

Global Institute: Research and Learning Lab

Introduction to the Global Institute’s Research and Learning Lab

The Global Institute’s Research and Learning Lab’s goal is to bridge the gap between evidence and practice by facilitating collaborative learning and action research between practitioners and researchers. The Lab will operate across all four pillars of the Global Institute, leading the generation of insights and evidence around a consistent learning agenda guided by six headline inquiry questions.

Levels	Learning Questions
Classrooms & Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we learn from transformational classrooms about how to develop students holistically? • How can we develop and support teachers and other key leaders in schools as collective leaders who develop students holistically?
Communities & Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we learn from the communities, systems, and ecosystems that are developing all of their students holistically? • What is the role of collective leadership in transforming communities and systems? • How can we develop collective leadership in people and systems?
Regional & Global Education Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we catalyze collective learning across borders to accelerate innovation, evidence generation, and impact?

In this work, the Lab will employ a consistent and complementary set of methodologies designed to engage practitioners and researchers simultaneously in trialing new practices and generating new evidence.

Methodology	Description
Discover global hypotheses through learning loops	Use collaborative inquiry and action learning to surface insights, shift mindsets, and co-create frameworks
Catalyze action by engaging practitioners in research	Create learning spaces for practitioners to develop mindsets and translate evidence and insights into practice
Pioneer new ways of measuring of collective leadership development	Develop metrics to more reliably and effectively measure student, teacher, and system leader outcomes to inform design
Apply research to test program choices	Clarify program design choices and test them using adaptive learning and programmatic improvement research
Produce knowledge and global public goods	Codify, synthesize, and disseminate the network’s insights and learning in knowledge products, tools, and global public goods

Research and Learning Lab plans for 2025

During the Global Institute’s two-year pilot from 2024-2026 the Research and Learning Lab intends to experiment with key metrics and measurement tools, establish a knowledge base of key tools and items, and test and evolve approaches to working directly with practitioners to generate evidence and insight. Key projects and priorities will include:

- Engaging researchers and practitioners in **multiple interrelated projects around holistic student development and socio-emotional learning**, involving collaborative inquiry, teacher and teacher developer action research cohorts, and the generation of new metrics and measurement tools
- Engaging a select group of global and local partners from within and beyond the Teach For All network in a **set of interrelated projects aimed at investigating and generating progress in the development of collective leadership to contribute to education system change**, including the dissemination of our latest insights, collaborative inquiry into key topics, and testing new metrics

The table below summarizes the projects that the Research and Learning Lab will undertake next year.

Method	Classrooms and Schools	Communities and Systems
Collaborative inquiry and insight synthesis	<p>Collaborative inquiry into transformational classrooms to explore innovations in socio-emotional learning</p> <p>Convene a global working group of practitioners and researchers who will investigate and test approaches to holistic student outcomes measurement</p>	<p>Collaborative inquiry for 12-15 mature organizations into convening as a way to develop collective leadership</p> <p>Translation and dissemination of insights in collective leadership development generated through the Missing Piece Report & Evidence Review</p>
Metrics and measurement development	<p>Continue to build out foundations for the student outcomes measurement toolkit</p> <p>Continue to design infrastructure and gather tools and resources for the holistic student outcomes item pool (funding contingent)</p>	<p>Continue leadership capacities metrics pilot to generate tools to measure collective leadership development at the individual and system level</p> <p>Develop metrics, measures, and survey tools of collective leadership in ecosystems: purpose, trust, connectivity</p>
Local action research and learning	<p>Launch pilot teacher development for socio-emotional learning action research and learning cohort for 4-5 organizations within and beyond the Teach For All network, in partnership with HundrEd and others</p>	<p>Launch longitudinal study of leadership development with select partners across the Teach For All network (funding contingent)</p> <p>Action research projects on place-based collective leadership development efforts resulting in 10 case studies (funding contingent)</p>

Impact evaluations	<p>One-on-one advising on student outcomes impact evaluation to support 2-3 organizations to launch new evaluations (funding contingent)</p> <p>Complete & disseminate evidence from a selection of network partners' studies on whole child development</p>	<p>One-on-one advising on systems impact evaluation to Teach For All network partners with sufficient scale and depth of historic impact</p>
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During this period, the Global Institute's Research and Learning Lab team will be seeking to proactively engage with potential partners both within and beyond the Teach For All network, in order to explore opportunities to strengthen learning communities, align learning agendas or build out collaborative research and learning projects.