



The Global Interdisciplinary Research Ecosystem Where GHEIN Adds Value

Research Network Mapping

Global Higher Education Interdisciplinary Network (GHEIN)

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Executive Summary

The Network Landscape

Research networks are widespread across the six regions in this mapping, and the sector places a high value on collaboration. These networks do a great deal to bring institutions together, though interdisciplinary research is rarely their sole focus. It sits alongside other priorities, whether a research theme, a scholarly field, an alliance's wider collaboration programme, or a single institution's internal model.

Key Global Strengths

Alliances are well established and partnership is valued across every region. There is a universal appetite for improving how research is done. Priority fields are broadly consistent worldwide, with climate, health and AI recurring throughout. Dialogue and the exchange of best practice are already commonplace, which gives the sector a foundation to build on.

Key Global Gaps

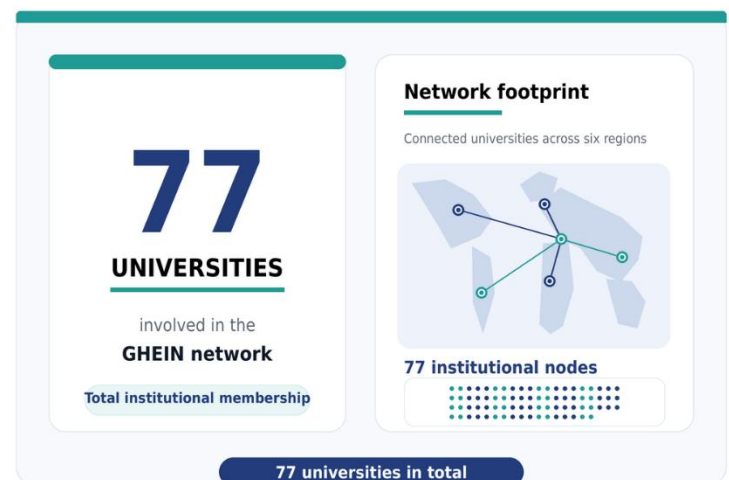
These networks are effective within their own regional, thematic or institutional boundaries and this creates a clear opportunity for the Global Higher Education Interdisciplinary Network (GHEIN) – which seeks to operate without such boundaries in place. There is scope to connect members across regions rather than within them, to bring a wider range of institutions and perspectives together around interdisciplinary research, and to complement the strategic focus of existing networks with practical work on the structures, funding and evaluation that help interdisciplinary research succeed. Turning shared dialogue into usable outputs, and making the link between research and its wider impact more visible, are further areas GHEIN is poised to address.

GHEIN's Unique Value Proposition

The Global Higher Education Interdisciplinary Network (GHEIN), co-convened by Times Higher Education and Schmidt Science Fellows, was created to work alongside these networks and embrace that space. It convenes senior research leaders across six global regions for the single purpose of advancing interdisciplinary science. Its structure of six regional chapters, drawing on 77 universities and a global advisory board, allows it to work on regional and international collaboration. Its focus is at the institutional level, considering how universities structure, fund, govern and evaluate interdisciplinary research. Its three themes for 2026 to 2027, co-designed with members, are global institutional best practice, international collaboration, and AI as an accelerator of interdisciplinary science. The purpose is to build an evidence base that research leaders can use to make the case within their own institutions, and to share lessons learned across regions.

77 universities

University participation across the GHEIN network

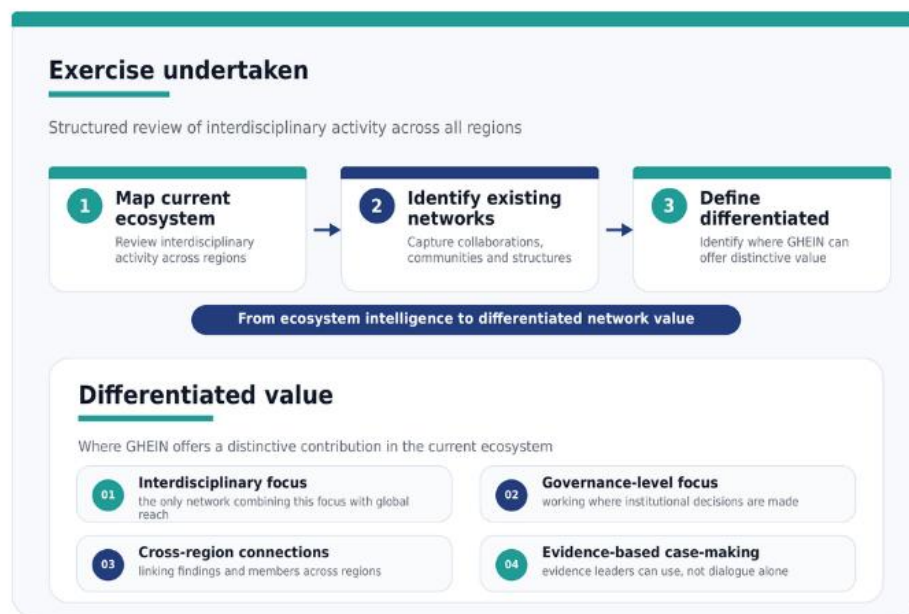


Introduction

This report maps the networks currently supporting research collaboration across North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. For each region it sets out the networks in operation, what they focus on, the extent of their interdisciplinary activity, and where GHEIN can add value.

Interdisciplinary ecosystem mapping

Mapping existing research networks to identify differentiated network value



Each network is assessed against GHEIN's three themes for 2026 to 2027. These themes were not set in advance. They emerged from the inaugural discussions of the regional chapters, and they reflect what members across all six regions identified as the areas where progress is most needed. Assessing existing networks against them shows how much of that agenda is already covered and where GHEIN can contribute. It should be noted that whilst this paper seeks to be illustrative of current networks, it is not fully comprehensive.

Key Findings

Key Global Strengths

The mapping exercise identified four strengths shared across the regions. Together they show a sector that is well disposed towards collaborative working and open to improving how research is done.

Alliances exist, and partnership is highly valued: the breadth of existing research networks should not be understated and is testament to the high value placed on collaborative working across the global higher education sector.

Appetite for improvement is high and universal: the purpose of these networks is to improve research practices, whether in a niche or comprehensive way – pertaining to a common understanding that research norms can be continually strengthened.

Discipline priorities are globally consistent: climate, healthcare and AI emerge as priority fields to benefit from interdisciplinary research, creating a global agenda for collaboration across the disciplines.

Dialogue exists, and assets must now be harnessed: exchange of ideas and the sharing of best practice is commonplace for many, who must now turn towards harnessing interdisciplinary research practices together for the global good.

Key Global Gaps

Looking across these networks, we identified six areas where an interdisciplinary network can add value, building on what the existing networks already do well.

Scope to connect across regions: existing networks serve their members well within their own region or alliance. Few are positioned to link members across regions, which creates an opportunity for a network designed from the outset to work internationally and to build collaboration between regions rather than within them.

