



ETHICAL NORTH-SOUTH STUDENT MOBILITY

21/03/2019 LEO-NET LEIRIA

UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

- » Internationalisation and North-South cooperation
- » Voice of **Global South** partners
- » Pre-departure and debriefing **training**
- » Long-term **partnerships**
- » Research areas:
 - » **Global citizenship**
 - » **Gender equality**
 - » **Voluntourism**
 - » **Racism & discrimination**



CONCEPTS USED & ASSUMPTIONS

- » **Global South & North-South** dichotomy
- » **Host-country** partners & Host communities
- » **Internships** = learning abroad; traineeship; research; mobility; ICM

- » **Belief** in students; **honest** communication; our **added** value

- » **Long-term** vision + **ideal** type

GOING ABROAD OPTIONS

- » **Internal** (Institutional cooperation)

- » Bilateral agreements with **universities, HEI, hospitals, schools, companies**

- » **External**

- » Non-profit: **government, ngo,**

- » **Profit:** commercial sending organisations (voluntourism)

MOST POPULAR PROFESSIONS

- » **Medicine**
- » **Biology**
- » **Teachers**
- » **Nurses**
- » **Midwives**
- » **Architecture**
- » **Social work**
- » **Physiotherapy**
- » **Engineers**

WHY THIS SUBJECT?

- » Opening up funds for international mobility + shorter programs
- » Internationalisation + development cooperation
- » Voluntourism + Africa
- » Vulnerability + prejudices
- » Fragmentated approach
- » Conflicting expectations & evaluations
- » Turnover

CRISIS = Critical outlook absent (North) + No honest feedback (South)

VISION

International cooperation

**Internships in Global South
are meaningful for:**

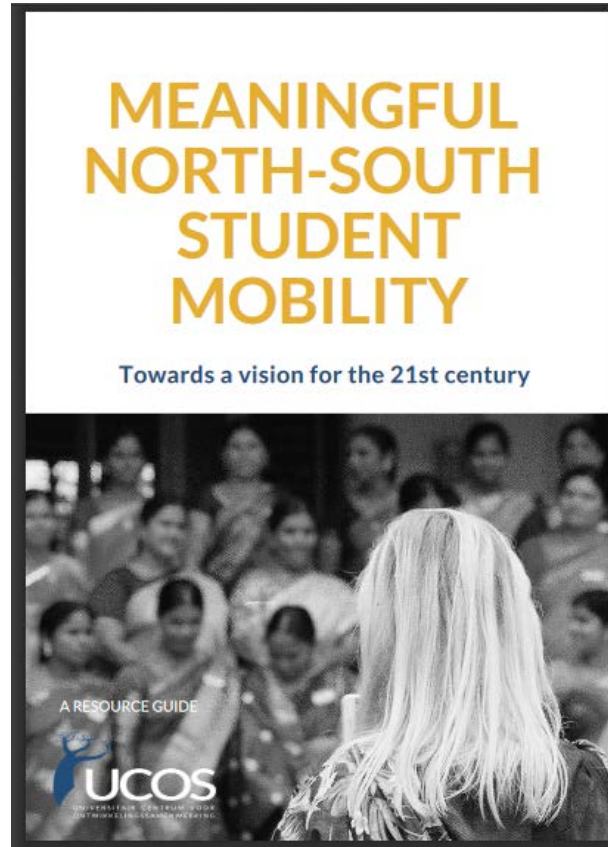
- The North institution
- The students
 - Subject related skills
 - International skills
- The host-partner and community

