INGENIUM
European University

Deliverable 6.1

Regulations of the INGENIUM Research School

Work package 6 – INGENIUM for research

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Definitions & Acronyms

Definition/Acronym (in alphabetical order)	
Cohort (cycle)	It refers to a group of doctoral students who begin their program in the same academic period, typically once a year
Co-supervision agreements	The Single Award/Co-supervision PhD model grants one degree under a formal or informal joint supervision agreement, with one examination, low integration, and supervision led by the principal institution with a co-supervisor from a partner university, who may be granted adjunct status.
Co-tutelle arrangements	The Co-tutelle PhD model awards two degrees through a formal agreement for an individual student, involves a single examination at the lead institution, joint supervision, medium integration, and requires the student to spend defined periods at both institutions, with the lead university coordinating the process.
Double PhD Programs	They grant two separate degrees following a formal agreement for an individual student, includes two examinations (one at each institution), involves a joint supervision panel, moderate integration, and requires time at both universities, with each institution coordinating its own defense process

ECTS Credits	They are a standard across the European Higher Education Area used to measure the workload required to complete course modules
INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystems	The research training environment hosting INGENIUM doctoral programs. They ensure quality training, sharing of good research practices, access to infrastructure, and collaboration across partner institutions, emphasizing interdisciplinary research and mobility
INGENIUM Research School	A decision-making body within the INGENIUM Alliance that coordinates Ph.D. education and promotes research collaboration. It supports doctoral candidates with training, mobility opportunities, and skill development while ensuring academic excellence and alignment with sustainability goals
Joint PhD Programs	They award a single degree with a parchment bearing both institutions' logos and signatures, based on a formal multi-year inter-institutional agreement, a joint supervisor panel, high integration, and requires at least one year of study at each partner university, with external approvals from both sides
Multiple PhD programs	They involve collaboration between at least two INGENIUM partner universities. These programs may result in one or more Ph.D. degrees, include joint supervision, research mobility, and contribute to interdisciplinary and international doctoral education. They are endorsed and reviewed by the INGENIUM Research School Board

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document outlines the regulation governing the INGENIUM Research School, a key initiative within the INGENIUM European Alliance. The regulation defines the operational framework, objectives, and governance structure that guide the activities of the Research School. A key component of this regulation concerns the requirements and procedures for establishing Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. Programmes (see Section 6.1). The primary aim of this regulation is to establish a comprehensive and coherent system that promotes doctoral education, fosters interdisciplinary collaboration, and supports the development of high-quality research programmes across all partner institutions.

The INGENIUM Research School is designed to facilitate the creation and assessment of joint, double, and multiple Ph.D. programs, along with co-supervision agreements. Through these programs, the Alliance seeks to strengthen the links between research, education, and innovation, with a focus on academic excellence, the professional development of doctoral students, and the promotion of mobility and international cooperation. By encouraging the exchange of knowledge and expertise, the Research School enhances the overall quality and impact of doctoral education within the Alliance.

These regulations also define the responsibilities and decision-making processes for the INGENIUM Research School Board (IRSB), which oversees the implementation of doctoral programs and ensures alignment with the strategic goals of the Alliance. The IRSB is tasked with endorsing Ph.D. program proposals, reviewing supervisory frameworks, and ensuring that programs meet the highest academic standards while also addressing societal challenges, sustainability, and research integrity.

In addition to academic and research objectives, the regulations emphasize the importance of providing doctoral students with specialized training, transferable skills, and opportunities for mobility across institutions. The INGENIUM Certificate, awarded upon successful completion of additional activities, serves as a recognition of the program's high standards and enhances career prospects for doctoral graduates.

Overall, these regulations aim to create a collaborative and innovative environment within the INGENIUM Alliance, ensuring that doctoral education is not only academically rigorous but also responsive to the evolving needs of society, industry, and global research challenges.

DESCRIPTION, METHODOLOGY AND DISCUSSION OF THE FINAL OUTCOME

Initially, the INGENIUM Research School regulations focused on joint Ph.D. programs and cross-institutional collaboration. However, it became evident that Doctoral Ecosystems offered a more sustainable and inclusive approach, laying the foundation for joint programs. Doctoral Ecosystems represent the thematic and structural environments within which INGENIUM Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. Programmes, as well as co-tutelle arrangements, are developed and implemented. Each ecosystem brings together partner institutions, research infrastructures, and doctoral schools around shared scientific domains, ensuring coherence, quality assurance, and interdisciplinary collaboration across the Alliance.
Importantly, the Doctoral Ecosystems are also environments where research-based educational offers for doctoral students — such as microcredentials for transversal skills or specific research topics — are developed and delivered (for example, by research groups or expert academics). They also foster technology transfer, innovation, and interaction with industry partners, ensuring a high-quality doctoral preparation that combines scientific excellence with practical relevance and societal impact.

