particularly active and involved in Priority Area 7 (To develop the Knowledge Society through research, education and information technologies).

www.danube-region.eu/pages/what-is-the-eusdr

■ 2. SOUTH EAST ASIA

BOKU is actively involved in two networks dealing with South East Asia, which led to several educational and research projects, doctoral student supervision, teaching staff exchanges and further collaboration with partner institutions:

ASEA UNINET was founded in 1994 and now comprises more than 40 Austrian and S.E.Asian universities (in Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines) as an association of European and South-East Asian universities with the following aims:

- to encourage and facilitate cooperation between academic institutions in staff/student exchange, teaching and research activities
- to promote scientific, cultural and human relationships and personal contacts
- to encourage and initiate projects of mutual interest and benefit for faculties, staff and students
- to assist in forming coalitions of resources for academic activities between member institutions
- to facilitate contacts between universities, governmental and non-governmental organizations and economic operators engaged in projects related to education, science, technology and art in countries with member universities
- to act as a forum of continuous discussions on the progress of these projects, and serving as a network of excellence providing expertise and initiatives for entities seeking European-S.E.Asian relations in the fields mentioned above.

www.asea-uninet.org

EURASIA-PACIFIC UNINET is a network which aims at establishing contacts and scientific partnerships between Austrian universities, universities of applied sciences, other research institutions and member institutions in East Asia, Central Asia, South Asia and the Pacific region.

www.eurasiapacific.net

The strong link of BOKU to South East Asia is also reflected in the fact that in 2008 BOKU was the first Austrian University who ever coordinated an ERASMUS MUNDUS Mobility project: the **EURASIA Project** with 18 partner universities in Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos but also China and Mongolia led to 128 mobilities of students and teaching staff to Asia and to the EU.

www.boku.ac.at/international/themen/international-students-coming-to-boku/erasmus-mundus/eurasia-2/was-ist-eurasia-2

Outstanding is also the first **Austrian Joint-Degree-Doctoral program with Nanyang Technological University Singapore and the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT):**

the „International Graduate School Nanobiotechnology“ runs since 2011, thanks to funding of the Austrian ministries BMVIT (Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology) and BMFWF (Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy) as well as from Singapore.

www.nano.boku.ac.at/igsbionanotech.html

A framework agreement for joint doctoral programs was also signed with the **Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam** – this agreement should be expanded to joint Master programs (involvement of HUST in the BOKU Master „Safety in the Food Chain“).

Another area of activity in **South East Asia is the yearly Summer School of BOKU's Centre for Development Research**. Starting in 2015, students from Austria, Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia will work together to discuss „The Future of Rice“. This summer school is jointly organized by BOKU with Gadjah Mada University (Indonesia), Kasetsart University (Thailand) and Royal University of Agriculture (Cambodia).

Water buffalo, Vietnam; Cutting grass, Java, Indonesia; Rice fields, Sapa, Vietnam. PHOTOS © PROF. DIETMAR HALTRICH





■ 3. HIMALAYA REGION

For more than two decades, BOKU has been actively co-operating with Bhutan, Nepal and other countries in the Himalayan Region, e.g. in the following projects:

BC-CAP Climate change adaptation potentials of forests in Bhutan – building human capacities and knowledge base. Located in a region forming a tipping element in the Earth's climate system and having low economic resilience, the Himalayan region in general is particularly prone to severe consequences of climate change. This is true for Bhutan, one of the least developed land-locked mountainous countries. BC-CAP is a partnership between the Institute of Forest Ecology of BOKU University and the Watershed Management Division as well as the Renewable Natural Resources Research and Development Centre Yusipang. It combines research on adaptation strategies to abiotic and biotic stresses with forest restoration strategies and activities for increasing carbon stocks as well as combating species losses, particularly on degraded lands, using participative tools. A strong focus on capacity building will guarantee long term sustainability of inputs and ownership of knowledge and activities.

Also with Nepal, several research projects are and have been carried out and co-operation agreements with several universities exist, like the following research project of Prof. Moog which involved several countries of the Himalaya region: **Development of an Assessment System to Evaluate the Ecological Status of Rivers in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region (ASSESS – HKH)**
www.assess-hkh.at

*Up in the trees (top). PHOTO © GERHARD HEIDORN
 Shashlik barbecue at the pasture (middle); Pasture landscape and yurts in south Kyrgyzstan (bottom). PHOTO © PROF. VOLLMANN*

■ 4. CENTRAL ASIA

In the past years, Central Asia has developed into a focus region of BOKU's strategy for internationalization. Due to BOKU's involvement in several ERASMUS MUNDUS A2 projects for student and staff exchanges, linkages with universities in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan have been made.