VISION

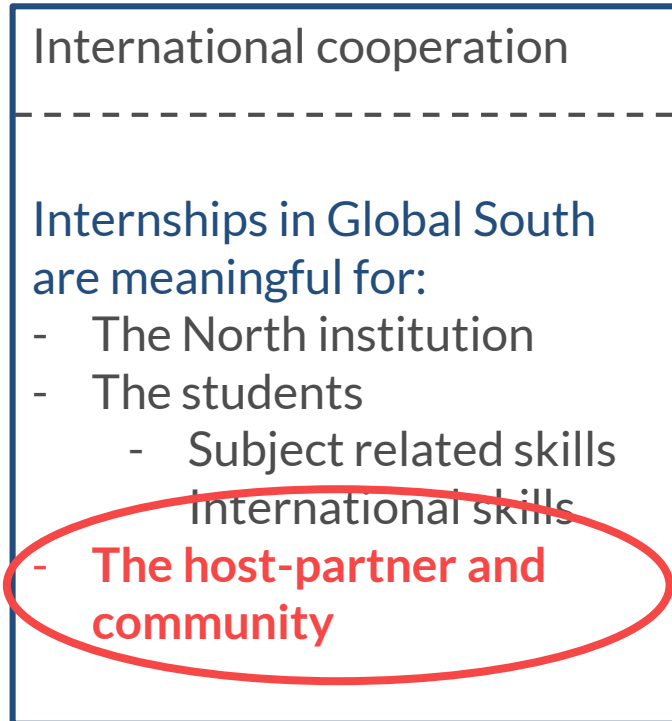
International cooperation

Internships in Global South
are meaningful for:

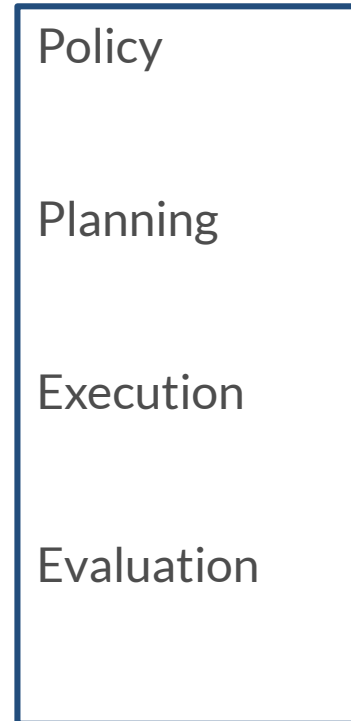
- The North institution
- The students
 - Subject related skills
 - International skills
- **The host-partner and community**



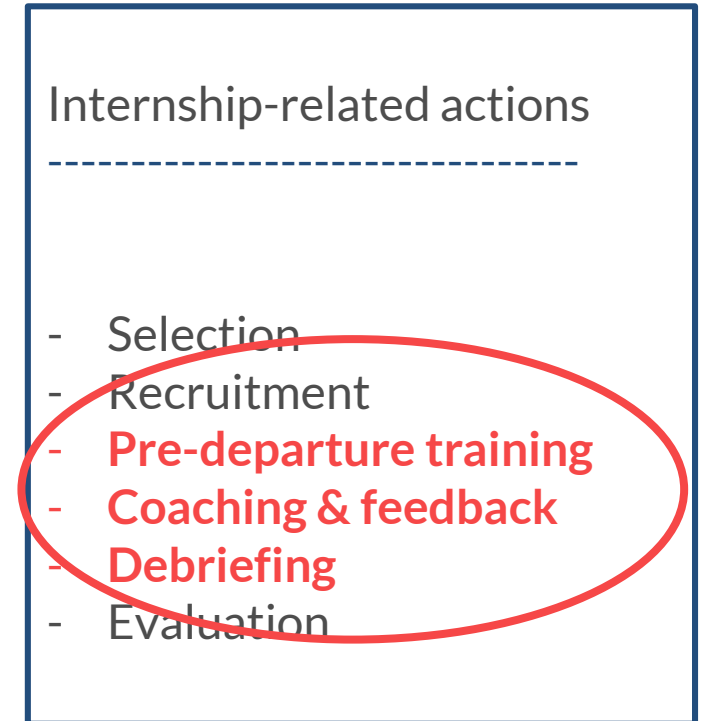
VISION



PROCESS



EXECUTION



Session 1: 09:45 – 11:00

Session 2: 11:30 – 13:30

OVERVIEW

- 1 • Benefits North South mobility programs (4)
- 2 • Principles & recommendations (8)
- 3 • Added value host country partner (3)
- 4 • Questions

BENEFITS STUDENTS: INT. RESEARCH (1)

- » Personal **growth**; global **citizenship** & vital **intercultural** skills:
 - » Flexibility, resilience, conflict resolution, knowledge, understanding
- » **Diversity** learning; **racism** reduction; **cross** learning
- » Positive impact career - 2020 soft skills: **people** management, **critical** thinking, **negotiation**, **emotional** intelligence