Methodology Applied
The methodology involved reviewing and integrating the doctoral regulations of all partner institutions, especially addressing the challenge of differing regulations across institutions, particularly those unable to award the Ph.D. title. This led to the development of Doctoral Ecosystems as a means of overcoming these differences and creating a more unified structure. Additionally, a common vocabulary was developed (see appendix) to ensure clarity and consistency across the partner institutions. The shift from joint programs to Doctoral Ecosystems required a comprehensive revision of the regulations to accommodate a wider variety of doctoral initiatives and promote collaboration.

Constraints Faced
The primary constraint was the significant variation in regulations across partner institutions. These differences posed challenges in developing a unified framework for doctoral education. Doctoral Ecosystems were introduced as a solution to bridge these differences, enabling a more flexible and inclusive approach.

Pathway Towards Results
The regulations were updated to incorporate Doctoral Ecosystems, which allowed for greater flexibility in supporting a range of doctoral initiatives. This revision fostered collaboration, mobility, and the integration of various doctoral programs across institutions.

Results
The revised regulations led to the establishment of Doctoral Ecosystems, fostering a collaborative and sustainable research environment that integrates education, research, and innovation.

Discussion of the final outcome, in compararison to the DoA objectives (including, IF ANY, deviations from the DoA and contingency plans/measures activated.

The final outcome of the INGENIUM Research School regulations aligns with the key objectives of the DoA, particularly in fostering collaboration, mobility, and sustainability in doctoral education. The establishment of Doctoral Ecosystems created a more inclusive and flexible framework for research training, integrating education, research, and innovation. The shift from joint Ph.D. programs to Doctoral Ecosystems was a key change to address regulatory differences among partner institutions. Contingency measures included revising regulations, creating a common vocabulary (see appendix), and ensuring inclusivity for non-Ph.D. granting institutions. In conclusion, the updated regulations successfully created a sustainable, inclusive doctoral framework while meeting the DoA's objectives.

Art I. Introduction

This regulation delineates the foundational structure for the INGENIUM Research School, a pivotal body within the INGENIUM European Alliance (henceforth referred to as "the Alliance"). The Research School serves as an essential hub for the assessment of cooperative Ph.D. programs, including joint, double, multiple Ph.D. programs, and co-supervision agreements. It also promotes collaborative research and research-based education, cultivates academic excellence, and facilitates the mobility and cooperation between various research groups across the Alliance. The primary objective of the INGENIUM Research School is to create a dynamic and innovative environment that encourages interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange among researchers, thus strengthening the knowledge square within INGENIUM and reinforcing the links between research, education, innovation and service to society. By bringing together expertise from various partner universities, the INGENIUM Research School aims to enhance the quality and impact of doctoral education and research-based learning within the Alliance.

Furthermore, through the INGENIUM Research School, doctoral researchers have access to a wide range of resources, opportunities, and support mechanisms. These include specialized training programs, workshops, seminars, and networking events that promote the acquisition of advanced research skills, critical thinking, and effective communication. The INGENIUM Research School also fosters the development of transferable skills, such as project management, leadership, and entrepreneurship, to prepare researchers for diverse career paths in academia, industry, and beyond. These resources, opportunities, and support mechanisms will be available to all doctoral researchers pursuing any PhD program delivered at the partner institutions. However, priority will be given to doctoral researchers enrolled in Joint/Double/Multiple INGENIUM PhD programs and other collaboration models within the INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystems. The INGENIUM Research School actively encourages mobility and cooperation between research groups within the Alliance. It facilitates exchanges, collaborations, and joint research projects among researchers, fostering a vibrant and interconnected research community.

The INGENIUM Research School serves as a catalyst for advancing doctoral education and research excellence within the Alliance. Through its initiatives and support mechanisms, the INGENIUM Research School aims to develop a new generation of highly skilled researchers equipped to tackle complex societal challenges and drive progress in their chosen areas of study.

