

The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education



External Evaluation Report (REE) for the procedure for obtaining a maintaining accreditation (MAC) of Doctoral Study Domain

Higher Education Institution/Education Provider Organization:	"Ion Ionescu de la Brad" Iași University of Life Sciences of Iași
Doctoral School:	Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences
Doctoral Domain:	Engineering and Management in Agriculture and Rural Development
The objective of the external evaluation:	Maintaining accreditation (MAC)



Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role	Signature
1.	Prof.dr. Tiberiu IANCU	Expert evaluator	
2.	Prof.dr. Judit OLAH	International Expert	
3.	Ștefania Maria ARMĂȘELU	PhD Student Evaluator	

I. Introduction

Type of evaluation: Periodic evaluation of the field of doctoral studies

Evaluation period: 02-03 June 2026

Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel:

- Prof.univ.dr. Tiberiu IANCU - Expert evaluator, USV "King Michael I" from Timișoara
- Prof.univ. dr. Judit OLAH - International Expert, University of Debrecen, Hungary
- Ștefania Maria ARMĂȘELU - PhD Student Evaluator, National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest

IULS is a public higher education institution with over a century of tradition in Romanian agricultural higher education (1912). The current name was adopted through Government Decision (G.D.) no. 540/13.05.2021 (O.J. no. 509/17.05.2021), through the transformation of the former University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "Ion Ionescu de la Brad" (USAMV) of Iași. The institution is accredited by ARACIS for organizing doctoral university studies ([Ministry of Education Order no. 5840/2021](#)).

Defined through the [University Charter](#), in line with the National Strategy for Higher Education in Romania and with the Bologna, Copenhagen and Lisbon Declarations, the mission of IULS is advanced education and research, knowledge generation through research, development, innovation and technology transfer, initial and continuing higher-level professional training, and the promotion of academic excellence nationally and internationally ([Institutional Strategic Plan 2024–2028](#)).

The institution operates on the basis of the Constitution of Romania, of Law no. 199/2023 and of its own [University Charter](#), in accordance with the principles of university autonomy, academic freedom, public accountability, quality assurance, equity, managerial efficiency, transparency and student-centered education. The governance structures are: the [University Senate](#) (75% academic staff, 25% students), the [Administrative Council](#), the [Council for Doctoral University Studies \(CSUD\)](#), the Doctoral Schools' Councils, and faculty and department Councils and Offices. The legal representative of the IOSUD is the Rector, elected by referendum. The [University Ethics Commission \(CEU\)](#), the [Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance \(CEAC\)](#) and the [Quality Assurance Department \(DAC\)](#) operate on the basis of their own regulations approved by the Senate. Doctoral studies are carried out in accordance with the [IOSUD Regulation](#).

Comprises four faculties – Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Resources and Food Engineering (IRAA), and Veterinary Medicine – with their associated teaching and research departments, research institutes, centers and laboratories, two doctoral schools ([Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences – SDSI](#) and [Doctoral School of Veterinary Medicine – SDMV](#)), a didactic station, veterinary clinics, a library, and technical-administrative services.

IULS organizes all Bologna university cycles: 16 bachelor's programs in 9 fields; 24 master's programs in 6 fields; 42 doctoral specializations in 5 accredited fields. Through the Department for Teaching Staff Training (DPPD), psycho-pedagogical training programs for the teaching profession (levels I and II) are delivered, alongside post-university and post-doctoral programs.

The structural elements of the University were accredited through G.D. no. 568/1995 (Law no. 88/1993). IULS underwent institutional evaluation by ARACIS in 2007, 2012, 2018 and 2023, consistently being awarded the qualification of "high degree of confidence". Following the most recent external evaluation, through [Ministry of Education Order no. 5840/2021](#), IULS is an institution accredited for the organization of doctoral university studies.

The **Engineering and Management in Agriculture and Rural Development (IMADR)** doctoral study field has been operating since the establishment of the [SDSI](#), having been authorized by ARACIS through [MENCS Order no. 5382/2016](#). Following the 2021 external evaluation, the ARACIS Council decided **the maintenance of accreditation** ([Decision no. 98/25.11.2021](#)), a decision confirmed through [Ministry of Education Order no. 5840/17.12.2021](#).

The portfolio of doctoral specializations has expanded significantly through the integration of 7 new specializations (Financial and Accounting Management in Agriculture, Environmental Management, Agricultural Management, Rural Development, Audit and Sustainability, Agri-food Economics, Human Resources Management in Agriculture), reaching 11 active specializations. The body of [titular doctoral supervisors](#) has been strengthened by the addition of 5 new habilitated academics, bringing the total to 8 doctoral supervisors in the field. The organization and delivery of programs has been adapted to the new legislative framework (Law no. 199/2023; [Ministry of Education Order no. 3020/2024](#); [G.D. no. 962/2024](#)). The interim (progress) evaluation report submitted to ARACIS in 2024 was validated through ARACIS Council Decision no. 177/H/03.07.2025, which confirms the full implementation of the recommendations issued during the previous procedure.

The mission is to conduct advanced scientific research and provide higher-level professional training, preparing specialists for research careers and the labor market; the title of Doctor of Science corresponds to level 8 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) ([SDSI Regulation](#)). Objectives include raising study quality to an internationally comparable level, promoting interdisciplinary and joint-supervision (co-tutelle) doctorates, attracting extra-budgetary funding, integrating doctoral candidates into the academic staff's research projects, and ensuring a competitive environment with equal opportunities for all candidates.

II. Methods used

In order to carry out the external evaluation report of the field of doctoral studies **Engineering and Management in Agriculture and Rural Development**, within IOSUD-USV Iasi, the following activities were carried out:

- Analysis of the Internal Evaluation Report of the doctoral field and the related annexes;
- Analysis of documents, data and information available on the university website (regulations, methodologies, strategic plans, annual reports);
- Verification of supporting documents regarding the activity of doctoral supervisors, doctoral students and scientific research results;
- On-site visit, which included the assessment of the infrastructure for doctoral activities (research spaces, library, laboratories, research centers, IT infrastructure);
- Meetings with the management of IOSUD, doctoral supervisors, doctoral students, graduates;
- Discussions with representatives of the socio-economic environment and institutional partners involved in research activities and doctoral collaboration.
- Meetings were held with representatives of the various structures of USV Iași, according to the visit calendar:
 - Commission for Evaluation and Quality Assurance at university level
 - Quality Assurance Department
 - The Ethics Commission (including with the student representatives of these structures).

III. Judgement on the extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled

DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity

Criterion A.1. Managerial and administrative structures and processes involving students and other stakeholders

Standard S.A.1.1. Organisational components and institutional processes

The HEI has organisational components in its structure, which function based on adequate competences, responsibilities, processes, and implementation procedures, and ensure an effective management system.

Indicator I.P.A.1.1.1	For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts:**

USV Iași, as a higher education institution (ÎS) accredited as IOSUD, organizes DSUD IMADR within the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences ([SDSI](#)), one of the two organizational components dedicated to the third cycle, together with the Doctoral School of Veterinary Medicine ([SDMV](#)). Each doctoral school is led by its own Council, and the academic architecture is structured by doctoral fields and specializations. The unitary functioning of these structures is ensured by an adequate management system, coordinated by the Council for Doctoral Studies ([CSUD](#)), subordinated to [the Board of Directors](#), according to [the USV Organization Chart](#). The activity of the components and the managerial system is carried out on the basis of a corpus of methodologies, regulations and procedures: [the University Charter](#), [the Organization and Functioning Regulations](#), [the IOSUD Regulation](#), [the SDSI Regulations](#) and the other documents annexed to the Charter, all periodically revised, under the conditions of the law. The election of persons with leading positions is made on the basis [of the Charter](#), the [Regulation on elections at IOSUD level](#), the [Election Methodology](#) and the procedures [POM.02.IULS](#), [POM.03.IULS](#), [POM.04.IULS](#), and the related records are [published](#) on the institution's website. The duties and responsibilities of each management position are defined by the [IOSUD Regulation](#), [the SDSI Regulation](#) and the Job Description.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

For the effective development of the IMADR doctoral study program, IOSUD-USV Iași benefits from an adequate managerial system, supported by organizational components whose functioning is based on methodologies, regulations and procedures updated periodically, in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary
The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.1.2. Stakeholder engagement

The HEI proves that it engages the relevant stakeholders in developing methodologies and regulations, as well as implementation procedures.

Indicator I.P.A.1.2.1	The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension* and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

* The faculty, department, subsidiary, extension - hereinafter "organisational components"

The institutional mechanism by which the opinions of members of the academic community and other stakeholders are incorporated into the process of adoption and revision of methodologies, regulations and procedures is formalized by the general procedure [PG.01.IULS](#). This requires, at each stage of elaboration, analysis or revision, a consultation structured on four levels: (i) the specialized committees of the Senate; (ii) the wider university community – students, teaching and research staff, auxiliary teaching staff, former members of the academic body and the alumni community; (iii) the departments directly involved (departments, doctoral schools, faculties, commissions); (iv) external stakeholders (potential employers, representatives of the economic, social and administrative environment). The resulting documents receive the approval of the Board of Directors and the approval of the Senate, after which they are disseminated to the beneficiary structures.

