

# Reflection on the co-operation in DUAL STUDY programme development between the University of Mpumalanga (South Africa) and FH JOANNEUM (Austria)

## Final Conference Keynote



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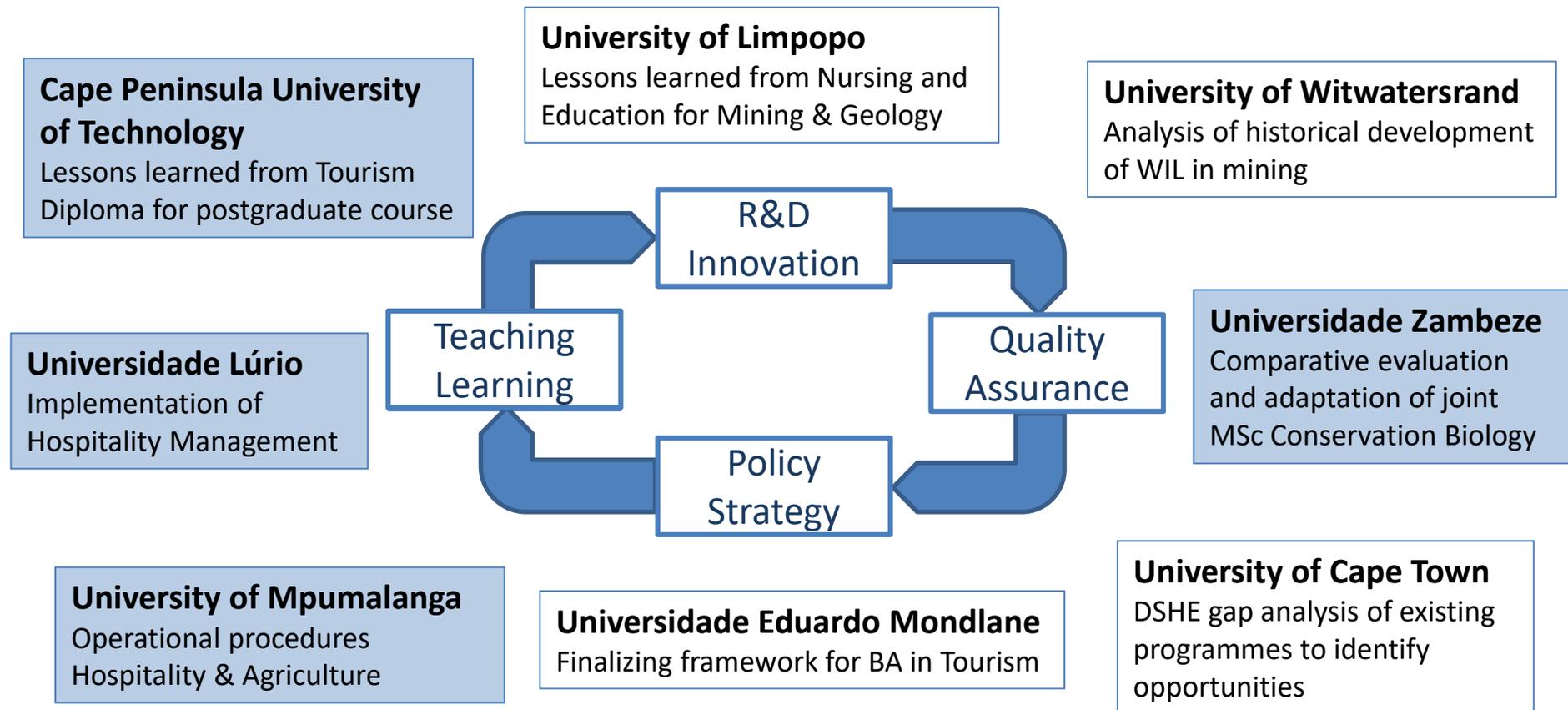
**Friday, October 9th, 2020**

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# INTRODUCTION

## Dual Studies in Higher Education Framework & Development Cycle



# INTRODUCTION

- The project LaTFURE brought together **universities from Europe, South Africa and Mozambique** with an interest in cooperative and work integrated education.
- **Under the auspices of LatFURE**, the University of Mpumalanga in South Africa partnered with FH JOANNEUM from Graz, Austria.
- The purpose was to **create a mutual partnership** to develop an institutional framework for establishing **DUAL STUDY** programs in Mpumalanga.
- As a pilot program, the University of Mpumalanga used the Diploma in Hospitality Management to **adopt good practice from Austria in a South African context**.

## ACTIVITIES (1)

- **Johannes Haas (FH JOANNEUM) visited UMP** (faculty meetings + industry visits) after the project meeting in Johannesburg (30.10.-2.11.2018).
- A draft of specific **training concepts** for Agriculture and Hospitality Management (project meeting in Tampere, May 2019) was co-created.
- **UMP staff members visited FH JOANNEUM;** vocational schools and industry partners in Austria (May 2019).

## ACTIVITIES (2)

- FH JOANNEUM facilitated **two training sessions for faculty, students and industry** on dual education at UMP (July 2019). Important: participants from a regional college and UEM (Maputo, Mozambique).
- **Follow-up visits by FH JOANNEUM to enterprises** to address specific questions in cultural issues, cooperation and student guidance in Mpumalanga (July 2019).
- **Reflection of outcomes** by FH JOANNEUM and UMP faculty and decisions for further activities (learning on both sides improves know how transfer).

