

# Post-Primary Education



With a staff of 4,700, FHI 360 serves more than 60 countries through work that is grounded in research and evidence; reinforced by partnerships; and focused on strengthening the capacity of individuals, local organizations and governments. FHI 360 has an extensive track record in designing and implementing large, complex international education projects that require expertise in both research methods and program delivery.

**FHI 360 strengthens education at the classroom, school and system levels while ensuring that youth receive holistic support across the learning continuum, beginning with the transition from primary to lower secondary and continuing through upper secondary and tertiary programs.**

A commitment to local ownership, capacity and sustainability underpins each of FHI 360's projects. Our post-primary and higher education programs take a positive youth development approach to strengthen the capacity of education systems and institutions to sustainably deliver quality education services to all students. We focus on:

## **Supporting youth, particularly those who are vulnerable or marginalized, on a path to becoming successful, productive adults**

### **WE NURTURE SAFE AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.**

We work to promote a sense of belonging; foster positive social interactions in the classroom; and protect all students' psychosocial health. Our USAID Education Innovation Project (EIP) in El Salvador (2022–27, \$25 million) is directly supporting teachers, principals and Ministry of Education staff to improve the foundational skills and psychosocial well-being of basic education students, including the most marginalized and vulnerable.

### **WE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT INTERVENTIONS TO ENGAGE STUDENTS FROM UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS.**

Next Engineers (2021–26, \$25 million), is increasing the diversity of engineers worldwide, including and keeping more girls in the STEM pipeline. USAID's higher education programs in Afghanistan (2014–22) — University Support and Workforce Development (USWDP) and Advancing Higher Education for Afghanistan's Development (AHEAD) — expanded young women's limited access to universities.

**WE CONSIDER THE WHOLE STUDENT.** The USAID REACH Program (Realizing Equitable Access, Retention and Completion in Higher Education) program (2022–27, \$30 million) provides holistic, needs-based scholarship programs customized to young people from marginalized communities, complementing



economic support with wraparound psychosocial, academic and employability services. REACH builds on FHI 360's implementation of the USAID Advance regional workforce development program (2015–23, \$32 million).

## **Implementing programs using a localized model of coordinating and strengthening institutions as education ecosystem actors**

**WE OFFER A PLATFORM THAT SUPPORTS LOCAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO EXCEL.** Under REACH and Advance, local higher education institutions take the lead in determining their capacity-building needs, and FHI 360 facilitates their partnerships with international-based universities and organizations to deliver technical support. USWDP and AHEAD worked with a consortium of U.S. and global universities to redevelop Afghan higher education institutions long neglected under Taliban rule, both by connecting them to international institutions and by training government policymakers, university administrators and professors to provide a quality education to a generation of students, both men and women, in the most volatile of country environments.

**WE STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS TO CONDUCT RESEARCH.** Building research capacity was a core function of USWDP and AHEAD's networks and partnerships in Afghanistan. Today, through EIP in El Salvador, FHI 360 works directly with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and with local and international organizations to support university research on basic education and engage in evidence-based advocacy for improving basic education.

**WE SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS TO DEVELOP MEANINGFUL PARTNERSHIPS TO IMPROVE CURRICULA, CREATE OPPORTUNITIES AND SUSTAIN IMPACT.** Advance enabled 12 higher education institutions across Latin America and the Caribbean to align 27 technical degree programs to the skills demanded by high-growth economic sectors in their respective countries. Our partners forged valuable alliances that continue to provide economic, educational and professional development, along with employment resources and opportunities, to students, faculty and staff.

## **Strengthening institutions and systems to provide high-quality, market-relevant educational opportunities**

**WE MODEL AND DEVELOP HIGH-QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING MATERIALS.** Next Engineers has put together a library of 180 STEM design challenges and teacher resources that out-of-school learning facilitators use to engage students. Facilitators learn hands-on pedagogies and students learn design thinking and the use of locally sourced, inexpensive materials to complete their challenges.

**WE BUILD EDUCATION MINISTRY AND SYSTEM CAPACITY TO DELIVER QUALITY EDUCATION.** The USAID-funded Bridge to Middle School program in Morocco (2022–27, \$25 million) is building the Ministry of Education's capacity to implement new, student-centered curricula, with the aim of improving students' ability to master key skills in Arabic, STEM subjects and English in upper primary and middle school. In Liberia, USAID is funding ESSA, the Education Systems Strengthening Activity (2023–28, \$23 million), to support the Ministry of Education in using Problem Driven Iterative Adaptation — a locally led framework and process for solving complex problems — to catalyze change and generate sustainable local solutions to persistent challenges using information, resource management and accountability systems.

**WE KNOW THAT EMPLOYABILITY IS MORE THAN JUST GETTING A JOB.** Through competitive grants, REACH supports local higher education ecosystem actors in Guatemala, Honduras and Paraguay to improve student support, career and employment resources, including academic, financial and psychosocial support services that facilitate both students' transition to the workforce and their lifelong success.

**About FHI 360:** FHI 360 is a global organization that mobilizes research, resources and relationships so people everywhere have access to the opportunities they need to lead full and healthy lives. With collaborations in over 60 countries, we work directly with local leaders to advance social and economic equity, improve health and well-being, respond to humanitarian crises and strengthen community resilience. We share data-driven insights and scalable tools that expand access and equity so communities can effectively address complex challenges, respond to shocks and achieve thriving futures.

**WASHINGTON DC OFFICE**  
2101 L St NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20037 USA  
T 1.202.884.8000  
F 1.202.884.8400

**FHI 360 HEADQUARTERS**  
359 Blackwell Street, Suite 200  
Durham, NC 27701 USA  
T 1.919.544.7040  
F 1.919.544.7261

**ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE**  
19th Floor, Tower 3  
Sindhorn Building  
130–132 Wireless Road  
Kwaeng Lumpini, Khet Phatumwan  
Bangkok 10330 Thailand  
T 66.2.263.2300  
F 66.2.263.2114

**EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA  
REGIONAL OFFICE**  
1115 Burnett Street  
Hatfield Square, Building 3, 4th Floor  
Hatfield, Pretoria 0083 South Africa  
T 27.12.762.4000  
F 27.12.762.4001

**To learn more, visit  
[www.fhi360.org](http://www.fhi360.org)**