IREX is a global development and education organization. We strive for a more just, prosperous, and inclusive world in which individuals reach their full potential, governments serve their people, and communities thrive. Our decades of experience partnering with local institutions and organizations help us create greater impact and lasting change.

In 2022, IREX had more than 65 programs, an annual portfolio of $110 million, and a staff of nearly 650 worldwide in 23 country offices. By the close of 2023, we are projecting an annual portfolio of more than $134 million and a global staff of nearly 750 in 26 country offices.
IREX works in four areas essential to progress

Engage and empower **YOUTH**

Cultivate **LEADERS** at all levels of society

Strengthen educational, civic, and governing **INSTITUTIONS**

Extend access to **QUALITY EDUCATION** and **INFORMATION**
IREX views education as one of the great equalizers of our time so we invest talent and energy to strengthen education systems by strengthening educators. We collaborate with local stakeholders to invest in the potential of youth and provide tools and resources to teachers and schools to implement systems change to reduce disparities in education. We equip educators and school systems with tools that support education leaders who are recognizing and prioritizing performance improvement needs, fostering organizational learning, and making decisions based on strategic priorities.

72% of educators trained by IREX incorporated more effective curricula and methods into their teaching practice.

8,973 teachers incorporated problem-based learning, critical thinking, cross-cultural communications, teamwork, and self-management into their classrooms.
With the support of the LEGO Foundation, IREX is working with educators in economically disadvantaged regions in Kenya to implement the KPLAY program, which brings lessons to life through active engagement, hands-on experimentation, and play. The approach makes learning fun so children will experience the joy of learning while building competency across the curriculum, particularly in science, technology, engineering, and math skills. Since inception, KPLAY has trained 777 teachers from 111 schools reaching more than 30,000 students.
Effective, equitable, and accountable public institutions are critical to solving major social problems. IREX partners with institutions to enhance the quality of their services by improving their performance, increasing their transparency, and being more inclusive of youth, women, and marginalized groups. Also, to ensure institutions deliver for citizens, IREX builds institutional capacity and supports greater citizen participation and engagement, improved financial management and transparency, and the building of trust between communities and their local governments.

93% of organizations that were asked about the support they received from IREX stated that the support helped improve their performance.

2,596 institutions achieved their missions more effectively, accountably, and inclusively to better serve the public good with the support of IREX.
In Moldova, the USAID-funded Comunitatea Mea program supported **165,000 citizens** to engage their local governments to define the local government's priorities. The program also worked with local governments to better manage public assets, which resulted in more than **$12 million** of additional revenue that can be used to meet the needs of local citizens.
Empowering youth, making positive change

IREX provides learning and economic opportunities, leadership development, and civic engagement to foster economic growth, stability, and democratic development. We equip youth with essential skills to lead positive change on their employment trajectories and in their communities. Our programs engage youth-led and youth-serving organizations to maximize their potential and drive deep impact.

190,000 youth participated in IREX programs to strengthen their leadership skills, workforce readiness, and civic participation.

75% of participants in the SHE’s GREAT program reported more positive perceptions towards gender equity in science, technology, engineering, arts/design, and math education and careers.
Harnessing Youth Knowledge and Leading Change

The USAID-funded Youth Excel program supports young people and youth organizations to use the data and evidence they collect while implementing programs to both strengthen the program and to identify solutions for global development problems. In 2022, Youth Excel partnered with nearly 90 local youth-led and youth-serving organizations to help them use research and data to strengthen their programming.
IREX works to prevent the spread of the manipulative information, disinformation, hate speech, and propaganda that appears in both traditional and social media. IREX programs support quality independent media while also helping citizens learn how to better evaluate the information being broadcasted and shared with them as well as how to recognize and resist intentionally manipulative content.

354,639 individuals were trained by IREX on how to consume information more critically.

