Future of Higher Education Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education

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IAU Global Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on higher education around the world

- ✓ Online survey open from 25 March to 17 April 2020
- \checkmark 424 unique replies from HEIs in 111 countries and territories
- ✓ Global and regional analysis in four regions:
 - ✓ Africa
 - ✓ Americas
 - ✓ Asia & Pacific
 - ✓ Europe
- Trilingual survey:
- ✓ 65% of replies in EN
- ✓ 29% in FR
- ✓ 6% in ES



Fig. 4: Language of completion



Impact of COVID-19 on HEIs

Fig. 5: How has COVID-19 pandemic affected your institution?



- Our institution is open as usual, no special measures in place for COVID-19
- Our institution is open as usual, but containment measures have been put in place to avoid spread of COVID-19
- Our institution is partially open, but there are major disruptions
- All campus activities have stopped and the institution is completely closed.

- Almost all institutions that replied to the survey have been impacted by COVID-19
- Very high percentage of HEIs with campuses closed in Africa (77%)



Effect of COVID-19 on teaching and learning

Fig. 13: How has COVID-19 affected teaching and learning?



- It is not affected
- Classroom teaching has been replaced by distance teaching and learning
- Most activities are currently suspended but the institution is working on developing solutions to continue teaching and learning, through digital or selfstudy means.
- Teaching has been cancelled
- At almost all HEIs, COVID-19 affected teaching and learning:
- At two-thirds of HEIs classroom teaching has been replaced by distance teaching and learning



The shift from face-to-face to distance teaching and learning comes with challenges and opportunities

Impact of COVID-19 on research



- 80% of HEIs reported that research has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic at their institutions
- Cancelling of international travel and scientific conferences cancelled or postponed the most common effects
- However, 52% of HEIs report that scientific projects are in danger of not being successfully completed



Impact of COVID-19 on student mobility



- Almost 90% of respondents reported an impact on student mobility.
- The type of impact is diverse and varies from institution to institution, but everywhere it has been negative
 Fig. 17: Has COVID-19 stimulated alternatives to physical student
- At 60% of HEIs COVID-19 has increased virtual mobility and/or collaborative online learning as alternatives to physical student mobility





Impact of COVID-19 on partnerships and community engagement

Fig. 12: How has COVID-19 affected your partnerships?



- It weakened them, we had to concentrate resources on local issues
- It strengthened them, we coordinated our efforts to respond to COVID-19
- It created new opportunities with Partner institutions (e.g. virtual mobility, shared resources, etc.)





- Almost two equal groups of HEIs, for half of them COVID-19 had a positive effect and for half of them a negative effect
- Risk of growing inequality



Contribution to public policies



- Senior managers have been consulted by their governments at 65% of HEIs
- Only 41% of HEIs are involved in COVID-19 research, but at almost all of their researchers contribute to current public policy development.

Combined result:

 Three quarters of institutions are contributing to public policies either through their institutional leadership or through their researchers.

Main conclusions

- Almost all HEIs have been affected by the COVID-19 crisis and the crisis has affected all institutional activities
- HEIs were incredibly reactive in moving teaching online but this shift doesn't come without challenges to quality of learning and equality of access and learning opportunities
- The COVID-19 crisis had mainly negative consequences for internationalization and research, mixed ones for community engagement
- The crisis is at the same time a challenge and an opportunity, but there is a high risk of growing inequalities among HEIs
- On the positive side, HEIs are very innovative and resilient; they play a major role at many different levels of society
- They are currently being recognised by their respective governments as a source of relevant expertise and consulted



Thank you very much for your attention!

Full report available on the IAU website: https://iau-aiu.net/IAU-releases-Global-Survey-Report-on-Impact-of-Covid-19-in-Higher-Education

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