



Awards Asia 2026

International Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	Chiang Mai University
Submission title or project name	CMU's international strategy: a multi-tiered architecture for global impact
Nominee / key personnel	Worakanya Buranaphatthana
URL	https://policy13.cmu.ac.th/policies
Submission	Chiang Mai University's multi-tiered architecture for global impact revolutionises international collaboration through a systematic, four-tier approach that transforms fragmented partnerships into sustainable global engagement. Beginning with OFOM, the grassroots tier reactivated 49 dormant memoranda of understanding across 15 countries, mobilising 33 faculties. SEED initiatives then converted these connections into tangible outcomes through strategic small-scale funding. P2O elevated CMU's profile by forging 12 partnerships with world-leading universities, while Big Bang projects established deep co-investment collaborations requiring cash-matching commitments. This integrated architecture delivered exceptional results: CMU leveraged Bt31.7 million to attract Bt17.29 million in external co-funding, producing 41 international publications, seven joint curricula, and breakthrough innovations spanning engineering and sustainability, health sciences and biotechnology, and agri-food technology clusters. The strategy demonstrates how systematic progression from grassroots engagement to elite partnerships creates synergistic impact, strengthening institutional capacity, enhancing global reputation, and generating financial resilience while addressing critical challenges in health, sustainability and socio-economic development.



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Institution Name	IIMT University
Submission title or project name	Empowering global access through innovative and inclusive internationalisation
Nominee / key personnel	IIMT University
URL	https://iimtu.edu.in/uploads/images/the4.pdf
Submission	IIMT University's international strategy is driven by ethical global recruitment, technology-enabled engagement and educational equity. Through an AI-powered global engagement platform, the university identifies and supports diverse students, particularly from low-income nations, streamlining applications and fostering transparency in scholarships and fees. With 27 international partnerships, dual-degree programmes and robust scholarship support exceeding Rs156 million, IIMT empowers seamless student mobility and impactful faculty exchanges. This approach has achieved a 40 per cent rise in international enrolment, high student success rates, and growing global recognition for innovation, research collaborations and alumni engagement, reinforcing IIMT's mission of inclusive, sustainable global education.



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Institution Name	KIIT University
Submission title or project name	Bridging global knowledge, innovation and cultural diplomacy
Nominee / key personnel	KIIT University
URL	https://kiit.ac.in/international-affairs/ https://kiit.ac.in/global-immersion-programme/
Submission	KIIT University's flagship initiative, Bridging Global Knowledge and Innovation, has launched four major internationalisation efforts to strengthen global education and academic collaboration. Fittingly, KIIT declared 2024-25 the Year of Internationalisation. The initiative's first project, the Global Immersion Programme (2024), offers academic sessions, industry visits and cultural exchanges to boost students' global outlook and employability. The second, the India Trek Programme (2024), offers international students an immersive experience of India's rich culture, history and traditions. The third, the Global Faculty Programme (2024), brings distinguished international academics and professionals to engage with KIIT's academic community. The fourth project, the Credit-Based Study Abroad Programme (2023), provides students with international exposure and academic credits through cross-cultural, interdisciplinary projects. From March 2024 to February 2025, these projects achieved key outcomes, including visits by delegations from Harvard university and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, more than 300 students in global exchanges, and 104 international faculty visits, further boosting KIIT's global presence.



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Institution Name	Lovely Professional University
Submission title or project name	GradGlobe – LPU’s strategic division for global postgraduate pathways
Nominee / key personnel	Manish Gupta; Aman Mittal; Rahul Chhabra
URL	https://www.gradglobe.org/
Submission	Lovely Professional University (LPU) – India’s largest single-campus university, with more than 35,000 students from 50+ countries and 550+ international collaborations – launched GradGlobe to bridge a critical gap for students aspiring to pursue postgraduate education abroad. Many students previously relied on commercial agents and lacked transparent, ethical guidance. Embedded within LPU’s Division of International Affairs, GradGlobe is an institution-backed study abroad unit offering end-to-end support – from academic counselling and application assistance to visa and scholarship guidance. Leveraging a CRM-driven ecosystem and an official digital platform, it ensures personalised, data-led and transparent advising. With access to more than 1,500 universities across over 50 countries, GradGlobe has already helped more than 200 students secure admission to top 300 QS/THE-ranked universities and earn scholarships worth over \$500,000. By institutionalising global postgraduate mobility, LPU has created a sustainable, ethical and impactful internationalisation model – empowering students and redefining India’s higher education landscape.



