



EDC Higher Education Partnerships for the Future

Higher education institutions (HEIs) and systems must respond to rapid change brought on by technological shifts, climate change, evolving workforce needs, demographic shifts, crises, and conflicts. Education Development Center (EDC) works with all HEIs, including colleges, universities, and technical and vocational education and training facilities (TVETs), to strengthen educational and economic systems. With holistic approaches, EDC helps HEIs connect with local employers, reach marginalized communities, improve learning outcomes, and prepare graduates for the future of work, whether in a classroom, a research lab, as an entrepreneur, at the workplace, or beyond.

Our Strategic Approach to Higher Education

EDC helps HEIs deliver inclusive learner-centered instruction, prepare work-ready graduates, strengthen institutional capacity, and develop educational leaders who are ready to create long-term impact in their communities. We bring the following to our HE partnerships:

- Adaptable work readiness curricula to support employability
- Pedagogical training for inclusive learner-centered teaching
- Evidence-based interventions for improved learning
- Context-driven institutional capacity assessment tools
- Strategies for meaningful private sector engagement

EDC recognizes that HEIs are embedded in complex education, economic, and social systems. Our approach includes collaborating with local governments, communities, organizations, and industries to foster locally sustained development in the interests of children, youth, families, and communities. EDC focuses on elevating the voices of underrepresented marginalized populations within these systems, such as women and girls; persons with disabilities; Indigenous peoples; marginalized racial, ethnic, and religious populations; and internally displaced youth.



OUR IMPACT

- **37 countries** in which HEIs have been strengthened
- **3+ million students** and alumni received improved pedagogy and work ready skills
- **300+ universities and TVETs** reached with institutional capacity strengthening and support
- **10,000+ faculty and administrators** trained in learner-centered pedagogy, employer engagement, and research

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Higher Education Program Highlights

Lebanon – HEI Capacity Strengthening

EDC is developing the capacity of 10 Lebanese HEIs to successfully prepare graduates for local and international labor markets. EDC provides professional development training to strengthen each HEI's responsiveness to labor market demands and expand students' job readiness skills. EDC delivered professional development to over 1,000 HEIs staff members across 39 HEI campuses.

Egypt – Pre-Service Teacher Education

EDC is supporting 15 Egyptian HEIs to align curriculum for prospective teachers with recent policy reforms in the education sector, enhance teaching practicums and laboratories, and enhance new and existing pre-service teacher degree and diploma programs. With EDC support, faculty use evidence-based pedagogy to improve learning outcomes and standards for graduates. Simultaneously, EDC is strengthening the capacity of multiple ministries to jointly plan, manage, and transform teacher education programs.

Vietnam – Youth Climate Leadership

EDC is strengthening the capacity of Vietnam National University's Institute for Leadership to empower youth to act on climate change, biodiversity, and environmental issues facing the Mekong region by supporting new curriculum reform and faculty development programs.

Liberia – Employability

EDC is working with local partners to increase the economic self-reliance and resilience of Liberian youth, including women and youth with disabilities. EDC is also strengthening the capacity of local youth-serving organizations, including HEIs, to provide entrepreneurship, technical, and employability skills to support youth in transitioning to employment or starting a business.

Mekong Region – Digital Skills and STEM Instruction

EDC strengthened the capacity of HEIs in Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam by delivering professional development to over 1,000 HEIs staff across 39 institutions. EDC enriched faculty knowledge of STEM disciplines and work readiness skills while strengthening online and blended teaching methodologies. EDC's approach fostered the development of learning communities to improve mathematics and science learning.

Uganda – Systems Strengthening

EDC is strengthening Uganda's national teacher development system by (1) supporting strategic planning in the new Ugandan National Institute of Teacher Education (UNITE), (2) facilitating the institutionalization of national policies and curricula for early grade reading and school-related gender-based violence prevention across teacher education providers, and (3) strengthening the instructional and planning capacity of HEIs. EDC also supports the Core Primary Teacher Colleges to align preservice teacher training with in-service programming to ensure continuity of evidence-based pedagogy and consistency with national education policies.

The Philippines – Community Engagement

EDC is partnering with Filipino HEIs to support out-of-school youth transitions to further education and employment. Through communities of practice, research grants, and youth development alliances, EDC strengthens HEIs to act locally to expand opportunities for out-of-school youth.



OUR METHODOLOGY

EDC offers a suite of capacity assessments, training approaches, and collaboration strategies that allow HEIs to lead within and have influence beyond host country HE systems. Some of our interventions follow:

Employability Programs

- Work Ready Now
- Be Your Own Boss
- Future Proof Skills
- Green and Blue Jobs
- Work-Based Learning

Teacher Education

- E-Learning and Blended Instruction
- SCOPE-Literacy
- Read Right Now Literacy Approach
- Start Right Now Early Childhood Development Approach
- Meaningful Math Now

Capacity Strengthening

- Labor Market Assessment
- Continuous Institutional Maturity Assessment
- Teacher Education Institutional Capacity Assessment



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