



Global Capacity-building in Student Mobility Data Collection and Dissemination

**APEC University Associations
Cross-Border Education Cooperation Workshop
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Agenda

- Global student mobility: key data measurements
- Measurement challenges locally and globally
- What do we know and what do we not know about data collection and dissemination?
- Where does this leave us in thinking about data collection and dissemination in the 21st century?



About the Institute of International Education

- Administers the Fulbright Fellowships on behalf of the U.S. Department of State & 200 other programs
- Serves 18,000 students, teachers, scholars, and professionals in 175 countries annually
- Runs the IENetwork: a global resource for 4,500 professionals at 1,100 member colleges & universities
- Collects and disseminates data on international student mobility via *Open Doors* and *Project Atlas*



Project Atlas[®]

Measuring Global Student Mobility

A community of national exchange agencies & researchers who share accurate, comparable and timely student mobility data





Why Do We Care About Accurate Data Collection and Dissemination?

- Improve mechanisms for attracting students and inform institutional and national strategy
- Provide resources for student success
- Enhance student and staff security
- Leverage existing networks and build new ones
- Data-driven decision-making and evidence value to stakeholders



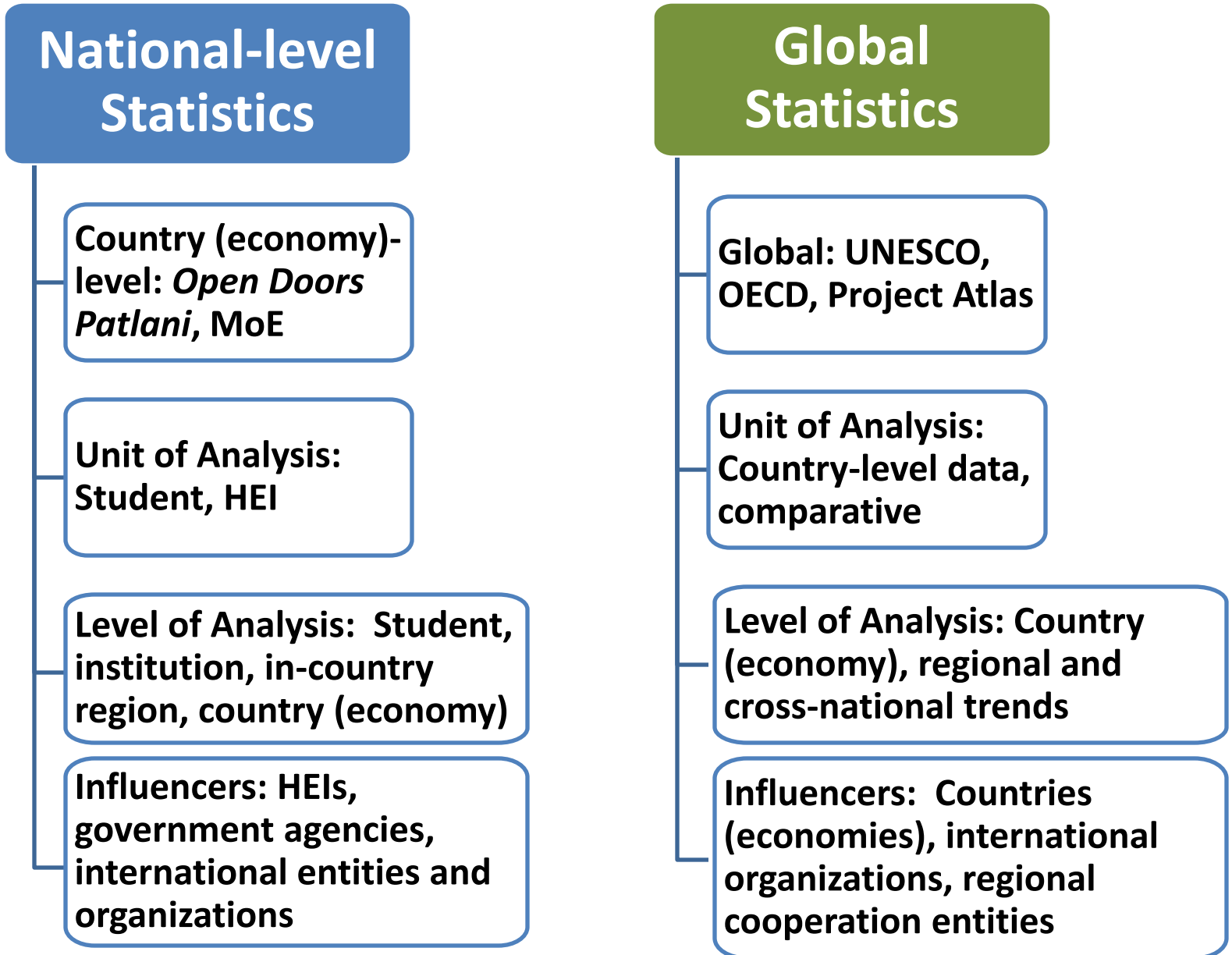
“In God we trust...