The operationalization of this mechanism is proven by: the legal representation of all categories of stakeholders (teachers, doctoral students, representatives of the socio-economic environment) in the decision-making and support structures: [Senate](#), [Board of Directors](#), [CSUD](#), [DAC](#) and the Council of the Doctoral School ([SDSI](#)); the same policy of representation in the committees with normative attributions: [Senate](#) committees, [CEAC](#), [CSUD](#); meeting records (convening notices, agendas, attendance lists, extracts from minutes) of CSUD meetings and doctoral schools dedicated to debating university regulations; [Quality Assurance Strategy 2024–2028](#), which incorporates the collected views into a plan of measures with explicit deadlines and responsibilities; [Senate decisions](#) approving the internal regulations resulting from the consultative process; [SDSI Activity Report](#); [The results of the opinion poll](#) applied to IMADR doctoral students, capitalized in proposals for improvement.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The evidence shows that, at the level of IOSUD-USV Iași, the opinions of the faculty and department members, as well as of the other stakeholders (doctoral students, socio-economic environment, alumni) are effectively taken into account in the process of adopting and reviewing the methodologies, regulations and application procedures.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. The material resources and optimisation of the use of the material resources

Standard S.A.2.1. Material resources

The HEI owns adequate movable and immovable assets to enable it to carry out the study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1	The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

USV Iași owns, under the law, the spaces necessary for the development of the PSUD IMADR, owned by the university and belonging to the public domain. Their endowment was ensured from its own revenues, from institutional research/development contracts and from the funds allocated by the Ministry of Education and Research ([Income and Expenditure Budget](#)), the institutional plans providing for the continuous modernization of the infrastructure.

The spaces for the educational process include their own amphitheaters equipped with modern equipment (video-wall, video projector, screen, blackboard, air conditioning, PC), as well as — at the level of DSUD IMADR — 9 laboratory rooms and 5 seminar rooms ([practice and research Laboratories Bases](#); [Teaching-research spaces](#); [Research infrastructure](#)).

The spaces for scientific research are based on an agricultural area of [11,825,484 ha](#), organized on own model farms (V. Adamachi, Ezăreni, Reditu etc.) that fully cover the technological flow and include experimental fields, collections of varieties/hybrids/breeds and technological systems for the main

livestock species, completed by the Teaching Station in continuous modernization. The doctoral research also benefits from the Research Institute for Agriculture and Environment (ICAM) — with phytotron, greenhouse and greenhouse — and from the laboratories of the disciplines, adequately equipped with high-performance equipment, IT technique and licensed software ([Software and licenses for use](#); [Research infrastructure](#)). PhD students have access to broadband Internet and specialized computer programs; its own infrastructure is supplemented, as the case may be, by collaboration agreements with partner economic and research units. The services for doctoral students are provided through:

- [USV Library](#) - 4 reading rooms (180 seats on 1,650 m²) with 50 computers with Internet access; for DSUD IMADR, the documentary fund includes over 671 titles (treatises, course materials, guides, recent publications, with many authors from USV Iași), subscriptions to over 124 specialized journals and access to online databases; the libraries of the disciplines offer another ~500 additional places ([Library Report](#); [Library Treaties books](#); [Library Magazines specialty](#), [Online databases](#), including [virtual libraries](#));
- ["Ion Ionescu de la Brad" Publishing House](#), which publishes the university's teaching materials;
- 5 own dormitories for [accommodation](#), with optimal facilities and facilities;
- modern [canteen](#)-restaurant, with a capacity of 320 seats for a cycle and standards of quality and food safety;
- sports base - 2 halls (756 m²), 5 competition fields and athletics track.

The spaces for teaching staff and administrative activities consist of their own offices at the level of departments, doctoral schools and faculties, equipped with a library, office computer and/or laptop and utilities specific to academic and administrative activities.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași owns, under the law, the spaces dedicated to educational, research and administrative processes, as well as the services for doctoral students (accommodation, meals, library, sports base), which ensure a favorable environment for life and study, including for people with disabilities. At the same time, optimal spaces are provided for the activities of the teaching and administrative staff, the ensemble being adequately equipped with modern equipment, IT technique and information resources.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.2.2. Management of material resources

The organisational components manage the movable and immovable assets used for the evaluated study programme/domain in an optimal, sustainable manner.

Indicator I.P.A.2.2.1	The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The adequate maintenance of the immovable and movable assets used in the development of the PSUD IMADR is institutionally ensured through the Maintenance Service, a structure integrated into the General Administrative Directorate of the university (cf. [USV Organizational Chart](#)). Its activity covers the entire spectrum of necessary operations: daily cleaning, maintenance of buildings, repairs to furniture, equipment and sanitary installations and is carried out on the basis of a coherent regulatory framework: the [Regulation on the use and security of information and communication resources](#), the [Regulation on the organization and functioning of the Heritage Service](#), [The Regulation on the organization and functioning of the General Administrative Directorate](#) and [the Procedure on occupational safety and health within USV Iași](#), the latter also ensuring optimal working conditions for university staff.

For persons with disabilities or special educational needs, access to teaching and research spaces, as well as the provision of educational materials and personalized course materials, are regulated by [the Norms on the accessibility of higher education for persons with disabilities](#), applied in accordance with the legislation in force.

The effective quality of the maintenance and the conditions offered is systematically monitored by assessing the satisfaction of the beneficiaries of the teaching process, carried out according to the procedure [POP.51.IULS](#), approved by the Senate, an instrument that allows the prompt identification and remedy of any reported malfunctions.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The material base (immovable and movable property) affected by DSUD IMADR is adequately managed and maintained through dedicated organizational structures and procedures, thus ensuring optimal conditions for study, research and life, as well as work for the entire academic community, including for people with disabilities.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Adequate human resources and transparent staff recruiting procedures developed according to the law

Standard S.A.3.1. Human resources

The HEI has the required human resources to organise and deliver the evaluated study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.1	The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The list of functions of the SDSI, elaborated according to [the IOSUD Reg.](#) (Art. 32) with the approval of the CSUD/Rector and the approval of the Senate, includes the positions of doctoral supervisors and doctoral student (Art. 31-IOSUD [Reg.](#)). At IMADR, the number of tenured managers varied between 5 (2021) and 8 (2025), above the legal minimum of 3 ([Doctoral Supervisors 2021-2025](#)); all of them have a basic part-time, no associates, and none of them supervises more than 8 doctoral students simultaneously ([No. of doctoral students per doctoral supervisor](#)). The leaders are qualified teachers, with teaching expertise, WoS/ERIH publications ([doctoral supervisors publications 2021-2025](#); [Publications representative doctoral supervisors](#)) and international visibility ([doctoral supervisors prestige](#)); all have over 5 WoS items with impact factor. The standards are provided in the [M.12.IULS](#) Methodology and the [POB.30.IULS](#) Procedure ([Doctoral school annual report](#)). The rights/obligations appear in [Reg. IOSUD](#) (Art. 68) and [Reg. SDSI](#) (Art. 13); a doctorate was carried out under cotutelage. The Guidance and Academic Integrity Committees are constituted according to Art. 24 of [the IOSUD Reg.](#), with an external member from 2024 ([Guidance Committees versus Doctoral Committees](#)). The PSUA disciplines ([Subject Sheets](#)) are taught by doctoral supervisors, professors/CS I or associate professors/CS II.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The human resources of IOSUD-USV Iași and SDSI meet the requirements of the PSUD. The doctoral supervisors have obtained this status according to the law, have internationally recognized scientific results and sustained research activity, and the number of coordinated doctoral students complies with the legal limits. The Commission for Academic Guidance and Integrity is legally constituted, and the teachers involved in the PUSA have the necessary skills for the assigned subjects.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.2	The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The continuous improvement of the quality of human resources is a strategic quality assurance objective at USV Iași (O4 of the [Quality Assurance Strategy](#) 2024-2028). The University supports the professional and personal development of all staff, teaching, research, auxiliary and non-teaching staff, through complementary tools: career path, supported by [semester competitions](#) for vacant positions and career [promotion exams](#), organized according to the law; obtaining the habilitation certificate, by organizing, upon request, the [habilitation](#) exam; financing the publication of ISI articles with up to 3000 euro/article, depending on the impact factor and the number of affiliated authors; encouraging mobility, including [ERASMUS](#); freedom to run for and be elected in management structures, in compliance with institutional principles ([Election Method](#)); cultivating a collegial climate based on cooperation, trust and respect ([Pl. strategic. inst](#)); applying the principle of non-discrimination and protecting the dignity of employees ([USV Iasi Internal Regulations](#)); solving individual requests within the legal deadlines ([USV Iasi Internal Regulations](#)); strengthening initial and continuing training through [psycho-pedagogical training modules](#); planning and annual monitoring of professional development activities ([professional Procedura pregatire - pers. aux](#)).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

USV Iași offers a coherent institutional framework for the professional and personal development of teachers and auxiliary staff, through clearly configured policies. Training programs and refresher sessions effectively contribute to increasing the skills and supporting the professional development of the university's employees.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.3.2. Recruitment procedures

Teaching staff recruitment procedures compliant with the provisions of the law.