BENEFITS STUDENTS: INT. RESEARCH (2)

- » Beyond Europe to solve global injustices
- » **Inequality**, alienation, sustainability, **migration**, climate change
- » **Empowerment**, understanding, **activism**, engagement

BENEFITS STUDENTS: OWN RESEARCH

- » **80%** added value to host-partner
 - » **75%** added value to host-community
 - » **90%** would do it again
 - » **90%** added value to own skills & career
- » Independence, flexibility, knowledge, social skills, self-awareness, language

BUT

- » New **colonial** wave – aid logic
- » Attitudes of **superiority** vs passive recipients
- » Enforcing **stereotypes**
- » Power relations = **unequal** distribution
- » Difficult **communication**
- » **Added value host-community** often unclear

New humble vision is necessary

OVERVIEW

1

- Benefits North South mobility programs

2

- Principles to adhere to (8)

3

- Added value host country partner (3)

4

- Questions

1. DEVELOPMENT AS A COMPLEX PROCESS

» **Broad** definition is necessary

» Complexities

» Long term

» **Humble** contribution

» Development as **freedom** – Contribution to positive freedom

» **Agency**

2. FROM AID TO FAIR COOPERATION

- » Aid logic or equality?
- » Recognition of imbalances
- » Importance of self-interest - Freire
- » Who helps whom? Noble offer masks a question – **Reciprocity?**

PARADOX: WE REMAIN WELCOME

- » Part of a **larger** whole (reciprocal service)
- » Importance of **status** & prestige of cooperation
- » Losing **face** vs. long term **hope**
- » Be sensitive to indirect messages

3. LONG-TERM APPROACH & NETWORKS

- » **Broad** partnerships & **networks** that are institutionally embedded
- » **Quality** over quantity
- » More **attention**, resources and staff. Mapping + research necessary

4. OWNERSHIP

- » Selection of interns
- » Conditions for arrival and duration
- » Tasks
- » Training content

- » Broad cooperation

Research! Questions; translation, dissemination



5. FOCUS ON MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

» Evaluate programs on ability to provide dignified contact:

» in direct work relations AND with local community

» Language

» Size of the group

» Internship hubs

» Period

» Host families



6. TRAINING FOR EVERYONE

- » Extensive **compulsory** training
- » **Joint** training moments with focus on Global Citizenship
- » Strong **ownership** over content of training

7. VULNERABLE CHILDREN

- » Orphanage myth
- » Abuse
- » Development
- » Attachment problems
- » Profit system

