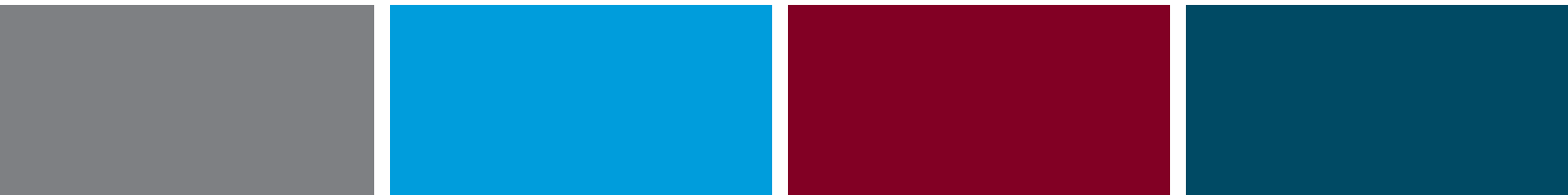


Building elements of a vibrant society



IREX
Make a Better World

2012 At A Glance



Dear Friends of IREX,

IREX believes that the path to a better world runs through lives enriched by knowledge, learning, and experience. The highlights of our work in 2012 show how IREX links creative concepts and ideas with new processes and technologies to preserve the values we all share. Our partners' strengths, derived from their own traditions, are being leveraged by innovations learned from their colleagues and partners around the world. At the same time, their passion, energy, and new ideas strengthen and invigorate American communities and institutions. So please join us as we work with our partners around the globe to make a better world.

W. Robert Pearson
IREX President

Avis T. Bohlen
IREX Board Chair 2006-2012



500,000

This year IREX helped over half a million people. Learn more at www.irex.org.

2,000+

women from the Middle East and North Africa participated in IREX programs to raise their voices, use digital media for social action, and develop their professional expertise as civil society leaders, journalists and teachers.

60%

The leading independent radio news network serving the Serb minority in Kosovo increased its audience **60%** with IREX support.



Strengthening local institutions

Positive, lasting change depends on the strength of local institutions—civil society organizations, media outlets, governance structures, and schools and universities.

IREX works with community leaders and program alumni to launch their own NGOs, establish responsive community development projects, and transfer their knowledge to other local organizations. IREX programs bolster key media and information institutions such as community radio, television, multimedia platforms, and community information centers to provide a sustainable approach to informing and engaging communities. IREX helps local NGOs develop program and financial management capacity, enhance their monitoring and evaluation skills, and secure new and more sustainable support and funding.

*The residents of Fish Town, **Liberia** celebrated their revived community radio station, restored connection to the rest of the country and renewed belief in their ability to help themselves. With technical assistance and support from IREX, the community reopened the radio station, implemented new management structures and activities to build local government and community support.*

Improving literacy and education

Literacy is essential for lifelong learning, educational success, economic growth, and healthy lifestyles. IREX focuses on teacher training and support to schools as one means to improve literacy and extend the cascading benefits of basic education. IREX trains master teachers in student-centered teaching methods, interactive technology for the classroom, curriculum development and lesson planning. Teachers implement techniques in their classes and deliver in-service training for other educators. IREX programs support non-traditional venues and means for literacy education through libraries and radio stations. IREX creates opportunities for girls to stay in school longer and broaden the skills they develop.

*Kindergarteners in Muntinlupa City, **Philippines** learned to read through a service learning project developed by International Leaders in Education Program master teacher Rowena Hibanada. She worked with high school students to read to and mentor early grade students. She reports “improved reading skills, leadership and higher self-esteem and improved academic performance among the kindergarteners as well as the high schoolers.”*

Full online report at www.irex.org • page 1

400

IREX gave more than **\$12 million** in grants directly to **400** local institutions.

6x

Participants in the Youth Theater for Peace program are **6 times** more confident in their ability to reduce conflict in their communities than other youth in Tajikistan.



Bringing global resources to American communities

To compete and collaborate in the global market, US communities need to develop and maintain strong international connections. IREX program participants and partnerships facilitate these connections for businesses, communities, and schools. Through professional internships and volunteering, IREX's participants contribute thousands of hours to US businesses, nonprofits, and governmental organizations each year. IREX programs help US teachers gain valuable skills and perspectives to globalize their classrooms and curricula, connect virtually with schools around the world, and engage school administrators. Partnerships forged by IREX between US and overseas media provide insight into ways to adapt to a rapidly changing media marketplace.