Indicator I.P.A.3.2.1	Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The teachers at DSUD IMADR meet the legal requirements and are employed according to the law. The doctoral supervisor becomes a member of the [SDSI](#) by application approved by the Director and CSUD, approved by the Rector, followed by the Employment Contract. [The habilitation certificate](#) is obtained according to the law, based on [the specific methodology](#) approved by the Senate. The quality, activity, status, evaluation and rights/obligations of the leader are regulated by [the IOSUD Reg.](#) (Chapter VI) and [SDSI Reg.](#) (Chapter II). The recognition of the quality acquired abroad is automatic for the EU or based on mutual agreements, according to [the Recognition Methodology](#) and [the approved Procedure](#); those from abroad must have a contract with USV Iași and the SDSI membership (Art. 20 [IOSUD Reg.](#)). Doctoral degrees from abroad are similarly recognized, through [the Recognition Methodology](#) and [Procedure](#). [The SDSI Reg.](#) (Art. 10) and [IOSUD Reg.](#) (Chapter VI) regulate the admission/withdrawal of members. Retirement operates at 65 years of age, with the completion of doctorates in progress. The withdrawal of affiliation is voluntary or motivated according to Procedure [I.02.IULS](#) (plagiarism, ethical violations, sanctions, CNATDCU invalidations). At the request of the doctoral student, the School Council appoints another supervisor within 30 days (Art. 23 [Reg. IOSUD](#); Art. 40 [Reg. SDSI](#)); when the fault belongs to the leader, CSUD sanctions are proposed according to [Reg. IOSUD](#).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The recruitment and affiliation of teaching and research staff at IOSUD-USV Iași is carried out according to the legal framework and internal regulations. The procedures regarding the acquisition of the quality of doctoral supervisor, affiliation to SDSI and conclusion of contracts are clearly regulated, ensuring objectivity and predictability. The evaluation, maintenance or withdrawal of affiliation and the change of coordinator are formalized and applied non-discriminatory, and transparency is guaranteed by publishing information on the institutional website.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.4. Digitalisation of institutional processes

Standard S.A.4.1. Digital transformation

The digital transformation process in the organisational component seeks to achieve administrative simplification and improve the quality of the services provided to the members of its own community, as well as to third parties.

Indicator I.P.A.4.1.1	The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.
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✓ Presentation of the state of facts

The Informatics and Communications Service of USV Iași operates on the basis of its [own regulation](#) and ensures the implementation, development and quality control of the ICT infrastructure, in order to streamline the educational and academic management processes. The Internet/Intranet environment allows information to be shared between users and stakeholders, and the extensive WI-FI network on campus provides secure Internet access for students, faculty, and visitors. The administrative and financial-accounting apparatus operates with the ACADEMIS integrated system, consisting of: the UMS ([University Management System](#)) module, with 14 interconnected modules that manage admission, tuition, scholarships, accommodation, diplomas and financial situation, with online access for students; SAP module for financial-accounting (FI-CO), materials (MM), budget (FM), investments (IM), research (PS), sales (SD), fixed assets (AA) and human resources (HR). The records of doctoral students are carried out through UMS, with unique security mechanisms. The verification of the similarity of the theses is done on [the sistemantiplagiat.ro](#), and the online activities are carried out on Moodle and Microsoft Teams. The communication of decisions is done through the intranet and through the [iuls.ro](#) and [SDSI websites](#). The further development is guided by the [Digitalization Strategy](#), correlated with [the Institutional Strategic Plan](#), with priority areas of digital investments.

✓ Analysis of the state of facts

USV Iași benefits from an integrated digital infrastructure that supports academic, administrative and research activities, ensuring access to quality services for all beneficiaries. IT solutions cover the entire educational cycle, from admission to graduation and research. Access to information is facilitated through the campus WI-FI network and online institutional platforms for students, teachers and other users. Digital development is guided by the Digitalization Strategy and the Institutional Strategic Plan, ensuring coherent investments and continuous modernization.

✓ Recommendations: It is not necessary The indicator is: fulfilled.

DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programmes

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of study programme/s*

The study programme is based on a curriculum designed so that students can acquire the expected learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1	The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.
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✓ Presentation of the state of facts

* The term “programmes” concerns the external quality evaluation for the study programmes contained in a master/doctoral domain. The term “programme” shall be used hereinafter.

PSUD in the field of IMADR are organized at IOSUD-USV Iași according to [the IOSUD Reg.](#), [the Framework Regulation](#) and ARACIS standards, ensuring the necessary resources, interdisciplinary training and the acquisition of professional and transversal skills. Cf. Art. 28(1) of Law no. 199/2023, the activities include design, organization, teaching, leadership, learning achievement, practical application, research and evaluation. The initiation, approval and monitoring of the PSUD is based on [the Regulation](#) approved by the Senate. At USV Iași, the scientific doctorate is carried out, with the possibility of the professional one (Art. 1(3)). PSUD is organized on a full-time basis (with a scholarship) or part-time (without a scholarship) ([O.U.G. 112/2024](#); [Law no. 167/2025](#)), with the usual duration of 4 years, extendable/reduced according to [Reg. IOSUD/Reg. SDSI](#), through [Addendums](#). In 2021-2025, 35 doctoral students were enrolled (1 graduate, 5 expelled/withdrawn, 29 in internship). Individual PSUD ([Study Contract](#), [Annexes](#) [SDSI]) includes the PSUA (2 sem., 6 subjects, 4 general, 2 specialized; [PSUA](#)), PCS and seminars. General subjects include Ethics and Academic Integrity ([PSUA Timetable](#)). PSUA totals 60 credits/year, PCS 60 credits/year (180 total), thesis 10 credits. [The course sheet](#) details the objectives, content, teaching/assessment methods and standards, ensuring student centrality and achieving [expected learning outcomes](#).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

PSUD in the IMADR field are rigorously structured in relation to learning outcomes and organized on the basis of the ECTS system. The curriculum coherently integrates the individual research program and seminars, according to the legislation in force. Subjects, time allocated, teaching and assessment methods, and credits are clearly defined, supporting a student-centered educational process. The program leads to the achievement of an EQF/CEC and CNC level 8 qualification, correlated with the requirements of the labor market.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary
The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. Alignment of the curriculum with the qualification

Standard S.B.2.1. Alignment with the qualification level and the intended competences

In the curriculum design and development process, the organisational component seeks to ensure the qualification level, as well as correlation with the envisaged occupations.

Indicator I.P.B.2.1.2	The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

PSUD in the field of IMADR are designed ([Study Contract](#) and [Annexes](#) [SDSI]; chap. XI [Reg. IOSUD](#)) to achieve the expected learning outcomes and the training of a competent human resource, capable of insertion into the highly qualified labor market. [Learning outcomes](#) are formulated in terms of professional and transversal competences (Art. 52(1)-(2) [IOSUD Reg.](#); Art. 7(9)-(10) [of the Framework Regulation](#)), correlated with the qualification and occupations concerned, defined by occupational standards and the European Classification of Occupations (ESCO). These are statements about what the doctoral student knows, understands and can do at the end of the internship, structured in knowledge, skills/aptitudes, responsibility and autonomy. [The expected learning outcomes](#) are defined at IOSUD level (with details in [the discipline sheets](#)), in correlation with the competences provided by [the Framework Regulation](#), consistent with level 8 EQF/EQF and CNC: knowledge at the most advanced level in a field and at the border between fields; advanced and specialized skills and techniques, including synthesis and evaluation, necessary to solve critical research/innovation problems and expanding knowledge; demonstrating a high level of authority, innovation, autonomy, scientific and professional integrity, with a commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of work or research.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The learning outcomes for PSUD in the field of IMADR are correlated with the competencies required for EQF/CEC level 8 occupations, according to national standards and ESCO classification. The professional and transversal competences in the subject sheets reflect the requirements of the RNCIS and the specifics of the field. The correlation between curriculum, learning outcomes and occupational standards provides graduates with relevant training and facilitates professional integration in the field of IMADR and in research-development-innovation activities.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.3. Student-centred learning, teaching and evaluation

Standard S.B.3.1 Principles

The organisational component implements the principles of student-centred learning.

Indicator I.P.B.3.1.1	The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

PhD students are partners of IOSUD-USV Iași and equal members of the academic community; their rights/duties are formulated in [the Charter](#), [the Code of Student Rights and Obligations](#), [the Student Professional Activity Reg.](#), [IOSUD Reg.](#), [the SDSI Reg.](#) and [the Study Contract \[SDSI\]](#). Cf. Art. 121 Law 199/2023, USV Iași implements the principles of student-centered learning through: fair opportunities; sustained interaction between doctoral students and supervisors/teachers, confirmed by [semester evaluations](#) and [evaluation of doctoral students' degree of satisfaction](#); mediation [and conflict resolution instructions](#) (Art. 18 [IOSUD Reg.](#)); active learning through diversified pedagogical methods, described in [the Discipline Sheets](#) and supported by modern infrastructure ([Library](#) [Treatise-books](#); [Laboratories](#) [Bases of practice and research](#)); continuous improvement based on evaluations ([REI SDSI](#)); realistic establishment of the teaching/study/evaluation time; communicating the results and evaluation criteria through [the Study Agreement](#) and [the Doctoral Study Guide](#); respecting the various learning styles; involving doctoral students in decisions regarding PSUD through consultation and representation in [the SDSI](#), [CSUD](#), [Board of Directors](#), [Senate](#), [CEAC](#).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași systematically applies the principles of student-centered learning in the curriculum and teaching strategies. These are reflected in coherent regulations, the orientation of the PSUD on learning outcomes and the consultation of doctoral students on their own path. The didactic interaction is supported by an optimal tutoring ratio and high satisfaction from the semester assessments. Active methods, modern infrastructure and continuous assessment with remedial activities monitor progress.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P. B.3.1.2	The organisational component ensures opportunities for students to participate in academic mobility programmes organised in person and/or virtually.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași implements policies to stimulate academic mobility through [the IOSUD Reg.](#) (Art. 4(6-8), 15, 45(8)), [the Strategic Plan](#) and [the operational plans](#), targeting out/in going projects, international co-supervision, Erasmus+ and non-EU agreements, attracting external academic personalities, co-opting foreign professors in commissions and editing, international internships/research. According to [the Regulation on the Professional Activity of Students](#) (Chapter VI), [IOSUD Reg.](#) and [the Study Agreement](#) [SDSI], doctoral students have the right to mobility and support for conferences, summer schools and seminars. The [ERASMUS+](#) Office and [the International Relations Service](#) are continuously expanding cooperation. The conditions are established by [its own Regulation](#), according to [E.M. Ordinance no. 4262/2024](#). Of the 29 IMADR doctoral students on internship, 7 (24.13%) participated