Art II. Composition of the INGENIUM Research School Board

The establishment of the INGENIUM Research School Board (IRSB) within the Alliance serves as a cornerstone for effective governance and guidance of the research education programs within the Alliance, as well as the overall enhancement of research-based education. It plays a key role in endorsing PhD programs, candidate applications, and the supervision of INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystems. The Board will be composed of a representative of each of the partner Universities.

Section 2.1. Membership

The Board shall include members with internationally recognized academic credentials and experience in doctoral supervision, as well as expertise in research policy and governance. To maintain the smooth functioning of the Board, each partner university nominates a faculty member with expertise in doctoral education and research. In case of the representative's absence, they have the option to delegate a colleague from their university who possesses the necessary expertise and knowledge to participate effectively. This provision ensures continuity and seamless operations even in situations of temporary absence or scheduling conflicts.

Section 2.2. Director

The Board appoints a director from among its members to lead and facilitate the meetings and activities of the Board.

2.2.a. Responsibilities of the director.

The director is responsible for ensuring that the objectives of the Board are met, and that discussions and decision-making processes are conducted in a fair and constructive manner. The role of the director encompasses the following responsibilities:

1. Presiding over meetings.
2. Setting the agenda and ensuring that all relevant topics are discussed.
3. Facilitating productive discussions and encouraging active participation from all members.
4. Promoting a collaborative and inclusive environment where diverse perspectives are valued.
5. Overseeing the implementation of decisions made by the Board and ensuring effective follow-up and monitoring.
6. Representing the Board in external meetings or events and serving as a liaison with external stakeholders.

2.2.b Election of the Director

The director is elected by a majority of the Board members every two years. This allows for the rotation of different members in this leadership role, enabling them to contribute to Director:

The Board appoints a director from among its members to lead and facilitate the meetings and activities of the Board.

2.2.c. Deputy director

Together with the director, a deputy director is also nominated. The deputy director acts on behalf of the director in case the director is not available.

Art III. Objectives and Aims

The INGENIUM Research School of the INGENIUM European Alliance is guided by the following objectives and aims:

Section 3.1. Promotion of synergies between research and the other higher education missions:

the INGENIUM Research School serves as a catalyst for fostering collaborative research by nurturing interdisciplinary approaches, facilitating knowledge exchange, and emphasizing the integration of education, research, and innovation.

Section 3.2. Academic Excellence:

The INGENIUM Research School is committed to maintaining the highest academic standards in doctoral education and research, based on disciplinary standards, accreditation requirements, and the specific goals and objectives of the doctoral programs or involved institutions. It aims to provide a stimulating and intellectually challenging environment that nurtures the development of critical thinking, research skills, and scholarly competence.

Section 3.3. Facilitation of Mobility and Cooperation:

The INGENIUM Research School plays a pivotal role in coordinating research cooperation and fostering the interlinkage between research and education. It places a special emphasis on the development of doctoral programs. Moreover, the INGENIUM Research School actively promotes and facilitates the mobility of doctoral students, as well as encouraging collaboration among research groups within the Alliance. It strives to facilitate exchanges, research visits, and joint activities among partner universities to cultivate a vibrant cross-pollination of ideas and foster synergistic collaborations.

Section 3.4. Contribution to Sustainable Development:

Research activities involving INGENIUM partners and supported by the INGENIUM Research School should align with Agenda 2030 principles, goals and targets as outlined by the United Nations. This ensures that the research contributes to the broader global agenda, addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges underpinned by a human rights approach.

Section 3.5 Professional Development of Doctoral Students:

The INGENIUM Research School supports the professional development of doctoral students by cultivating an impact-oriented research culture. The training provided within the Doctoral Ecosystems equips students with transferable skills, a robust understanding of research ethics, and principles of responsible conduct, while also emphasizing the identification of real-world challenges and the design of research that delivers meaningful outcomes. Additionally, the School facilitates opportunities for career exploration, interdisciplinary collaboration, and engagement with both academic and professional communities, fostering a broad network of connections and impact.

Art IV. Responsibilities of the Board

The INGENIUM Research School Board is entrusted with the following responsibilities:

Section 4.1 Definition of the core components of an INGENIUM doctoral program.

