



#UNIVERSITÉSENGHOR

université internationale de langue française
au service du développement africain

Where Africa's future is being shaped

February 2026

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Université Senghor is an international French-language university dedicated to African development and a direct operator of the Francophonie. Based in Alexandria, it welcomes up to 200 students per cohort for a two-year Master's programme offered in nine specialisations covering the fields of Culture, Environment, Management, Health and Risk Management.

All programmes share a common core in project management and are designed to equip graduates with the skills required to design, manage and evaluate development projects, programmes and public policies in their countries of origin. They address cross-cutting needs common to the entire African Francophone space.

Students at Université Senghor are young professionals holding a bachelor's degree and at least one year of professional experience. They are selected through a highly competitive three-stage admissions process (application review, written examination and interview), with selection carried out at the end of each stage.

Students come from all French-speaking African countries and from Haiti, with a small number originating from Europe or Asia. One hundred students are fully funded by the University, while the others receive partial financial support.

In 2019, the University adopted a gender policy to promote equal participation of women and men in the Master's programme offered in Alexandria.

In Alexandria, Université Senghor provides students with a unique threefold intercultural experience, combining the diversity of student backgrounds, teaching staff drawn from across the Francophone world, and immersion in a region of Africa with a rich Arab-Muslim cultural heritage.

Above all, it provides high-quality training of international standard, operating under the European LMD (Bachelor–Master–Doctorate) system, and recognised by CAMES and by the Supreme Council of Universities in Egypt.

Upon graduation, the “Senghorians,” now more than 4,200, join one of the national alumni associations, all linked to an international network (AIDUS), whose Executive Secretary—appointed for a six-month term—serves on the University's Board of Trustees.

Many of them now occupy senior and top-level positions—such as ministers, national directors,

secretaries-general, agency heads, or senior officials within United Nations agencies and major non-governmental organisations—thus contributing to the development of their countries and of Africa as a whole.

The University's Status

The University was created by [decision of the Heads of State and Government](#) meeting in Dakar in 1989 at the Francophonie Summit, granting it the status of an independent organization with an international mandate.

This status was recognized by Egypt through [a presidential decree](#) registered in the official gazette in 1990 and [a headquarters agreement](#).

Its governance falls under [an international association under Belgian law](#) whose [statutes](#) define the roles and missions assigned to the General Assembly of members and the Board of Directors. The Rector, who leads the University, is appointed by the Board of Directors following an international call for applications and according to the provisions of the [University's general regulations](#).

A recently updated general presentation brochure is available in [French](#) and [English](#) on the university's website.

Senghor Campuses

Starting in 2012, the University began establishing partnerships across the African continent to deploy Master's degree programs aimed at working professionals: the Senghor Campuses.

The Senghor Campuses now constitute a network of over 50 partner institutions in 17 countries, including 15 in Africa, one in Europe, and one in Asia, with which Senghor University has co-designed specific Master's programs to address clearly identified capacity-building needs not covered by national training offerings. The University thus delivers more than 30 Master's degree programs for approximately 300 new participants each year.

Certificate Programs

Since 2017, the University has also significantly expanded its training offerings by introducing university diplomas and certificate programmes, delivered online

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or in-person, often in hybrid formats. These programmes are designed using innovative approaches that emphasise the acquisition of skills relevant to the labour market and its ongoing evolution. Among the most successful programmes are certificates in:

- Gouvernance et Management des Organisations de la Société Civile (CGMOSC).
- Gestion de l'urgence et des situations de crises (CGUSC).
- Montage de projets intégrant les changements climatiques (CMPCC).

These programs are implemented by the departments, the Development and Entrepreneurship Directorate, as well as the University's Center for Learning Design and Educational Innovation. The latter also manages several fully online Master's and university degree programs.

A Learning Organization

As part of its [2018-2021 strategic plan](#), the University undertook three internal transformations: a pedagogical revolution, a digital revolution, and a managerial revolution.

In terms of pedagogy, curricula were completely redesigned to focus on the acquisition of cross-cutting skills that enhance students' employability - particularly creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking. A long end-of-program internship was also introduced, providing a springboard to new professional opportunities.

On the digital front, the University adopted the Google Workspace solution to provide students with a lifelong email address and a collaborative workspace, and to promote intensive collaborative working practices among staff.

In terms of management, beyond fostering cloud-based collaborative work across all University activities, the internal organisation was redesigned to strengthen collaboration between departments, services, and directorates. In addition, new transversal directorates were created to support this approach.

Access to:

- the University's [organizational chart](#)
- the [2022-2025 strategic plan](#)
- the [2026-2030 strategic plan](#)

A new headquarters in Borg El Arab

Recognising that the previous headquarters of Université Senghor could no longer support its growth or reflect its reputation for excellence, the Egyptian government initiated the construction of a new campus. Designed to accommodate 400 students - double the current capacity - it features modern sports facilities, a large auditorium, student residences, and housing for visiting professors.

The University moved into its new premises in October 2025.



Nighttime overview of the new Université Senghor campus

Funding

Université Senghor receives financial support from several states and donor governments: France, Canada, Switzerland, the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, Québec, and Egypt, listed in descending order of their financial contributions. Egypt also provides the University's headquarters. These states are represented on the University's Board of Trustees and General Assembly.

In 2024, their contributions accounted for approximately 66% of the University's annual budget (i.e., €3.3 million of a total €5 million), with the balance covered by tuition fees from all University programmes and project-based grants provided by certain new partners (development agencies, international organisations, certificate programmes, etc.).