in external mobility, above the minimum threshold of 20%. Numerous [partnership agreements](#), annual selection sessions ([ERASMUS-selection studenti 2021-2025](#)), [meritocratic and non-discriminatory selection criteria, funding through ERASMUS+ and alternative sources](#) (9 PhD students in the team for 8 grants) are ensured. The increase was not significant during the COVID-19 period. The recognition of mobility periods is regulated (Art. 4(8), 15(3) [Reg. IOSUD](#); [Reg.-recognition-period-mobility](#)), with correlation of the grading scale according to ECTS.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași provides the institutional conditions for the participation of doctoral students in academic mobility programs, both with physical presence and in virtual format. The framework is strengthened by internationalisation policies, bilateral agreements and Erasmus+, through the work of the ERASMUS+ Office and the International Relations Service. The selection procedures are non-discriminatory and merit-based, the funding is diversified and the recognition of the credits obtained is regulated according to the ECTS system. In the IMADR field, the share of 24.13% of participating doctoral students exceeds the minimum normative threshold, demonstrating the effectiveness of institutional mechanisms to support academic mobility.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is recommended to increase the number of doctoral students participating in academic mobility (outgoing/incoming).

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.B.3.2. Fairness

The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students.

Indicator I.P.B.3.2.1	The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

Learning styles and skills are identified through observation, activity analysis, personalized discussions and questionnaires, and teachers adapt methods, difficulty, time and counseling to value the potential of each PhD student. At the beginning of the PUSA, the initial evaluation is made ([Reg. examination and grading of students](#)). The support of the Leader ([Leaders doct Titulari 2021-2025](#)) and the CIIA ([Steering Committees](#)) is guaranteed by [the Charter](#), [Reg. IOSUD](#), [the Code of Student Rights and Obligations](#) and [the Study Agreement](#) [SDSI], with a [posted consultation schedule](#). Career counseling is provided by [the CCOC](#) and the Student Vice-Rector's Office ([Vice-Rector's Report](#)), through [the Insertion Guide](#) and [the Good Practices Guide](#). The university offers [modern accommodation](#) and [a canteen-restaurant](#). Persons with disabilities benefit from adaptations according to [the Accessibility Norms](#); medical assistance is free of charge (Art. 47(2) [IOSUD Reg.](#)). Performance is stimulated by: interactive methods ([Course sheets](#)); scientific manifestations ([Student Symposium](#)); external mobilities ([collaboration agreements](#); [Regulation-recognition-mobility](#)); retention (IMADR dropout rate 9.09-16.66%, below 30% [PhD students dropout rate 2021-2025](#)); employment as assistants (9 doctoral students); involvement in grants ([Contracts-research PhD students 2021-2025](#)); support for disadvantaged backgrounds.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași offers an inclusive and adaptable educational framework, which values the diversity of learning styles and the aspirations of doctoral students. Initial assessment and systematic observation allow for the personalisation of training, and institutional support includes professional and social counselling as well as accessibility measures. Performance is boosted through mobilities, grants and scientific events, with high retention and equitable support for disadvantaged backgrounds.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.4. Accessibility and efficiency of the resources and support services, adequate for

learning

Standard S.B.4.1. Access to resources and services

The organisational component provides access to adequate resources and support services, according to the needs of the students.

Indicator I.P.B.4.1.1	The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.
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✓ Presentation of the state of facts

The material base of IOSUD-USV Iași allows the optimal development of the PSUD for all doctoral students in IMADR. Cf. Art. 5(2c) [of the Study Agreement](#) [SDSI], permanent access to [the research infrastructure is ensured](#); based on programming and with the approval of the supervisor, the doctoral students use the laboratories, equipment and IT resources. All teaching and research spaces ([practice and research Laboratories Bases](#); [Teaching and research spaces](#)) are accessible for individual and collaborative study, during the posted schedule and during the [Consultation Program for doctoral students](#), including people with disabilities, through elevators and ramps. Cf. Art. 37(g) [SDSI Regulation](#) and Art. 5(5d) [Contract](#), doctoral students benefit from logistics, documentation centers, libraries and equipment and can be included in research projects ([Contracts-research PhD students 2021-2025](#)). USV Iași offers computer devices, broadband Internet and licensed programs ([Software and licenses for use](#); [Network Reg. inform. com.](#)). [The library](#) provides free treatises, courses, electronic materials, [databases and ANELIS Plus collections](#). Doctoral students benefit from support services (accommodation, meals) according [to the Code of Students' Rights and Obligations](#). People with specific learning disorders receive, upon request, an appropriate psycho-pedagogical approach, according to [the Rules for the Accessibility of Higher Education](#).

✓ Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-USV Iași ensures full access to doctoral students, including those with special needs or disabilities, to resources and services appropriate to the needs, the IMADR field and the study cycle. Research infrastructure, teaching spaces, bibliographic and computer resources, licensed programs and electronic platforms are effectively available. Physical accessibility and psycho-pedagogical adaptations support inclusion, and accommodation, meal and counselling services complement learning support.

✓ Recommendations: It is not necessary The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.5. Learning outcomes

Standard S.B.5.1. Definition and evaluation

Learning outcomes are adequately defined and evaluated.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.1	Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.
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✓ Presentation of the state of facts

[The expected learning outcomes](#) are formulated as statements regarding what the PhD student knows, understands and can do at the end of the course. At IOSUD-USV Iași, they are defined for each DSUD in correlation with the professional and transversal competences provided for in Art. 7(9)-(10) of [the Framework Regulation](#), related to the EQF/CEC and CNC level 8 qualification: knowledge at the most advanced level in a field and at the border between fields; advanced and specialized skills and techniques, including synthesis and evaluation, for critical research/innovation issues and knowledge expansion; responsibility and autonomy through a high level of authority, innovation and scientific

integrity, with a commitment to new ideas at the forefront of work or research. The use of specific descriptors (knowledge, understanding and use of language, explanation; application, transfer, problem solving, critical reflection, creativity; autonomy, responsibility, social interaction, personal/professional development) makes transparent the expectations of the student and the teacher regarding the content of the subjects (). The results are consistent with the level of qualification (see I.P.B.2.1.1) and correlated with the requirements of the occupations, according to occupational standards and ESCO (see I.P.B.2.1.2); are customized at the level of each subject ([Subject Sheets](#)) in the PUSA.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

Learning outcomes are clearly and operationally formulated, at DSUD and subject level, through descriptors aligned to EQF/CEC/CNC level 8. Standardization ensures transparency for PhD students and faculty regarding content, methods, and evaluation. The correlation with occupational requirements and ESCO supports the professional relevance and pedagogical relevance of the subjects in the PUSA.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.2	Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The verification of learning outcomes is carried out through an evaluation along the way and a completion exam. At the PSUA, the continuous evaluation (tests, projects, reports, presentations) is described in [the discipline sheet](#) with the weight in the final grade, and the summative one consists of exams/colloquia ([Annex 1](#) to the [Study Agreement](#) [SDSI]); the specialized subjects are evaluated by the CIIA. In PCS, the doctoral student defends 3 scientific reports before the CIIA, appreciated with grades ([Reg. SDSI](#)). The final evaluation is made through the analysis of the thesis and the public defense (Chapter XII [Reg. IOSUD; Framework Regulation](#)). The thesis complies with [the Norms](#) approved by the Senate and is checked for anti-plagiarism ([computer program](#)) with thresholds $CS1 \leq 15\%$, $CS2 \leq 10\%$; at IMADR ([Theses of doctorat 2021-2025](#)) the values were below the limits. The announcement of the support is displayed with min. 20 days; The thesis and information are [public information](#). The Commission has 5 members (≥ 2 external) ([Steering Committees](#)). The awarding of the diploma follows the minimum standards ([Ministry of Agriculture Ordinance no. 3018/2025](#)), with transmission to the CNATDCU. Grading is 1-10/grades (≥ 5 = credits), according to [the Examination and Marking Reg.](#), [the Examination and Marking Procedure](#), [the Student Rights Code](#). The catalogs are completed online in [the UMS](#). The results are reviewed periodically ([Annex 11](#); [Report annual SDSI](#); [Analysis of learning outcomes](#)). In 2021-2025, 9 IMADR graduates obtained the diploma (88.89% Very Good, 11.11% Good).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The achievement of learning outcomes at PSUD-IMADR is verified through a unitary system, with continuous and summative evaluation, as well as through the analysis and public defense of the thesis. The procedures, approved by the Senate, are applied transparently and include the verification of originality, validation by CNATDCU and compliance with national standards, ensuring the objectivity and quality of the granting of the doctoral degree.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.7. Procedures and practices regarding the admission competition, the journey, recognition and equivalence of studies, and result certification

Standard S.B.7.1. Admission

The admission procedures and principles ensure access to higher education.