Long-lasting co-operation agreements exist also with universities in China and Mongolia. BOKU and the Mongolian University of Life Sciences (MSUA) have jointly initiated a series of field excursions, aiming at bringing together staff and students of both universities, and to foster both scientific and cultural exchange between the two countries. In July 2014, MSUA invited a group of BOKU students and lecturers to explore the vast steppes of the Central Asian country. In August 2015, a group of MSUA students and staff will come to Austria for a joint two-week excursion.



Rainforest, Serra do Japi; Experimental Plant UFU, Brazil. PHOTOS © PROF. BERNHARDT

5. LATIN AMERICA

BOKU's co-operation with Latin America dates back almost 50 years when the first Forest ecology projects were started with Brazil. Ever since, the co-operation was expanded and now comprises not only 4 partner institutions in Brazil (where also some student excursions took place), but also 3 partner universities in Peru, 2 in Mexico, 1 in Chile, strong linkages with the Tropical Field Station in La Gamba (Costa Rica), and several project agreements with organizations in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

The first **ALFA-Project** that was ever coordinated at BOKU (previously we had only been partners in Alfa Projects), is the ALFA-ALAS-Project of PD Maria Wurzinger: "REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT OF MASTER PROGRAMS „ANIMAL SCIENCE“ AT 7 UNIVERSITIES IN 4 LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ". The project aimed at the improvement and harmonization of the higher education in the field of Animal Science at Masters level in 4 LA countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Peru) using internationally recognized standards. www.nas.boku.ac.at/nuwi/forschung/alfa-iii-alas-project/consortium-meetings-alfa-iii-alas

BOKU is the Austrian university with the highest involvement in **APPEAR-Projects** funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA). A current example for an APPEAR Project coordinated by BOKU is "Strengthening of local research capacities at the BICU-Bluefields Indian and Caribbean University, Nicaragua to confront the effects of climate change". The Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua is

one of the most vulnerable regions related to the negative effects of climate change worldwide. In addition, human capacities to design adaptation and mitigation strategies are still very limited. Therefore this project, funded by the Austrian APPEAR-program, aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of BICU at various levels. Already existing curricula are evaluated and climate change as a new topic is implemented as a transversal topic. In addition, an advanced training course with a focus on climate change related topics is designed. Trainings for academic staff are offered, students are jointly supervised and research capacities are enforced. BICU establishes a climate change observatory which will offer information for various stakeholders, but will also collect climate data. With these capacities BICU will be able to provide guidance and assistance to local and national authorities for policymaking and strategic planning.

Long-lasting university co-operation agreements with institutions in Peru, Mexico and Brazil led to the fact that lecture halls or university buildings of our partner universities were named after the BOKU departmental coordinators for these agreements (e.g. the lecture hall named after Prof. Krapfenbauer at Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Brazil, or the environmental biotechnology laboratory of the Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina, Lima, Peru, which was named in honor of Prof. Rudolf Braun). An interesting element of the co-operation agreements with Latin America, particularly Peru and Mexico, is the fact that these co-operations always include 6 – 8 subject areas of BOKU – this is more than twice as much as other co-operation agreements.

■ 6. EASTERN AFRICA

Several successful APPEAR projects at BOKU were carried out by the Center for Development Research and its partners in Eastern Africa.

The projects focus, among others, on Water Management, general capacity building, but also on Animal Sciences, like the project **“AGIN: African Goat Improvement Network”** with Malawi and Uganda: The partners are implementing community based goat breeding programs in several regions of Malawi and Uganda, in order to kick-start national animal recording schemes for sheep and goats in both countries.

Another project with Ethiopia was established in BOKU's CO₂-compensation program: The **“Carbon Offset Project Exclosure - North Gondar”**.

www.boku.ac.at/en/wissenschaftliche-initiativen/zentrum-fuer-globalen-wandel-nachhaltigkeit/themen/nachhaltigkeit/co2-kompensation/klimaschutzprojekt

The objectives are:

- Develop a participatory framework for a carbon compensation scheme in a community-based exclosure management system supported by research
- Identify community priorities, potentials and constraints for management of exclosures in the study area including priority tree species across different land use, tenure and ownership regimes

- Establish community based sustainable management schemes including communal benefit sharing
- Characterize carbon sequestration and plant biodiversity in the exclosure
- Characterize community benefits of the exclosure management through monitoring

The long-lasting co-operation with BOKU partner universities in Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya is also increasingly focusing on joint educational projects: for several years, the CDR organized summer schools at the Makerere University Uganda; and the project **Development of Educational and Research CAPacity in Eastern Africa for the Sustainable Management of AQUAatic Ecosystems (CAPAQUA II)** cooperated with Ethiopia.