Practice developed in one context has few routes to reach another.

Scope to broaden who is in the room: many networks are built around a shared region, discipline, or type of institution. There is an opportunity to complement this by deliberately bringing together different institution types and perspectives, including industry and community, around interdisciplinary research.

Scope to turn dialogue into shared outputs: networks are effective at convening and exchanging ideas. There is an opening to build on this by producing shared, practical outputs that members across regions can use.

Scope to address structural challenges at leadership level: existing networks tend to focus on activity and exchange. This leaves room for work that identifies the structural challenges facing interdisciplinary research and removes the barriers to it at the level where institutional decisions are made.

Scope to connect research to impact: networks generate valuable activity and exchange. There is an opportunity to strengthen the link between that activity and its economic and social impact, making the return on interdisciplinary research more visible.

Scope to pair strategic oversight with practical models: many networks operate at a strategic level. This creates an opening for work that also addresses the practical operating models, structures, funding and evaluation processes that make interdisciplinary research succeed institutionally.

GHEIN's Unique Value Proposition

GHEIN convenes senior research leaders from 77 universities across 6 world regions for a single purpose: advancing interdisciplinary science.

GHEIN is co-convened by Schmidt Science Fellows and Times Higher Education. Schmidt Science Fellows works to change how science is done by breaking down barriers to interdisciplinary research, accelerating global societal impact, and developing the next generation of science leaders. Times Higher Education brings reach across the global higher education sector and the data that allows institutions to be compared across core research metrics. GHEIN applies that shared purpose at the institutional level, championing the research leaders whose decisions determine whether interdisciplinary work succeeds.

In this mapping exercise, no other network identified combines that focus on interdisciplinary science with a structure built for both regional and international work. Its regional chapters surface institutional best practice and regional differences in interdisciplinary research, while its global advisory board connects those findings across regions and supports international collaboration.

GHEIN's purpose is not dialogue alone. By comparing how institutions across six regions organise interdisciplinary research, it builds a body of evidence that research leaders can use to make the case within their own universities for the structures, funding and evaluation models that interdisciplinary work requires. The output for the first year includes policy briefs on institutional best practices, AI as an accelerator of interdisciplinary science, and international collaboration.

Institutional best practice reflects the real differences the chapters surfaced between regions in how interdisciplinary research is structured, funded and supported. AI is both interdisciplinary in itself and a tool that accelerates interdisciplinary work, and the mapping found it almost entirely absent from existing networks, which makes it the clearest opportunity for development. International collaboration and data sharing is valued highly by GHEIN members but difficult to put into practice, and that distance between the value placed on it and the reality of achieving it is precisely why it needs attention at governance level.

Taken together, these themes position GHEIN as a complementary layer to the networks that already exist, focused on the practice of interdisciplinarity itself and on turning what it learns into institutional change across different global contexts.

The sections that follow set out the networks operating in each region. Each concludes with a matrix assessing those networks against GHEIN's three themes, so that the regions can be explored together as well as separately.

1. Ecosystem Mapping: Existing Networks in North America

A key message from the inaugural North American chapter meeting was that GHEIN must offer distinct value beyond what participants already access through existing networks. This section provides a structured landscape analysis of each network to identify where GHEIN can differentiate.

1.1 ACC Academic Consortium

Attribute	Details
Overview	15 ACC member universities (Stanford, Duke, Georgia Tech, UNC, etc.). Focuses on undergraduate research, student leadership, entrepreneurship, faculty development, study abroad.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Limited. Student programming and athletics-linked academic collaboration. VPR interactions are a secondary benefit.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Student-facing and athletics-driven. Not a research leadership network. No focus on interdisciplinary governance or institutional strategy.

1.2 Association of American Universities (AAU)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 1900. 71 research universities (69 US, 2 Canada). Invitation-only. Focuses on federal research policy advocacy, research funding, graduate education standards, science security.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Not the primary mandate. Interdisciplinarity surfaces in SRO meetings as one topic among many. Recent focus on AI-enabled science strategy and cross-disciplinary computer access.
Key Gap for GHEIN	US-centric policy advocacy. No focus on international collaboration, institutional best practices for interdisciplinary governance, or data-driven analysis of centres.

1.3 APLU (Association of Public and Land-grant Universities)

Attribute	Details
Overview	A US membership organisation of 226 public research universities, engaged in extensive policy and advocacy work comparable to the AAU. Its land-grant members hold a status specific to the US, representing their state's needs in agriculture, forestry and related areas, with access to certain federal funding tied to that role.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Convenes members around shared policy and research priorities, some of which cut across disciplines, but interdisciplinarity is not a defined focus.
Key Gap for GHEIN	National in scope and focused on policy and advocacy rather than international, cross-regional collaboration or the institutional practice of interdisciplinary research.

1.4 Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 1958 (renamed 2016). 18 universities governed by provosts. Over \$19 billion in annual funded research. Focuses on academic collaboration, resource sharing, library initiatives, student exchange.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Gene Robinson (Illinois) established an interdisciplinary network of institutes within the BTAA. Big Ten Cancer Research Consortium is a notable cross-institutional example.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Athletic conference-linked. Provost-level governance, not VPR-level focus on the science of interdisciplinarity. No global dimension.

1.5 Future Universities Alliance - Duke University

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 2026, incubated at Duke. Global network of start-up, emerging, and established universities. Focuses on reimagining higher education through collaborative innovation in teaching, curriculum, and institutional design.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Emphasises interdisciplinary and experiential learning models. Focused on institutional design innovation rather than research collaboration.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Oriented toward educational innovation and teaching, not VPR-level research governance, impact measurement, or AI as accelerator of science.

1.6 Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 2019 at the World Economic Forum. 15 universities across six continents (MIT, Cambridge, Oxford, Yale, Tsinghua, LSE, Imperial, etc.). Focuses on climate change solutions through research, education, and public outreach. Active at COP summits.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Climate research is inherently interdisciplinary. GAUC promotes cross-disciplinary collaboration through joint projects and thematic forums.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Narrowly focused on climate. Does not address institutional governance of interdisciplinarity broadly, or AI as accelerator beyond climate applications.

1.7 Government-University-Industry-Philanthropy Research Roundtable (GUIPRR)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 1984 (renamed GUIPRR 2024). Hosted by the National Academies. Cross-sector dialogue on the US research enterprise with government, university, industry, and philanthropy leaders. Three member meetings annually and monthly webinars.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Addresses research enterprise issues broadly but is prohibited from making direct recommendations. Dialogue-focused rather than producing structured outputs.

Key Gap for GHEIN	Policy forum, not an operational network for institutional change. No best-practice compendiums, data pooling, or international dimension.
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1.8 Ivy Plus

Attribute	Details
Overview	13 core institutions (8 Ivy League + Stanford, MIT, Duke, Chicago, Johns Hopkins; informally ~40+ for some initiatives). Focuses on library resource sharing (BorrowDirect), sustainability, Faculty Advancement Network, writing consortium.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Shared infrastructure and ad hoc VPR-level interactions but no structured interdisciplinary research programme.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Exclusive US private institutions. Focused on infrastructure sharing, not interdisciplinary governance, impact measurement, or AI-enabled science.