## ACTIVITIES – IMAGES FROM AUSTRIA



Training kitchen in an Austrian  
Hospitality college



Carpentry workshop in an  
Austrian Agriculture college

## ACTIVITIES – IMAGES FROM SOUTH AFRICA



Training with students, faculty  
and industry at UMP



Planting seeds together in  
the spirit of Nelson Mandela

## ACTIVITIES – CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS (1)

- Choose programmes that allow a development in **small steps** from a **solid foundation** and are clearly **signature programmes** of your university.
- “Occasions appear and disappear”: **Don’t let an opportunity pass by!**
- Use any **(financial) support** you can get (e.g. ERASMUS Mobility).
- “It takes a village to raise a child”: Involve everybody and create this **“experiential village”** around the programme.

## ACTIVITIES – CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS (2)

- But it also takes **dedicated individuals** whose passion it is to work in the center of such a complex network of stakeholders.
- Shortcomings are inevitable, allow yourself and your team to make and **learn from mistakes** and (small) failures.
- For international (intercultural!) cooperation concentrate on **a small number of trustful and mutual partnerships**, take the time and effort needed to build it and clarify **benefits for each partner**.

# ACTIVITIES – IMAGES OF PARTNERSHIP



# ACTIVITIES – IMAGES OF PARTNERSHIP



## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE SUMMARY

Perhaps the key highlight that I have learnt from Austria is that:

*The simultaneous integration of training with theory is an integral component of education which consequently increases employment prospects.*

Oswald Mhlanga

## IMPLEMENTATION

- The **DUAL STUDY** vocational education and training model has been integrated into the Hospitality program.
- Assessment methodology has been enhanced using **DUAL STUDY** principles and tools.
- Industry partnerships have been strengthened through the formation of Programme Advisory Boards.
- A new programme in Event Management with a **DUAL STUDY** model has been designed.

## CHALLENGES

- **National sub-qualification frameworks** dealing with workplace learning in Higher Education in South Africa and Germany / Austria do not relate with each other.
- **Small industry** (in fields like hospitality and agriculture) capacity to absorb students and guarantee higher qualification for **DUAL STUDY** programmes is limited.
- Necessary **governance structure** for **DUAL STUDY** programmes cannot be confirmed at present in South Africa.
- **COVID 19 and Climate Change** will have a growing influence on higher education.

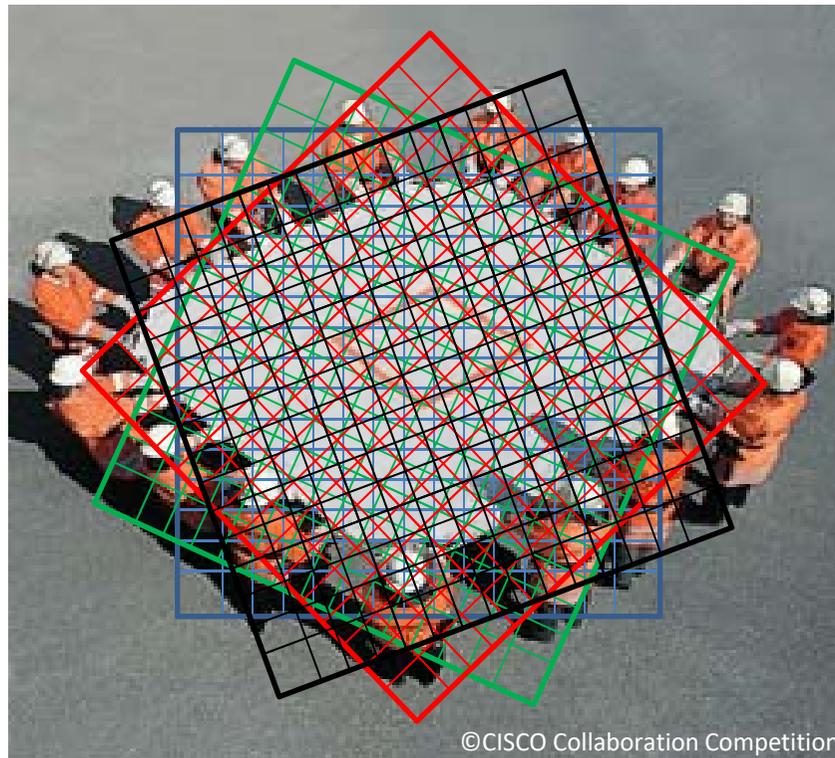
## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain the bilateral and mutual partnership with FH JOANNEUM to create a sustainable **DUAL STUDY** framework.
- Change industry perception to support **DUAL STUDY** programmes so that students are not viewed as liabilities but as assets.
- Embed more **DUAL STUDY** components in the curricula of other programs especially during COVID-19 where industry and student visits have been greatly reduced.

# RECOMMENDATIONS .....

Students learning with and from  
students

Teachers facilitating experiential  
education



Universities co-operating and co-  
creating globally

Companies providing and sharing  
experience

©CISCO Collaboration Competition

..... FOR A SAFETY NET IN A DIFFICULT FUTURE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

# RECOMMENDATIONS .....

## START LEARNING BY DOING EARLY



# RECOMMENDATIONS .....



"I'm honored to share my research at your virtual academic conference."

# THANK YOU

