



VI ASSEMBLY
Salesians Institutions for Higher Education
ROME – Salesianum; 10 – 14 July 2012

COMMON PROGRAMME 4
2012 - 2016

Rome, July 14 2012

COMMON PROGRAMME 4, 2012 - 2016

A. APPLICATION OF THE COMMON PROGRAMME 4, 2012 - 2016

1. The Common Programme as an operational tool

[01] In the methodology adopted by the Salesians Institutions for Higher Education (IUS), Common Programmes have served as an instrument for facilitating the application of the guidelines and options offered by the constituent documents of the Frame of reference: *Identity and Policies*¹.

[02] Common Programmes have been valid tools for promoting a common action of the institutions regarding a series of strategies, objectives and clear lines of actions. The experience obtained from the Common Programmes 2 and 3, have confirmed the opportunities of this kind of tool in encouraging collaboration and synergy between the IUS. The sequence of programmes has confirmed that the achievement of the objectives given by the document *Identity* is the result of a joint and continuous effort of the institutions.

[03] The difficulties encountered in its follow-up by some of the IUS, however, have shown the limitations that may have an approach like this when applied to all the institutions without considering the diversity of situations and level of development of the institutions.

2. Levels of responsibility and organization for the application of the Common Programme 4, 2012 - 2016

[04] The complexity of the challenges and contexts of the IUS, as well as the difficulties to centrally coordinate all the initiatives undertaken in the implementation of the enacted *Policies* for the new period, opt for a process that favours a more contextualized reading of the guidelines contained in the document, favouring its application, considering the challenges and the specific conditions of the continents.

¹ *Identity of the Salesians Institutions for Higher Education, and Policies for the Salesian Presence in Higher Education 2003 – 2008.*

[05] In accordance with what was indicated in the document *Policies for the Salesian Presence in Higher Education 2012-2020*² regarding the application of the guidelines therein contained, it is necessary to adopt a model to elaborate and put into practice the Common Programmes and that respond to the diverse reality of the nations and continents where the IUS are located.

[06] The experiences of the Continental Conferences in America and Europe³, as well as Asia⁴, have shown the validity of this type of meetings and the organizational structure adopted⁵, to assume and to coordinate the realization of complex initiatives that demand greater involvement and resources by the institutions.

[07] The work so far has confirmed that there are objectives and initiatives, related to the implementation of the Policies, which are a subject of common interest to the whole of the IUS. These require the collaboration and participation of all institutions. While other objectives and initiatives are more pertinent to the particular situation of the IUS in a continent. For this reason, we agree that the Common Programme 4 will be developed through the coordinated action of two levels of responsibility and organization: one that corresponds to the totality of the IUS; and another that refers to the IUS grouped by continents.

3. Responsibility and organization of all the IUS

[08] The objectives and initiatives that, by their nature and scope, require to be assumed and developed with the participation of all the institutions, will be elaborated and approved directly during the General Assembly. Responsibility for these initiatives adopted by the General Assembly will be entrusted to the General coordination and to the Board of Directors.

² Cf. *Policies for the Salesian Presence in Higher Education 2012-2016*, n. 18.

³ Continental Conferences of Santiago (2004), Guatemala (2006), and Porto Alegre (2009).

⁴ Continental Conferences of Hyderabad (2001) and Chennai (2008).

⁵ The Continental Conferences have been organized by a Management Group, made up of the IUS General Coordinator General, a member of the IUS Board of Directors, delegated to accompany these meetings; the rectors of the institutions that organize the meeting.

[09] Financing of the initiatives of common interest to the whole of the IUS, will be covered by all the institutions through a fee that must be paid every two years, intended to cover the costs of all the activities approved for the duration of the Common Programme⁶. This fee will be assigned taking into account the number of students enrolled in each institution, according to the following categories:

Up to 1500 students	500 USD
From 1501 to 3000 students	1000 USD
From 3001 to 6000 students	2000 USD
More than 6000 students	4000 USD

The first payment shall be done within the first year of validity of the Common Programme 4, 2012-2016; the second one during the year 2014.