1.9 Mitacs

Attribute	Details
Overview	Originally a BC mathematics research network; now a national Canadian innovation body. 70+ universities. Supported by all Canadian provinces. Focuses on industry–academic collaboration through internships, fellowships, and training (Accelerate, Globalink programmes).
Interdisciplinary Activity	Funds interdisciplinary projects across STEM, humanities, and social sciences. Strategic Plan 2026–2030 identifies interdisciplinarity as essential for Canadian competitiveness.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Canada-focused funding and talent body, not a governance or best-practice network. No international institutional comparison or AI-enabled science strategy focus.

1.10 Network for Advancing Interdisciplinary Research (NAIR)

Attribute	Details
Overview	North American professional network for research administrators and leaders supporting interdisciplinary research. Focuses on networking, advocacy, and resource sharing.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Directly focused on advancing interdisciplinary research practices, providing forums for administrators to share strategies.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Administrator-level, not senior leadership. No global comparative lens, no AI as accelerator focus, no structured data on what makes centres succeed.

1.11 U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities

Attribute	Details
Overview	Formalised 2012. 15 Canadian research-intensive universities (UBC, Toronto, McGill, Alberta, Waterloo, etc.). ~80% of Canadian university research. Focuses on research and innovation policy advocacy for Canada.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Member universities house major interdisciplinary centres, but U15 itself focuses on policy advocacy rather than operational programming.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Canada-only and policy-facing. Canadian universities are not part of US-centric networks, making GHEIN's cross-continent dimension valuable.

1.12 University Climate Change Coalition (UC3)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 2018. 23 North American R1 universities (UC system, ASU, Ohio State, UBC, UNAM, etc.). Facilitated by Second Nature. Focuses on accelerating campus and community climate action through peer-to-peer working groups and coalition reporting.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Climate action requires interdisciplinary approaches. UC3 forums bring experts from diverse fields together on strategy.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Climate-specific and North America only. No broader interdisciplinary governance, institutional best practice, or AI as accelerator focus.

1.13 UIDP (University-Industry Demonstration Partnership)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Brings together research universities and corporations to strengthen university-industry collaboration. US-centric, with Canadian members. Several GHEIN member universities also involved, including Georgia Tech, Duke, MIT, McGill, Princeton, and the University of California campuses.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Supports cross-sector research partnerships that often span disciplines, though interdisciplinarity is a feature of the collaborations rather than the organising focus.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Centred on the university-industry relationship rather than the institutional conditions for interdisciplinary research. Does not address interdisciplinary governance or AI as an accelerator.

1.14 Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded 2000, headquartered at University of Leeds. 24 universities across six continents. Focuses on international research collaboration on global challenges (Public Health, Climate, Higher Education, Cultures). Operates Research Development Fund and Mobility Programme.

Interdisciplinary Activity	Encourages interdisciplinary research groups through its global challenges framework and Special Interest Groups.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Broad international network but not focused on governance or institutional conditions for interdisciplinary research. Facilitates collaborations rather than addressing the science of interdisciplinarity or AI as accelerator.

1.15 Summary: Where GHEIN Can Differentiate

The following matrix maps each network against GHEIN's three co-designed themes for 2026–2027.

GHEIN Theme	AAU	ACC	BTAA	FUA	GAUC	GUIPRR	Ivy+	Mitacs	NAIR	U15	UC3	WUN	UIDP	APLU
Global institutional best practice	○	○	◐	○	○	○	○	○	◐	○	○	○	○	○
Best international collaboration	○	○	○	◐	◐	○	○	◐	○	○	○	◐	○	○
AI as accelerator of science	◐	○	○	○	○	◐	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

● Active coverage ◐ Partial or incidental ○ Not covered

No existing North American network systematically addresses all three of GHEIN's thematic priorities in combination. These represent GHEIN's clearest opportunities for differentiation.

The networks above are indicative rather than exhaustive. Other North American bodies also engage with research and, in some cases, interdisciplinary work, including the Council on Governmental Relations (COGR), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), though these tend to be organised around a specific sector or function, such as research administration, medical education, or a single field.

2. Ecosystem Mapping: Existing Networks in Latin America and the Caribbean

This section maps existing networks relevant to interdisciplinary research in the Latin America and Caribbean region. Research suggested that many of the networks and hubs are theme-based, socially focused rather than systems-focused, and with less emphasis on leadership communications and promotion. Input from GHEIN members reinforced this.

2.1 AUIP (Ibero-American University Association for Postgraduate Studies)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded in 1987. Network of 300+ higher education institutions across Spain, Portugal, Latin America and the Caribbean. Focuses on strengthening postgraduate and doctoral education, quality assurance, mobility, scholarships, international academic cooperation, and institutional capacity building.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate. AUIP works across the full postgraduate landscape and supports thematic academic networks, mobility and cooperation schemes that can include interdisciplinary areas such as social innovation. However, interdisciplinarity is a by-product of postgraduate collaboration rather than the network's organising purpose.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Postgraduate education and mobility-focused. Not a senior research leadership network. No systematic focus on interdisciplinary research governance, evaluation of centres and institutes, cross-regional institutional comparison, or AI as an accelerator of science.

2.2 BRICS

Attribute	Details
Overview	BRICS cooperation includes higher education and research collaboration through mechanisms such as the BRICS Network University. For Latin America, Brazil is the principal regional anchor. Focuses on joint academic programmes, mobility, research cooperation and collaboration between universities in BRICS countries and newer BRICS partner contexts.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate. BRICS university collaboration is often organised around broad thematic priorities such as energy, water, climate, economics, technology, health and sustainable development, which require cross-disciplinary input. Activity is primarily framed around international cooperation between member countries rather than the institutional practice of interdisciplinarity.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Geopolitical and country-bloc focused rather than Latin America-wide. It supports international collaboration, but does not address how universities structure, fund, govern and evaluate interdisciplinary research internally, or how AI-enabled science reshapes cross-disciplinary research strategy.

2.3 CLACSO (Latin American Council of Social Sciences)

Attribute	Details
Overview	International non-governmental council for social sciences and humanities with member research and postgraduate centres across Latin America, the Caribbean and other world regions. Focuses on social science research, public debate, postgraduate training, open access publishing, policy engagement and social transformation.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong within the social sciences and humanities. CLACSO's working groups, postgraduate activity and regional conferences bring together researchers across fields such as sociology, politics, economics, education, health, gender, culture, democracy and development. Its interdisciplinarity is primarily social, policy-oriented and critical rather than whole-university or STEM-integrated.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Highly relevant for public-impact scholarship, but not a research leadership or institutional governance network. Limited focus on university-wide interdisciplinary centre design, research infrastructure, cross-regional institutional benchmarking, or AI as an accelerator of science across disciplines.