90% of IREX program participants demonstrated changed behaviors such as cross-checking news and not sharing disinformation.
IREX’s online Learn to Discern tools and courses build resilience to manipulative information through short interactive lessons designed to help users better understand their information ecosystem and to recognize and resist intentionally manipulative content. Since its launch, Learn to Discern has been adapted with local partners and audiences in more than 20 countries in all regions of the world.

- In Ukraine, the ability to identify hate speech more than doubled. Learners also demonstrated a 31% improvement in media analysis skills.
- In Jordan, female community leaders improved their ability by 67% to identify facts versus opinions and to reject manipulations.
- In Indonesia, learners who visited the Learn to Discern websites were 66% more likely to decrease online sharing of misinformation headlines.
Today’s challenges call for leaders who can create transformative change. IREX supports the cultivation of these leaders, who can be found in governments, civil society and educational organizations, and businesses, by developing their capabilities to make data informed decisions, providing opportunities to learn and reflect, and building networks that facilitate positive change.

210,671 people equipped by IREX across 49 programs with skills, knowledge, networks, and experience to drive positive social change.

97% of participants in the Mandela Washington Fellowship program were more confident in their ability to make a positive difference in their home communities after participating in the Fellowship.
The Community Solutions Program, with funding from the U.S. Department of State, provides professional development to community leaders from around the globe. The program’s curriculum includes leadership training and individual coaching. After the fellowship, 92% of fellows said the program made them a more effective leader and 99% reported an increase in their adaptive leadership skills.
We are committed to assisting the people of Ukraine and will continue to work with our partners to provide the support Ukraine needs to rebuild and become a more just, prosperous, and inclusive society when the war ends.

Fifty local organizations and initiatives partnered with IREX to distribute more than $615,000 in food, first aid kits, hygiene products, and fuel.

Through IREX’s Ukraine Rapid Response program, IREX worked with eight local government administrations and nongovernmental organizations to deliver and distribute 225 metric tons (nearly 500,000 pounds) of critical goods, such as generators, heaters, and wheelchairs, to the eastern regions of Ukraine to assist vulnerable populations and internally displaced persons.
Engaging and supporting youth and youth-led organizations

With SpivDiiia, a youth-led volunteer platform that connects people in need with resources and services, we assisted nearly 450,000 Ukrainians with humanitarian support.

In collaboration with local partners and the Ukraine Ministry of Youth and Sports, we assisted more than 3,200 Ukrainian youth with food and shelter and 5,600 youth with other forms of support including, employment services, legal consultations, media literacy training, and mental health counseling.

In partnership with Hewlett Packard, Microsoft, and USAID’s Ukraine National Identity through Youth program, we are distributing 5,000 laptops to ensure Ukrainian youth have access to education.

Providing safety and support for journalists and quality information for citizens

We collaborated with several organizations working in Ukraine, including the Academy of Ukrainian Press, National Union of Journalists, and Freedom House to assist more than 100 journalists with various forms of support, including relocation to safer parts of the country, setting-up a temporary hub to host displaced journalists so that they can continue their reporting efforts, and personal protection equipment for 16 media outlets.

We partnered with teachers to support Ukrainians’ ability to recognize the Kremlin disinformation and propaganda shared with them since the launch of the full-scale invasion. Of those trained through IREX’s Learn to Discern curriculum, 98% said participating in the program helped them counteract information manipulation.
IREX by the numbers

15.5% OVERHEAD, GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES

84.5% DIRECT PROJECT EXPENDITURES

$110 MILLION PORTFOLIO

100 COUNTRIES

650 GLOBAL STAFF
Program expenditures by region

- **34%** GLOBAL
- **6%** EUROPE
- **8%** ASIA
- **24%** EURASIA
- **12%** MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
- **11%** SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
- **5%** CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA
We sincerely thank the program participants and partners around the world whom we’ve had the privilege to work alongside. We are also grateful to the foundations, corporations, government agencies, and global citizens that make our work possible. For more than 50 years, our focus on investing in people and promoting understanding has remained steady through geopolitical adversity and global economic uncertainty. Learn more: www.irex.org.

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