



INVEST IN OUR FUTURE GLOBAL WORKFORCE

The U.S. Department of State's 100,000 Strong in the Americas academic exchange initiative champions the power of education to transform societies, create new institutional networks, and stimulate economic opportunities and prosperity. The Innovation Fund is the trusted, flexible mechanism that supports this signature hemispheric-wide education program.

IMPACT IN FIVE YEARS

STRATEGIC PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIP

9,800
Students

491
Universities
& Colleges

25
Countries

49
U.S. States

Sustainability

Public-Private sector contributions from the U.S. Department of State, regional governments, companies, NGOs, and foundations total \$14 million as of December 2020, to support Innovation Fund grant competitions that create sustainable partnerships between higher education institutions (HEIs) throughout the United States and Latin America.

Scale

The Innovation Network currently engages over 2,300 HEIs in the Americas with 1,200 in the United States. In six years (2014-2020), the Innovation Fund has awarded 243 grants to teams of 491 higher education institutions in 25 countries and 49 U.S. states. These 243 institutional partnerships have benefitted approximately 9,800 students to date, providing access to new, sustainable exchange and training programs where students work together internationally in multiple academic fields and gain technical and linguistic skills imperative for workforce development.

Competition

Teams of universities and colleges in the United States and Latin America work together to compete for grants to create new exchange and training programs that provide students with critical opportunities to collaborate, solve real-world problems, and gain skills for today's workforce.

Leverage

Teams of universities/colleges commit matching funds to leverage Innovation Fund grant awards - close to double - to implement new exchange and training programs for students across the Americas.





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WHY INVEST IN THE INNOVATION FUND?

Partnership

Invest in the Innovation Fund to collaborate with the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Embassies, NGOs, companies, foundations, regional government partners, and academic networks working together to provide critical access to new exchange and training programs for more students between the United States and the rest of the Western Hemisphere region.

Flexibility

Each Innovation Fund grant competition is custom-tailored to meet corporate social responsibility and workforce development objectives. Each funding partner can prioritize countries, academic fields of study, student demographic profiles, and/or training areas that align with their interests.

Visibility

Innovation Fund partners have opportunities to expand corporate social responsibility impact and brand footprint in Latin America and the Caribbean with program partners from governments, universities, community colleges, foundations, and companies.

Leverage Resources to Maximize Impact

Your contribution will go even further through matching funds that are provided by Innovation Fund grant-winning teams. Every donor dollar invested in Innovation Fund grants is matched on average by an additional \$1.80 from grant-winning teams, furthering the impact of your support.

"For Cementos Progreso, it has been a great pleasure to support the initiative of the United States Department of State, the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund, aimed at generating more and better opportunities for the people and universities of this hemisphere. We strongly believe in the value of these kind of initiatives, which are a central mechanism to promote relationships and collaboration between the higher education community in the United States and the rest of the Americas."

-Mario Montano, Chairman of the Board of Cementos Progreso.



The Innovation Fund is managed through the **Partners of the Americas Foundation** in coordination with the **Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs** at the **U.S. Department of State**.