...all others must bring data.”

-W.Edwards Deming

Current Approaches to Measuring Mobility





What are the Data Collection Challenges at the Local Level?

- Mandate for data collection
- Data collection infrastructure
- Funding and support mechanisms for capacity building
- Definitions: getting everyone to speak in the same “data language”



What are the Data Collection Challenges at the Global Level?

- Respondents: a different context in each country (economy)
- Mandate and funding: support for data collection and capacity building globally
- Definitions: is everyone thinking and speaking in the same “data language”?



Mobility Data Collection in the 21st Century: A Moving Target?

More students are engaged in more kinds of international education experiences than ever before:

- Dual and joint degrees
- Transnational education
- Online education
- Non-award experiences: internships, volunteering, research, study tours, language courses, etc.



What we know

What we know
we don't know

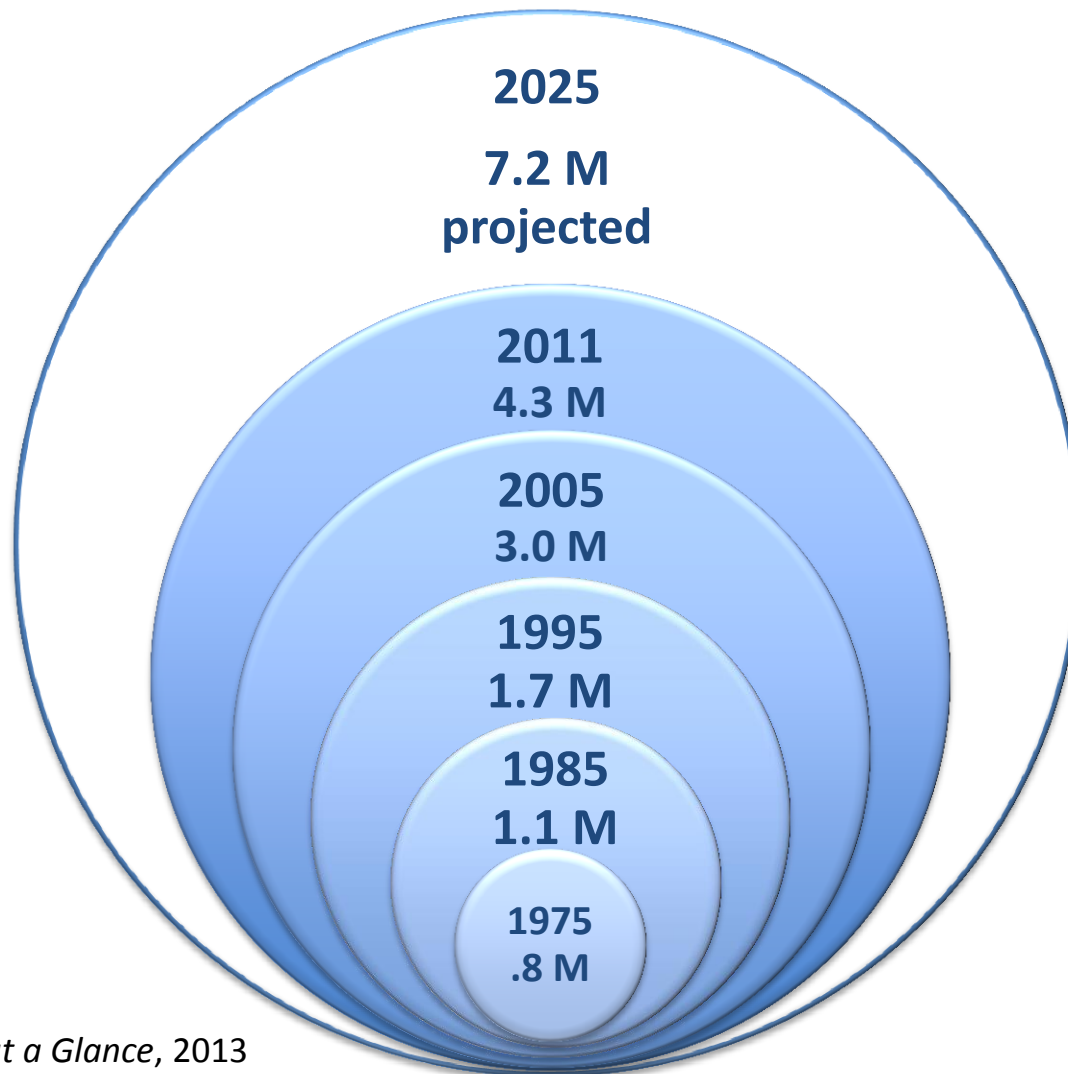
Data

What we don't
know

What we will
never know

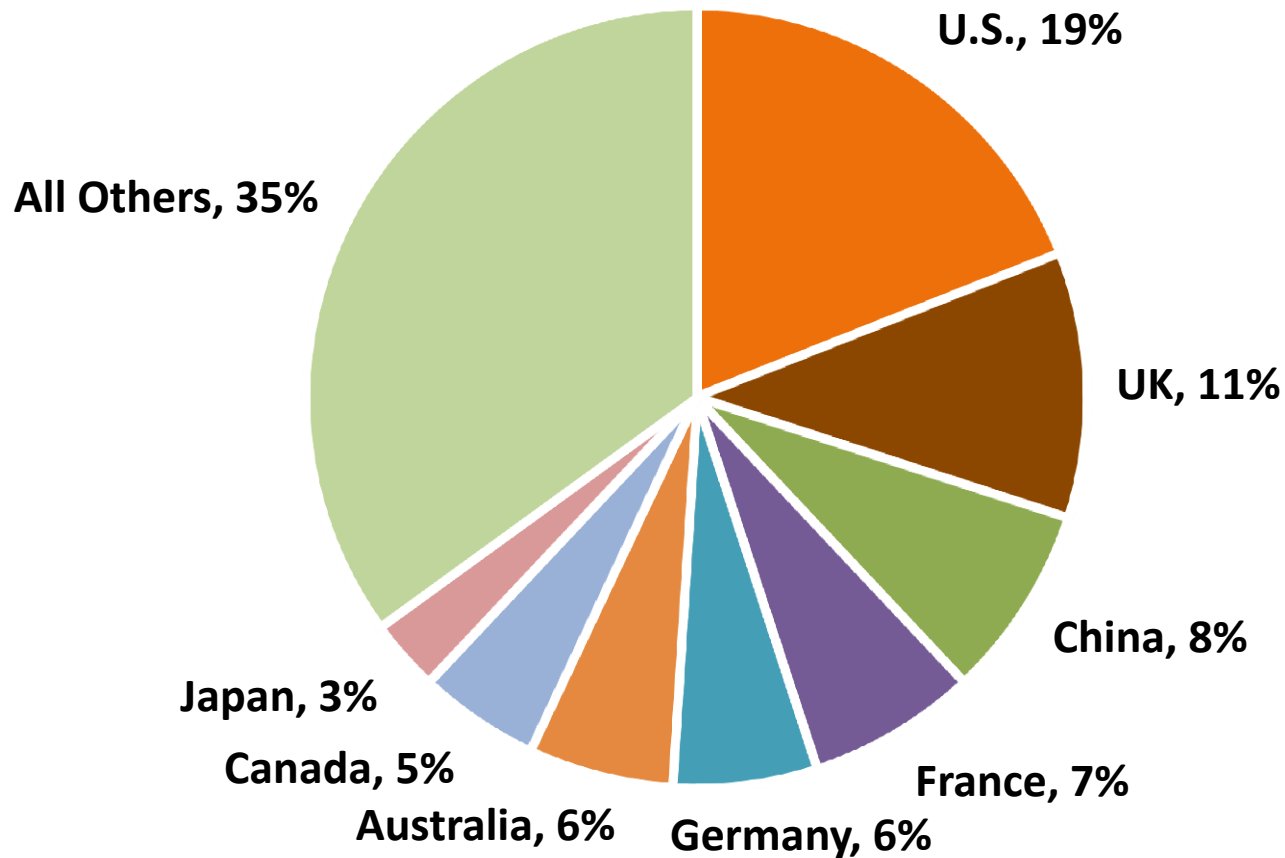


What We Know: Student Mobility is Here to Stay





Destinations of Globally Mobile Students, 2013



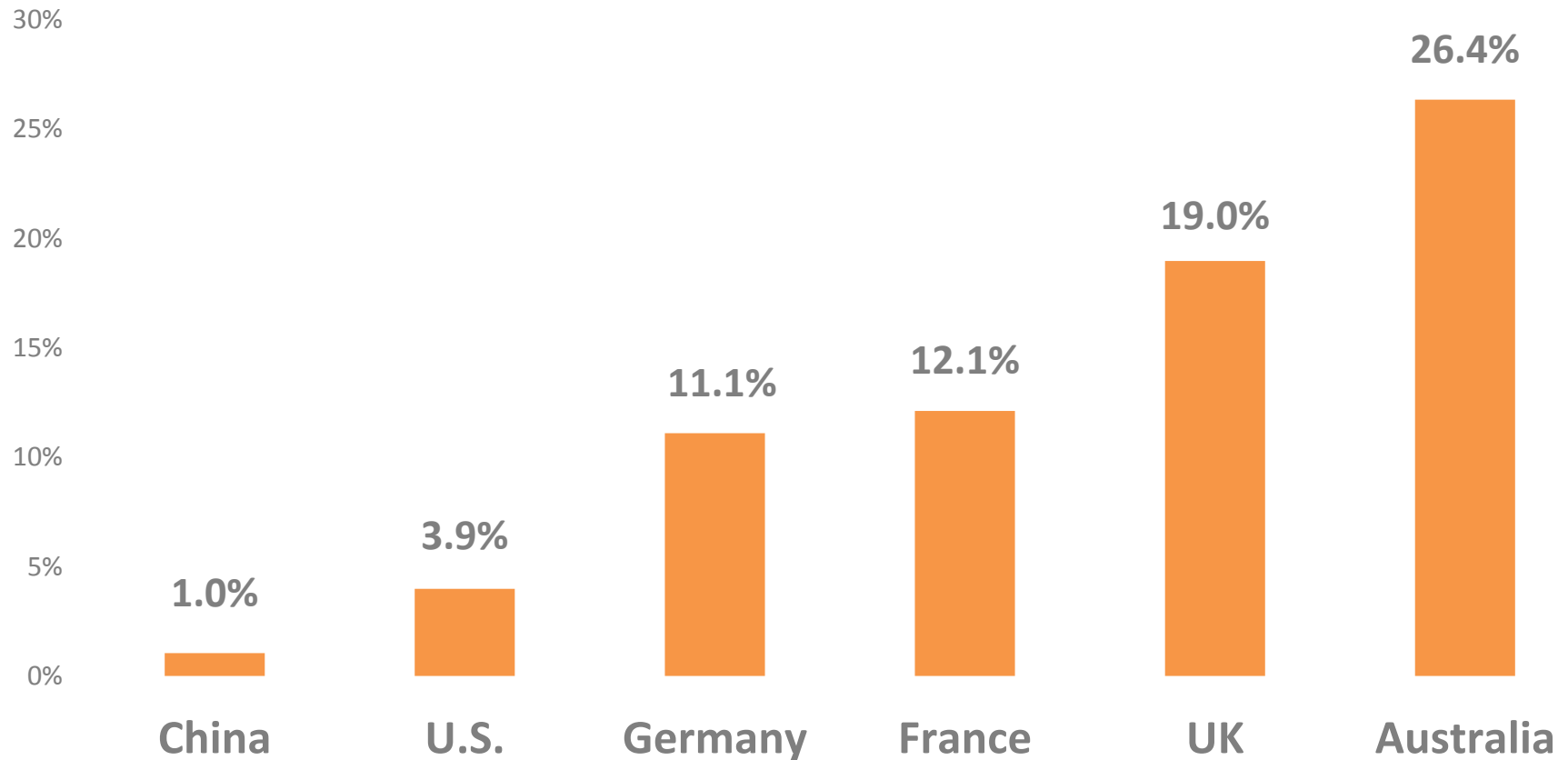


Who is Going Where?

