

Higher Education



Overview

IREX is improving the quality and relevance of higher education at universities and technical colleges in the Middle East, Africa, Europe and Eurasia. We support universities to deepen their relationships with industry and to design curriculum, career centers, and research initiatives that serve the needs of students, employers, industry and government.



Technical Expertise

We offer training and technical support for **curriculum development**, partnering with institutions to design curriculum that meets student and labor market needs and develops 21st century skills. Our *Higher Education Institution Capacity Assessment Tool* and guides a process of identifying performance gaps and a roadmap for improvement, including in curriculum development. We prepare faculty and administrators to update teaching methods, integrate technology, and model international accreditation standards.

Globally, higher education institutions share a desire to grow their connections and partnerships with industry across both teaching and research. We provide practical support for **linking universities to the private sector**, beginning with an assessment process to take stock of existing relationships. Universities use our Design Day model and tools to incorporate self-directed, practical design projects into traditionally theoretical curriculum. The Design Day model begins with challenge questions collected from local companies, ensuring that students are working on projects of direct relevance to employers in their community.

Effective, well-networked career centers can improve the employment outcomes of young graduates. We work with universities and technical colleges to **establish and operate career centers** and to partner with industry to strengthen students' career readiness. Our Career Center Toolkit provides step-by-step guidance on setting up and managing a career center and offers adaptable templates to support daily operations, student assessment, training design, and job fair planning.

We support faculty and administrators to develop new knowledge, skills, and perspectives to **strengthen institutional research** and to design and publicize research that is relevant and actionable for industry, government and community. Our customizable course in research management prepares research managers to improve the development, management, and impact of university research and to create an implementation plan for research management reform.

About IREX

IREX is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to building a more just, prosperous, and inclusive world by empowering youth, cultivating leaders, strengthening institutions, and extending access to quality education and information. With an annual portfolio of \$80 million and 400 professional staff worldwide, IREX employs field-tested methods and innovative technologies to develop locally driven solutions in more than 100 countries.

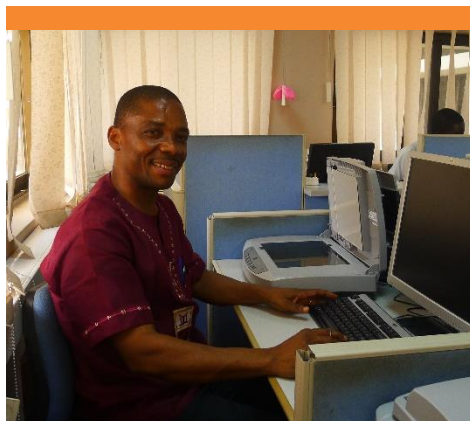


Achievements: Higher Education



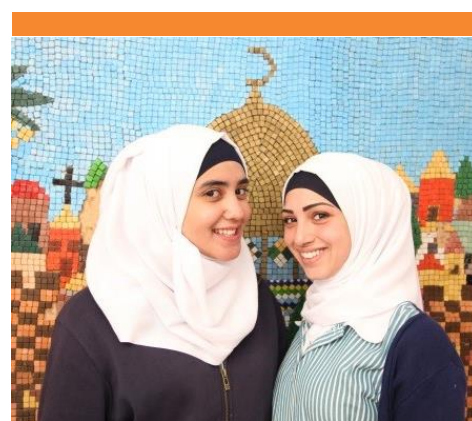
Improving Workforce Readiness

The 48 career centers that we support in Iraq serve more than 15,000 students and maintain active partnerships with over 70 companies, including Coca-Cola, DHL, Hess Oil, Kia Motor, Microsoft, and Samsung. Through an Industry Advisory Board, we conduct surveys of industry trends and design workforce preparation that meets private sector needs.



Increasing Relevance of Research and Curriculum

University administrators in 14 countries have used our training to jumpstart more than 80 curriculum, research and administrative reform projects. At Makerere University in Uganda, we supported the development of an oral communications curriculum and digital badge credentialing program that prepares graduates with an in-demand soft skill.



Improving Teacher Preparation

In the West Bank, we're partnering with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to re-design the coursework and programs of study for pre-service teacher training at higher education institutions. Over the course of their careers, graduates of these programs will reach thousands of students using effective instructional methods.

Global Reach

IREX has an annual portfolio of over \$80 million, offices in 20 countries, and a global staff of 400.



Partners

To improve the quality and relevance of higher education, we work hand-in-hand with local partners, and with the generous support of international donors including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Embassy Baghdad, and the Aspen Institute Stevens Initiative.

Contact Us

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