Strategic plan
2021-2024
(Short version )
Université Grenoble Alpes: a world renowned university, environmentally friendly and socially responsible

Summary

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Rising to the challenges of the 21st century, together

Université Grenoble Alpes (UGA) is the result of a meeting of the minds of the stakeholders in higher education and research in Grenoble and Valence. The University stays true to its mandates, and is committed to meeting the scientific, social and environmental challenges of the 21st century. Its impact is felt on a daily basis through the actions of its 59,000 students, 4,500 lecturers, teacher-researchers and researchers, as well as through the 3,200 members of its administrative and technical staff.

The UGA is committed to the success of its students and to ensuring that its staff members are able to carry out their duties in an optimum work environment. To this end, the University uses the knowledge it generates and shares with the community to act for the development of the region, the social openness of the university, and the promotion of diversity and non-discrimination - placing particular emphasis on gender equality.

Working in tandem with its national research partners and drawing on the presence of the considerable scientific resources in its area, the University has developed its research and innovation policy on an international scale.

It pushes the boundaries of knowledge by providing support to its disciplines and encouraging cooperation and dialogue between them to build the interdisciplinarity required to tackle the socio-economic and cultural issues we face today, and further highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The UGA’s strategic plan is more than just a roadmap for bringing a 4-year ambition to fruition - it highlights the importance and richness of the commitment of all of its stakeholders. This plan is the result of the work and collaboration of all of the UGA’s departments and bodies. It lays out five strategic goals that are integral to structuring our future common initiatives and actions.

I would like to thank everyone who was involved in this stage of production and who, despite the difficult circumstances imposed by the public health crisis, have enabled us to build the strategic plan. I would also like to thank all members of the members of university bodies who have helped drive this endeavour by providing constructive criticism and valued advice.

My aim is that all of the UGA’s stakeholders will incorporate this strategic plan into their work and include it in their ambitions. It is only by walking this path together that we will ensure the success of the new university model, which is distinguished by its diversity, social and environmental responsibility, openness and ambition!

The President
Yassine Lakhnech
The context and our methodology

Université Grenoble Alpes:

As of 1 January 2020, the new Université Grenoble Alpes (UGA) has united the «grandes écoles» of the Grenoble INP Institute of Engineering and Management, Sciences Po Grenoble and the Grenoble School of Architecture, with the 21 teaching departments of the former Université Grenoble Alpes and its six research centres.

The national research bodies the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), the National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology (Inria) and the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm) are now even more closely associated with the new Université Grenoble Alpes to develop a common policy for research and development on an international scale. Relations with the French National Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE), the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD) and the Grenoble Alpes University Hospital (CHU) have also been strengthened in the framework of the new university.

Approach for the UGA Strategic Plan:

UGA’s 2021-2024 strategic plan was created in collaboration with stakeholders in education and research, and local cultural and socio-economic partners, with the validation of the different bodies of the university.

The strategic plan was developed in two main stages. The first, running from March to July 2020, focused on the university’s vocation, our new university’s 10-year ambition, and the strategic goals setting out our main drivers for the next four years.

From September to February 2021, a wider consultation enabled reflection on our priorities, the areas to be supported in the next four years, and the values promoted by the university.
Our vocation and raison d’être

A pioneering university bolstered by its diversity, Université Grenoble Alpes is a driver for progress and a laboratory of initiatives. It develops and shares knowledge in the Alps and for the world.

Located in the heart of an exceptional natural environment and enriched by the diversity of its departments and campuses, Université Grenoble Alpes unites the strengths of public higher education from the campuses of Grenoble and Valence.

Assuming its fundamental role to pass on knowledge, the university is committed to supporting and ensuring the success of its students throughout their lives. It has added to its primary objective the watchwords diversity and civic engagement, and collaborative approaches are encouraged.

With its strong relationships with national research bodies and its major scientific resources, the university has developed its research and innovation policy on an international scale. UGA’s disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research pushes the boundaries of knowledge and opens up new fields of learning.

As a responsible employer and university, and a driver of cultural and socio-economic development in its region, it works with its partners toward the betterment of society.