2.4 LASA (Latin American Studies Association)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Long-standing international scholarly association for Latin American and Caribbean studies, with a global membership spanning academics, students, policy specialists, NGOs and other practitioners. Focuses on intellectual exchange, research dissemination, annual/international congresses, sections, publications and public debate.
Interdisciplinary Activity	High at the scholarly-field level. Latin American studies is inherently interdisciplinary, bringing together history, politics, sociology, anthropology, economics, cultural studies, literature, law, geography, development studies and other fields. Activity is organised mainly through conferences and publications rather than institutional research strategy.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Individual and discipline-community focused, not a senior institutional network. LASA provides scholarly exchange, but not structured peer learning on how universities govern interdisciplinary research, support centres and institutes, measure impact, or develop AI-enabled interdisciplinary research capacity.

2.5 Red de Investigación de Ciencias Sociales Interdisciplinarias

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded in 2006. International research network organised around disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to the social sciences and their interaction with natural and applied sciences. Focuses on conferences, journals, knowledge exchange and thematic communities across areas of social, cultural and applied research.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Directly focused on interdisciplinarity, especially across the social sciences and between social, natural and applied sciences. Activity is primarily scholarly and conference/publication-led, providing a forum for researchers to share cross-disciplinary methods, concepts and thematic work.

Key Gap for GHEIN

Researcher-facing and publication/conference-oriented. It does not operate as a university leadership network and has limited focus on institutional conditions, governance frameworks, funding models, centre evaluation, international research security, or AI-enabled science strategy.

2.6 Summary

The following matrix maps each network against GHEIN's three co-designed themes for 2026–2027.

GHEIN Theme	AUIP	BRICS	CLACSO	LASA	Red
Global institutional best practice	●	◐	◐	○	○
Best international collaboration	●	●	●	●	◐
AI as accelerator of science	○	○	○	○	○

● Active coverage ◐ Partial or incidental ○ Not covered

No existing networks in the region cover all themes of focus for GHEIN, with significant absence of AI as an accelerator of science. Publicly available information on these networks varies, and may either reflect a lack of activity or impact to date, or the limited publication of information in the public domain.

3. Ecosystem Mapping: Existing Networks in Sub-Saharan Africa

This section maps existing networks relevant to interdisciplinary research in Sub-Saharan Africa. GHEIN members in Sub-Saharan Africa expressed particular interest in increasing partnership and collaboration capacity beyond those with institutions in the West. Existing networks below demonstrate the current landscape of inter-regional collaboration and identify where GHEIN may be best placed to further enhance impact.

3.1 African Research Universities Alliance

Attribute	Details
Overview	Group of regional universities seeking to enhance research via resource-sharing to achieve “critical mass”. 23 university members. Funded by governments and philanthropic contributions. Focuses on pooling of resources and mutual capacity-building, sharing funding opportunities and working in collaboration.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Creation of multiple “Centres of Excellence” which act as an “assembly point” for potential interdisciplinary research but beyond this, interdisciplinary activity is unspecified.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Alliance places emphasis on collaboration, but neglects representation of individual universities within this, which GHEIN will address. “Centres of Excellence” are physical collaboration spaces which may pose travel or other access constraints – GHEIN will eliminate this by providing an online collaboration space instead.

3.2 Africa-UniNet

Attribute	Details
Overview	Long-term cooperation between African and Austrian universities for networking, research cooperation and joint innovation. 72 university members. Funded by OEAD (Agency for Education and Internationalization, Austria). Focuses on facilitation of projects across member university specialisms.
Interdisciplinary Activity	100 projects facilitated so far, many of which are interdisciplinary.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Network has a country-specific focus on partnerships in Austria and prioritises direct project facilitation. GHEIN offers an opportunity to diversify countries of partnership and will seek to drive interdisciplinary working at a strategic level.

3.3 Network for Education & Multidisciplinary Research Africa (NEMRA)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Promotion and facilitation of research projects that contribute to social, scientific, technological or economic transformation across Africa and beyond. 150 individual and institutional members. Focuses on communications and awareness, with in-person celebration events, award ceremonies, and publication of a newsletter.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Interdisciplinary projects inferred, but specific activity unmentioned.

Key Gap for GHEIN

Significant value-adding activities beyond group convening, including fostering of collaboration, training and mentoring, and support for graduate students. GHEIN will add unique value in its specific and focused remit.

3.4 Summary

The following matrix maps each network against GHEIN's three co-designed themes for 2026–2027.

GHEIN Theme	ARUA	A-UN	NEMRA
Global institutional best practice	○	●	○
Best international collaboration	●	●	◐
AI as accelerator of science	○	○	○

● Active coverage ◐ Partial or incidental ○ Not covered

No existing networks in the region cover all themes of focus for GHEIN, with significant absence of AI as an accelerator of science. Publicly available information on these networks is generally scarce and may reflect a lack of activity or impact to date. This may also be a reflection of the limited publication of updates or those available in the English language, as opposed to an absence of impact.

4. Ecosystem Mapping: Existing Networks in Asia-Pacific

This section maps existing networks relevant to interdisciplinary research in the Asia-Pacific region.

4.1 Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded in 1997. Network of 60+ leading research universities across the Americas, Asia, and Australasia. Focuses on connecting premier research institutions to foster cooperation in education, research, and enterprise, contributing to the economic, scientific, and cultural advancement of the Pacific Rim.
Interdisciplinary Activity	High. APRU structures its core activities around global challenges that necessitate cross-disciplinary solutions, such as climate change, global health, and disaster risk reduction. It actively drives collaborative research networks and student programs that bridge science, technology, and policy across the Pacific region.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Strong emphasis on delivering collaborative programmes and solutions to regional challenges, but less focus on sharing institutional strategies and operating models for enabling interdisciplinary research across universities.

4.2 ASEAN University Network (AUN)

Attribute	Details
Overview	The ASEAN University Network (AUN) is a regional alliance of leading universities established to strengthen cooperation in higher education across Southeast Asia. Comprising 30 member universities, AUN promotes academic collaboration, quality assurance, student and staff mobility, and joint research initiatives that support regional integration and sustainable development.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate to High. Interdisciplinarity is championed primarily through dedicated "Thematic Networks" (e.g., AUN-Health Promotion Network, AUN-University Innovation Enterprise) and its high-level Rectors' Meetings, which heavily emphasize embedding cross-disciplinary skills to build future-ready global citizens.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Primarily focused on regional higher education integration and academic cooperation, with less emphasis on the organisational and strategic conditions required to sustain interdisciplinary research.

4.3 CliMigHealth (APAC Hub)

Attribute	Details
Overview	CliMigHealth (APAC Hub) is a collaborative research network focused on the interconnected challenges of climate change, human migration, and health outcomes across the Asia-Pacific region. Led by the University of Queensland and supported by a network of academic, governmental, and non-governmental partners, it seeks to generate evidence and inform policy responses to climate-related population movements and public health risks.