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.1	The organisational component applies the admission procedures.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

Admission to PSUD from IMADR is the responsibility of IOSUD-USV Iași, organized according to [IOSUD Reg.](#) (Chapter VII), [the Framework Regulation](#), [Doctoral admission regulations](#), [the Admission Methodology](#) and [Doctoral admission procedures](#). The regulations refer to the form of the competition, [the Admission conditions](#), the criteria, the theme, the display and the appeals (Art. 26-31 [Reg. IOSUD](#); Chapter IV [Reg. SDSI](#)). The themes are proposed by the leaders and approved by the SDSI Council; The conditions are published on [the website dedicated to admission](#) at least 6 months in advance. The form of financing is approved by the CSUD; the places result from the [Competition Procedure](#). The competition takes place in two sessions (July/September, max. September 30). Graduates with a master's degree and min. 300 cumulative credits can participate; Admission is done in the order of averages, minimum 8.00. The submission and the competition are made at the headquarters or online. The information is published at least 30 days in advance on [the official website of IOSUD](#). SDSI displays the hierarchy and manages appeals. The ratio of candidates/places 2021-2025 was 1.0-1.1 ([Doctoral students No. of candidates 2021-2025](#)). The enrollment is finalized by the decision of the CSUD, the registration in the RMU and the signing [of the Study Agreement](#) [SDSI] with [the annexes](#) (Art. 16-18 [Reg. IOSUD](#)), regulating the rights of the parties ([Code of Rights](#); [Professional Activity Regulation](#)). In 2021-2025, 29 doctoral students were enrolled (51.72% F with scholarship, 48.28% FR) [Evolution of the number of doctoral students](#).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași applies doctoral admission procedures in accordance with the legal framework and the Senate's decisions, guaranteeing transparency, predictability and competition. The regulations clearly set out the conditions, criteria, display of results and resolution of appeals. The publication of information on the website, the uniform organization of sessions and the balance of candidates/places (2021–2025) confirm the functionality of the process.

- ✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary
The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.2	Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

Admission to the PSUD is carried out in compliance with the principles of equity and equal opportunities, access to learning opportunities being ensured without discrimination (Art. 17 [Doctoral admission reg](#)); support measures are established, according to the law, to ensure access to groups in situations of social/educational risk or underrepresented (Art. 30(3) [IOSUD Reg.](#)). All candidates who hold a master's degree or equivalent and accumulate at least 300 credits of transferable studies (bachelor's degree + master's degree) have equal chances for admission (Art. 28 [IOSUD Reg.](#)), regardless of the field of the degree, the background of origin, ethnicity, gender or religious options. According to [the Admission Methodology](#) (2025), USV Iași allocates 39 budgeted places, within the approved enrollment figure, for candidates from: a) national minorities; b) the social protection system; c) people with disabilities, exceeding the ARACIS minimum threshold of 25 places. For foreign candidates, Ord. no. 5552/16.VII.2024, which regulates the admission to studies and schooling of citizens from EU third countries ([Admission methodology](#)).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

Admission to PSUD organized by IOSUD-USV Iași respects equity and equal opportunities, without discrimination based on origin, ethnicity, sex, social environment or religion. Support measures are provided for vulnerable groups, including places budgeted separately, above the minimum regulatory threshold. The separate regulation of the admission of candidates from EU third countries reinforces the inclusiveness of the policy.

- ✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.B.7.2. Academic journey of students

The organisational component carries out actions supporting the students' academic journey.

Indicator I.P.B.7.2.1	The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The USV Iași Senate approves [the Reg. regarding the professional activity of students](#), which cannot be modified less than 3 months before the start of the academic year and covers, in accordance with the legislation in force: Organization of teaching activity; Student admission; University enrollment and student documents; Carrying out the teaching activity; Student Examination; Academic mobility; Interruption of studies, expulsion and re-enrollment; Students' Rights and Duties ([Monitoring Report on Compliance with Students' Rights and Obligations](#); [CCOC Raport-activity](#); [Vice-Rector's Report on Social Activities](#); [Code of Student Rights/Obligations](#)); Rewards and sanctions, including appeals ([Learning contract](#); [Vice-Rector's Report on Social Activities](#)); Study documents. The PSUA is carried out according to [Annex 1](#) of the [Study Agreement](#) [SDSI]; the common subjects of the PSUA follow [the Timetable](#) approved by the Council of the Doctoral School.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași consistently applies the regulations on the professional activity of doctoral students, according to the Regulation adopted by the Senate and the other approved institutional acts. The entire academic path is standardized, coherent and applied unitarily. The effective application is proven by the monitoring reports of the Students' League, CCOC and the Social Pro-Rectorate, by the Study Agreement and by the institutional documents that regulate the rights, duties, rewards and sanctions of students.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.8. Internationalisation process

Standard S.B.8.1. Internationalisation

Improving the quality of education and research through internationalisation actions.

Indicator I.P.B.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out international cooperation actions supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

USV Iași implements internationalization policies and plans, provided for in the [Strategic Plan](#) and [Operational Plans](#). The coordination is the responsibility of the Vice-Rectorate for Research and International Relations, through [the Department of International Relations](#) (BRI) and [the Department of International Relations](#). [ERASMUS+](#), according to its own regulations ([Reg. DRI](#); [ERASMUS Reg.](#)) approved by the Senate. USV Iași is a member of international associations ([AUF](#), [EUA](#), [CASEE](#)) and has numerous [Partnership Agreements](#) with European universities and research institutions for teacher and student exchanges (2 weeks – 12 months). The cooperation of over 40 years with the "Justus von Liebig" University of Giessen and the relations with universities in Italy (Naples, Padua, Verona, Bologna, Perugia), France (Dijon, Lille, Beauvais, Angers), the Czech Republic (Prague) and the Republic of Moldova stand out. IOSUD-USV Iași offers constant opportunities for mobility and collaboration, both for doctoral students and for teaching staff. In 2021-2025, 9 IMADR PhD supervisors/professors carried out ERASMUS mobilities, holding courses and papers at international symposia ([ERASMUS-staff selection did 2021-2025](#)), and 23 international specialists carried out ERASMUS mobilities at USV Iași. The doctoral students participated in the presentations of the external guests at the annual Congress with international participation.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași carries out systematic international cooperation, based on clear policies and coordinated through the profile structures. Membership in AUF, EUA and CASEE and partnerships with European universities support academic exchanges. The mobility of IMADR staff, the involvement of international experts and the participation of PhD students in the annual congress confirm the efficiency of academic and research collaboration.

- ✓ **Recommendations:** It is recommended to strengthen the internationalization of the doctoral field by increasing the number of theses carried out under international co-supervision, participating in international research consortia and increasing the number of joint publications in international journals of impact.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.9. Scientific research results

Standard S.B.9.1 Scientific research in the education process

Scientific research activities support students in achieving the learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.9.1.1	Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are capitalised upon in achieving the learning outcomes envisaged through the study programme.
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- ✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The research activities of doctoral students are carried out within the PCS ([Annex 1 \[SDSI\]](#) to the [Academic Agreement](#)) and are an essential component in the acquisition [of learning outcomes](#). The acquisition of IMADR methods, documentation, data collection/analysis, discussion of results and public presentation (scientific events; thesis defense) contribute to the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and responsibilities corresponding to level 8 of the qualification. The topics of the theses ([doctorate list 2021-2025 theses](#)), proposed by the supervisors according to [the Institutional Research Strategy](#), are part of the IMADR area and are analyzed annually by the SDSI Council with the requirement of international relevance, methodology of international standards and impact on the global circuit (Art. 19(2) [SDSI Regulation](#)). In 2021-2025, 10 contracts/grants were carried out ([Contracts-research PhD supervisors 2021-2025](#)), correlated with [the Institutional Strategic Plan](#) and the [Institutional Research Strategy](#); 33.33% addressed IMADR/related topics, and 66.67% targeted human resources/professional integration. 9 IMADR doctoral students (23.68%) were involved in the research teams ([Research contracts-PhD students 2021-2025](#)). The results of the leaders' research are capitalized in teaching by updating courses and presentations; the bibliography in [the Subject Sheets](#) includes recent works by teachers.

- ✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

Learning through scientific inquiry is the basis of doctoral training in IMADR. The research carried out within the PCS – documentation, application of methodologies, generation and interpretation of data, dissemination of results – develops the competences of level 8. The results of the supervisors are integrated into the updating of courses and bibliographies, and the involvement of doctoral students in research teams strengthens the applied character of the training.

- ✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.B.9.2. Scientific research pertaining to the objectives of the study programme

The organisational component carries out scientific research activities aligned with the objectives of the evaluated study programme.

