

UNICollaboration

VISION AND MISSION

2024-2028

Released on 29.12.2023

Introduction	1
Where are we now? VISION and MISSION	2
UNICollaboration's core focus	2
UNICollaboration's core values	2
UNICollaboration 3 Uniquenesses: the 3 Unique Selling Points	3

Introduction

This document is aimed at defining UNICollaboration's main purpose, long-term goals and core values so as to provide a clear sense of direction to its collaborators and team at large. It is hence to be considered like a roadmap enabling the organisation to prioritise its efforts and allocate resources effectively, while also offering a competitive advantage in the field of Virtual Exchange (VE). It will also allow UNICollaboration to adapt to the constantly changing market conditions and provide support to overcome emerging challenges through risk mitigation plans which help reduce the impact of unforeseen issues.

The UNICollaboration Vision and Mission document is the result of a shared vision and desire, ensuring that the entire UNICollaboration team can work together towards achieving the identified objectives.

This is because it promotes a focus on UNICollaboration long-term sustainability, taking into account the environmental, social and ethical impacts of our daily work.

The Vision and Mission document has enabled the drafting of a comprehensive strategy for UNICollaboration, meant to identify and detail the steps needed to create a roadmap for success. Key stakeholders, including university representatives among UNICollaboration members, have been involved in the planning and will be involved in the execution of the strategy derived from this document, as their contribution is essential for greater buy-in and success.

Where are we now? VISION and MISSION

UNICollaboration's core focus

UNICollaboration is a non-profit association organised and existing under the laws of the Kingdom of Belgium. It is a structured association with a Management Board and a General Council, led by administrative staff and academics based mainly in Europe, but also worldwide.

UNICollaboration shares the vision that meaningful interaction between people from different backgrounds leads to self-awareness, empathy and intercultural understanding and is therefore essential for the development of the individual and the well-being of humanity. We see the potential of Virtual Exchange to facilitate such interaction across socio-economic, geographic and political boundaries. UNICollaboration's desire is to enable VE practitioners and enthusiasts/followers to work together and share their experiences on VE and its implementation through various programmes and initiatives, while also meeting new people and including them into the VE world, to be hence a place where to meet other researchers and practitioners of internationalisation activities, among which VE.

UNICollaboration's mission is to promote the development and integration of VE across all disciplines and interest areas in formal and non-formal educational contexts through opportunities for highly qualified professional development and personal growth, mentoring, research, advocacy and outreach,

UNICollaboration - ASBL; Registration no: BE0782895017; VAT no: BE0782 895 017

Residential address: Stephanie Square Centre, Avenue Louise 65, Box 11, 1050 Brussels - Belgium

Email address: info@unicollaboration.org

UNICollaboration

Cross-Disciplinary Organisation for Telecollaboration and Virtual Exchange in Higher Education as well as dissemination. By doing so, UNICollaboration also aims to lead the way in research and training in Virtual Exchange to benefit institutions active in the fields of education and their pupils/students and to enhance Internationalisation at Home activities.

UNICollaboration's core values

UNICollaboration's core values and beliefs, as shared by the UNICollaboration's team at large, can be summarised as follows:

- Transparency and sharing
- Rigorous scientific research
- Supporting community
- Trust
- Respect
- Sustainability
- Diversity and inclusion
- Social Justice
- Appreciation of intercultural differences
- Collaborative and proactive work, to increase VE visibility and share best practices

UNICollaboration 3 Uniquenesses: the 3 Unique Selling Points

There are 3 aspects which, according to the UNICollaboration's team, differentiate us from other providers of VE training courses worldwide:

- We are uniquely positioned to collaborate on (European) projects and initiatives involving VE, as we provide professional training on how to set up and design a VE, especially against the background of European HE.
- We are a small close knit team who know each other well and value each other's skills, and there is a good combination of skills and expertise regarding VE among our trainers, who are (former) university staff training other (university) staff, so well understanding their needs and challenges.
- Cost-effectiveness vs other professional training courses in this field