

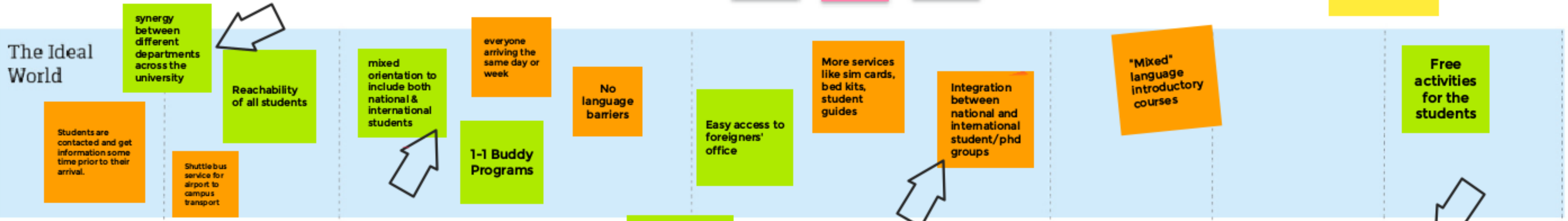
Expert Meeting: Intro Programs

Master PhD Both

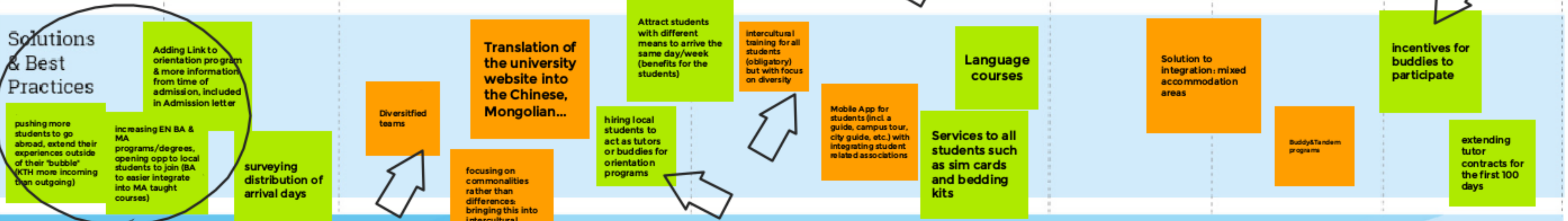
1st Break-out Group



The Ideal World



Solutions & Best Practices



Attractiveness, Selection & Application

weeks

Formalities - 1st Days

weeks

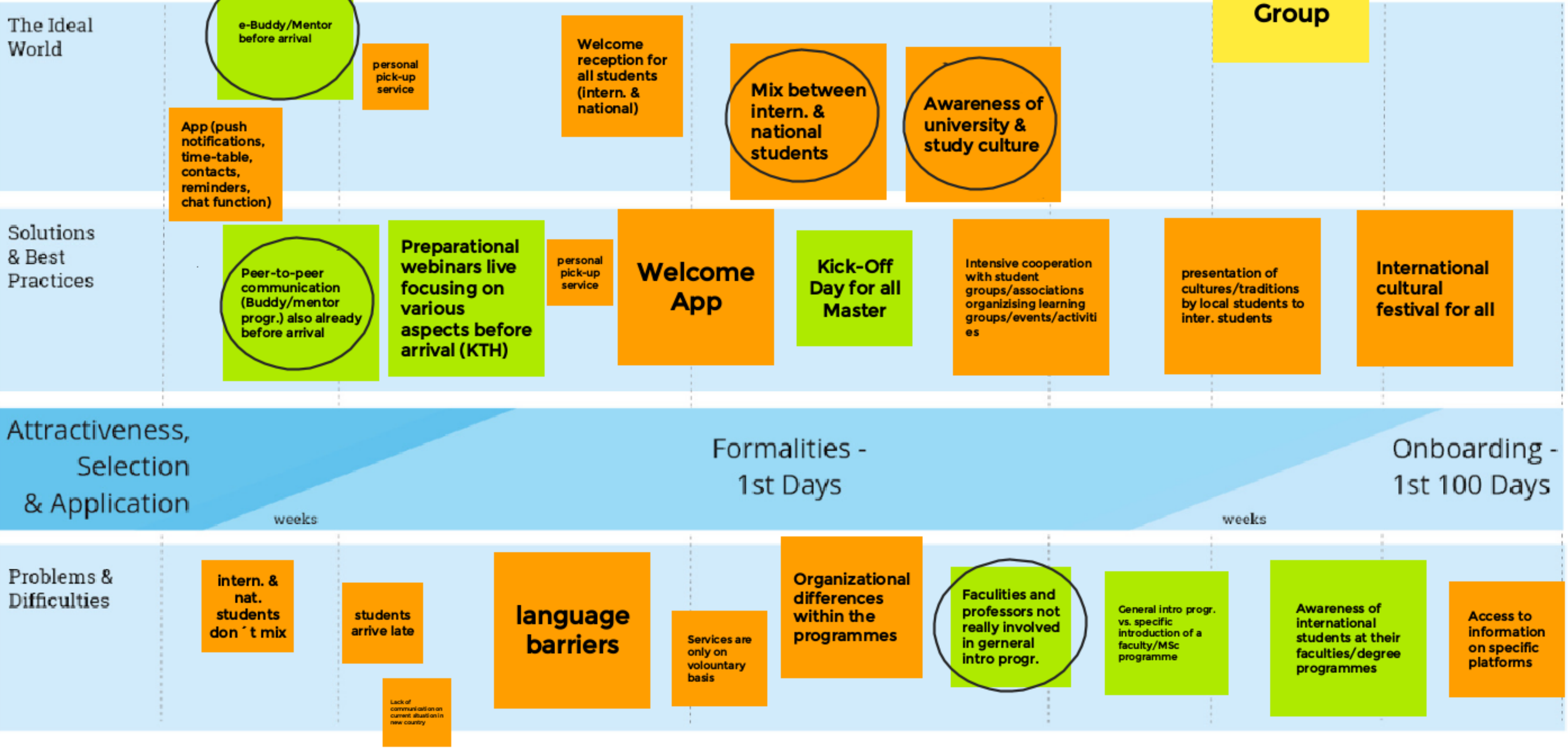
Onboarding - 1st 100 Days

Problems & Difficulties



Expert Meeting: Intro Programs

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Expert Meeting: Intro Programs



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4th Break-out Group

The Ideal World

- Professors and assistants understand the challenges international Master's students face and assist them them.
- Everyone feels welcome
- Locals and internationals are united
- Important information is not only available in the local language but in English as well
- Students know what the program entails.
- Local students help international students to integrate.
- Students feel welcomed and obtain a good information
- Students get to know fellow students (and their backgrounds)
- Common language
- International Students can speak the local language fluently
- Getting to know the University (Campus and facilities).
- Everyone can engage in activities on Campus
- International students can interact freely with local students

Solutions & Best Practices

- Use breakout rooms & tools like gathertown to get students to mingle more
- MasterPlus E-Buddy WELCOME Program
- Organize joint online activities for new and current students.
- to organize Buddy Building Club
- MasterPlus PREP - Language Course preparation for lectures
- help students with housing
- Organize as many as possible activities in which the students can coincide with local student and other international students
- intensive native language classes
- good motivation for locals
- Study associations organize (leisure) activities for all students.
- Collaborations between Universities (in same countries).
- MasterPlus POTENTIALS
- MasterPlus OUTREACH

Attractiveness, Selection & Application (weeks) | **Formalities - 1st Days** | **Onboarding - 1st 100 Days** (weeks)