The first joint degree program at Masters' level was introduced in 2012 with Egerton University Kenya (and UNESCO-IHE in The Netherlands) as international specialization in BOKU's Applied Limnology Master.

The special linkages of BOKU with Africa are also reflected in the fact that the first official BOKU Alumni-Meeting outside Austria took place in 2013 in Ethiopia, where the **“International BOKU Alumni Network”** was founded. In the meantime, BOKU has Alumni Ambassadors in appx. 30 countries, see alumni.boku.ac.at/alumni/international.php

Standpipe Tigray, East Africa; Watershed Tigray, East Africa. PHOTO © PROF. LOISKANDL



NETWORKS

In addition to the already mentioned networks which are connected to the geographic target regions of BOKU's strategy for internationalization, BOKU is also involved in several networks that are related to the competence areas and have – in addition to the thematic focus – also an additional strategic importance for BOKU, such as:

- **ICA – European Association of Life Science Universities**
www.ica-europe.info
- **ICA – CASEE: ICA regional network for Central and South Eastern Europe**
www.ica-casee.eu
- **AGRINATURA – European Alliance on Agricultural Knowledge for Development**
www.agrinatura.eu
- **SILVA – European Forest Science Academic Network**
www.agrinatura.eu
- **ICA-Edu – ICA Network for Innovation in Higher Education in the Life Sciences**
www.ica-europe.info
- **IROICA – International Relations Officers' Network of the Association of European Life Science Universities**
www.ica-ls.com/iroica
- **ISEKI-Food Association**
<https://www.iseki-food.net>
- **ELLS – Euroleague for Life Science**
www.euroleague-study.org
- **EUA – the European University Association**
www.eua.be
- **AUCEN – Austrian University Continuing Education and Staff Development Network**
www.aucen.ac.at
- **EUCEN**
www.eucen.eu
- **EPSO – European Plant Science Organization**
www.epsoweb.org
- **IUFRO – International Union of Forest research organizations**
iufro.boku.ac.at
- **OENOVITI INTERNATIONAL network**
www.oenoviti.univ-bordeauxsegalen.fr
- **Global Challenges University Alliance (GCUA)** (network in preparation phase)
www.slu.se/gcua
- **International BOKU Alumni Network**
alumni.boku.ac.at/alumni/international.php

FURTHER INFORMATION

BOKU – www.boku.ac.at

BOKU's Strategy for Internationalization – www.boku.ac.at/int-coop-strategy.html

BOKU's project database – <https://forschung.boku.ac.at>

BOKU's departments – www.boku.ac.at/en/sitemap



Department of Material Sciences and Process Engineering (MAP)



Department of Biotechnology (DBT)



Department of Water - Atmosphere - Environment (WAU)



Department of Nanobiotechnology (DNBT)



Department of Chemistry (DCH)



Department of Integrative Biology and Biodiversity Research (DIB)



Department of Food Science and Technology (DLWT)



Department of Landscape, Spatial and Infrastructure Sciences



Department of Economics and Social Sciences (WiSo)



Department of Sustainable Agricultural Systems



Department of Civil Engineering and Natural Hazards



Department of Forest- and Soil Sciences



Department of Crop Sciences (DNW)



Department of Agrobiotechnology, IFA-Tulln



Department of Applied Genetics and Cell Biology (DAGZ)

Other scientific units

Centre for Development Research (CDR)

Scientific Initiatives

- Vienna Institute of BioTechnology (VIBT Muthgasse)
- Centre for Agricultural Sciences (BOKU CAS)
- Centre for Global Change and Sustainability (ZGWN)
- Bio-Resources & Technologies Tulln (BiRT)



**University of Natural Resources
and Life Sciences, Vienna**

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)
Gregor Mendel Strasse 33, 1180 Vienna

Responsible for the Content:

BOKU's committee of Regional Co-ordinators, the Rectorate and
Dr. Margarita Calderón-Peter, Center for International Relations