Interdisciplinary Activity	Extremely High (Thematic). The network's core mission is breaking down traditional silos between disparate fields. It natively integrates public health, environmental/climate science, migration studies, economics, and social sciences to build climate-resilient and equitable health system responses.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Theme-specific and researcher-facing, concentrating on the climate–migration–health nexus rather than broader institutional and systemic questions surrounding interdisciplinary research.

4.4 Asian Universities Alliance (AUA)

Attribute	Details
Overview	The Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) is a consortium of 15 leading universities across Asia established to strengthen collaboration in higher education, research, and innovation. The alliance seeks to address regional and global challenges while promoting academic exchange and advancing scientific, technological, and socio-economic development across Asia.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. AUA supports interdisciplinary collaboration through joint research initiatives, thematic working groups, academic forums, and collaborative programmes spanning areas such as sustainable development, digital transformation, public health, education, and technological innovation. These activities encourage the integration of expertise across disciplines and institutions.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Prioritises collaboration and exchange among member institutions, but places less emphasis on capturing and sharing individual institutional approaches to building interdisciplinary capacity.

4.5 Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning (ASAIHL)

Attribute	Details
Overview	The Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning (ASAIHL) is one of the oldest higher education networks in the Asia-Pacific region, bringing together around 200 universities and higher education institutions across Southeast Asia and beyond. It aims to strengthen regional cooperation through academic collaboration, capacity building, and the exchange of knowledge and best practices.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate to strong. ASAIHL promotes interdisciplinary engagement through conferences, seminars, collaborative research activities, and special interest groups covering areas such as public health, sustainable development, education, agriculture, and technology. Its broad institutional membership encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue across diverse sectors.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Functions primarily as a broad academic and professional exchange network, with activities centred on conferences and knowledge sharing rather than developing coordinated strategic approaches to interdisciplinary research systems.

4.6 Network of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Research Organizations – Oceania (NITRO)

Attribute	Details
Overview	NITRO-Oceania is a regional network of leaders from interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research and education organisations across Oceania. Established in 2019, it aims to represent, promote and support interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, with a particular focus on enabling researchers to address complex societal and environmental challenges.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Extremely High (Thematic). Interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity are the network's core purpose. Activities include working groups, annual business meetings, policy and funding advocacy, seminars, and work on issues such as research classification, impact measurement and career pathways. NITRO-Oceania has also partnered with the Global Alliance for Inter- and Transdisciplinarity (ITD Alliance) to establish an Oceania Regional Network.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Strong thematic overlap with GHEIN, but NITRO-Oceania is primarily a regional network of leaders focused on advancing interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary practice, policy and research environments. There is less emphasis on systematically capturing, comparing and sharing how individual universities build interdisciplinary capacity at an institutional level, creating space for GHEIN to provide a broader institutional and global perspective.

4.7 Future Earth Australia (FEA)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Future Earth Australia (FEA) is a national platform that connects research and practice around sustainability challenges. Hosted by the Australian Academy of Science, it is the Australian node of the global Future Earth network and brings together research organisations and partners from across sectors
Interdisciplinary Activity	Extremely High (Thematic). FEA explicitly operates as a transdisciplinary and cross-sector platform, connecting expertise across the biophysical, technological and social sciences, humanities and arts. Its activities bring researchers together with government, industry, NGOs and communities to co-design responses to complex sustainability challenges.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Strong interdisciplinary model, but concentrated around sustainability and global-change challenges rather than interdisciplinarity across the full breadth of university activity. Its emphasis is primarily on connecting expertise to deliver sustainability outcomes, leaving scope for GHEIN to focus more broadly on how universities develop, organise and embed interdisciplinary capacity institutionally.

4.8 Te Pūnaha Matatini (TPM)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Te Pūnaha Matatini is Aotearoa New Zealand's Centre of Research Excellence for complex systems, hosted by the University of Auckland. It operates as a national network bringing together researchers from institutions across New Zealand to apply complexity science to major interconnected societal challenges.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Extremely High (Thematic). The centre is explicitly transdisciplinary, bringing together expertise spanning data, computational, environmental and social sciences and working with communities as partners in research. Its work addresses interconnected challenges including climate change, human and environmental health and social equity, with partnerships extending across universities, research institutes, government and other organisations.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Highly developed transdisciplinary research model, but centred on complex-systems research rather than university-wide interdisciplinary strategy. Its primary role is to conduct and enable collaborative research around complex problems, rather than systematically sharing how universities structure, incentivise and sustain interdisciplinarity across their institutions. This leaves space for GHEIN to provide a broader institutional and cross-sector higher-education perspective.

4.6 Summary

The following matrix maps each network against GHEIN's three co-designed themes for 2026–2027.

GHEIN Theme	APRU	AUN	CliMigHealth	AUA	ASAIHL	NITRO	FEA	TPM
Global institutional best practice	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	○
Best international collaboration	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
AI as accelerator of science	●	○	○	●	○	○	○	●

● Active coverage ● Partial or incidental ○ Not covered

No existing network in the APAC landscape comprehensively addresses all three of GHEIN's emerging themes. While international collaboration is well represented, there is comparatively limited focus on the systematic sharing of institutional best practice and the role of AI as an accelerator of interdisciplinary science. Existing initiatives also tend to be either regionally bounded, institution-specific, or centered on particular research themes.

5. Ecosystem Mapping: Existing Networks in Europe

This section maps existing networks relevant to interdisciplinary research in Europe. Research into the interdisciplinary network ecosystem in Europe suggested that the region has one of the most mature collaboration ecosystems globally, with universities participating simultaneously in regional partnerships, pan-European university alliances, and global research networks. While these structures create strong foundations for collaboration, comparatively few focus specifically on the institutional governance, evaluation and leadership of interdisciplinary research. There are also improvements that can be made for AI integration. This section provides a structured landscape analysis of each network to identify where GHEIN can add value.

5.1. 4EU+ Alliance

Attribute	Details
Overview	Alliance of eight public, research-intensive European universities spanning a broad geographic area from the Mediterranean to the Baltic. Focuses on building a comprehensive European university through cooperation in education, research, innovation and service to society, organised around thematic Flagships.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. 4EU+ Flagships are the basis for interdisciplinary cooperation in research, teaching and innovation, supporting joint projects, study programmes, conferences, doctoral and student activities, and summer/winter schools around shared societal themes.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Alliance-specific and primarily focused on collaboration between member universities. Less focused on comparative global learning about the institutional governance of interdisciplinarity, evaluation of centres and institutes, or AI as a cross-regional accelerator of science.

5.2. CHARM-EU

Attribute	Details
Overview	European University alliance built around a Challenge-driven, Accessible, Research-based and Mobile model. Focuses on innovative higher education, mobility, inclusion, sustainability and transformation of university practice, supported by its research and innovation arm TORCH.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. CHARM-EU and TORCH explicitly promote transdisciplinary, challenge-driven research addressing global sustainability challenges, with work on common R&I agendas, good practice, open science, citizen science, stakeholder engagement and joint SDG-driven research challenges.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Strong model for challenge-led European collaboration, but concentrated within a specific alliance and sustainability-oriented transformation agenda. GHEIN can add a broader global comparison of governance models, institutional incentives, impact measurement and AI-enabled interdisciplinarity.

