

A JointWork Plan



To Succeed in
internationalizing
Québec education

Québec 

This complementary document outlines the joint work plan aimed at implementing the MEQ's strategy for the internationalization of Québec education.

The main components of the strategy have been agreed upon with all the partners consulted. Under the broad headings of education, mobility, exportation and influence, the Ministère de l'Éducation has set out the orientations it intends to promote, the coherence it wishes to establish, the strategic watch it wishes to carry out and the measures it wishes to adopt. During the consultations, the MEQ's partners made comments and suggestions for action that related to each component of the strategy and reflected their respective situations.

Lines of action have been defined and initiatives requested. The MEQ has taken them all into consideration and reiterates them in this brief document. The various partners must work together in the different areas to give concrete expression to the lines of action.

The MEQ's strategy seeks to ensure cooperation among the various players "so that the process of internationalization will be ongoing, durable and effective and will help achieve the objectives of all those involved."

Component 1 Education and training

THE MEQ INTENDS TO:

- give Québec education an international dimension

While academic and vocational programs at the elementary, secondary and college levels are being developed or revised, they should be adapted in light of internationalization.

- review the conditions applying to foreign students with respect to the uniform examination for obtaining a diploma
- take the international dimension into consideration when harmonizing diplomas of college studies and undergraduate university degrees



Component 2 Mobility

THE MEQ INTENDS TO:

- work closely with the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration (MRCI) and groups of educational institutions involved in internationalization in order to:
 - bring about and promote the recruitment of students, teachers and researchers
 - analyze the legislation or regulations that make it difficult for students to come to Québec
 - facilitate the application of measures to help foreign students integrate into the community upon arrival (second-language courses, French tests, visas)

A number of programs promoting student mobility already exist in various schools and institutions. The MEQ intends to make cooperation among those responsible for these initiatives a priority.

- work closely with the MRCI, the Ministère des Relations internationales, the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie, and groups of educational institutions involved in internationalization in order to identify the countries or regions within countries where students could be recruited
- examine the problem of the tuition fees required of foreign students
- explore the possibility of implementing a bursary program for short stays abroad for CEGEP students

There are various bursary programs at different educational levels (notably in universities) designed to promote student mobility; however, there seems to be nothing of the sort at the college level.

- explore the possibility of implementing a bursary program for short stays abroad for teachers and researchers at the college and university levels

Students do not have to travel in order to benefit from increasing mobility within the world of education. They can also benefit from the fact that their teachers come from abroad. In other words, the example of internationalization should be set for them.

- harmonize initiatives involving organizations that help students study and work abroad (Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse, Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse, Agence Québec Wallonie Bruxelles pour la jeunesse)
- help distance learning organizations eliminate obstacles to the recruitment of foreign students



Component ³ Exportation of Educational Expertise

THE MEQ INTENDS TO:

- gather information on potential markets for the exportation of educational expertise, in collaboration with the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce (MIC), institutions and groups of institutions
- make the MIC aware of the importance of involving the world of education in Québec's missions abroad
- promote cooperation among government ministries, educational institutions and groups of institutions to ensure the participation of educational players in international forums
- support educational institutions taking part in international calls for tenders

To better understand and satisfy the needs of requesting countries and financial backers from around the world, efforts must be made to approach international funding institutions (IFI), aid agencies, foreign governments, provincial and territorial governments, as well as international organizations and international non-governmental organizations.


- continue to support dedicated distance learning institutions in their efforts to develop a substantial offering of online courses



Component 4 Influence and Positioning

THE MEQ INTENDS TO:

- develop a promotional and public relations tool to show that the MEQ and the Québec school system are leaders in the field of education
- encourage the participation of MEQ staff and that of educational institutions and groups of institutions in the activities of Canadian or international organizations in their respective sectors
- develop an effective tool for reporting on its participation in work groups and in Canadian or international organizations
- find innovative measures to strengthen, cultivate and make use of educational networks that are involved in concrete ways in the internationalization of Québec education



1 MEQ. *To Succeed in Internationalizing Québec Education: A Mutually Advantageous Strategy,*” p. 3.

*Understanding is both a means and an
end of human communication.
Given the importance of education
to understanding
at all educational levels and all ages,
the development of understanding
must involve the internationalization
of education.*

Edgar Morin

Citation taken from: "Diversité culturelle et humaine condition." Le magazine du ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de la Recherche et de la Technologie, no. 7 (Paris, March-April 2000) Translation.

