

BFUG Working Group on Social Dimension 2021-2024

**Discussion on the future of the social
dimension within the BFUG in the
period 2024 - 2027**

BFUG WG on social dimension meeting, Ghent, BE

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I. Needs assessment

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Needs assessment

- Higher education institutions (HEI) need to establish **systemic links** with their external environment in order to **respond to the real needs** of their communities in the decade of different crisis that impact education (environmental, climate, health, war, migrations, etc.)
- HEIs need to establish **mutually beneficial** relationships with their external communities
- Only when HEIs are engaged with their external communities can address equity and inclusion challenges
 - Only when HEIs are engaged with their external communities can define underrepresented and disadvantaged groups in relation to HE
- Therefore, **community and civic engagement** is necessary to create a **larger supportive environment for the social dimension** of higher education

II. Possible scenario for the future

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Proposal of a scenario for the future

- Maintain the WG on social dimension, but to enlarge the objective of the WG
 - Enlarge the title and objective with community and civic engagement in higher education > WG on social dimension and community engagement
- **Objectives of the future WG:**
 - Evaluation and monitoring of the implementation of the principles of the social dimension > in cooperation with the WG on monitoring
 - Impact assessment for the principles of the social dimension
 - Defining dimensions of the community engagement and to decide on how to measure community engagement
 - Defining linkages between the community engagement and social dimension
 - Peer-learning activities for both the social dimension and community engagement

Thank you very much for your attention!

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