5.3. Circle-U

Attribute	Details
Overview	European University Alliance founded in 2020, connecting nine research-intensive universities. Focuses on collaboration in education, research and innovation to contribute to more sustainable, democratic and healthy societies, with associated partners across Europe.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. Circle-U runs interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research sandpits and collaborative research activities that bring researchers from diverse fields together to develop projects around societal themes such as democracy, sustainability and health.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Project-generation and alliance-collaboration focused. It supports interdisciplinary activity, but does not primarily address the institutional science of interdisciplinarity: centre governance, funding architecture, research leadership models, comparative data or AI as a strategic research accelerator.

5.4. CIVIS – Europe's Civic University Alliance

Attribute	Details
Overview	European civic university alliance of 11 universities with a strong civic and societal mission. Focuses on education, research, mobility and civic engagement around major societal challenges through thematic academic hubs.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. CIVIS hubs are cross- and interdisciplinary thematic research and education areas structured around health, cities and mobility, climate/environment/energy, digital and technological transformation, and society/culture/heritage.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Challenge-led and European alliance-based. CIVIS creates interdisciplinary research and education opportunities for its members, but is not designed as a global senior-leadership network for institutional best practice, comparative governance, research security, or AI-enabled science strategy.

5.5. COST Actions (European Cooperation in Science and Technology)

Attribute	Details
Overview	European Cooperation in Science and Technology is a funding organisation for research and innovation networks. It funds COST Actions: bottom-up research networks, normally lasting four years, that connect researchers and innovators across Europe and beyond.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong at the project/network level. COST Actions are explicitly interdisciplinary research networks that bring together academia, SMEs, public institutions and other stakeholders around topics chosen by researchers, supported through meetings, training schools, short-term exchanges and networking activities.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Excellent mechanism for building research communities, but not a university institutional governance network. COST funds topic-specific networks; it does not focus on how universities design interdisciplinary structures, manage centres, evaluate success, or use AI to identify and govern emerging interdisciplinary frontiers.

5.6. Council for European Studies (CES) Research Networks

Attribute	Details
Overview	Membership-led organisation supporting European Studies, with programmes including conferences, publications, fellowships, awards, grants, public lectures and research networks. Although US-based, it has a strong transatlantic and European studies orientation.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate within European Studies. CES explicitly supports multidisciplinary research on Europe and hosts research networks that connect scholars across disciplines, generations and national borders in areas such as culture, political economy, migration, health, gender, law, memory and social movements.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Field-specific and scholar-facing. CES strengthens interdisciplinary European Studies, but not university-wide research leadership practice, institutional design, centre governance, cross-regional university comparison, or AI as an accelerator.

5.7. EELISA

Attribute	Details
Overview	Founded under the European Universities Initiative, EELISA brings together 10 leading higher education institutions across Europe. It focuses on bridging engineering, technology, natural sciences, and social sciences to address societal challenges and define a common model for the modern "European Engineer."
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. Interdisciplinarity is embedded through challenge-based "EELISA Communities" and collaborative research/innovation frameworks (such as EELISA-InnoCORE). It integrates engineering and STEM disciplines with social sciences and humanities around key themes like digital transformation, the green transition, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals
Key Gap for GHEIN	EELISA provides an exemplary framework for challenge-driven European collaboration and engineering education. GHEIN can effectively complement these strengths by expanding the scope to a global, cross-regional scale—offering senior research leadership (VPR-level) peer learning, comparative institutional governance, interdisciplinary research evaluation models, and strategic AI-enabled discovery

5.8. EUTOPIA European University

Attribute	Details
Overview	European University alliance focused on creating an open, inclusive and challenge-led model of higher education and research. Its work includes connected communities, innovation challenges, research fellowships and collaboration across member campuses.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. EUTOPIA creates opportunities for academic communities to engage across campuses and disciplines, supports innovation challenges involving researchers from multiple fields, and has supported fellowships in interdisciplinary areas such as materials engineering, data and intelligence, health, sustainability, and welfare and inclusion.

Key Gap for GHEIN	Alliance-based and programme-focused. EUTOPIA enables interdisciplinary collaboration, but GHEIN can provide a more systematic global forum on institutional governance, research leadership, centre evaluation, cross-regional partnership models and AI-enabled science strategy.
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5.9. League of European Research Universities (LERU)

Attribute	Details
Overview	A network of leading research-intensive universities that engages in policy, advocacy, position papers and shared learning on the research university model. Focuses on research excellence, European research policy, innovation, doctoral education and the role of universities in society.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate to strong at the policy and institutional-practice level. LERU has published directly on implementing interdisciplinarity in research-intensive universities, including strategies, structures, incentives and challenges for inter- and transdisciplinary research.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Policy and research-intensive university focused, largely European. It offers valuable institutional insight, but not a dedicated global operating network for VPR-level peer learning, data pooling on interdisciplinary centres, cross-regional implementation comparison, or AI as a specific accelerator of science.

5.10. The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities

Attribute	Details
Overview	Network of 23 leading European research-intensive universities across 17 countries. Focuses on strengthening the voice of research-intensive universities in European research, innovation and higher education policy, and contributing evidence to strategic policy discussions.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Moderate. Member universities address major scientific and societal challenges and The Guild has engaged with the future of European universities, research-led education and collaborative research policy. Interdisciplinarity appears through policy positions and member practice rather than as a dedicated operational programme.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Primarily policy-facing and European. Not focused specifically on the governance and operational conditions that allow interdisciplinary centres and institutes to thrive, nor on global cross-regional learning or AI-enabled discovery across disciplines.

5.11. Una Europa

Attribute	Details
Overview	Alliance of 11 leading research-intensive European universities seeking to create a university of the future through deeper transnational cooperation in research, education and societal outreach. Focus areas include cultural heritage, sustainability, data science and AI, Europe and the world, One Health and future materials.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Strong. Una Europa describes its focus areas as inherently interdisciplinary and designed to bring together experts from a wide range of fields. It supports seed funding, thematic

communities and cross-disciplinary collaboration, including areas such as One Health, sustainability and data science/AI.

Key Gap for GHEIN

Strong European alliance for interdisciplinary collaboration, but limited to its member ecosystem. GHEIN can complement it by focusing globally on institutional best practice, research leadership, governance frameworks, impact measurement, research security/reciprocity and AI as an accelerator of science across regions.

5.12. Summary

The following matrix maps each network against GHEIN's three co-designed themes for 2026–2027.