Indicator I.P.B.9.2.1	The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in that scientific domain, and capitalised upon in an adequate manner.
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- ✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The objectives of the theses are established in accordance with [the Strategic Establishment Plan](#), [Operational Plan-USV](#) and [the Institutional Research Strategy](#); the activity includes doctoral grants

([Theses doctorate list 2021-2025](#)), contracts ([Research-Contracts PhD supervisors 2021-2025](#); [Research-contract PhD students 2021-2025](#); [USV Research Report](#)) and similar activities. Capitalization: completion of theses; publishing books and articles; patents; scientific communications; consultancy reports; updating of learning resources. Theses: 9 completed IMADR 2021-2025, 88.89% Very good ([Analysis of learning outcomes](#)). Leading publications 2021-2025: 50 books, 214 articles (75 ISI, 105 BDI, 34 CNSIS), 1 patent; average 33.12/year/driver ([PhD supervisors publications list 2021-2025](#)), all exceed the CNATDCU standards. PhD-graduate publications: 40 articles (19 ISI, 21 BDI), 71.43% ISI ([PhD students publications list 2021-2025](#); [Representative publications of PhD graduates 2021-2025](#)). Events: Annual congress with international participation ([Life sciences today for tomorrow](#)) and 5 BDI USV Iași journals. The 9 Ph.D.-graduates cumulated 27 presentations (6 abroad + 21 country), ratio 3.00 vs minimum 1. International visibility is confirmed by WOS citations and Hirsh indices ([Prestige doctoral supervisors](#)); For each leader, there are listed at least 5 [representative publications](#) with direct access.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

Research in IMADR has national and international visibility, capitalized through various instruments. The leaders published 50 books and 214 articles (75 ISI), and the doctoral students-graduates 40 articles, 71.43% in ISI journals with impact. Web of Science citations, Hirsch indices, participation in international events, publication in BDI journals, technology transfer and updating of teaching content confirm the relevance and quality of the results.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is recommended to encourage interdisciplinary doctoral research oriented towards societal challenges (sustainability, smart agriculture, digital transformation, climate resilience etc.) and to strengthen partnerships with the socio-economic environment, to increase societal impact and research visibility,

The indicator is: fulfilled.

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criterion C.1. Quality assurance strategies and procedures, including in the field of academic ethics and conduct, which involve students, employers and other stakeholders and are applied in a consistent, transparent manner

Standard S.C.1.1. Application

Adequately implemented strategic directions, actions, and procedures

Indicator I.P.C.1.1.1	The organisational component consistently carries out actions and applies procedures, proving their impact on improving the quality of education at the level of the study programme
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

USV Iași has quality assurance policies defined in the [University Charter](#) (Chapter XI) and [the Quality Assurance Regulation](#) approved by the Senate ([USV Iași Documents](#)), with objectives in [the Strategic Plan](#) (B3) and [SDSI Reg.](#) (Chapter VIII). Strategic Framework: [Institutional Strategic Plan](#), [Operational Plan](#), [Quality Assurance Strategy](#), [Strategic Research Plan](#). Ethics: [Charter](#), [Code of University Ethics](#), [Code of Ethics in Research](#). At DSUD IMADR, SIAC is applied by general regulations (ECAC Regulation and Procedure; DAC Regulation; [Institutional evaluation procedure](#); [Program evaluation procedure](#); [Rules of Procedure of the Ethics Commission](#); [Anti-plagiarism strategy](#)) and specific doctorate ([IOSUD Regulation](#); [SDSI Regulation](#); [Methodology for evaluating doctoral schools](#); [The Leaders' Methodology](#)), cf. Law no. 199/2023, [Ord. M.E. no. 3020/2024](#) and [G.D. no. 962/2024](#). The PSUD internal assessment covers institutional capacity, human resources, scientific output, PSUA structure, management, admission, completion, and ethics. Evaluation of leaders: self-assessment + qualification sheets analyzed by the CSUD commissions. The evaluation of doctoral students ([Analysis of learning outcomes](#)) is continuous (supervisor+CIIA) and final ([Doctoral Committee](#)). External evaluation

according to the [ARACIS Standards](#) and [Guidelines](#). Reports ([Raport anual DAC](#); SDSI) records the impact, with the SWOT analysis.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași has a coherent internal quality assurance system, based on strategies and procedures aligned with national and European standards. This includes the internal evaluation of doctoral programs, supervisors and doctoral students, as well as the external evaluation of ARACIS. The application is demonstrated through annual reports with SWOT analyses and recommendations, and the impact is reflected in the full fulfillment of ARACIS standards.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.C.1.2. Stakeholder engagement

The HEI proves that it engages the stakeholders who have relevant activity in applying the procedures.

Indicator	The opinions of the members of its own community and of other stakeholders are taken into account in the procedure implementation process.
I.P.C.1.2.1	

✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The implementation of the regulations on quality assurance and university ethics is done with the involvement of all stakeholders (teachers, students, economic environment), in accordance with: the responsibilities established by the Board of Directors and the Senate ([CEAC Procedure](#), Chapter VII); the attributions of the management structures established by [the Charter](#); [the Quality Assurance Regulation](#); CEAC, CEU and DAC ([CEAC Reg.](#); [CEU Reg.](#); [Reg. DAC](#)); decisions of [the Senate](#), [the Board of Directors](#) and [the CSUD](#). Presence of stakeholder representatives in decision-making structures ([Members of the Senate](#); [Senate Committees](#); [The Board of Directors](#); [CEAC](#); Art. 5 [of the DAC Regulation](#); [Composition of the CDUD](#); The SDSI Council) respects the degree of representation provided by law. [The evaluation of the degree of satisfaction](#) of doctoral students and other interested parties is carried out through the questionnaires [of the Procedure](#) approved by the Senate. According to [the Quality Assurance Regulation](#), management and each employee are responsible for quality personnel (Job Description). Monitoring is permanent, systematic and planned, aiming at detecting non-conformities and initiating corrective actions. The results and the involvement of the parties are recorded in the annual reports (SDSI Report; [Annual report DAC](#)); internal reports are prepared by committees endorsed by the UNSDC with representatives of all parties ([Internal Evaluation Procedure](#)).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The regulations on university quality and ethics are applied with the involvement of teachers, doctoral students, graduates and representatives of the economic environment, according to the legal provisions and decisions of the Senate. Their representation in decision-making structures and the use of feedback (questionnaires, reports, SWOT analyses) ensure the integration of opinions in decisions and in the continuous improvement of the quality of education.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.2. Functionality of education quality assurance structures, including in the field of academic ethics and conduct, according to the law

Standard S.C.2.2. Operation

Quality assurance and academic ethics and conduct organisational structures adequately perform their specific role and functions.

Indicator	The academic ethics commission operates based on the regulation approved by the University Senate, and performs actions that are compliant with the law, independently from any other structure or person in the higher education institution.
I.P.C.2.2.2.	

✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The University Ethics Commission ([CEU](#)) operates based on Law no. 199/2023, the [CEU Reg.](#) approved by the Senate and the applicable legal norms, acting independently of any other structure or person in USV Iași (Art. 4(2)). Within the CEU there is a subcommittee dedicated to research ethics (Art. 4(4)), and the attributions are according to Art. 163 Law no. 199/2023 ([Reg. CEU](#)). The CEU carries out the prevention, analysis and resolution of incidents of violation of the norms of ethics and university deontology, cf. [the Code of Ethics and University Deontology](#), [the Code of Ethics in Scientific Research](#), [the Strategy for the Prevention of Plagiarism](#) and [Measures to Combat Plagiarism and Nepotism](#). The CEU also intervenes in the prevention of incidents of xenophobia, anti-Semitism, hate speech and discrimination, based on [the Gender Equality Regulation](#), [the Code of Conduct on Xenophobia and Radicalisation](#) and [the Code of Conduct on Anti-Semitic Incidents](#). Annually, the CEU prepares a [Report](#) submitted to the Rector and the Senate, a public document ([USV Iași management](#)). At the level of doctoral studies, provisions on ethical standards, including for the elaboration of the thesis, are contained in Chapter XIV of [the IOSUD Reg.](#): compliance with the Code of Ethics is mandatory; complaints are resolved according to the same Code; non-compliance with the norms, including proven plagiarism, entails the public liability of IOSUD.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The University Ethics Commission of USV Iași operates according to Law no. 199/2023 and the regulation approved by the Senate, independently of other structures. The attributions are aimed at preventing and solving deviations from university ethics and research, including plagiarism, nepotism and discrimination. The Subcommittee on Research Ethics and the annual public reporting to the Rector and the Senate ensures the transparency and functionality of the activity.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of the study programmes and domains and of the performed activities, involving students, employers and other stakeholders

Standard S.C.3.1. Procedures and implementation of procedures

The HEI has procedures for initiating, monitoring, and periodically reviewing the study programmes and domains and the performed activities, and applies them systematically.

