

# HAMK AFRICA ACTION PLAN 2020 – 2030

We live in the age of globalization. The global age means interdependency in economic, social and environmental spheres of everyone's lives. There is a great need for collaboration, new ideas and innovations and shared resources. Education and research have the reach, legitimacy, and ability to support the global development and this way shape the future of the world.

HAMK aims to enhance its strategic internationalization actions by building knowledge and competence together with African universities and partners. Our main themes for collaboration in Africa are:

- Bioeconomy research and innovation: Circular bioeconomy knowledge and solutions for agriculture and forestry, climate change mitigation and adaptation of agri-food systems, green energy solutions, water management solutions and sustainability indicators development.
- Educational capacity building: Educational innovations and shifting learning paradigms, future skills and digitalization in education, pedagogical competence and professional development and research themes of work, learning and globalisation.

AU Agenda 2063 **HAMK Strategy 2030**EU-Africa Strategy 2019

Internationalisation

Competence and knowledge

Innovative and influential research



## Five strategic **key actions**

Partnerships and networks in education and research

Strengthening and widening strong and mutually beneficial, sustainable partner networks

Research and development activities

Active participation to smart-digital bioeconomy research and innovation

Education solutions for 21st century

Strengthening HAMK contribution to teacher education advancement

Business and civil society cooperation

Engaging and enhancing business cooperation in bioeconomy

Management and development of HAMK's intellectual capital

Increasing future-oriented intellectual capital of HAMK

## HAMK's strengths for collaboration in Africa

The key actions are supported especially by following HAMK qualities:

- Transformative academic programmes covering technology and engineering, well-being and social sciences, business and marketing and bioeconomy.
- Competent and inspired staff who encourage graduates to think in new ways, to meet the challenges facing them in 21st century.
- Life-changing research which tackles the issues of social, environmental and economic challenges with impact on societies on local, regional and international levels.
- Professional teacher competence solving the challenges of education systems to produce innovative, well-educated, and entrepreneurial citizens.
- Learning environment in HAMK's campuses with education forest, greenhouses and vertical farming facilities, organic farm, high-tech facilities, and HAMK Design Factory.

## Societal impact

Collaboration with African partners has an impact on all HAMK's activities:

- Learning and teaching, research, development and innovation activities. Students are in the centre of all we do they have opportunities for enhancing their international competences and strengthening their global citizenship.
- Students will have more opportunities for short exchanges in multidisciplinary groups and teachers will increase their competences in teacher exchanges both in African destinations and through welcoming colleagues from African countries to teach at HAMK.

#### HAMK contributes to sustainable job and wealth creation in Africa:

- HAMK is devoted to use its expertise in versatile development and innovation activities internationally for mutual development and learning.
- Collaborative research is the tool for producing suitable and sustainable solutions for local realities leading to sustainability and jobs and wealth creation.

#### More information:

Dr Heidi Ahokallio-Leppälä

Vice rector, director of development and human resources, Häme University of Applied Sciences Phone: +358 40 090 4330 Email: heidi.ahokallio-leppala@hamk.fi **Dr Eija Laitinen** 

Principal Research Scientist HAMK Bio research unit, Häme University of Applied Sciences Phone: +358 50 585 3933 Email: eija.laitinen@hamk.fi