GHEIN Theme	4EU+	CHARM	Circle	CIVIS	COST	CES	EELISA	EUTOPIA	LERU	The Guild	Una Europa
Global institutional best practice	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●
Best international collaboration	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
AI as accelerator of science	●	●	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●

● Active coverage ● Partial or incidental ○ Not covered

No existing networks in the region have full coverage of all themes of focus for GHEIN, and while AI appears in some networks, this is usually a softer link as it appears as a theme or project area rather than a shared institutional research-strategy focus.

The networks above are illustrative rather than exhaustive. Other European universities also participate in a range of regional, thematic and global partnerships such as GW4, the Coimbra Group, and other mission- or geography-led alliances. Many provide valuable platforms for collaboration and knowledge exchange, though interdisciplinarity is typically one objective among several institutional priorities.

A small number of networks, such as WUN, already operate globally, but their focus remains on facilitating collaborative research activity rather than systematically governing interdisciplinary research.

6. Ecosystem Mapping: Existing Networks in Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

This section maps existing networks relevant to interdisciplinary research in the MENA region. GHEIN members in the MENA region place particular value on ongoing member communication and will prioritise network expansion over the coming months. The identification of barriers currently hindering interdisciplinary research will also be critical, as well as diversifying the stakeholders that the network is able to engage with. Industry representation, for example, will be a future consideration.

6.1 Association of Arab Universities

Attribute	Details
Overview	Established in 1964 to facilitate greater cooperation between universities across the Arab states. Focuses on setting the direction for quality improvement, transformation, and addressing of common research challenges across the Middle East higher education sector.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Poses a six-goal plan for 2019-2030, where Goal 3 stipulates “promote and facilitate the direction towards transformational learning and multi-disciplinary approaches within universities” grounded in the development of different competencies relating to social and economic development.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Broad and comprehensive network which acknowledges the importance of interdisciplinary research, but does not focus solely on it – GHEIN gives interdisciplinary working prominence, specificity, and a forum for member exchange.

6.2 Arab-German Young Academy

Attribute	Details
Overview	Group of young scholars from 23 countries across the Middle East, and Germany, to foster joint research projects, grounded in common regional challenges and long-term scientific partnership. Members are early-career researchers, participating within 3 to 10 years of achieving their PhD.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Members from different academic backgrounds come together to devise interdisciplinary approaches to problem areas and are empowered to represent their fields within interdisciplinary proposal development. The network recognizes that complex challenges require perspectives from multiple academic areas.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Narrow focus on early-career researchers with a specific Middle East-Germany connection – GHEIN broadens this focus to the institutional level, and attempts to bring perspectives and expertise from researchers at all career stages together.

6.3 EUMEDCONNECT

Attribute	Details
Overview	Enhancing digital infrastructure to facilitate academic collaborations, connecting universities in Middle East with GEANT (the European data network for universities). 11 partners in the Middle East, 5 partners in Europe. Funded by European Union. Focuses on digital connectivity for collaboration.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Interdisciplinary working implicit in digital connectivity bringing different disciplines together, but activities unspecified.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Has a regional-specific focus with countries in the EU and low membership – GHEIN will seek to diversify beyond this by bringing all regional chapters together via the Global Advisory Board.

6.4 Arab States Research & Education Network (ASREN)

Attribute	Details
Overview	Fostering collaboration across the Arab states through infrastructure, technology and support services. 9 national research networks, as opposed to individual universities. Co-founded by European Union, with range of partners. Focuses on “e-infrastructures” and high-speed data connectivity.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Low activity, unspecified.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Focus on digital services, infrastructure and high-speed data connectivity in research collaboration, but strategic view is limited – GHEIN may provide an opportunity to leverage these assets for interdisciplinary uses.

6.5 Consortium for the Advancement of Science & Technology

Attribute	Details
Overview	Professional association based in the UAE, bringing universities from across the region together through support services and international events. Members unknown. Focuses on training, professional development, and research publication.
Interdisciplinary Activity	Low activity, implied – through exchange programmes and funding grants.
Key Gap for GHEIN	Focus on service provision and events, but an absence of interdisciplinarity at the strategic level which GHEIN will seek to address.

6.6 Summary

The following matrix maps each network against GHEIN's three co-designed themes for 2026–2027.

GHEIN Theme	AAU	AGYA	EMC	ASREN	CAST
Global institutional best practice	○	○	○	○	○
Best international collaboration	○	◐	◐	◐	◐
AI as accelerator of science	●	●	◐	◐	○

● Active coverage ◐ Partial or incidental ○ Not covered

No existing networks in the region cover all themes of focus for GHEIN, although a common focus on digital infrastructure, data-sharing and connectivity may imply readiness to consider AI as an accelerator of science that is unique to the existing networks in this region. While international collaboration is prevalent, it is mostly limited to Europe.

Conclusion

The picture across all six regions is consistent. Each region has networks doing valuable work, and between them they cover parts of GHEIN's three themes, though none brings all three together. The pattern of where coverage is strong and where it is thinner holds from region to region.

International collaboration is the best represented of the three. It is most often collaboration within a region or within an alliance, and where partnerships extend further they tend to follow established routes, such as those between African and European institutions, rather than connecting regions to one another. Exchange between the networks themselves is less common.

Institutional best practice appears in individual cases, particularly where a network has published on the subject or an institution has built a model worth learning from, but it is rarely a network's organising purpose. Networks operating at senior level tend to focus on policy, while those focused on practice tend to sit at researcher or administrator level. The institutional layer between the two, where decisions about structures, funding and evaluation are made, has less dedicated attention.

The institutional layer, where decisions about structures, funding and evaluation are made, has less dedicated attention.

AI is the theme with least coverage. It does not feature in the networks mapped in Latin America and the Caribbean or in Sub-Saharan Africa, and elsewhere it appears as a research theme or project area rather than as a question of institutional research strategy. Members have consistently identified it as one of the areas where interdisciplinary practice is changing fastest, which makes it the clearest opportunity for GHEIN to contribute.

These findings shape GHEIN's task. The first year has established what institutions across the six regions are doing, where their circumstances differ and where their goals converge. The work that follows is to turn that into evidence universities can act on, and to build routes through which practice can move between regions that currently have few ways of learning from one another.

Appendix: List of Members

This list includes all members of the Global Higher Education Interdisciplinary Network (GHEIN) as of August 2026.

Regional Chapter: North America		
Member Name & Role	University	Location
CHAIR Susan A Martinis Senior Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	U.S.
Lara Ferry Vice President for Research	Arizona State University	U.S.
Jennifer M Jackson Vice Provost for Research	California Institute of Technology	U.S.
Jeannette M Wing Executive Vice President for Research	Columbia University	U.S.
Scott Huettel Dean of Research	Duke University	U.S.
Julia Kubanek Vice President for Interdisciplinary Research	Georgia Institute of Technology	U.S.
Kristina Öhrvall Assistant Vice President	McGill University	Canada
Ian Waltz Vice President for Research	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	U.S.
Sumitrajit Dhar Vice President for Research	Northwestern University	U.S.
Peter Schiffer Dean for Research	Princeton University	U.S.
Dan DeLaurentis Executive Vice President for Research	Purdue University	U.S.
David Studdert Vice Provost and Dean of Research	Stanford University	U.S.
Kathy Yelick Vice Chancellor for Research	University of California, Berkeley	U.S.
Rachel Segalman Vice Chancellor for Research	University of California, Santa Barbara	U.S.
Roger Wakimoto Vice Chancellor for Research	University of California, Los Angeles	U.S.
Lisa Sundstrom Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation	University of British Columbia	Canada
Arthur Lupia Vice President for Research and Innovation	University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	U.S.
Cynthia Carnes Vice President for Research	University of Minnesota	U.S.
Timothy Chan Associate Vice President and Vice Provost	University of Toronto	Canada
Mari Ostendorf Vice Provost for Research	University of Washington, Seattle	U.S.