Indicator	The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.
I.P.C.3.1.1	

✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The initiation, approval, monitoring and periodic evaluation of the PSUD is carried out at USV Iași according to the law, based on the internal regulations approved by the Senate (Articles 33-36, Articles 74-83 and Articles 84-85 of the [Regulations for the initiation-evaluation of study programs](#); Art. 16-20, Art. 55-64 and Art. 65-66 of the [Initiation-Evaluation Procedure for Studies](#)). The accreditation/maintenance of the DSUD accreditation is achieved by sending to ARACIS, within the legal term, the request accompanied by the internal evaluation report and the service-provision contract for external evaluation. The monitoring, periodic internal evaluation and revision of the study programs is carried out according to Art. 89-100 of the [Regulations for the initiation-evaluation of study programs](#). Continuous improvement involves the implementation of the actions approved by the management of IOSUD/CSUD/Doctoral School, in order to meet the legitimate needs and expectations of the beneficiaries and increase their degree of satisfaction. Based on the internal analyses, the Internal Evaluation Report of the [SDSI is prepared](#) annually, analyzed and submitted to the approval and approval of the management and quality assurance structures at the level of the Doctoral School, CSUD and IOSUD; the recommendations and corrective measures are implemented, after approval and approval, by the Doctoral School.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IMADR doctoral programs are regulated by clear initiation, approval, monitoring and evaluation procedures, aligned with legislation, ARACIS standards and Senate regulations. The quality is monitored through CEAC and DAC, based on SDSI reports and continuous improvement mechanisms oriented to

the needs of the beneficiaries. The consistent application of procedures is reflected in accreditation and the implementation of corrective measures.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.2	Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

In the design, approval, monitoring, periodic review and evaluation of the PSUD, representatives of the teaching staff, doctoral students and the socio-economic environment and the labor market are involved, consulted periodically. Students are represented in the [SDSI Council](#) (33.33% of the total members), [CSUD](#) (28.57%) and in [the USV Iași Senate](#) (26.47%) and represent at least 25% of the total members in [CEAC](#) and [CEU](#), being consulted and taking part in all decisions regarding the design/development of study programs, as well as in other aspects of university life. Representatives of the socio-economic environment and the labour market are present in the structure [of the ECAC](#), the [SDSI Council](#) and the [CSUD](#), as well as in the working groups and Commissions for the internal evaluation and monitoring of the fields of study, including the Commission for the preparation of this report (see section 2.1). Based on the signals received from the academic community and the economic environment and the periodic internal reviews on the study program (SDSI Internal Evaluation Report), the extent to which the standards and performance indicators on the quality of education are met is determined and improvement measures are proposed to ensure that the needs and expectations of the direct and indirect beneficiaries are met.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

Analysis of the facts. DSUD IMADR is periodically evaluated with the effective involvement of stakeholders: field manager, managers, PhD students, employers, socio-economic environment. Representation in decision-making structures (SDSI Council, CSUD, Senate) and quality/ethics assurance (CEAC, CEU), above the legal thresholds, integrates opinions into decisions. The results are systematically capitalized in academic management through quality improvement measures.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.4. Procedures for the periodic evaluation of the quality of the activities of teaching staff, auxiliary teaching staff, and administrative staff

Standard S.C.4.1. Procedures Applying the methodologies and procedures contributes to improving the quality of the staff's activities.	
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Indicator I.P.C.4.1.1	The organisational component analyses the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The evaluation of the quality of the teaching/research staff at IOSUD-USV Iași is carried out periodically (max. 5 years), according to Art. 213-215 Law 199/2023, based on [the Regulation on quality assurance](#) and the [Met. periodic evaluation](#), completed by [the Management Evaluation Procedure](#), [the Collegial Evaluation Procedure](#) and [the Procedurii evaluarea de teachers by students](#). The system includes self-assessment, peer and managerial assessment (annual) and student assessment (semester), planned by the DAC under the CEAC ([Assessment Calendar](#)). The semester evaluation by students is done according to [the Procedure](#) approved by the Senate, through the "Evaluation Form" (course holders/application activities), completed online anonymously. The results ([Evaluation of teaching staff by doctoral students](#)) are discussed individually, statistically processed and analyzed at the level of doctoral school/faculty/university, substantiating the recommendations for improvement. After approval by the Senate, the recommendations are applied at the level of the Doctoral Schools/Faculties, under the coordination of those responsible for quality assurance. In 2021-2025, 100% of the teaching staff evaluated by doctoral students obtained the qualification "Very good", none being rated as "Satisfactory"

or "Unsatisfactory" ([Evaluation of teaching staff by doctoral students; Report anual SDSI](#)). The summary of the reports is public ([USV Iași documents](#)).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

USV Iași systematically analyzes the results of the semester evaluation of teachers by students, according to Law 199/2023 and the Procedure approved by the Senate. The forms are filled in online, anonymously; The results are discussed individually, statistically processed and analyzed at the level of doctoral schools, faculties and universities, substantiating recommendations for improvement implemented at the Doctoral School after approval by the Senate.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.5. Systematically updated databases on internal quality assurance

Standard S.C.5.1. Databases

The HEI uses databases to support internal quality assurance activities.

Indicator I.P.C.5.1.1	The organisational component systematically collects and analyses data required for the internal quality assurance process.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

USV Iași uses the integrated information system ACADEMIS, with the [UMS Module](#) (admission, enrollment, school situation, evaluation, scholarships, accommodation, diplomas, financial situation, web visualization) and the SAP Module (financial-accounting, materials, budget, investments, research, fixed assets, human resources). The system also allows access to comparative information from other universities. The individual bases of the periodic evaluation of the teaching/research staff are established at the level of the Doctoral School/Department, managed by the President of the Commission/Director of SD/Director of the Department. The results of the PSUD assessment are managed by the Domain Manager. Research/IR data is collected under the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research, and Human Resources manages employment contracts. The synthetic results and recommendations are sent to the CSUD, the Board of Directors and the Senate. The Department of Quality Assurance (DAC), under the coordination of the CEAC/Vice-Rectorate, systematically collects, archives and analyzes information on: the results of staff learning and evaluation; research activity; internal/external evaluation reports; recommendations; [scheduling of external evaluation activities](#); internal regulations; opinion polls of students/graduates/employers; material basis; applicable legislation. The analyses are summarized in the [DAC Annual Report](#), a public document ([USV Iași documents](#)).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași systematically collects and analyzes data for quality assurance through the ACADEMIS SYSTEM (UMS, SAP) and databases of the doctoral school and functional structures. The Quality Assurance Department, under the coordination of CEAC and the Vice-Rectorate, centralizes information on learning outcomes, staff evaluation, research and feedback. The data inform the decisions and are summarised in the DAC Annual Report.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.6. Transparency of information of public interest, including those regarding the study programmes and domains offered, and transparency regarding the related certificates, diplomas and qualifications

Standard S.C.6.1. Transparency

The organisational component ensures transparency of information, as required by the law.

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.1	The organisational component ensures publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași guarantees the transparency of the PSUD at the level of both doctoral schools (SDSI, SDMV) and publishes on its website (iuls.ro), in compliance [with data protection regulations](#), all relevant information. Published categories: [IOSUD Regulation](#); [SDSI Regulation](#); [Admission regulations](#); methodologies for internal evaluation of [schools](#) and [leaders](#); [recognition methodologies from abroad](#); [Methodology for defending theses](#); related procedures; [vacancies](#); [Guide to doctoral studies](#); Annexes to the Contract ([frequency](#), [part-time](#), [fee](#)); [Tuition fees](#); Study contracts ([full-time](#), [part-time](#), [fee](#)); supervisors' files (CV, publications, patents, projects, theses — [SDSI](#)); [thesis writing rules](#) and [procedure for defending](#); CNATDCU standards (Annex 2 — [IOSUD Regulation](#) and [SDSI Reg.](#)); thesis abstracts and date/time/location of the defense (min. 20 days before — [doctoral theses](#)); addresses of completed theses ([USV Iași library](#); [REI](#)); [Admission methodology](#); [institutional documents](#); [University Charter](#); [Code of University Ethics](#) and [Code of Ethics in Research](#); Quality Management System ([CA Regulation](#)); [Student Rights Code](#); study resources ([research infrastructure](#); [library](#)); results in [UMS](#). IOSUD-USV Iași publishes the [SDSI Annual Report on its website](#), with [feedback from doctoral students](#).

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași publishes and ensures free and up-to-date access to information on PSUD-IMADR through the official website and other institutional channels, according to the legal provisions and GDPR rules. Information is available on the regulatory framework, organization, admission, funding, leaders, scientific results, theses, rights and quality assurance. The SDSI Annual Report complements transparency.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.2	The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.
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✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

Ensuring the transparency of all decisions and activities of USV Iași, according to the legislation in force, is guaranteed by the provisions [of the Charter](#) (Art. 18, Art. 53). USV Iași publishes on the website information and data, quantitative and/or qualitative, current and correct, regarding: qualifications, fields and study programs; the diplomas awarded; teaching and research staff; the facilities offered to students; the synthetic results of the evaluation processes; the decisions of the CSUD, the [Board of Directors](#) and the [University Senate](#). The relevant documents and financial statements of the University for the period 2021-2025 (including budget execution) as well as other categories of [information of public interest](#) are also published, thus ensuring open access of the entire academic community and stakeholders to institutional decision-making processes.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

The decision-making processes of IOSUD-USV Iași are transparent, at the institutional level and at the level of the Doctoral School, based on the University Charter. The decisions of the CSUD, the Board of Directors and the Senate, the results of the evaluations and the financial documents are published on the official website, and the operative information is done through group emails. Thus, the academic community and stakeholders have open access to the content and rationale of decisions.

✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.8. Participation in external evaluation processes, according to the law

Standard S.C.8.1. Compliance with the external evaluation obligation The HEI undergoes external quality evaluation as required by the law.	
Indicator I.P.C.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.