Our ambition

To make UGA a major international university that is environmentally and socially responsible, and which:

- Generates and passes on knowledge, and creates dialog between the disciplines so that we may collectively rise to the challenges of the future and transform our society
- Consolidates its social diversity opportunities for students and staff, developing its support offered and its programs’ diversity
- Strengthens its position as a key pillar of the community, from the Alps to the Rhône Valley
The management and administration team’s commitment to five values

Openness, interaction with the world and others
Interdisciplinarity, creativity, role in the region and strength of connection with the region, modernity, curiosity, welcome, humanism, diversity

Mutual respect
Trust, diversity, transparency, pluralism

Probity/integrity/scientific ethics
The freedom to research and share, the freedom to create

High standards/excellence
Global commitment, public service, UGA’s standards of success, high standards in teaching, access to high-level expertise

Responsibility
Education of knowledgeable citizens, solidarity, social and environmental responsibility, responsibility for support
OUR 5 STRATEGIC GOALS

**AXIS 1** Meet the challenges of the future with courage to help develop a sustainable and resilient society

**AXIS 2** Boost and co-construct regional, national, and international dynamics alongside our partners

**AXIS 3** Through a responsible employer policy, make UGA and its departments a space for sharing, fulfillment, initiative, and learning for staff

**AXIS 4** Work to create an inclusive university that guarantees an inspiring student experience

**AXIS 5** Together, set up a new university model and develop the means to achieve its ambition
Meet the challenges of the future with courage to help develop a sustainable and resilient society

Objectives:

Make the most of our diversity and disciplinary expertise in interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity in education and research

Support open research, from fundamental research to applied research, at the highest international level

Be a driver for technological, social and cultural innovation by drawing on the creative potential of our students, staff and partners; strengthen the dynamic of development
Make the most of our diversity and disciplinary expertise in interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity in education and research

Maintain the momentum of interdisciplinary research and education projects
Promote interdisciplinarity in education to better incorporate social dimensions
Develop data sciences and their use to encourage transdisciplinarity in research and education
Introduce interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity to research in individual paths

Support fundamental and applied open research at the highest international level

Support exploratory and emerging research initiatives
Develop the full spectrum of fundamental and applied research
Increase support for university lecturers and researchers for the development of their research
Be a driver for technological, social and cultural innovation by drawing on the creative potential of our students, staff and partners; strengthen the dynamic of development

Coordinate and develop training initiatives on creativity, design, entrepreneurship, and innovation

Develop and open experimental platforms and data platforms aimed at a wide range of audiences (researchers, teachers, students, and cultural and socio-economic stakeholders)

Promote the culture of development

Build an Intellectual Property & Development service unit
Boost and co-construct regional, national, and international dynamics alongside our partners

Objectives:

Promote our geographical and scientific strengths as factors that will serve and boost the appeal of the region

Build and steer our regional strategy with our cultural and socio-economic partners

Increase our interaction with the socio-economic and cultural world

Lead national facilities and actions for research and education

Develop an ambitious international policy based on strategic partnerships, confirming our leadership in our fields of excellence and standing out in our emerging fields

Responsibly support the internationalization of research and education

Strengthen the links between science and society
Promote our geographical and scientific strengths as factors that will serve and boost the appeal of the region

Reaffirm our identity linked to our natural environment

Strengthen the position and renown of UGA’s libraries in the region, and in academic, national, and international networks; ensure the prestige of our publications

Build and steer our regional strategy with our cultural and socio-economic partners

Strengthen partnerships with public organizations at a local, national, and international level; connect our sustainable development policies, especially with regional authorities

Be a key player in the region’s development strategy, in Grenoble and Valence

Increase the visibility and appeal of the regional campus of Valence, and of research and education in Drôme-Ardèche
Increase our interaction with the socio-economic and cultural world

Build lifelong education opportunities together with our partners to meet the region's needs

Develop the university's cultural strategy with local stakeholders

Develop actions in the economic world

Lead actions and facilities at a national level

Actively participate in strategic national initiatives

Lead national research and education initiatives

Develop an ambitious international policy based on strategic partnerships, confirming our leadership in our fields of excellence and standing out in our emerging fields

Collectively redesign our strategic international partnerships, favor a global research and education approach

Develop an ambitious policy of international influence for the university

Strengthen our relationships with major resources

Promote French-speaking countries
Responsibly support the internationalization of research and education

Increase the measures facilitating the incoming and outgoing international mobility of staff members and students

Support the internationalization strategies of laboratories

Train staff on interculturalism

Strengthen the links between science and society

Open the university to the general public and, for all disciplines, extend the actions with school institutions

Actively contribute to the deployment of a policy of openness in relation to the publications and data of our research, as well as code and software, in the national framework set out in the National Plan for Open Science and within the European and international framework

Pay attention to the research and education needs of local cultural and socio-economic stakeholders
Through a responsible employer policy, make UGA and its departments a space for sharing, fulfillment, initiative and learning for staff

Objectives:

Favor a quality work environment for all staffs

Strengthen our actions in the fight against discrimination

Make the university a site of cultural openness; support initiatives that promote interaction between members of the university community
**Favor a quality work environment for all staff members**

