



SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths

FAUL includes already a rich and broad set of Master and Doctorate programmes already defined **in accordance with the EU standards**.

Existing curricula is varied and especially provided with a large set of elective chairs covering several knowledge fields of design, architecture and urbanism.

Among the several fields of specialization, **Architectural Rehabilitation and Conservation, and Computation applied to Architecture, Urbanism and Design** constitute particularly strong fields available at FAUL.

There are **several international collaborations** both through the existing **research projects**.

There are already some mandatory and elective chairs focused on environment and climate change.

FAUL has already **technical english lectures** to support 2nd and 3rd cycle. The income students can also profit from portuguese language lectures.



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Weaknesses

The existing Master and Doctorate **programmes need reform** in order to **better accommodate the focus on climate change and environment**.

There is **few previous experience** between the partners **regarding research collaboration**. There are **no coordination strategies** regarding this matter so far.

Although the Urbanism programme already contains some chairs approaching the theme of climate change, the Architecture programme is still very poor in this regard.

Lack of specialized researchers in climate change and CO2 emission reduction, particularly in the field of Architecture.

Some professors still resist giving lectures in english.



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Opportunities

The **mobility programmes** now active at FAUL (**ERASMUS, TEMPO, INFINITY and AUSMIP programmes**) can and have been compensating the decrease in the **number of students** due to construction crisis population ageing.

The existing structure of elective chairs can easily contribute to the needed curricula reform by enhancing the focus of elective chairs on the theme of climate change.

Public awareness regarding Environmental issues is growing.

Joint degrees will raise expectations and attractiveness enhancing mobility, knowledge exchange and collaboration.

The RETHINK common **discussion and materials platform, based on its website**, may help supporting or over-coming the expected threads regarding the use of the english language. The platform may be used to gather **pre-prepared supporting materials for lectures** making available to all involved professors a **large library of shared materials**.

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Threats

Government policies are cutting fundings on education due to the economic crisis.

Government regulations are raise many **bureaucratic problems**.

Difficulties in developing private enterprise collaborations in research and higher education in general.

Current fundings prioritize engineering and medicine.

Difficulties in contracting new specialized staff due to government policies. Basically Faculties are enticed not to make changes in their staff or otherwise simply to reduce staff.

Communication difficulties may arise from foreign students with difficulties regarding the use of the english language. Similar difficulties may also arise from Professors unexperienced in giving lectures in english.

Curricular reform a highly polemical and bureaucratic process.