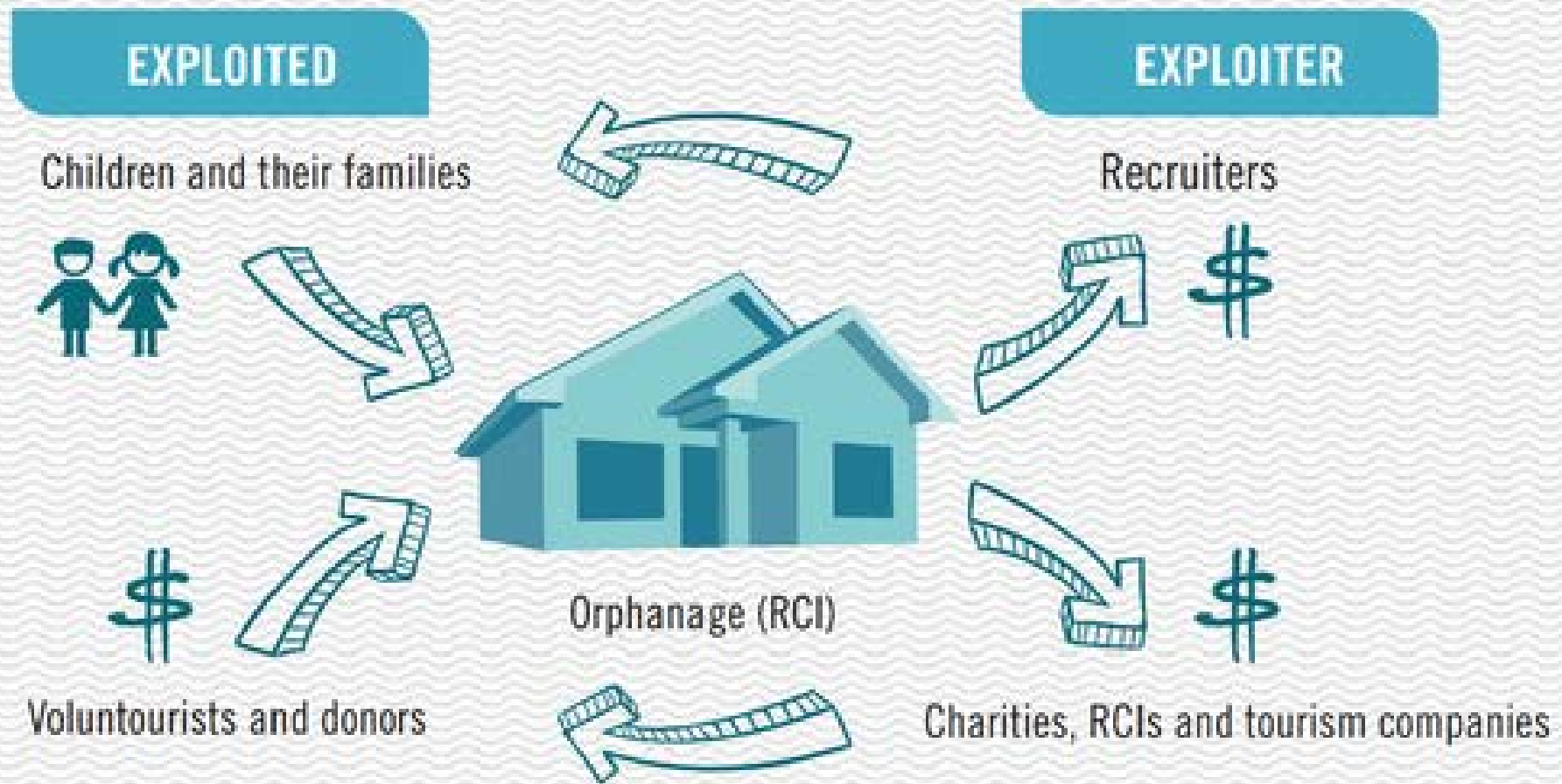


CHILDREN ARE NOT TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

THINK before visiting an orphanage.
Visit www.thinkchildsafe.org

 Friends International
 ChildSafe Network
Supported by  UNICEF

In summary, the supply chain associated with the trafficking of children into RCIs looks like this:



8. SUSTAINABILITY

- » When is all this **worth** it?
- » Engagement of institutions to reduce CO2 emissions
- » **Compensation?** Focus on **behaviour** change

OVERVIEW

1

- Benefits North South mobility programs

2

- Principles to adhere to

3

- Added value host country partner (3)

4

- Questions

TOWARDS EQUAL INTERESTS

- » **Agenda setting** for host-country partner
- » Honest communication – **bargaining** power
- » **Network** – international forum – less donor driven
- » **Capacity** building
- » Broad cooperation agreement – much more than internships
- » **Shared** future

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

- » What **knowledge** do host communities find relevant?
- » What would they like to **exchange**?
- » **Humble** role in sharing of knowledge, methods, frames
- » Look of **outsider**

EMPOWERING ENCOUNTERS

- » **Dignified encounters between cultures and class**
 - » empowers participants; boost self-esteem; reduces prejudices
- » **Connectedness to each others plight and working on a shared future**
- » **Empowerment and self-belief** are a crucial pre-condition for development



CONCLUSION – A SHIFT IS NECESSARY

- » From classical notion of **bringing development and knowledge**
- » Towards a focus on:
 - » **Dignified** encounters & connections
 - » **Networking** & recognition of agency
 - » **Knowledge** exchange
 - » **Capacity** building
 - » **Empowerment** & shared interests

QUESTIONS?



www.ucos.be
contact@ucos.be

 www.facebook.com/ucosfanpage
 www.instagram.com/ucos.be

Pleinlaan 5
1050 Brussel