Regional Chapter: Europe		
Member Name & Role	University	Location
CHAIR Dirk Leuffen Vice Rector for Research, Innovation and Impact	University of Konstanz	Germany
Sarah Hainsworth Pro Vice Chancellor (Research)	Durham University	UK
Şahap Armağa Tarım Vice Rector for Research	Hacettepe Üniversitesi	Turkey
Lütfiye Durak Ata Vice Rector of Research	Istanbul Technical University	Turkey
Funda Yağcı Acar Vice President for Academic Affairs	Koç University	Turkey
Ender Cigeroğlu Vice Rector of Research	Middle East Technical University	Turkey
Cenk Serhan Özverel Member of Rectorate Research Committee	Near East University	Northern Cyprus
Gulacsi Laszlo Vice Rector of Research	Obuda University	Hungary
Alberto Guadagnini Vice Rector of Research	Politecnico di Milano	Italy
Elke Mueller Director of Research	RWTH Aachen University	Germany
Rachel Shanks Interdisciplinary Director for Social Inclusion and Diversity	University of Aberdeen	UK
Jordi Garcia Vice Rector of Research	University of Barcelona	Spain
Guy Poppy Vice President for Research	University of Bristol	UK
Katie Atkinson Associate Pro Vice Chancellor for Interdisciplinary Research	University of Liverpool	UK

Regional Chapter: Asia-Pacific		
Member Name & Role	University	Location
CHAIR Christian Wolfrum Deputy Provost	Nanyang Technological University	Singapore
LEUNG Mei Yee Kenneth Vice President (Research)	City University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Peter Enticott Pro Vice Chancellor – Research Planning and Governance	Deakin University	Australia
Johnny Poon Associate Vice President – Interdisciplinary Research	Hong Kong Baptist University	Hong Kong

Naveen Salins Director of Research	Manipal Academy of Higher Education	India
Hui-Yu Tsai Director of the Boron Neutron Capture Therapy Center	National Tsinghua University	Taiwan
Kuancheng Huang Chief Director of the Center for Institutional Research and Data Analytics	National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University	Taiwan
Anne-Laure Mention Global Business Innovation Enabling Impact Platform Director	RMIT University	Australia
Christopher Chao Senior Vice President – Research and Innovation	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong
Danang Sri Hadmoko Vice Rector for Research, Business Incubation and Collaboration	Universitas Gadjah Mada	Indonesia
Stephanie Ma Vice President for Research	University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Mike Ryan Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research	University of Sydney	Australia

Regional Chapter: Latin America and Caribbean		
Member Name & Role	University	Location
CHAIR Neil Hernandez Gress Research Director	Tecnológico de Monterrey	Mexico
Werner Kraus Jr. Vice Rector for Research and Innovation	Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina	Brazil
Fernando Reis Vice Rector for Research	Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais	Brazil
Claudia Ulloa Vice President for Research and Development	Universidad de Concepción	Chile
Sofía Valenzuela Águila Directorate for International Relations		
Constanza Greig Internationalization Unit Coordinator		
Diana Elizabeth Rivera Rogel Vice Rector for Research	Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja	Ecuador
Raul Narciso Guedes Vice Rector for Research and Graduate Studies	Universidade Federal de Viçosa	Brazil
Eduardo Ismodes Cascón Vice Rector for Research	Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú	Peru
Edson Botelho Vice Rector for Research	Universidade Estadual Paulista	Brazil
Karina Lilia Pasquariello Mariano Advisor to Dean's Office		
Carlos Eduardo Cerri	Universidade de São Paulo	Brazil

Deputy Provost for Research		
Ana Cecilia Escudero Atehortúa Vice Rector for Research	Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana	Colombia

Regional Chapter: Middle East and North Africa		
Member Name & Role	University	Location
CHAIR Tarek Elkhooly Vice President for Postgraduate Studies, Research and International Relations	Delta University for Science and Technology	Egypt
Ahmed Elshafei Director of Global Ranking, Internationalisation & Ranking Excellence	Al-Azhar University	Egypt
Haitham Hmoud, Alshibly Vice President for Accreditation & Quality Assurance Affairs	Al-Balqa Applied University	Jordan
Waleed Sweileh Vice President for Research	An-Najah University	Palestine
Mohammad Al-Najjar President's Assistant for Scientific Research	Applied Science Private University	Jordan
Muna Barakat Dean of Scientific Research & Graduate Studies		
Amany Abdullah Abdelaziz Eldiasty Head of International Rankings & Research	Damietta University	Egypt
Saida El Mendili Director, Scientific Research Support Center	Ibn Tofail University	Morocco
Yoosef Abushark Vice Dean of Quality & Academic Accreditation	King Abdulaziz University	Saudi Arabia
Abir Alharbi Deputy Vice President – Planning and Development	King Saud University	Saudi Arabia
Abdullah Elias Director for Rankings, Sustainability, and Institutional Advancement	Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University	Saudi Arabia
Maali Alabdulhafith Dean of Scientific Research & Libraries	Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University	Saudi Arabia
Yousra Abdul Alsaheb S. Aldeen Director of Graduate Studies	University of Baghdad	Iraq
Suhail Najm Abdullah Vice Chancellor for Scientific Research		
Othman Alzahrani Dean of Graduate Studies & Scientific Research	University of Tabuk	Saudi Arabia
Khawla Salah Khashan	University of Technology Iraq	Iraq

Vice President for Scientific Affairs & Postgraduate Studies		
Hanene Boussi Vice President Delegated to Openness, Sustainability & Rankings	University of Tunis El Manar	Tunisia

Regional Chapter: Sub-Saharan Africa		
Member Name & Role	University	Location
CHAIR Palesa Mothapo Director – Research Support and Management	Nelson Mandela University	South Africa
Olukayode Akinyemi Vice Chancellor	Aletheia University, Ago-Iwoye	Nigeria
Joseph Chuma Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research, Development and Innovation	Botswana International University of Science & Technology	Botswana
Humphrey Adebayo Director of Research, Innovation and Discovery	Covenant University	Nigeria
Akanni Akinyemi Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research, Innovation and Development	Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife	Nigeria
Therina Theron Senior Director Research and Innovation	Stellenbosch University	South Africa