

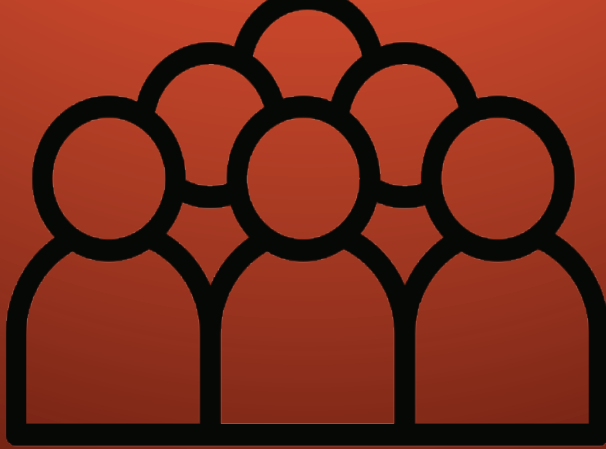





PROMOTING EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI) IN HIGHER EDUCATION THROUGH INTERNATIONALISATION AT HOME IN IRELAND

What is Internationalisation at Home (IaH)?

The concept of 'Internationalisation at Home (IaH)', which calls for 'the purposeful integration of international and intercultural dimensions into the formal and informal curriculum for all students within domestic learning environments' (Beelen & Jones, 2015), is endorsed by global organisations such as the United Nations and the European Union.


IaH seeks to provide international and intercultural learning to most students at their home institution who cannot take advantage of the mobility opportunities due to socio-economic, physical, or personal circumstances or a lack of interest or awareness about IaH.


Did You Know?


<p>1 14% of the population in Ireland comprises non-Irish nationals (CSO, 2022)</p> 	<p>2 In Ireland, there are nine grounds of discrimination set out in legislation, i.e. gender; sexual orientation; age; disability; race and ethnicity; religion; marital or civil partnership status; family status; membership of the Traveller community as well as socio-economic and educational background (Royal Irish Academy, 2021)</p> 	<p>3 Participation in higher education in Ireland is among the highest in the OECD countries (OECD, 2019)</p> 	<p>4 The number of International students has risen dramatically, from just over 13,000 students in 2007/08 to more than 25,000 International students in 2020/21. This represents an increase of nearly 90% (HEA, 2022)</p> 	<p>5 In recognition of its significant strides towards inclusive gender equality, South East Technological University (SETU) was presented with Europe's first Inclusive Gender Equality Champion Award in 2023</p> 	<p>6 SETU is a member of the Athena SWAN Charter that commits to promoting gender equality in higher education</p> 
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How does Internationalisation at Home (IaH) promote EDI?

- #### EXPOSURE TO DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES

 - Through IaH, Irish students can interact with their peers from different cultural backgrounds, which can broaden their horizons and expose them to diverse perspectives.
 - IaH enhances mutual respect, understanding and appreciation of other cultures and beliefs. This can help to combat prejudices and promote greater understanding and respect for others.
 - IaH promotes international cooperation and understanding, which in turn tackles global challenges and promotes a more equal and sustainable world.
- #### INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

 - IaH creates more inclusive learning environments by promoting culturally sensitive and responsive teaching practices.
 - IaH incorporates diverse perspectives into the curriculum, creates cross-cultural communication and collaboration opportunities, and offers support and resources for students from diverse backgrounds.
 - IaH targets all students and is strongly learner-oriented. It allows for opportunities to integrate the knowledge and experiences of both domestic and international students within and outside the classroom, thereby fostering inclusivity.
- #### ENHANCEMENT IN GLOBAL COMPETENCIES

 - IaH helps students develop global competencies, which include intercultural communication, adaptability, and problem-solving skills, as well as a deeper understanding of global issues and trends needed to thrive in an increasingly interconnected and diverse world.
 - IaH exposes students to diverse cultures, languages, and worldviews through the internationalisation of the curriculum, incorporating diverse perspectives into courses, and offering language programs that enable students to learn languages other than English.
- #### INCREASED DIVERSITY AMONG STUDENTS & STAFF

 - IaH attracts and retains international faculty and staff, which promotes a wider range of perspectives and experiences in the institution, and creates more opportunities for cross-cultural collaboration and learning.
 - IaH fosters collaboration between Irish universities and international universities which can expose Irish students and faculty to diverse research methodologies, ideas and practices.
 - IaH promotes the interaction of domestic students with students from diverse backgrounds, thus broadening their horizons & developing intercultural competencies. They also celebrate festivals together that enhance appreciation and respect for cultural others.

IaH contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) fostering Equality, Inclusion and Diversity (EDI) through

4
Quality Education



10
Reduced Inequalities



17
Partnership for the Goals

