



# Nuffic

Netherlands organization for international  
cooperation in higher education

- *Concept of Cross Border Education*
- *Risks and opportunities for providers*
- *Implications for developing countries*

***‘Cross border education refers to situations where students, teachers, programmes, institutions/providers or course material cross national borders’  
(Kurt Larsen, OECD 2004)***

***Four forms:***

- Student mobility***
- Domestic institutions offer joint degrees with foreign institutions***
- Institutions operating abroad (increasingly commercial)***
- Courses supplied through e-learning or distance education***

***Risk:***

***'As cross-border education further expands, it may threaten the traditional student mobility market'***

***Risk:***

***‘Maintaining the quality, when working with local organizations with limited academic traditions, or other interests’***

***Opportunity:***

***‘Cross-border and for-profit education can open up learning opportunities and can enlarge educational participation.’***

***Opportunity:***

***‘possibility to attract young academic talent’***

***‘to compensate the decline of national students’***



***Cross border education and capacity building; opportunities and concerns***

***Challenge:***

***How to maximise the developmental impact of cross-border education.***

***African countries should benefit from the lessons learned***

***Globalisation may sharpen existing differences in the level of knowledge and welfare.***

***Concrete action***

***Global Higher Education for Sustainability  
Partnership (GHESP)***

***Capacity building programs that aim to  
support the endogeneous development  
process***

***Two questions:***

- Can cross border education indeed be a tool for development cooperation***
- If yes, what can local governments do for creating the most optimal conditions for hosting cross-border education***