	2011 Total Int'l Students	2012 Total Int'l Students	% Change	Top Places of Origin
United States	764,495	819,644	7.2%	China , India, South Korea
United Kingdom	480,755	488,380	1.6%	China , India, USA
China	292,611	328,330	12.2%	South Korea , USA , Japan
France	284,945	289,274	1.5%	Morocco, China , Algeria
Germany	252,032	265,292	5.3%	Turkey, China , Russia
Australia	242,351	245,531	1.3%	China , Malaysia , India
Canada	193,647	214,955*	11.0%	China , South Korea , India
Japan	138,075	137,756	-0.2%	China , South Korea , Taiwan



International Enrollment as a Percentage of Total Higher Education Enrollment, 2012





So, What Do We Know?

- (Precise) global, national, institutional data – but is the data accurate?
- Definitional conformity – at the expense of collecting comprehensive data?
- Broad consensus on the need to collect more timely, accurate, comprehensive data



What we know

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we don't know

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What We Know That We Don't Know...Yet

Total U.S. HE Students Participating in Education Abroad Activities

283,332



46,000+



11,800+



341,000+

**Study
abroad for
academic
credit**

**Full
degrees
abroad**

**Non-credit
work,
internships &
volunteering**

**Total U.S.
education
abroad**



What We Know That We Don't Know