The Board defines the core components of a standard INGENIUM doctoral program and encourages initiatives that foster collaboration among partner universities and provide opportunities for academic exchange. It also fosters and supervises the development and delivery of high-quality, research-based educational activities. A strong focus is placed on the social impact of research, alongside the promotion of sustainability, ethics, and research integrity throughout the program development process.

Section 4.2 Endorsement of Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. program proposals within the INGENIUM doctoral ecosystems:

The Board is responsible for endorsing proposals for Joint, Double, and Multiple Ph.D. programmes, including co-tutelle arrangements, within the INGENIUM doctoral ecosystem. The IRBS shall only endorse programmes that align with the broader goals and strategic vision of the INGENIUM Alliance.

Section 4.3 Development and implementation of Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. programmes:

The Board is responsible for contributing to the development and review of policies, guidelines, and regulations pertaining to the Joint/Double/Multiple doctoral programs, as well as co-tutelle arrangements within the INGENIUM doctoral ecosystems. It ensures that the agreements established between the participating universities include the commitment to comply with the criteria set by the Alliance. The involved institutions bear the responsibility of ensuring that the Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. programs, as well as co-tutelle arrangements, meet national and local requirements.

Section 4.4 Composition of Doctoral Boards within INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystems:

The IRSB is responsible for ensuring that the Doctoral Board in each INGENIUM doctoral ecosystem is constituted by experts representing all the disciplines involved within the ecosystem. Furthermore, the composition of each Doctoral Board must adequately represent all the participating INGENIUM universities, ensuring a balanced and inclusive approach to governance and decision-making. This ensures that the diverse academic perspectives and institutional priorities are effectively integrated into the development and implementation of Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. programs and co-tutelle arrangements.

Section 4.5 Doctoral Training within the INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystems:

The IRSB supports doctoral training within each ecosystem by endorsing the educational programs proposed by the respective Doctoral Boards. These Doctoral Boards are entrusted with fostering the excellence and impact of research training within their specific ecosystem. This process takes place at the start of each cycle (cohort), ensuring that the programs align with the strategic vision of both the Ecosystems and the INGENIUM Alliance.

Section 4.6 Review of Supervisors' list within each INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystem:

At the start of each doctoral cycle, the IRSB approves the list of Ph.D. supervisors proposed by the respective doctoral boards across the INGENIUM ecosystems. This process ensures alignment with INGENIUM's standards for high-quality mentorship and research support, fostering a conducive research environment for doctoral candidates.

Section 4.7 Accessibility of Research Infrastructures associated to each INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystem:

The IRSB maintains the list of research infrastructures associated with each doctoral ecosystem, as proposed by the respective doctoral schools, at the beginning of every cycle. This ensures that INGENIUM Ph.D. students benefit from facilitated access to these infrastructures. When necessary, the Board may propose general agreements to streamline and enhance access to research facilities across partner institutions.

Section 4.8 Excellence and Innovation in Ph.D. Programs:

Supervision of Cross-Ecosystem Activities. The IRSB proposes and advises cross-ecosystem activities for Ph.D. candidates, ensuring the integration of transversal training and interdisciplinary opportunities across partner institutions. The IRSB proposes and advises courses in areas such as sustainability, research ethics, innovation, technology transfer, interdisciplinary research, science communication, and teaching opportunities (including microcredentials). These programs are designed to equip candidates with essential skills for both their research and future careers. The IRSB proposes and advises these programs at the beginning of each doctoral cycle, utilizing online resources to ensure participation from all partner universities. Additionally, INGENIUM Senior Days is organized annually to facilitate research presentations, networking, and collaboration across the Alliance.

Section 4.9 Joint Research Groups.

The Alliance supports the establishment of joint research groups through competitive calls for applications, which will be open to groups of researchers from at least three INGENIUM partner institutions. These initiatives aim to promote collaborative research, research-based education, and cultivate academic excellence across the Alliance. Each call for application will provide detailed information on eligible activities, selection

criteria, the types of costs that can be funded, and the collaborative budget management procedures adopted by the participating institutions. Additionally, these calls will facilitate mobility and cooperation among various research groups within the Alliance. The INGENIUM Research School will approve the proposals. These research groups also have the potential to strengthen the integration of research and education within the Alliance.

