

World Learning



World Learning Training and Education Services programs acknowledge and build on partners' and participants' knowledge, experience, and ideas.



Photo by Ruth Goode

Training and Education Services

Driving positive change by improving opportunities for quality education

World Learning Training and Education Services (TES) designs and implements education programs for teachers and trainers and supports educational reform. Partnering with government agencies, educational institutions, and communities, TES works to enhance international and domestic education to foster strong civil societies and positive social change.

Recognizing the Need

Quality training and education are critical to social and economic development. In particular, educational reform and building capacity in language teacher education and training are recognized as essential components of global engagement. Many individuals, communities, and nations seek support in strengthening their capacity to deliver more effective, competency-based training and language education.

Values and Approach

World Learning Training and Education Services designs programs using an approach which is rights-based and rooted in the concepts of equality, active participation, and inclusion. Programs are distinctive in the following ways:

TES programs acknowledge and build on partners' and participants' knowledge, experience, and ideas to identify, analyze, and develop contextually-appropriate, sustainable solutions to educational challenges. All work is based on and promotes inclusion, respectful collaboration, and active participation.

- In educational reform initiatives, TES works with partners to bring research-based educational best practices to teachers, administrators, teacher educators, and policy makers.
- A rigorous trainer certification process through World Learning's SIT Graduate Institute ensures quality.
- Training is structured around competency-based benchmarks to integrate monitoring and evaluation into programs.
- Training programs demand critical thinking by encouraging participants to reflect on their own practices and experiences, going beyond content to help participants practice and develop new attitudes and skills.
- Education and training program participants develop skills and practices which enable them to continue to learn and grow autonomously as professionals after training.
- Training and education programs explicitly increase capacity by building self-sustaining cohorts and professional communities, fostering their continued growth and development.

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Representative Clients and Activities

■ Ministry of Education, Algiers, Algeria—The Educational Reform in English as a Foreign Language.

TES has worked with Creative Associates under the Middle East Partnership Initiative in Algeria since 2005. TES assists the ministry in implementing educational reform as part of the Partnership in Schools Project. Designed to bring about systemic change, the project links ministry stakeholders in the reform process through activities including:

- Creating competency-based middle and high school English as a Foreign Language (EFL) curricula and frameworks for teacher competency and student evaluation
- Training national EFL inspectors, teachers, and curriculum developers
- Training higher education faculty in pre-service teacher education programs
- Creating a national online resource and forum for teachers and administrators

■ Burma American Center Project

World Learning's Burma American Center Project has worked to improve the quality of English language teaching in private Burmese institutions and to increase access to English language learning materials. Since 2004 the project has:

- Trained over 1000 language teachers throughout Burma
- Designed language curriculum and assessment systems for the American Center
- Made English language learning materials available to over 10,000 Burmese through the creation of a Self-Access Center
- Provided workshops and other short courses to teachers and other professionals

■ Kobe City University of Foreign Studies (KCUFS)

TES collaborated with KCUFS faculty to develop a portfolio assessment for the Master's degree program in English language teaching.

■ Laborers-Associated General Contractors

TES reviewed and redesigned all training courses for a management/labor union training fund, including drafting new guides for instructors and participants in more than 70 trade courses. TES also developed new vocational ESOL courses for non-English speaking workers in the construction industry.

■ Massachusetts Department of Education

TES worked with 40 Massachusetts school districts over a two-year period to implement sheltered English instruction. The project raised awareness of English language learners' needs in K–12 content classes, and offered teachers practical techniques and approaches to address those needs. TES is also delivering an in-service Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) training project that has prepared more than 100 content teachers to become effective and licensed ESL teachers. The program includes input sessions, class observation, online course work, coaching and peer mentoring, practice teaching, and a clinical ESL class review.

TES also offers a wide range of short-term training courses including:

- The SIT TESOL Certificate Course
- SIT Best Practices in TESOL
- The International Diploma in Language Teaching Management
- The Teaching English Language Learners in Content Classes Graduate Certificate
- In-service teacher-training for ESL K–12
- Teacher Training and Professional Development Institute programs
- Training of Trainers
- International business communication courses

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World Learning, a nonprofit education, training, and exchange provider, works globally to enhance the capacity and commitment of individuals, institutions, and communities to create a more peaceful and just world. Founded in 1932, World Learning runs international development programs, study abroad, and graduate education in more than 70 countries, with participants from more than 140 countries. Development priorities include civil society and governance, education, HIV/AIDS, international exchange, and capacity development and training. US-based in Washington, DC, and Vermont, the organization has annual operating revenues exceeding \$100 million.

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