Problems & Difficulties

- Students not able to see each other face to face (only digital).
- no common language
- Online Registration process, visa issues, health insurance
- Students feel overwhelmed by the amounts of information that is presented to them (in for example introduction week).
- corona and online
- Switching offline to online program.
- Late registrations (no access to facilities).
- bureaucracy
- Late registrations, they arrive at every time of the year.
- Cultural differences.
- Students that are already familiar with each other from the bachelor program and new students (with other backgrounds) mixing with each other in activities.
- Local students stay amongst each other, may be difficult to find a connection
- Local dialects
- Students have problems with the academic freedom
- Master's students have difficulties following lectures in German, even with C1 level.
- Students are overwhelmed by the different academic culture.
- Students feel lonesome, they lack their emotional support system

motivation of locals

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Master PhD Both

RECAP MASTER TRACK



The Ideal World

- Close cooperation with Depts. and Professors and more support from them.
- Shuttle buses/Pick-up services
- One orientation day. Possibly compulsory.
- Clear goals for orientation.
- Events mixing national and international students
- Welcome reception where both groups mix and mingle.
- Language: find a common one or find the most common one
- Free activities.
- Easy access to foreign office.
- Information sent prior to arrival (possibly multilingual)
- Welcome App
- Master Kick-Off / Mandatory
- Student involvement in planning orientation program/activities
- Buddy Program (possibly starting prior to arrival).
- Mixed language introductory courses

Solutions & Best Practices

- Advertising orientation programs in admission letters.
- Use breakout rooms & tools like gathertown to get students to mingle more
- Attract/Convince students to arrive the same day.
- Housing: more housing, mixed, offer "welcome kits".
- Language courses and webinars explaining first steps.
- Buddy Building Club. Increase or create incentives for buddies/mentors. Extend contract for mentors to cover onboarding period.
- More cooperation with local student associations and student groups. Organize an "International Culture Festival"
- More programs in English
- Encourage more exchanges so that local students gain international experiences.

Attractiveness, Selection & Application (weeks) | **Formalities - 1st Days** | **Onboarding - 1st 100 Days** (weeks)