CASE STUDY:

At the beginning of 2024, faculty and research staff from INGENIUM universities were invited to submit proposals for the creation and early development of INGENIUM Joint Research Groups. The aim of this initiative was to support innovative research and foster new collaborations among INGENIUM partners. A total of 20 projects were selected and received funding. At the end of the funding period, the project teams were offered additional support to develop research-based microcredentials derived from the outcomes of their collaborations. Twenty-five percent of the groups expressed interest in this opportunity, prompting a recommendation to include the development of research-based microcredentials as a deliverable in future calls.

Art V. Meetings and Decision-Making

Section 5.1 Meeting Frequency

The Board will meet at least twice a year to approve and oversee the PhD programs to be delivered each year, which seek the INGENIUM Certificate as an outcome at the successful conclusion of the PhD. The Board will also discuss and make decisions on matters related to the activities organized and supervised by the INGENIUM Research School. The Board meetings will be convened with at least a six- week notice period.

Section 5.2. Meeting agenda

The meeting agenda, which outlines the topics to be discussed and any materials to be reviewed, will be circulated to all Board members at least 14 days prior to the scheduled meeting to allow them to contribute effectively during the meeting and offer valuable insights on the agenda items. The meeting Agenda will be proposed by the director of the INGENIUM Research School Board and will be approved by all members at least one week in advance. Ad-hoc online meetings are allowed when urgent matters may appear.

Section 5.3 Quorum

For the validity of the Board meetings, the presence of representatives from at least 80% of the partner universities is required.

Section 5.4 Decision-Making

The Board endeavors to achieve consensus for decisions whenever possible. If disagreements arise, voting procedures may be invoked, with each partner university

being allocated one vote. Decisions are finalized if they receive the agreement of the absolute majority (50%+1) of the entire alliance, not just the majority of those present.

Art VI. Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. programs within the INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystems

The INGENIUM doctoral ecosystems are designed to strengthen collaboration among partner universities in the development of joint doctoral programs. Their flexible structure enables institutions from different countries to cooperate in diverse formats, adapting to national regulations, legal requirements, and institutional priorities. Through this adaptable framework, the ecosystems foster a range of educational opportunities, including co-supervision pathways and the awarding of the INGENIUM Certificate, thereby promoting international mobility, shared supervision, and academic excellence.

Five specific ecosystems have been prioritized, focusing on key research areas:

1. Artificial Intelligence

https://ingenium-university.eu/doctoral-ecosystems/artificial-intelligence-ecosystem/

2. Sustainable Development

https://ingenium-university.eu/doctoral-ecosystems/sustainable-development/

3. Well-being, Health, and Technology

https://ingenium-university.eu/doctoral-ecosystems/well-being-health-technology/

4. Natural Sciences

https://ingenium-university.eu/doctoral-ecosystems/natural-sciences/

5. Intercultural Studies

https://ingenium-university.eu/doctoral-ecosystems/intercultural-studies/

Section 6.1 Requirements and procedures for establishing Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. programs

1. **Procedure to initiate an INGENIUM Doctoral program:** Staff intending to initiate a new Joint, Double, or Multiple Doctoral Programme should begin the preparatory process between September and October of the academic year preceding the intended launch. Institutions wishing to propose a new programme must involve at least three partner universities. Between November and January, interested institutions are expected to formally submit their proposals, accompanied by a letter of commitment addressed to the IRSB. Each proposal must include the following key information:
    - The academic and institutional ecosystem in which the programme will be embedded

- The participating partner institutions
- A provisional title for the Doctoral Programme
- The proposed programme structure (Joint, Double, or Multiple degree)
- The accrediting institutions
- The institutions responsible for awarding the degree(s)
- The expected duration of the programme
- The anticipated funding model
- The estimated number of enrolled doctoral candidates

Once submitted, proposals will be reviewed and monitored by the IRSB, in collaboration with the Doctoral School of the relevant ecosystem. Support will be provided as needed to help each initiative progress toward a formal agreement and to ensure alignment with the broader strategic goals of the Alliance.

After this initial year—during which the most suitable accreditation framework is established with input from as many partner institutions as possible—each doctoral programme should be jointly promoted by all partners. Support mechanisms, such as co-financed fellowships, should also be put in place to facilitate implementation and attract doctoral candidates (see the CASE STUDY below).

