

Mapping the Supranational Higher Education Space

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How has the supranational in higher education shaped the transformation of higher education in the Caucasus & Central Asia?



How has the supranational in higher education shaped **universities' institutional development**?

How has the supranational in higher education shaped **research capacity development**?

How has the supranational in higher education shaped **individual opportunities of accessing higher education**?

To what extent has supranational in higher education shaped the formation of a **regional higher education space**?



EUROPEAN
Higher Education Area

- ❖ Secondary quantitative analysis of
 - OECD data on funding flows
 - Elsevier data on the funding for research

- ❖ 87 survey responses from international officers at HEIs

- ❖ Secondary evidence and data on
 - Key multilateral agencies
 - Key philanthropic agencies
 - Bilateral donor agencies

- ❖ Interviews with policy-makers in seven countries



“China will provide 50 thousand training opportunities and **50 thousand scholarships** to African countries from 2019-2021.” *2018 Beijing action plan*

How is the FOCAC supranational ‘Africa+1’ policy process reshaping African and Chinese HE?

- How are African policy actors learning to negotiate Chinese ‘relational’ diplomacy ?
- What influence does the China-Africa Think Tank Forum (CATTf) have on HE developments?
- How are doctoral scholarships for study in China facilitated through FOCAC and funded ?

9 interviews with African CATTf delegates

Are experiences of Chinese research training reshaping African research cultures and universities? And Chinese universities?

	2017	2018
Sudan	484	636
Ghana	212	829
Tanzania	187	357
Egypt	367	711
Ethiopia	297	621
Kenya	142	259
Rwanda	80	179
Nigeria	205	540
Cameroon	99	219
Republic of Congo)	44	84
Mali	80	104
Uganda	38	67
Algeria	180	320
DRC	75	120
Benin	27	98
Cote D' Ivoire	67	101
South Africa	20	32
Other	638	1555
TOTALS	3222	6835

Doctoral enrollments in China (Shujuku.org)

26 interviews with researchers from Ghana, Tanzania and Ethiopia enrolled in (or graduated from) Chinese PhDs programmes

Secondary data from:

- Chinese HE databases
- Chinese university websites

A background image of a puzzle map of Europe. The puzzle pieces are in shades of blue and brown, with some pieces missing, particularly in the western and southern parts of the continent. The map is set against a dark background.

Supranational HE in Europe: The European Universities Initiative (EUI)

- Rolled out from 2019 onwards, sought to develop ‘bottom up’ networks of universities
 - Strengthening collaboration in teaching and research
 - Enabling students to gain degree by combining studies in several countries
- Funded through Erasmus+ and Horizon (€5m and €2m from each, per EUI)
- Currently 41 EUIs, involving 284 HEIs from 32 countries (EU 27 + Iceland, Norway, Serbia, Turkey and UK)
- Average of 7 HEIs in each alliance
- Call for new EUIs and expansion of current ones in March 2022; €272 million earmarked for latest round