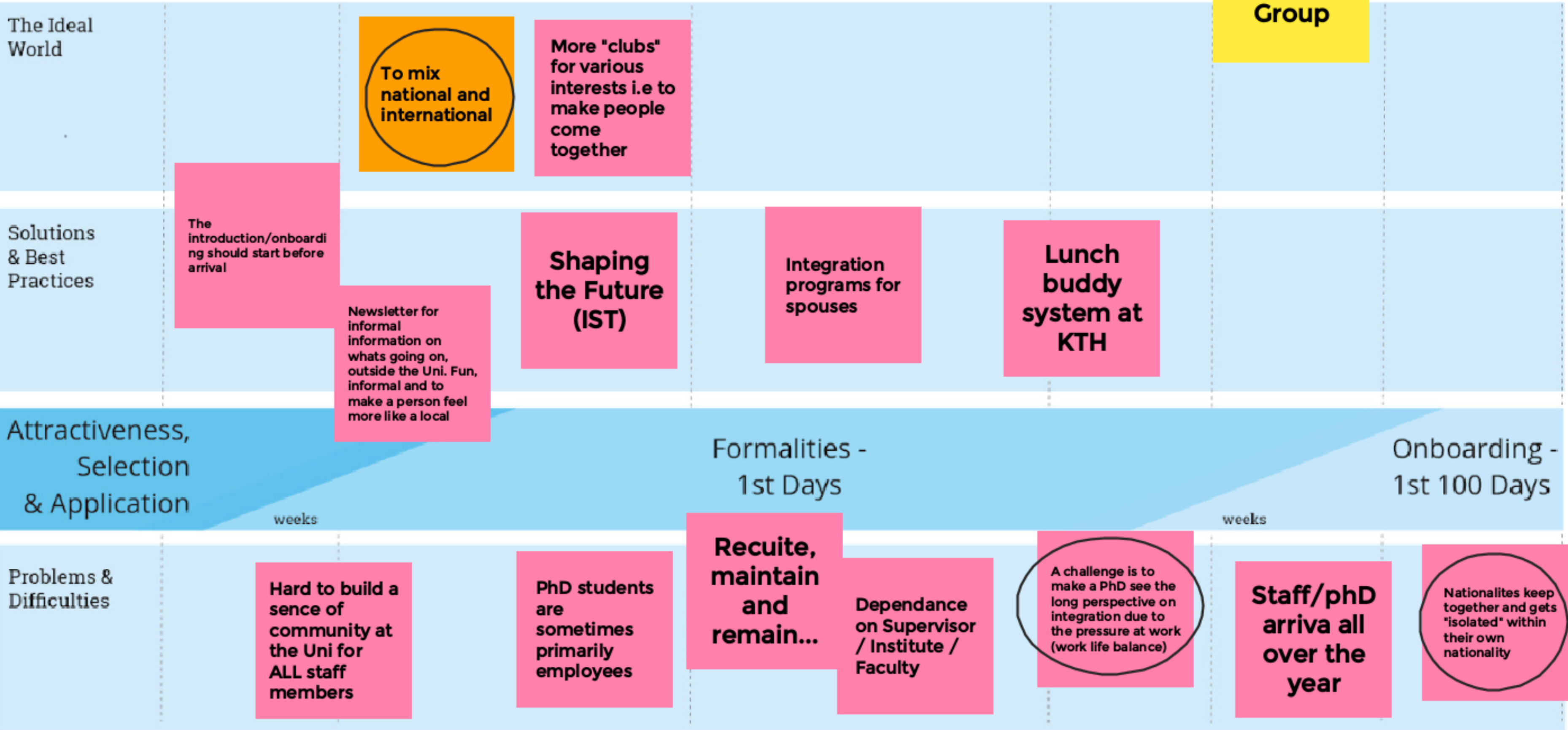
Problems & Difficulties

- Communication, receiving and reading emails. Social media: stay on top of what students use and manage it constantly.
- CORONA: lack of physical interaction, digital loneliness etc.
- Online Registration process, visa issues, health insurance
- Information overload.
- Language: English but also other languages need to be offered (Chinese students do not speak it).
- Money!
- Late arrivals, late registrations etc.
- Cultural differences.
- Local students stay amongst each other, may be difficult to find a connection
- Students that are already familiar with each other from the bachelor program and new students (with other backgrounds) mixing with each other in activities.
- Students have problems with the academic freedom
- Students are overwhelmed by the different academic culture.
- Master's students have difficulties following lectures in German, even with C1 level.
- Students feel lonesome, they lack their emotional support system

Expert Meeting: Intro Programs

Master
PhD
Both

5th Break-out Group



Expert Meeting: Intro Programs



Master PhD Both

7th Break-out Group



Expert Meeting: Intro Programs

The Ideal World

PhDs are as much "pampered" as MA & BA - they are not left alone

Geat Buddy system (more advanced PhDs)

There needs to be an internal discussion at the university to make the process "the same" for every one.

Training for stakeholder about the procedure for PhDs

Getting to know the university as soon as possible

Intercultur Awareness Session with fun!

International and national students are in the same intro program

One week to focus on onboarding without having to worry about your job

Information about career perspectives

PhD coordinators

Mentors

Make connections easily because there are people to welcome you

8th Break-out Group

Solutions & Best Practices

Booklets for supervisors / graduate school / department / TU/e

PhD student club - to create a community / IST

Workshops on "How to write a paper" / IST / UPC

An office which takes care of PhDs and organizes the information and the important meetings for them. / TU/e

Workshop on how to handle your supervisor / IST

One coordinator per faculty / school - wish

PhD Open Days / IST

Kick-off event @ Tu/e

Expats spouse initiative: help spouses to get a network themselves / TU/e

A quick start - by Empirical College

Attractiveness, Selection & Application

weeks

Problems & Difficulties

Loneliness

Many different ways to enter the university as a PhD

The best intro program doesn't help if you don't reach the PhDs

"2 body problem"

Networking is not easy at the beginning of your stay.

too many people have a say

Necessary information isn't provided when you enrole

PhDs arrive on different days, there is no community

too much supervisor dependancy

Formalities - 1st Days

They are all "islands" - much harder to get hold of.

Supervisors disencourage their PhDs to engage in social activities

Supervisors don't have enough time

Different life situations (with kids, alone,...)

Creating a community

Recognition of prior education (degrees)

Many different structures

Legal procedures (aarg!...)

Language

Onboarding - 1st 100 Days

No central unit which is responsible for the integration of PhDs

Expert Meeting: Intro Programs



Master
PhD
Both

**RECAP
Ph.D.
TRACK**

