

# Building Human Capacity

## NEED

**To combat poverty and improve living conditions for people around the world.**

Economic growth and better living conditions in developing countries demand the creation of a productive and skilled workforce. In countries plagued by poverty and low levels of education, individuals in all sectors require the skills to address pressing needs in their own communities.

## SOLUTIONS

**IIE arranges targeted training to build practical and professional skills vital to the economic strength and technical needs of each country.**

### Developing a Skilled Workforce

Building on the success of the Development Training II project, which trained nearly 90,000 Egyptians, IIE works with USAID-Egypt to strengthen Egypt's global competitiveness. In 2005, under the Strategic Technical Assistance for Results with Training (START)/Egypt Development Program, IIE trained more than 1,300 individuals in key economic and social sectors, such as education, health, agriculture, IT, and communication technology. In a 2005 START initiative, IIE brought Egypt's Minister of Education, Dr. Ahmed Gamal El-Din Moussa, to Washington, D.C., to lead a delegation on educational reform. Another USAID IIE partnership, the Leadership Development Program, supports Telecom Egypt's mission to provide communication services to customers according to international standards: the program strengthens the national phone company's management through technical assistance and training.

### Fostering Creative Thinking for Future Prosperity

IIE's new Initiative for Innovative Teaching (In-Teach), conducted by IIE/Cairo and inspired by IIE New Leaders Group member Dr. Serra Kirdar, fosters innovative teaching practices in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Launched in February 2005 with a leadership forum on Jordan's Dead Sea Coast, In-Teach brought 39 Jordanian educators together, under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Basma Bint Talal of Jordan, with the support of H.E. the Minister of Education Dr. Khaled Toukan, and thanks to contributions by individual donors. The Forum empowered participants to become more effective educators, improving the quality of education in their country and region.

### Training the Local Energy Sector, Worldwide

Assessing Southern Sudan's energy needs for the country's postwar recovery. Preparing journalists to report more often and more accurately on energy sector developments in their countries. Creating energy from goat waste. In partnership with USAID and other organizations, IIE's Energy Group leads education programs for the world's under-developed and developing nations, improving their capacity to deliver clean, efficient, reliable, and affordable energy to more people.

To share knowledge about successful rural electrification practices, the South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Cooperation and Development (SARI/E) builds regional partnerships to conduct trainings and helps local institutes to incorporate this knowledge. Rising government officials learn how to modernize their local electricity sectors—thereby increasing energy supplies that minimize negative impacts on the environment or social sector.

Under USAID's People, Energy and Development program, IIE trains people in the energy sector worldwide to play active roles in decision-making, planning, and reform. Participants learn that creative local initiatives can help communities achieve greater access to energy. For example, Brazil's "Cabra Forte" (Strong Goat) program is intended to support the nation's "War on Hunger" initiative, but the local community in Bahia, Brazil found that its success was limited. A USAID sponsored project launched in 2005, BioDigester Capacity Building demonstrated that low-cost energy can be generated from goat waste using simple, locally manufactured technology.



*Trainers in the USAID-sponsored "People, Energy, and Development" program demonstrate ways to bring low-cost energy to more people in developing countries.*

IIE, in partnership with USAID and other far-sighted sponsors, has helped train tens of thousands of professionals from developing countries in health, education, economic development, energy, and agriculture.



*Global Village Energy Partnership Media Alumni interviewing a GVEP official about plans for increasing access to modern energy as a means of accelerating rural development and alleviating poverty.*

### Empowering for Self-Sufficiency

IIE programs in the developing world expand the capacity of individuals and institutions to address the challenges of the twenty-first century. The Leadership Development Mechanism (LDM), sponsored by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation and operated through IIE's West Coast Center, cultivates emerging reproductive health leaders in Africa and Asia, teaching professionals how to improve access to family planning and reproductive health in the countries they serve. Since LDM's 2001 inception, 480 men and women in Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the Philippines—all leaders in reproductive health—have been trained and supported by the program.

U.S. graduate business students provide hands-on management assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries through the Emerging Market Development Adviser Program (EMDAP). During their assignments abroad, the students gain international work experience as they contribute to USAID mission objectives in host countries. As it enters its 15th year, IIE's EMDAP network now includes as program partners the Volunteers in Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA)—a new nonprofit consortium created by USAID and Booz | Allen | Hamilton.

In the fall of 2005, IIE/West Coast launched the Women in Technology Yemen (WIT Yemen) program, sponsored by the State Department's Middle East Partnership Initiative. WIT Yemen provides Yemeni women with the education necessary to become active participants in their society—a curriculum of computer training courses, accompanied by professional development and career skills workshops. Yemen's first Women's IT Association will be formed over the course of the Program, which will be expanded in 2006 to Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

The Regional Graduate Fellowship in the Social Sciences (RGFSS), funded by the Ford and Hewlett Foundations, aims to strengthen research capacity and competence at key academic centers in Central America and Mexico. RGFSS provides funding for advanced study anywhere in the world—with twenty countries now participating—in order to improve social science training and research in the region. Since the program's inception in 1987, nearly 900 participating college graduates have pursued M.A. and Ph.D degrees in high priority areas, such as government and democracy, peace and security, education reform, geography, and political science.

## IMPACT

**International education—exposure to worlds and views beyond one's own—improves the material quality of life and leadership around the globe.**

On assignment at USAID/Bangladesh with the Investing in Women in Development program, Dr. Jeannie Harvey trained staff and evaluated the Mission's development assistance activities. IWID's goal is to ensure that USAID's work promotes full and equal participation of women in a country's economic and social transformation. Dr. Harvey, Director of the Women's Center at the University of Idaho and a former Peace Corps and AmeriCorps trainer, went on to share her expertise at USAID Missions in Philippines, Thailand, and Cambodia.

