



# Strategic drivers for change

Our strategy rests on a strategic response to several global and national drivers for change in higher education.

In responding to these trends, MUT is constrained by the dominant residential public university model supported by government – a residential university with a broad-based teaching and research institution and deep integration with industry and business. The other major constraining factor is the resource base as MUT is not well-endowed to embark on a major and drastic change in its business model. Our strategies outlined in Section 9 are in line with these global trends.

## National policy context

This plan is aligned to the major national policy documents aimed at the development of higher education in South Africa, with particular emphasis on those that are aimed to explicitly address the dual imperatives of redress and development of historically disadvantaged universities. It recognises the imperative of a single integrated and co-ordinated national system of higher education that supports a diversity of institutional and organisational forms, as outlined in the White Paper on Higher Education (1997).

## Global trends shaping higher education

The globally evolving university model is driven by constantly changing drivers of change. The most significant drivers are:

01

Greater access to knowledge characterised by readily available content, broadening access to higher education and increased participation in developing countries.

02

Competition for student markets as well as new sources of funds.

03

Advances in digital technologies characterised by the rise of online learning.

04

Use of digital technologies in campus-based learning (blended learning).

05

Greater industry/government/university collaboration with implications for the scale and depth of industry-based learning and the importance of research partnerships and commercialisation.

06

Global mobility characterised by competition for international academic talent and the emergence of elite global university brands.