4. Responsibility and organization of the IUS grouped by continents

[10] Other objectives and lines of action arising from policies, even when they may correspond to options common to all of the IUS, need to be applied taking into account the cultural and social context. These will be formulated and approved by the IUS of a same continent during the Continental Conferences. The responsibility of animation and of implementation of the agreed objectives and actions, will be entrusted to a Continental Coordinating body, which will be elected every four years by the Provincials and Rectors of the institutions of the continent who participate to the General Assembly. Continental coordination will consist of a Continental Coordinator and two members that accompany it.

[11] Financing of the initiatives and actions in line with Common Plan 4, at the continental level, will be totally covered by the participating institutions through modalities that will be agreed upon within the same Conferences.

5. Continental Conferences

[12] With the purpose of ensuring the implementation and evaluation of the document *Policies for the Salesian Presence in Higher Education, 2012-2016*, during that period two

⁶ Common Programmes have usually been approved for a duration of 4 years, corresponding to with the same period of the General Assemblies.

Continental Conferences will be held, at the following intervals: the first one year after the approbation of the *Policies* (2013), the second two years later (2015).

By agreement of the Provincial and Rectors of the institutions is agreed to approve the following venues and dates for the upcoming continental conferences:

Africa	Maputo, Mozambique	15 - 21 July 2013
America	Campo Grande, Brazil	26 - 29 August 2013
Asia:	Bangkok, Thailand	23 – 25 November 2012
Europe	Madrid, Spain	28 February 2013

The dates and locations of the continental conferences that will take place in the year 2015, will be selected and approved by the Rectors of the institutions during the upcoming continental conferences and communicated to the General Coordinator and the Board of Directors.

6. The Board of Directors

[13] By agreement of the Assembly of Provincials and Rectors of the IUS, the Board of Directors will have the following members: the General Coordinator, the Continental Coordinators from Africa, America, Asia and Europe, one more representative of America and Asia (due to the number of institutions and students present in these continents).

[14] If a member is unable to fulfil his function within the institution which has appointed him and should be replaced in the Board of Directors, the Continental Conferences shall appoint a new Member subject to the criteria that have been defined for proceeding in this type of situation. In the same way it will act to replace the Continental Coordinator or one of the members of the coordination when necessary.



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Guidelines for all the institutions

Strategic line 1: THE IUS NETWORK

Supporting collaboration and synergy of the institutions promoting the creation of a genuine network that favours the growth and strengthening of institutions.

OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONS	RESPONSIBLES
1. Facilitate communication and the Exchange through a better knowledge of the institutions.	<p>1. <i>Developing a system of communication of the IUS</i></p> <p>A system of communication of the IUS (website, blog, social network), which should facilitate communication between member institutions and give more visibility to the network in the academic world and among international organizations and agencies dedicated to education.</p>	General Coordinator and Board of Directors
	<p>2. <i>Creation of the IUS data base</i></p> <p>As an informative platform about institutions, people, programs and resources, components require for promoting interest, cooperation and an effective exchange.</p> <p>The database service should contain at least three types of information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutional data: Updated information on major institutional indicators and on some areas of particular interest; with references to the links of each IUS. - Information relating to persons (e-portfolio): that allows acquisition and consultation of the general references and competences of people working in institutions (personal and professional competencies database, consulted via filters). - Documentary resources and information materials produced by the institutions in specific areas (training contents, management instruments, manual of operations, documentation of processes developed, etc.). 	General Coordinator and Board of Directors

2. Motivate the development of academic networks.	<p>1. <i>Promotion of thematic networks</i></p> <p>We seek to promote collaboration and exchange between IUS groups around academic or scientific topics. For this purpose, a promotional fund and the procedures for the creation of thematic networks will be developed.</p>	General Coordinator and Board of Directors
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Strategic line 2: IDENTITY AND MISSION

Promote the reflection on the identity and mission of the Salesian presence in higher education, in particular on the conception and practice of university ministry.

OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONS	RESPONSIBLES
1. Reflect on the elements that characterize the educational and pastoral praxis in the Salesian institutions for Higher Education	<p>1. Process of reflection on the Salesian university ministry</p> <p>Developing seminars at the continental level (America, Europe, Africa and Asia), with the participation of the university ministry directors and the Provincial Delegates for Youth Ministry. The process of reflection should lead to a better understanding of the ministry praxis in the university and to identify the components of a Salesian university ministry model.</p>	General Coordinator and the Continental coordination in each continent