2. **Duration of the Program:** The Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. program or co-tutelle arrangements should have a defined duration, taking into consideration the national rules of the proponing partners.
3. **Research Mobility:** The Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. program or co-tutelle arrangement should incorporate a provision for research mobility. This provision would encourage Ph.D. students to spend a minimum duration of three months in mobility settings. This mobility period will allow students to access specialized facilities, resources, and expertise relevant to their research projects. To facilitate transnational cooperation and address the additional costs associated with such collaborations, the Alliance offers, if available, support for mobility.
4. **Societal impact:** Doctorate programs are actively encouraged to establish collaborations with social or industrial partners. In line with the commitment to sustainability, Joint/Double/Multiple PhD programs or co-tutelle arrangements are expected to actively promote and prioritize sustainability in their research and educational endeavors. By doing so, these programs aim to cultivate a generation of scholars equipped to tackle global challenges and make meaningful contributions to a more sustainable future. Emphasizing sustainability within the Joint/Double/Multiple PhD programs aligns with the Alliance's broader goals of addressing environmental, social, and economic concerns through research and innovation.
5. **Joint supervision:** Each Ph.D. student enrolled in the Joint/Double/Multiple Ph.D. program or co-tutelle arrangement should have at least one primary supervisor and one co-supervisor from two different participating Universities and/or according to the rules applicable to individual universities. The supervisors should provide guidance, support, and ensure effective communication and collaboration between the partner universities. The names of the supervisors shall be specified in the individual annex.

6. **Home Institution**: One of the partner institutions shall be designated as the "home institution." The "home institution" of the doctoral program is the institution with which the doctoral program is officially affiliated. The remaining institutions shall serve as "host institutions."

   CASE STUDY:

   In 2024, a shared commitment to innovation in wellbeing research brought together three INGENIUM partner institutions: University “G. d’Annunzio” (UdA, Italy), Munster Technological University (MTU, Ireland), and South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences (XAMK, Finland). Driven by a common interest in interdisciplinary, technology-based approaches to physical and mental health, the partners began designing the first INGENIUM joint PhD programme.

   A key challenge emerged early: XAMK, as a university of applied sciences, is not authorized to award PhD degrees under Finnish law. However, it could actively contribute through supervision, infrastructure, and funding. After reviewing institutional and national regulations, the consortium chose UdA as the lead for accreditation. This enabled a double-degree structure between UdA and MTU, with XAMK participating as a non-degree-awarding partner offering fellowships and research mobility.

   The formal accreditation process began in March 2025 under Italian regulations. Following a round of evaluation and revisions, the programme was approved in July 2025, and the first call for applications was launched in August 2025.

   The resulting PhD programme, “Innovative Strategies for Wellbeing” (https://ingenium-university.eu/research/joint-doctorate-programmes/joint-doctoral-programme-in-innovative-strategies-for-wellbeing/), is a flagship initiative within the INGENIUM Joint Educational Offer. It addresses global challenges in physical and mental wellbeing, prevention, and public health.

   Key Features:

   - Double PhD degree jointly awarded by UdA and MTU
   - INGENIUM Certificate, co-signed by all ten alliance partners
   - International co-supervision and research mobility
   - Access to advanced labs at partner universities
   - Strong collaboration with healthcare and industry

   With the first cohort starting in 2025–2026, the programme lays a strong foundation for growth. More INGENIUM partners are expected to join, further expanding its reach and interdisciplinary impact. The “Innovative Strategies for Wellbeing” PhD exemplifies how strategic collaboration within European alliances can overcome institutional barriers and deliver innovative, transnational solutions to today’s health challenges.

Section 6.2 Procedures for doctoral students.

All the procedures are published on the INGENIUM website.

1. **Procedure to apply for a co-supervision:** https://ingenium-university.eu/apply-for-a-doctoral-co-supervision-subpage/

   For doctoral candidates seeking co-supervision, the procedure follows a different trajectory. The student must first be enrolled in a doctoral programme according to the standard admission regulations of their host institution. In consultation with their primary supervisor, they then search for a potential co-supervisor among those available on the Ingenium platform and fill out the Co-Supervision form. The IRSB will forward the submission directly to the proposed co-supervisor. At this stage, they provide details on the expected start date of mobility and the funding arrangements that will support it. Upon completion of the mobility phase, the student may contact the IRSB at irsb@ingenium-university.eu to apply for a Co-Supervision INGENIUM Certificate. A digitally signed certificate confirming the successful implementation of the co-supervision will be issued.