Students in higher education are not exclusive to cross-border education cooperation. There is little or no data on:

- High school students
- Researchers, academics, teachers
- High skilled migration
- Educational tourism
- Global partnerships, dual and joint degree programs, and other institutional level international collaborations
- Mobility without movement: online education, etc.



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What We Don't Know



Ras Al Khaimah
Campus, UAE





(Research) Questions Abound

- How are online and ‘off shore’ education programs around the world changing the landscape of higher education and student mobility?
- What new models and modes of education will impact cross-border education in the 21st century? How will this change our quest for universal definitions?
- With the increasing proliferation of ‘big’ data, will we fill in the missing gaps in global mobility measurement?



What we know

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What Will We Never Know?

- **Perennial challenges around data collection in an ever-changing cross-border education environment**
- **The future: predictive analysis is often unreliable**
 - Economic volatility and political disruptions affect student mobility
 - New players in the field: state and private actors
- **Impacts of global mobility on individuals, institutions, economies, and nations**
 - Or are there ways in which we can measure impact?



Data Collection and Dissemination for the 21st Century

- Identifying stakeholders and responsible entities: institutional, national, and global levels
- Defining mobility and reaching consensus (or not!) on what we care to capture:
 - Enrollments vs. commencements; tally counts vs. snapshot data collection
 - Award/degree mobility, credit/study abroad mobility, etc.
 - Reconciling different levels of education and types of institutions
- Collaboration on data use and dissemination



Some Final Considerations

- Data helps us understand contexts but can be taken out of context
- Qualitative research on cross-border education to complement ‘hard’ data
- This is the era of access to data and global knowledge: ensuring mutual benefit



Online Resources

opendoors

iie.org/opendoors

Data on academic mobility to & from the U.S.

Project Atlas[®]

Atlas of Student Mobility | iie.org/atlas

iie.org/projectatlas

Data on global student mobility

Center for

Academic Mobility Research

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Quick alerts on international education news & trends

 Generation
Study Abroad[™]
IIE | Opening Minds to the World[®]

generationstudyabroad.org

A campaign to double the number of American students studying abroad by the end of the decade