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International Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	Macao Polytechnic University
Submission title or project name	MPUConnect: a comprehensive talent development ecosystem through Sino-lusophone strategic partnerships
Nominee / key personnel	Marcus Im (rector, Macao Polytechnic University); Vivian Lei (vice-rector, Macao Polytechnic University); Chan-Tong Lam (dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences); Joaquim Carvalho (programme coordinator, Faculty of Languages and Translation); Christy Cheong (head, Academic Affairs)
URL	https://youtu.be/2SqRUqxAMkc
Submission	Macao Polytechnic University pioneers MPUConnect, a global ecosystem for inclusive education, research and innovation. By building strategic partnerships across lusophone and Sinophone regions, MPU promotes sustainable academic development and generates real-world societal impact. The initiative includes transnational dual degrees, joint labs, internships, scholarships and AI-driven applications addressing multilingual communication, smart cities and public health. This model supports interdisciplinary learning and equips students with the skills to address global challenges. A flagship achievement includes the Chinese-Portuguese Neural Machine Translation Platform, co-developed with strategic academic and industry partners to enhance international communication and regional economic cooperation. More than 30,000 learners have benefited from this cross-disciplinary model. Positioned as a bridge between continents, MPU demonstrates how international partnerships can scale education, foster innovation and create lasting global impact across Asia, Europe, Africa, South America and communities throughout the Global South.



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Institution Name	National Taiwan University
Submission title or project name	NTU international mentorship programme: an international strategy for global talent cultivation in Taiwan
Nominee / key personnel	Hsiao-Wei Yuan (vice-president for international affairs); Johnny Wu (head and director of global relations and overall project supervisor); Alberto Chang (deputy director, global relations and project lead); Karen Wu (senior manager, global student affairs); Jenting Wei (manager, global student affairs); Andrew Griff-Owen (senior manager, global relations); Krystal Chen (senior manager, global branding and communications); Adrian Chou (project assistant); Felix Wu (intern); Natalie Wong (intern)
URL	https://oiainternship.ntu.edu.tw/
Submission	National Taiwan University's international mentorship programme (IMP) redefines university international strategy by connecting overseas students in Taiwan with senior leaders from government, industry and NGOs. Although hosted domestically, the programme's reach is global – serving international students, partnering with globally connected organisations, and positioning NTU and Taiwan as key players in the international talent ecosystem. Since 2021, IMP has supported more than 500 students from 46 countries and 150 partner organisations, including TSMC, Pegatron and Ikea. The matrix-style model links universities, industry and government to deliver mentored, bilingual internships that build employability, retention and cross-cultural fluency. Recognised with two PIEoneer Awards, IMP enhances NTU's international profile and Taiwan's competitiveness by turning inbound education into a pipeline for global talent. Entering its fifth year, the programme is expanding into sustainability, advancing NTU's vision of a globally engaged, future-ready university.



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Institution Name	O.P. Jindal Global University
Submission title or project name	Motwani Jadeja Institute for American Studies (MJIAS) at O.P. Jindal Global University
Nominee / key personnel	
URL	https://jgu.edu.in/mjias/
Submission	O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) has advanced a distinctive international strategy through the Motwani Jadeja Institute for American Studies (MJIAS), Asia's first institute dedicated to India-US engagement. A dismayingly low number of Americans study in India – fewer than 3,000, most of them on short-term exchanges. JGU has addressed this situation by positioning India as a destination for full-time American students while opening reciprocal pathways for Indian students to study in the US. Supported by the Motwani Jadeja Foundation, MJIAS builds global capacity through collaborations alongside high-impact events with US diplomats and innovators. This approach has enhanced JGU's global visibility, cultivated bilateral alumni networks and aligned with India's National Education Policy 2020. Designed for sustainability, the strategy leverages fee-paying American students, joint research funding and alumni philanthropy. By combining institutional partnerships, academic innovation and diplomatic vision, JGU demonstrates how an international strategy can strengthen reputation, financial resilience and India's role in global higher education.



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International Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
Submission title or project name	UNIMAS global mobility for peace and sustainability
Nominee / key personnel	UNIMAS Global
URL	
Submission	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) has achieved remarkable progress in international mobility, reinforcing its commitment to global peace, inclusivity and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. More than 1,900 students have joined outbound programmes worldwide, while 1,300 international students have studied at UNIMAS, fostering intercultural understanding and global collaboration. Supported by the UNIMAS Mobility Fund of RM2 million (2023-27), these initiatives ensure equitable access and nurture leadership, innovation and sustainability among participants. Strategic partnerships with institutions such as Wakayama University (Japan), the University of Queensland (Australia) and Virginia Tech (US) have strengthened academic and research collaborations. In 2024, UNIMAS expanded its reach by signing 80 memoranda of understanding and 25 memoranda of agreement across 17 countries and by hosting an Erasmus+ Info Session with the EU delegation to Malaysia, leading to its first Erasmus Mundus scholar. Returning students now serve as ambassadors of peace and sustainability, embodying UNIMAS' vision of education as a bridge to global harmony.