**HUMAN RESOURCES SECTION** *(departments have the competences granted by their statuses particularly in the field of human resources)*

- Deploy common HR policy axes, set out in a Social Pact, at the level of the new establishment
- Build a common approach to Quality of Working Life (QWL)
- Set up the Social Conference

**ASSETS AND WORKING AREAS SECTION**

- Continue to develop and renovate buildings to improve comfort at work, while completing the ecological transition
- Continue to develop campuses, incorporating the quality of urban planning, architecture and living spaces
**AXIS 3**

**Strengthen our actions in the fight against discrimination**

Reinforce staff training

Maintain involvement in the European Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R)

**Make the university a site of cultural openness; support initiatives that promote interaction between members of the university community**

Develop an accessible and diversified cultural program

Provide support, particularly in terms of logistics, and financial support for projects led by staff and students
Campaign for an inclusive university that guarantees an inspiring student experience

Objectives:

- Reinforce the university's social diversity opportunities
- Support the student journey and facilitate its success
- Work with our partners to build a roadmap for student life
- Encourage civic engagement, the spirit of initiative, and creativity
- Fight precarity and discrimination
Reinforce the university’s social diversity opportunities

Inventory, analyze, and monitor the development of the UGA student population and its diversity

Diversify profiles in health studies

Develop projects designed to include socially and geographically distant publics

Support the student journey and facilitate its success

Facilitate student success in undergraduate programs

Develop individual support for young people, from high school to employment

Enable open and modular study programs

Develop our educational tools and approaches: real-life situations, digital technology, simulations, mentoring
Work with our partners to build a roadmap for student life

Enable the inclusion of all people in the university, notably through sport and culture

Draw on a user-based approach to ensure simplified access to student services

Develop living spaces, well-being spaces, and project spaces in faculties

Fight precarity and discrimination

Build a local tool for listening to and supporting students, in collaboration with departments

Step up the fight against discrimination and harassment through prevention and reporting

Promote access to student rights to further fight all forms of precarity

From the reception to the professionalization of students with disabilities, maintain and pass on our Grenoble culture, a true laboratory of social inclusion
Encourage civic engagement, the spirit of initiative, and creativity

Support student innovation and entrepreneurship through the creation of a dedicated hub

Develop students’ civic engagement and involvement in associations

Extend the support tool for high-level athletes and artists to students involved in social initiatives (in an association, company project, etc.)

Make our students stakeholders in a society that will need to rise to the challenge of sustainable development and the fight against climate change
Together, set up a new university model and develop the means to achieve its ambition

**Objectives:**

- Set up a flexible, effective and transparent organization, with skills practiced at the most relevant level
- Be exemplary in the societal, environmental, and economic component of sustainable development
- Build a united university community, listen, and ensure collective cooperation
- Strengthen our partnerships with national research bodies
- Share common ambitions, be proud and respectful of our different identities
- Collectively develop our financial and human resources; take a multi-year approach to human resources and finances
Set up a flexible, effective, and transparent organization, with skills practiced at the most relevant level

Organize the new institution

For an initial perimeter, formalize an administrative project based on several axes of improvement, simplification, motivation, and sharing UGA-wide

Create and complete a project for continuous improvement, incorporating the user committees to be rolled out

Learn from the health crisis to take a new approach to our activities

Be exemplary in the social and environmental component of sustainable development, drawing on a roadmap for Social and Environmental Responsibility

Complete an annual carbon audit UGA-wide to reduce our carbon footprint and set objectives for 2030

Develop actions to reduce our carbon footprint, setting targets

Formalize and roll out a Social and Environmental Responsibility Charter

Set up a tool designed to encourage civic initiatives on campus
Build a united university community, listen, and ensure collective cooperation

Continue the «Mieux se connaître, mieux travailler ensemble» (The better we know each other, the better we can work together) campaign

Complete a «Feeling of belonging and communication» project at the level of the new institution

Facilitate quality social dialog

Facilitate staff participation in brainstorming groups and projects

Share common ambitions, be proud and respectful of our different identities

Structure a shared decision-making information system

Develop common tools and services; formalize jointly-created road maps

Complete projects that bring different communities together: students/staff; lecturer-researcher staff/administrative and technical staff
Strengthen our partnerships with national research bodies

Simplify the operating methods of mixed units

Connect the national policies led by national research bodies and the UGA policy within the framework of the site policy

Aim for better coordination of national and international actions

Collectively develop our financial and human resources; take a multi-year approach to human resources and finances

Set up a multi-year employment policy

Create a resource for developing the support of non-academic partners

Create the Research Project Engineering service unit

Create a monitoring and support unit for setting up training projects

Explore solutions for sharing human, financial, and material resources in the field of research and education