

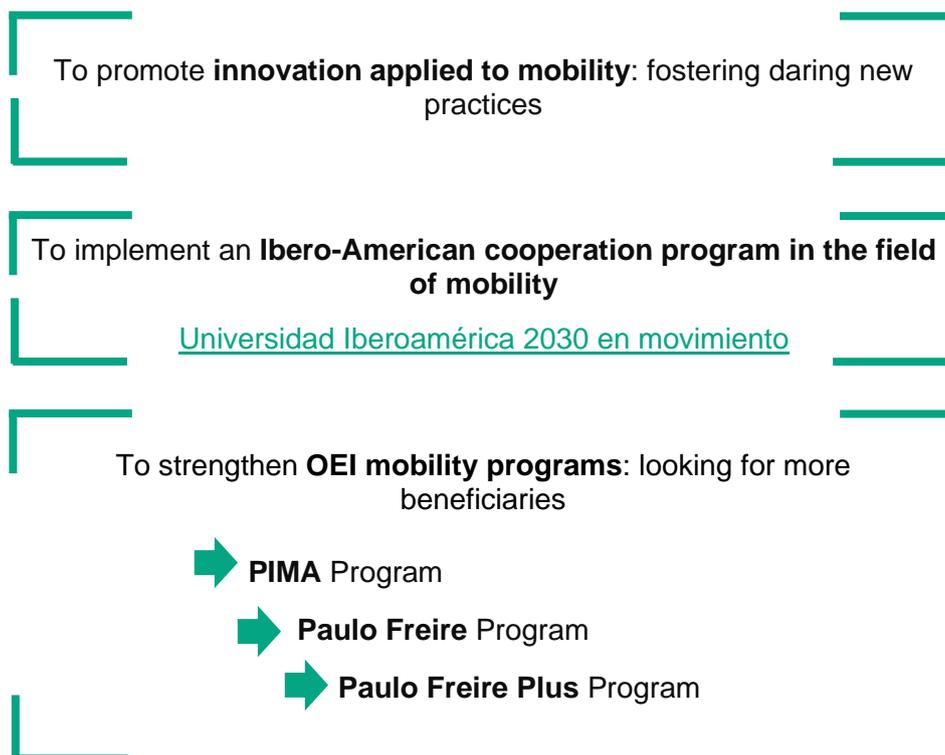


A shared space for higher education and science that contributes sustainably to the progress, well-being and development of Ibero-America.

Higher Education

Internationalization and academic mobility

Ibero-American university students need to position themselves in the world as **citizens who are aware of the reality that exists beyond their borders**, especially in Ibero-American countries. **Internationalization is a fundamental requirement** to make Ibero-American university systems participants in the globalized world in which they are inserted. Being very numerous the benefits that this way of understanding higher education brings, Ibero-America has not achieved high levels of mobility yet, despite the increase that has occurred in other regions of the world. If the essential objective of the OEI through the strategy University Ibero-America 2030 (Universidad Iberoamérica 2030) actually is **the creation of a shared space of higher education**, there is no better practice than promoting the exchange of students, professors and staff from one Ibero-American institution to another. In this task, **technology is a good ally to count with**, if it is appropriately used. Not being an easy challenge, it is worth working for internationalization to try to **generate opportunities, while reducing inequalities**. Our intention is:





Institutional strengthening

To prioritize the attention to the increase of the number of higher education students has made Ibero-American institutions disregard a series of **transformations that they need to address** and that, as in the case of digitalization, the pandemic has forced to carry out hastily. These are changes that have to do with **the new demands that citizens are beginning to make** to universities, especially in terms of quality and contribution, from teaching and research, to sustainable development. A special focus must also be placed on the **skills demanded to university graduates by the most knowledge-intensive productive sectors**. In order to face these new challenges, universities need to strengthen their **institutional capacities**. From the OEI, we are committed to work on the institutional strengthening of 4.0 higher education through two areas:

Quality

Extending the **Kalos Virtual Ibero-America seal**.

Strengthening the **internal quality assurance systems** of universities.

Working with quality agencies for the **mutual recognition** of evaluations and accreditations.

Studying **new evaluation and diagnosis opportunities**.

Sustainability

Increasing the **cooperation** of the quadruple helix.

Accompanying the development of **sustainable institutional policies**.

Making universities sustainable **microenvironments and incubators of social entrepreneurship**.

Supporting the OCTS **Linkage Forum**.

Developing sustainability **indicators**.

Transformation and digital innovation

In a particular way, **institutional strengthening involves making universities digitally capable**. This means developing a **deep change in the culture of institutions**, a real virtualization of their processes, which was revealed as insufficient by Covid-19. **Digitalization is already a task that universities cannot continue postponing**. It is a process that implies persistence over time, but also means a source of opportunities for the future demand. Our intention is to promote this transformation by actions as:

1. **The development of indicators to value the digital maturity** of universities; so that they reconsider their measures and consolidate their transformation process.
2. **The design of the digitalization strategy** of the universities, in such a way that they are consistent with their institutional policy and their strategic objectives.
3. **The strengthening of digital and technological services**, in order to benefit from the possibilities that these instruments offer to the efficiency and effectiveness of all the areas of university life.



Science, Technology and Innovation

Strengthen science, technology and innovation systems

The work in science, technology and innovation is a **shared task**, which requires the participation of **universities, research centers, companies and Governments**. Our intention is to support their work with respect to:

- Improving the **qualification of Ibero-American researchers**
- The promotion of the **research career**
- **Governmental capacities to make decisions** based on evidence
- The development of **multi-actor operational strategies** that define the path of action
- The revaluation of **scientific production in Portuguese and Spanish**
- Improving **knowledge transfer** systems
- The push for **innovation**
- Developing a **new generation of indicators**

Dissemination and scientific education

In a context invaded of fake news, **evidence is an essential element in decision making**. Ibero-America needs **scientists who bring their research to the streets** and a **society that has enough concern to ask science**. From the OEI we propose:

To promote **actions to raise awareness** and bring science closer to society

To foster **scientific dissemination**

To contribute to **train researchers in dissemination**

To support initiatives aimed to **improve the participation and visibility of women in the scientific field**

To continue **generating knowledge** in our mission areas



Implement the Action Plan approved at the High-Level Ibero-American Forum on Science and Technology in Buenos Aires



Monitoring and evaluation of public policies



Aerospace Agencies Network



Science Diplomacy



Ibero-American Charter of Digital Rights