*The Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium benefited from the expertise contributed by Taibur Rahman, a Community Solutions leader from **Bangladesh**. Rahman shared his knowledge of flooding in coastal communities to help produce the Community Resiliency Index, a measure of communities' abilities to adapt to environmental changes and disasters.*

Expanding youth voice and economic opportunity

The rising global youth population presents great potential for dynamic economic growth and social change, but it also challenges governments and communities to educate, employ, and provide youth-friendly services. IREX helps youth engage in their communities, become successful citizens, and contribute to the growth of their societies. IREX programs amplify youth voice through social media and social activism, citizen journalism, digital reporting, and conflict resolution training. IREX provides training, establishes career centers, and offers internship programs to help youth develop marketable skills and secure meaningful employment. IREX facilitates effective youth-adult relationships and strengthens the environment for meaningful youth participation.

*Youth groups in **Rwanda** launched small income-generating agriculture and husbandry projects as a means to decrease poverty and increase stability and peace in their communities. Applying IREX training in leadership, project management, and conflict mitigation, participants in Youth for Change advanced reconciliation efforts through their own economic activities, theater performances and community dialogue.*



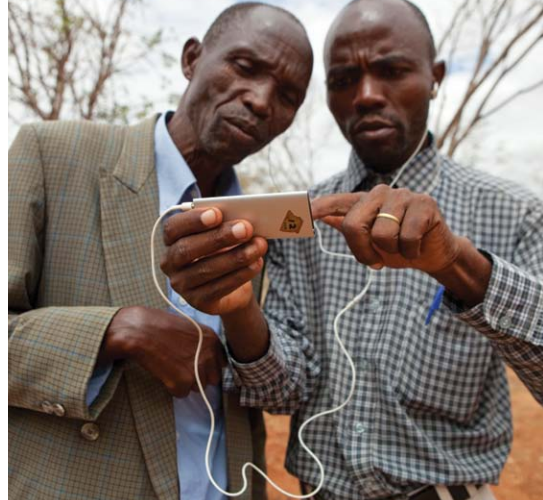
Ricky Anywar, NGO Leader, Uganda

Former child soldiers in Uganda are putting down weapons and picking up tools to learn new skills and get a new lease on life thanks to Community Solutions leader Ricky Richard Anywar.

As the Founder and Executive Director of Friends of Orphans in Uganda, Anywar, a former child soldier himself, works to reintegrate marginalized youth into their home communities with employment opportunities, train internally displaced persons in managing and resolving disputes, support individuals living with HIV/AIDS, and increase food production in local areas.

"I saw from my own experience that if former child soldiers could be supported, they are still useful human beings and good citizens," Anywar said. "I would like to give an opportunity for each of them. They can also still succeed in life."

Through IREX's online Community Leadership Institute, Anywar learned new communication, networking and fundraising techniques. With these new skills, he garnered support for several peacebuilding and youth livelihoods programs and to establish a community radio station. Anywar plans to expand the programs across Pader district.



Leveraging the power of technology

IREX gives people the tools to communicate, learn, and engage with others within their communities and across the globe. Using appropriate technology and increasing access to information provides a wider reach to those promoting positive social change. IREX supports libraries to become modern community learning centers equipped with public access computers and librarians trained to use technology in innovative ways. IREX trains civic groups to use social media tools to generate viral campaigns on domestic issues. IREX works with media outlets and journalists to expand their digital media presence to engage audiences, improve their newsgathering, and reach underserved communities.

*Victims of human rights abuse and violence in **Syria** now have a powerful tool for documenting and raising awareness of these crimes through the Syrian Justice and Accountability Center (SJAC). The interactive map, data and analysis on the SJAC website compile on-the-ground reporting of incidences and capture a record of victims' experiences.*

Using libraries to power development

As new technology spreads into every corner of the world, information becomes a key tool in all fields of development. Reliable access to information powers the ability of citizens to improve their lives and communities.

Building upon the successful Global Libraries projects, IREX is leading a global effort called Beyond Access to draw attention to the need for access to information and the role that public libraries play.

