

International Material Flow Management Network University (IMAT-NU)



Together with its partner universities, the Institute for Applied Material Flow Management (IfaS) of the Trier University of Applied Science has embarked on this innovative project of taking its truly unique “environmental education” portfolio “global”, creating the world’s first International Material Flow Management Network University. This initiative, financed by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), aims at challenging the conventional way of delivering education at a single university campus. IfaS being the pioneer in Material Flow Management (MFM) education has devised a strategic framework allowing the students and faculty to harness the potentials of individual specializations and the geographical positional advantages combined with the personal preferences to maximally utilize the resources in education in respective fields. While being true to IfaS’ philosophy of education, the new network also aims at harnessing the power of synergy of a global faculty for environmental education.

Specific aims of the IMAT-NU

- Establish a global education and research network in the field of green economy.
- Scale-up the existing bilateral IMAT graduate degree towards multilateral IMAT graduate degree and integrate it in the “International IMAT-Network University” study programme.
- Develop IMAT-specific curriculum at the partner universities that allows the students to create a customized/personalized graduate training course on a modular basis and to select their university of choice (with the exception of mandatory completion of the third semester at the Environmental Campus Birkenfeld, ECB, Germany).
- Together with the participating universities, jointly award a globally recognized graduate level qualification in MFM.
- Reduction of costs of teaching by capitalizing on the synergies of the IMAT-NU whilst internationalizing teaching and research.
- Flexibilizing the learning experience of the students both temporally and spatially through the digitization of IMAT teaching/learning material that enables a diverse range of students to take part in.

Strategy

The IMAT-NU implementation takes a two-stage approach:

Stage one (2015-2018)

- Build the IMAT-Network University to carry out an international master programme.
- Scale-up the existing bilateral IMAT graduate degrees towards a multilateral IMAT graduate degree and integrate it in the “International IMAT-Network University” study programme.
- Develop an IMAT-specific curriculum at the partner universities that allows the students to create a customized/personalized graduate training course on a modular basis and to select their university of choice.
- Convert the existing bilateral IMAT dual-master programme to a new multilateral IMAT master programme, offered based on the specializations of the partner universities.
- Enable distance learning aimed at facilitating lifelong learning.
- Get private-sector organizations involved in education and R&D by developing appropriate business models.
- Establish an IMAT Research Center (IMAT-RC) with the collaboration of the IMAT partner universities, other renowned universities, research institutions, public sector organizations and agencies, companies and associations.

Stage two (2019-2022)

- Focus on the expansion of the IMAT-NU content/qualification wise (i.e. bachelor, doctoral and post-doctoral levels) and also geographically (including universities and higher education institutes of the Mid-east, Asia, Africa, North America and Oceania).

Contact

Project-Management: Prof. Dr. Peter Heck
Project-Coordination: Dr. Michael Knaus
Institute for applied material-flow-management (IfaS)
University of applied sciences Trier Environmental Campus Birkenfeld
Mailbox 1380
D-55761 Birkenfeld
Phone: +49 6782 17-1583
Fax: +49 6782 17-1264
E-Mail: m.knaus@umwelt-campus.de
www.stoffstrom.org
www.imat-master.com



Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU)

Beppu, Japan

Social and political sciences with focus on innovative policies in the sector of green economy.



Akdeniz University (AU)

Antalya, Turkey

Integrated water resource management in arid areas as well as sustainable tourism and agriculture in the Mediterranean area.



Al Akhawayn University (AUI)

Beppu, Japan

Sustainable energy management with focus on renewable energies.



Universidade Positivo (UP)

Curitiba, Brazil

Sustainable biomass and waste management in Latin America.



Towards IMAT-NU: the key undertakings

- Revise and adopt the present course curricula offered at the partner universities to fit in the requirements of the multilateral IMAT master programme.
- Design, draft and implement the international IMAT-NU business model.
- Develop the framework and the roadmap for (inter)national accreditation measures and reciprocal recognition of the qualifications offered at IMAT-NU.
- Establish a central administrative organization.
- Devise a marketing and PR plan and prepare marketing material.
- Develop the framework/structure of the e-learning platform and develop the web-based content for distance learning master courses.
- Develop the structure of the IMAT Research Centre.
- Negotiate with donor agencies and acquire (inter)national scholarships for IMAT-NU graduate students.
- Identification of potential universities from the Mid-East, Asia, Africa, North America and Oceania and initiate discussions toward the IMAT-NU integration.
- Initiate periodic scientific conferences and (bilateral) coordination meetings at the partner universities.
- Initiate academic exchange, summer schools and R&D projects etc. in Germany and other partner university locations in line with the requirements and modalities of the IMAT-NU academic programme.