2. **Procedure to apply for a Joint/Double/Multiple Doctoral Program:** https://ingenium-university.eu/apply-for-joint-doctoral-programme-subpage/

   Candidates who wish to apply for admission to a doctoral programme within the network may do so through the annual calls published on the Ingenium doctoral ecosystem webpages. Each programme is listed both on the general portal and, where applicable, on ecosystem-specific pages, providing direct access to the local application procedures of the respective host institution. These listings also include contact details for academic or administrative staff who can offer guidance. Once the relevant programme is selected, applicants must follow the official admission process of the host university by submitting their dossier through its designated application portal. Successful admission may later serve as the entry point for further mobility or co-supervision arrangements under the Ingenium framework.

3. **Procedure to apply for the INGENIUM Certificate:** https://ingenium-university.eu/apply-for-the-ingenium-certificate/

   The application process for the Ingenium Certificate begins with the doctoral student verifying their compliance with the eligibility criteria set out on the Ingenium website, which typically include the completion of cross-ecosystem course credits, participation in mobility and co-supervision activities, active engagement and presentation during the 10 Days of INGENIUM, and a documented contribution to the development of microcredentials. Once the student confirms compliance with these conditions, they proceed to complete and submit the official online application form to the IRSB, attaching all relevant documentation to demonstrate the fulfillment of the required activities. The IRSB then evaluates the submission, and upon approval, formally issues the

Ingenium Certificate to the candidate as recognition of their successful completion of the program components.

These activities are selected from an available catalogue and generally include, for example:

- ECTS credits earned through INGENIUM seminars on topics such as transversal skills, sustainability, impact generation, engaged research, ethics, research integrity, and project management.
- ECTS credits earned through the INGENIUM Doctoral Ecosystem's specialized educational offerings (e.g., micro-credentials, workshops).
- Collaboration with, or a research stay at, industrial partner institutions.
- A research stay abroad, typically lasting between 3 to 12 months.
- Participation in the 10-day INGENIUM event, as well as presentations at other international conferences.
- Delivery of research-based teaching through micro-credentials.

Doctoral students have the flexibility to choose activities that align with their academic and professional aspirations.

The INGENIUM Certificate reflects the high-quality standards of the program and serves as a valuable additional qualification alongside the PhD title. Its objective is to enhance career prospects in academia, industry, and the job market at large.

Art VII. Amendments and Review

This regulation for the INGENIUM Research School Board of the Alliance may be amended or revised as necessary by mutual agreement among the partner universities. Any changes to the regulation will be communicated to the Board members in a timely manner

Annex I. Collaborative PhD models

Available on the next page.

	Number of Degrees	Parchment	Inter-institutional agreement	Regulations	Examination	Minimum Time Period spent in each University	Supervisors	Integration	External Approval Required for Activation of Programme (city, state, federal)	Coordinating institution / comments
Joint	1 One award title	Bespoke parchment with both logos & signatures – one conferring ceremony	Formal multi-year agreement between Universities – intended to cover a	Bespoke regulations	1	1 year	Joint supervisor panel from both Institutions	High		Both
Coutelle model[1234])	2 Two award titles possible	University parchment (possibly with partner Institution mentioned) and separate conferring ceremonies at both universities	Formal agreement covering an individual student – single examination specified	Recruiting (Lead) Institution with some possible addenda to satisfy host regulatory requirements	1 (at recruiting Institution)	Specified in agreement	Joint supervisor panel	Medium		Recruiting (lead) coordinator is the institution where the PhD student most of the time is / host is the other institution, which is visited by the PhD student
Double with two defenses ("classical double")	2 Two award titles possible	University parchment (possibly with partner Institution mentioned) and separate conferring ceremonies at both universities	Formal agreement covering an individual student – double examination specified	Both	2	Specified in agreement	Joint supervisor panel	Moderate		Each institution is coordinator for the defense held at her
Multiple			See "classical double" + k							

[1] University Paris Saclay, The framework and the individual cotutelle agreements | Université Paris-Saclay (universite-paris-saclay.fr)
[2] University of Turku, Cotutelle Agreement | University of Turku (utu.fi)
[3] Mcgill University, Joint PhD/Cotutelles | Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies - McGill University
[4] University of Padua, Double and Joint degree programmes | Università di Padova (unipd.it)

Single Award /co-supervision	1	1	Formal/informal agreement for joint supervision	One	1	N/A	Partner supervisors may be given adjunct faculty status	Low		Principal supervisor from coordination institution, co-superviser from partner institution