In October 2012, IREX and Beyond Access partners, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, hosted *Local Alternatives for Global Development: Rediscovering Libraries* in Washington DC. It was the first major conference to bring together community development experts, government officials, and library innovators from more than 35 countries.

Opened by USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah, Ricardo Lagos, 33rd President of Chile and Susan Glasser, Editor-in-Chief of *Foreign Policy*, the event brought into focus the need to work with existing institutions like libraries to meet today's development challenges through local partners.

Full online report at www.irex.org • page 3

Shorena Shaverdashvili, Journalist, Georgia

Citizens in the country of Georgia are increasingly looking to journalists like Shorena Shaverdashvili for trustworthy news and information.

The journalist runs *Liberali*, an independent, in-depth news magazine supported by IREX's G-MEDIA program. In recent years the tense political climate has prevented businesses from advertising—for fear of being associated with government opposition. That Shaverdashvili has kept *Liberali* alive despite marketing challenges attests to her resiliency and passion for a freer press.

“IREX has enabled us to do quality journalism—breaking, exclusive stories,” she says. “Our mission is to keep following the story...where, too often, other outlets simply fail.”

Shaverdashvili and her small team work tirelessly to cover human rights violations and misuses of power for a steadily growing print and online audience that reaches 100,000 a month. Her efforts to report on a prison abuse scandal and the parliamentary elections have paid off; the public demanded investigations and that police treat detainees humanely. Online traffic also hit a new milestone—30,000 readers per day.





About IREX

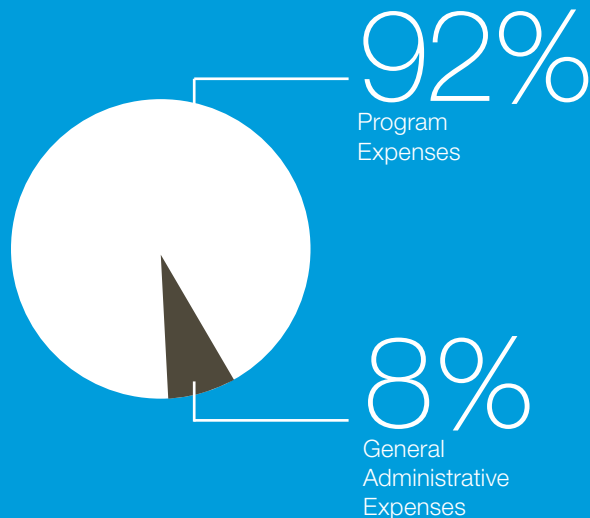
IREX is an independent, international, nonprofit organization that works with local partners to create innovative programs to solve development challenges. IREX employs field-tested methods and innovative uses of technologies. Our approach emphasizes local ownership and more than **90%** of our field staff are locally-hired experts.

Founded in 1968, IREX has an annual portfolio of over \$70 million and a staff of 400 worldwide. IREX implements more than 70 projects in 125 countries.

Financial Snapshot

More financial info at www.irex.org/financials

\$70 Million Revenue



Claudia Borges, Teacher, Brazil

Over 34,000 students living in 1,000 remote communities in the Amazon rainforest have access to modern learning thanks to teachers like Claudia Borges and new education technologies. The Centro de Midias (Media Center), part of the Ministry of Education in the State of Amazonas, connects Borges and other teachers in a television studio in the city of Manaus to students throughout the state.

Borges currently teaches English to more than 5,900 students. “I don’t think about the huge number of students,” she said. “Only in the studio do I realize that I’m teaching to all of my state. People from very small communities and really far ones are connected through the TV and the Internet. It’s almost unbelievable sometimes.”

In the US, Borges explored strategies to integrate student-centered learning, lesson planning, and technology tools into the classroom. It would be easy to assume that instruction via television would be teacher-centric, but Borges points out that “the main teaching strategy that we use is collaborative learning because the students are highly motivated to work in groups.”



Thank You

IREX thanks the many individuals and organizations that generously supported our work this year. IREX combines funding from foundations, corporations, government agencies, and globally-minded individuals like you to help over half a million people a year.

IREX is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization. Out of every dollar donated, a full 92 cents goes directly to programs. With your generous gift, we are able to advance knowledge and understanding on a truly global scale.

Please make your tax-deductible donation today, either online at www.irex.org/donate or by mailing a check to IREX, 2121 K St., NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20037. Thank you for helping make a better world.

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