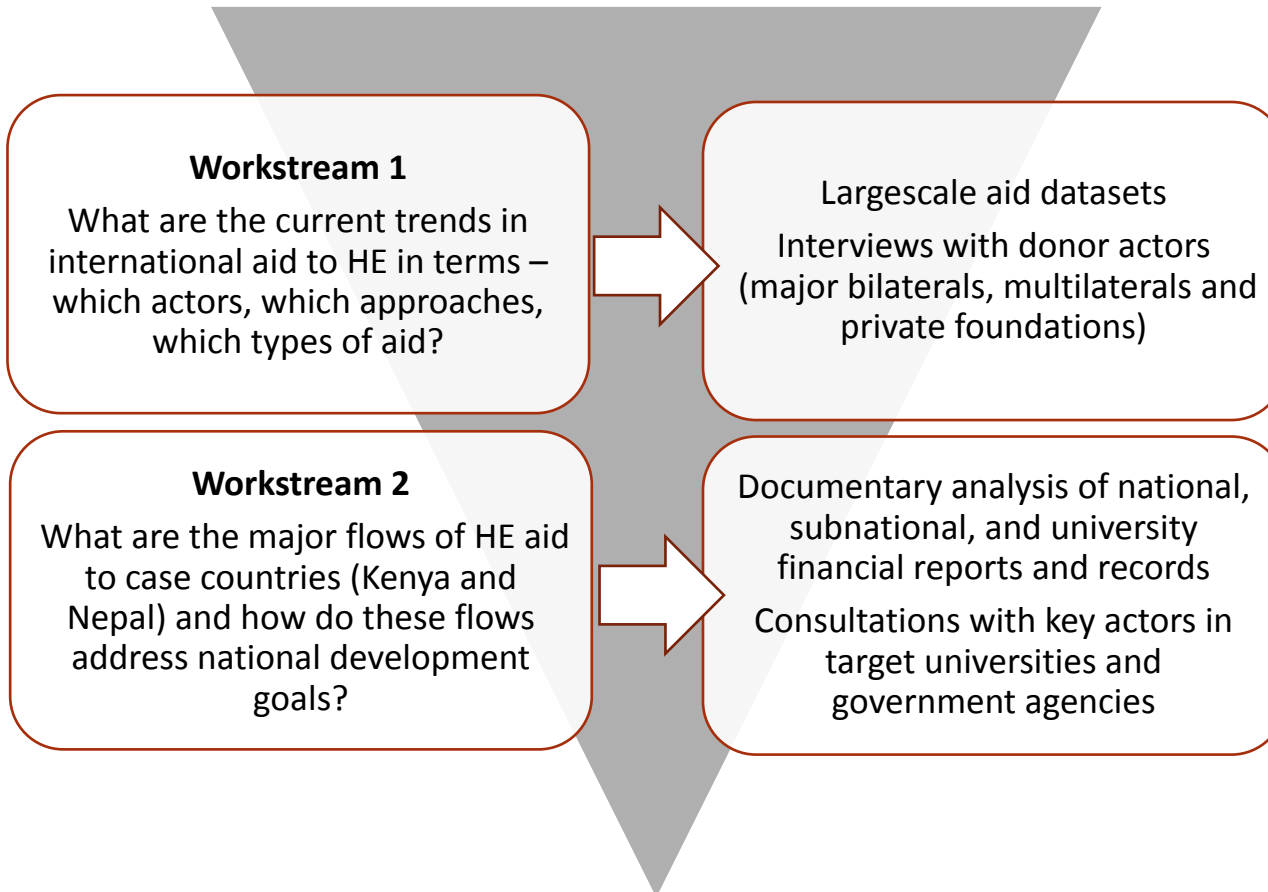
Overview

- Exploratory studies of EUIs with complementary approaches:
 - a.) Broad analysis of positions of key organisational and policy actors in European HE space
 - b.) Focused enquiry using **three** EUIs from 2019 round as case studies
- Research questions
 - a.) what are the aims and objectives, actor networks, and funding involved
 - b.) which actors and HE models are included/excluded
 - b.) how do EUIs add to construction of the European HE space
- Looks at how and what spatial imaginaries (Watkins 2015) are enacted

Methods and data

- Analysis of publicly-available documents relating to EUIs (47)
- Documentary analysis of EUI webpages (74) + case-specific documents (8)
- Semi-structured interviews (12)
- Timing of research: midway through three-year pilot stage

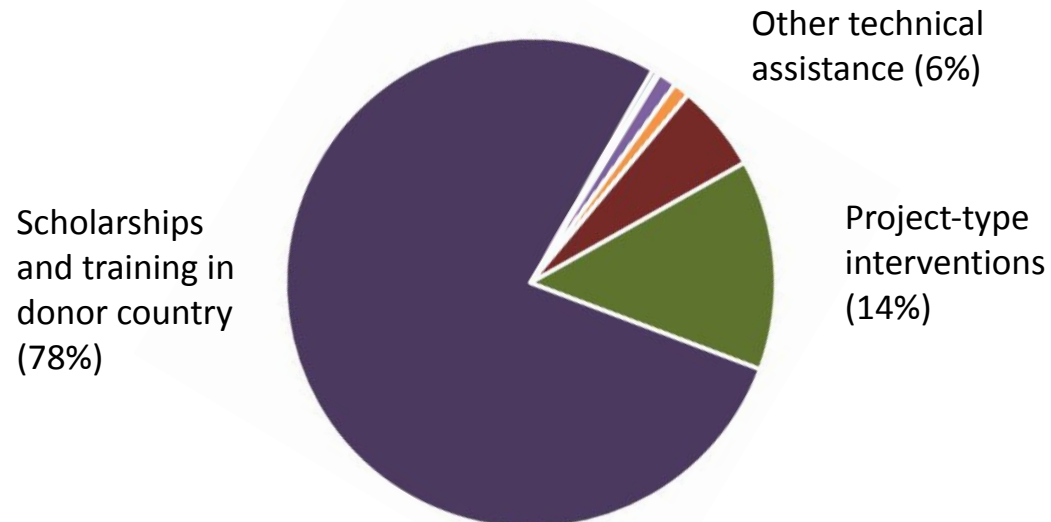




- Stark differences in supranational activity between aid to basic education and aid to HE
- Sparse supranational HE aid activity at present moment, but notable examples in past and calls for more in future



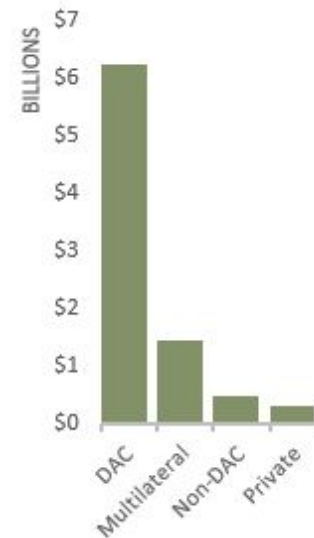
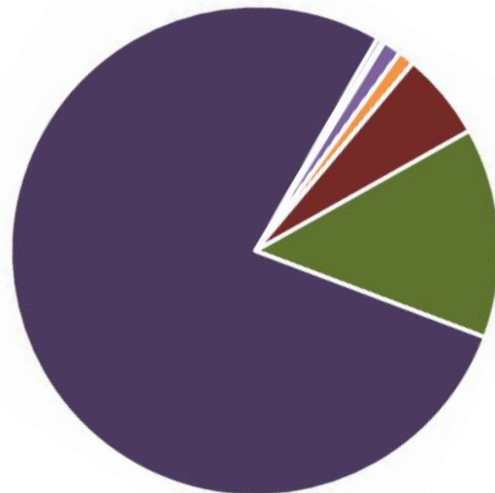
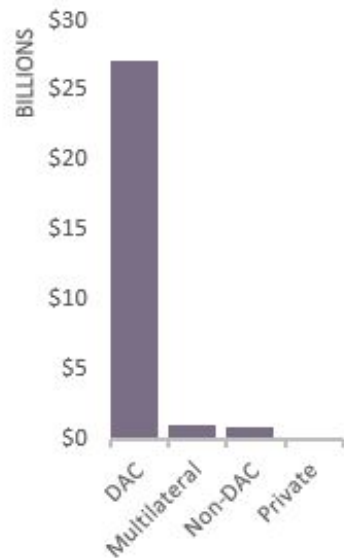
Granted Aid to Higher Education by Assistance Type, 2010-2019 (OECD CRS)



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