

## CAPACITY STATEMENT:

# Research and Evaluation

I-TECH specializes in developing **appropriate research designs and methods** for application in resource-limited settings to get answers to research questions in real time. A university-based program, I-TECH draws from experts in **qualitative and quantitative methods** in a wide range of theoretical and practical disciplines, including **health economics, anthropology, health sciences, medicine, and education**.

I-TECH's **monitoring and evaluation staff** work to ensure the efficacy of health care training sessions and programs by applying their expertise in **cost analysis, data collection, and measurement** to rigorous evaluations of these interventions. I-TECH conducts **operations research** to inform every phase of programming, starting with **assessments** to clarify the underlying nature and parameters of a problem before an intervention begins, ensuring that the appropriate one will be developed or applied. **Special studies** are also designed to answer questions about specific program strategies and approaches. Such research questions might include: *Will an intensive nurse training program result in more effective patient care? Will onsite clinical mentoring help to improve systems related to patient care? What type of interventions will lead to improved screening and care of HIV-infected mothers and their babies?* Monitoring ongoing projects and programs allows for midstream corrections; **key findings are communicated to managers and leaders to improve programmatic decision making**. Results are disseminated through publication, when appropriate.

## Core Capabilities

- Conceptualize the program goal and the desired results as well as associated performance indicators, and monitoring and evaluation tasks.
- Conduct formative evaluations to assess training needs and inform development of training products.
- Conduct summative evaluations, including outcome evaluations, impact evaluations, cost-benefit analyses, and cost effectiveness analyses.
- Develop and test necessary data-gathering instruments used in focus groups, interviews, record reviews, direct observation, pre- and posttests, skill assessments, and surveys.
- Lead and mentor teams in data collection and analysis.
- Train country partners in monitoring and evaluation best practices and tools.
- Host workshops and stakeholder meetings to share results of findings, and build stakeholder buy-in for the changes or improvements suggested by study findings.



## Sample Projects

### Assessing the needs of female sex workers in Botswana

I-TECH conducted an HIV needs assessment among female sex workers (FSW) in Botswana to understand their current risks for HIV and their access to relevant HIV-prevention and treatment services. This assessment allowed the government of Botswana and its partners to identify interventions for FSW that would increase safe behaviors and improve their access to and use of health care and other legal/social services.

### Evaluating the application of learning following a training in Uganda

I-TECH conducted an outcome evaluation in Uganda of a 4-week course on comprehensive HIV care to determine the effects of the course on four outcomes: 1) clinical skills, 2) clinical activities, 3) monitoring of HIV patients, and 4) training activities.

### Formative research for prevention message design in Ethiopia

I-TECH conducted formative research in Ethiopia to develop education messages for patients on the importance of antiretroviral therapy (ART) adherence and continuation of care.

### Evaluating the national HIV training program in Tanzania

I-TECH conducted an evaluation of Tanzania's national care and treatment training program for the purpose of helping to ensure an effective rollout of Tanzania's national antiretroviral drug (ARV) program.

### Evaluating training capacity in voluntary counseling and testing in Jamaica and Eastern Caribbean

I-TECH conducted an evaluation of Jhpiego's voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) training activities in the Caribbean region. The evaluation methods included key informant interviews of Jhpiego staff and stakeholders in the countries of Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago, in addition to analyses of Training Information Management System (TIMS) data.

## CONTACT I-TECH:

### University of Washington

901 Boren Avenue, Suite 1100  
Seattle, WA 98104-3508, USA  
Tel: + 1 (206) 221-4944  
Fax: + 1 (206) 221-4945

### University of California, San Francisco

50 Beale Street, Suite 1300  
San Francisco, CA 94105, USA  
Tel: + 1 (415) 597-8198  
Fax: + 1 (415) 597-9386

Email: [info@go2itech.org](mailto:info@go2itech.org)



[www.go2itech.org](http://www.go2itech.org)