✓ **Presentation of the state of facts**

The external evaluation of IOSUD and DSUD for provisional authorization or accreditation/maintenance of accreditation is made according to Title IV of Law 199/2023, H.G. 962/2024, Quality Standards and ARACIS Guide. The preparation of the internal evaluation report and the transmission of the request to ARACIS is carried out in compliance with the institutional documents: [IOSUD Regulation](#); [SDSI Regulation](#); [Quality Assurance Regulation](#); [CEAC Regulation](#); [Regulation on the initiation of study programs](#); [The related procedure](#); [Internal institutional evaluation procedure](#); [Internal programme evaluation procedure](#). [The scheduling of external evaluation activities](#) at USV Iași complies with the legal deadlines. According to [M.E. Ordinance no. 5840/17.12.2021](#), USV Iași is accredited as IOSUD through two doctoral schools: SDSI (Agronomy, IMADR, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry) and SDMV (Veterinary Medicine). DSUD IMADR has been operating since the establishment of SDSI, authorized by ARACIS in 2016 ([MENCS Ordinance no. 5382/2016](#)); in 2021 the ARACIS Council decided to maintain the accreditation ([ARACIS Cons. Decision no. 98/25.11.2021](#)), confirmed by [O.M. Ordinance no. 5840/17.12.2021](#) (O.M. no. 55/19.01.2022). [The external progress assessment report](#) (approved by Cons. ARACIS Decision no. 177/H/03.07.2025) confirmed the implementation of all the recommendations of the ARACIS Commission and the commitment of IOSUD-USV Iași and SDSI for quality, internationalization and continuous improvement.

✓ **Analysis of the state of facts**

IOSUD-USV Iași conducts the external quality assessment according to Law no. 199/2023, G.D. no. 962/2024 and ARACIS standards, in compliance with the deadlines. The accreditation as IOSUD (E.M. Ordinance no. 5840/17.12.2021) and the maintenance of DSUD IMADR confirm the functionality. The ARACIS report of July 2025 attests to the implementation of the recommendations and the rigorous nature of the process.

- ✓ **Recommendations:** It is not necessary
The indicator is: fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths:		Weaknesses:
➤ the existence of an institutional and procedural framework that supports the compatibility of doctoral studies with European academic standards and integration into the European Higher Education Area; ➤ carrying out academic and administrative activities in accordance with the national and European legislation in force; ➤ clear definition of the institutional mission, oriented towards education and scientific research; ➤ the implementation of the ECTS system, which facilitates the recognition of academic activities at European level; ➤ the existence of doctoral supervisors actively involved in research and who meet the national standards of habilitation; ➤ periodic evaluation of teaching staff based on academic and scientific performance; ➤ developing doctoral programs in accordance with the targeted professional and research skills; ➤ coherent organization of the disciplines in the advanced university study program, according to the specifics of the doctoral field; ➤ carrying out doctoral activities and issuing	INTERNAL FACTORS 	➤ the insufficient development of services aimed at attracting and integrating international students limits the internationalization process and the external visibility of the doctoral program; ➤ the low number of international cotutelas and long-term doctoral mobilities affects the expansion of international academic collaborations; ➤ the difficulties in recruiting human resources for teaching and research activities are generated by the existing socio-economic context.

diplomas in accordance with legal and institutional regulations; ➤ the existence of an adequate educational infrastructure, supported by a continuous process of modernisation; ➤ equipping laboratories with modern computer equipment and resources, necessary for teaching and research activities; ➤ supporting research activities with appropriate financial, logistical and human resources; ➤ the existence of institutional structures and policies dedicated to quality management and assurance; ➤ encouraging the involvement of doctoral students in academic, decision-making and extracurricular activities.		
SWOT analysis		
Opportunities: ➤ the possibility of accessing the Structural and European Funds for education, research and innovation contributes to the development of infrastructure and institutional projects; ➤ the existence of a legislative framework favourable to the conduct and development of academic and research activities; ➤ increased interest in developing partnerships with international universities and representatives of the socio-economic environment; ➤ access to modern information technologies facilitates the streamlining of educational and research processes; ➤ the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, supported by European funds, generates professional opportunities for graduates; ➤ the existence of European scholarships and mobility programmes supports academic training and inter-university collaboration.	EXTERNAL FACTORS	Threats: ➤ increased competition from the educational institutions in the country and in the E.U.; ➤ the low interest of the economic environment for strategic collaborations with educational institutions, reduces the opportunities for practical integration and immediate applicability of knowledge; ➤ underfunding of higher education.

V. Extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled, and recommendations

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity			
1.	I.P.A.1.1.1 For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on	Fulfilled	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.		
2.	I.P.A.1.2.1 The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.	Fulfilled	
3.	I.P.A.2.1.1 The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.	Fulfilled	
4.	I.P.A.2.2.1 The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.	Fulfilled	
5.	I.P.A.3.1.1 The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.	Fulfilled	
6.	I.P.A.3.1.2 The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.	Fulfilled	
7.	I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.	Fulfilled	
8.	I.P.A.4.1.1 The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.	Fulfilled	
DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy			
9.	I.P.B.1.1.1 The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.	Fulfilled	
10.	I.P.B.2.1.2 The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).	Fulfilled	
11.	I.P.B.3.1.1 The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.	Fulfilled	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
12.	I.P.B.3.1.2 The organisational component ensures opportunities for students to participate in academic mobility programmes organised in person and/or virtually.	Fulfilled	It is recommended to increase the number of doctoral students participating in academic mobility (outgoing/incoming)
13.	I.P.B.3.2.1 The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities.	Fulfilled	
14.	I.P.B.4.1.1 The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.	Fulfilled	
15.	I.P.B.5.1.1 Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.	Fulfilled	
16.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	Fulfilled	
17.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	Fulfilled	
18.	I.P.B.7.1.2 Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.	Fulfilled	
19.	I.P.B.7.2.1 The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.	Fulfilled	
20.	I.P.B.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out international cooperation actions supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.	Fulfilled	It is recommended to strengthen the internationalization of the doctoral field by increasing the number of theses carried out under international co-supervision, participating in international research consortia and increasing the number of joint publications in international journals of impact
21.	I.P.B.9.1.1 Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are capitalised upon in achieving the learning outcomes envisaged through the study programme.	Fulfilled	
22.	I.P.B.9.2.1 The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in that scientific domain, and capitalised upon in an adequate manner.	Fulfilled	It is recommended to encourage interdisciplinary doctoral research oriented towards societal challenges (sustainability, smart agriculture,

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
			digital transformation, climate resilience etc.) and to strengthen partnerships with the socio-economic environment, to increase societal impact and research visibility
DOMAIN C. Quality management			
23.	I.P.C.1.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	Fulfilled	
24.	I.P.C.1.2.1 The opinions of the members of its own community and of other stakeholders are taken into account in the procedure implementation process.	Fulfilled	
25.	I.P.C.2.2.2. The academic ethics commission operates based on the regulation approved by the University Senate, and performs actions that are compliant with the law, independently from any other structure or person in the higher education institution.	Fulfilled	
26.	I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	Fulfilled	
27.	I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.	Fulfilled	
28.	I.P.C.4.1.1 The organisational component analyses the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.	Fulfilled	
29.	I.P.C.5.1.1 The organisational component systematically collects and analyses data required for the internal quality assurance process.	Fulfilled	
30.	I.P.C.6.1.1 The organisational component ensures publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme.	Fulfilled	
31.	I.P.C.6.1.2 The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.	Fulfilled	
32.	I.P.C.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.	Fulfilled	

Summary Table of Performance Indicators – Degree of Fulfillment

Evaluation Domain	Number of Performance Indicators		
	Fulfilled	Partially fulfilled	Unfulfilled
Domain A. Institutional capacity	8	-	-
Domain B. Educational efficacy	14	-	-
Domain C. Quality management	10	-	-
Total	32	-	-

VI. Conclusions

Following the external evaluation process of the field of doctoral studies in **Engineering and Management in Agriculture and Rural Development** within IOSUD-USV Iași, a series of fundamental aspects that define the high level of quality of the educational and research process are reiterated:

- ✓ the existence of a consolidated academic framework, capable of ensuring and maintaining high standards of educational excellence;
- ✓ the coherent organizational structure and participatory governance mechanisms ensure predictable and transparent management of the entire doctoral path;
- ✓ the material and logistical base is permanently aligned and adapted to the curricular requirements and scientific research objectives, providing the ideal support for the development of doctoral students' professional skills;
- ✓ monitoring processes through standardised operating procedures guarantee decision-making transparency and continuous improvement of performance indicators.

Following the procedures for maintaining accreditation and the elaboration of this External Evaluation Report, based on all the aforementioned findings, it is concluded that IOSUD-USV Iași offers a stimulating academic environment, governed by good practices, which ensures a high-level training of young researchers and a full alignment with the requirements of the European Higher Education Area, and the educational and scientific process delivered within the field of doctoral studies **Engineering and Management in Agriculture and Development** fully meets the quality criteria required to **maintain accreditation**.

Following the completion of the accreditation/maintaining accreditation procedure, the decision of the evaluation panel shall be one of the following:*

- a) ~~accreditation*~~ (AC)/ **MAINTAINING ACCREDITATION** (MAC);
- b) ~~conditional maintaining of the provisional authorisation to operate*~~ (CMPA)/~~conditional maintaining of accreditation~~ (CMAC);
- c) ~~non-accreditation*~~ (NAC)/~~withdrawal of the accreditation~~ (WAC).

VII. Annexes

1. The timetable for the evaluation of the external quality evaluation visit for the doctoral university study domain Engineering and Management in Agriculture and Rural Development.
2. Minutes of meetings.

* When the external quality evaluation for accreditation is performed with undergoing the procedure for obtaining a provisional authorisation to operate.