



Multiplying Impact: Education

Improving the delivery and quality of education worldwide, to equip students of all ages with the skills for success



To address the global need to create long-term growth, we must improve access to education, train future employees, and build better-educated communities.



In developed and developing countries alike, Cisco initiatives improve lives by helping educators use technology to enhance teaching and learning.

We invest in programs that give students the foundation to succeed beyond school. We focus on the skills needed for information and communication technology (ICT) careers and emphasize the importance of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education, especially in underserved communities. Through our own initiatives, our wide-ranging education partnerships, and the volunteer efforts of our employees, we reach students at all levels and foster environments that encourage learning and create brighter futures.

Cisco Networking Academy® Program

According to research developed by IDC for Cisco, network-powered innovation is increasing the demand for trained ICT professionals, yet limited access to ICT skills education is creating a persistent and growing networking skills gap. In market segments around the world, demand is outpacing supply.

The Cisco Networking Academy program teaches students how to design, build, manage, and secure computer networks. The program, which currently includes 10,000 academies in 165 countries and has one million students engaged in learning each year, prepares people to fill jobs that are in demand worldwide and, at the same time, supports the educational needs of local communities. Networking Academy™ programs have a large presence in key areas of Europe, Latin America, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, and a significant percentage of students are female. Some organizations deliver Networking Academy courses specifically to underserved, disadvantaged, or disabled students, in hopes of providing a career path for financial independence. In India, for example, the "NetAcad Without Borders" (NWB) program delivers braille-based Networking Academy courses to the visually impaired. A similar program in Kenya delivers Networking Academy courses to hearing-impaired individuals, and there is a Networking Academy facility in Ukraine devoted to teaching orphans.

Courses are delivered through a blended learning model that combines classroom instruction with online curricula, and the Cisco NetSpace™ learning platform supports development of valuable career skills – such as problem-solving, communication, and collaboration. Networking Academy is Cisco's longest-running corporate social responsibility (CSR) program and is supported worldwide by public-private partnerships with educational institutions, nonprofits, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, and community centers.

you + networks = impact^x



Education Initiatives

To increase opportunities for young people and equip people with valuable job skills, Cisco has sponsored educational initiatives around the world, many of them involving Networking Academy programs.

- In **Brazil**, where Cisco has long-standing partnerships with a very long list of government and non-government organizations, Networking Academy programs have already involved more than 107,000 students. Special efforts have been made to reach young people in vulnerable and underserved areas, as well as students in technical schools and professionals in public agencies.
- In 2008, in the wake of the largest earthquake in **China's** history, Cisco helped support rebuilding efforts in Sichuan province while improving the quality of education and healthcare delivery. The Connecting Sichuan program transformed local schools into models of digitally enabled education and launched 25 Cisco Networking Academies.
- In 2009, after flooding devastated parts of southern **India**, Cisco launched Project Samudaya, which built 2,223 homes, two schools, and a primary healthcare center, and created a distance-learning solution that links 850 local children with teachers in urban areas. Elsewhere in India, Networking Academy courses are being used to teach new skills to active and retiring service personnel, war widows, and army families.
- Celebrating more than 15 years in **Mexico**, Networking Academy has more than 47,000 students enrolled in more than 300 academies throughout the country, and is part of rehabilitation programs that help young people develop professionally. Cisco is also working with various groups in Mexico to facilitate education through technology for basic education.
- Since 2000, more than 33,000 students in **Turkey** have participated in Networking Academy programs. Eight of the top ten universities in Turkey now offer Networking Academy coursework, and Academy offerings will soon be part of skills training programs associated with various government programs. The Turkish military also offers Networking Academy coursework for ground, air, and naval forces, and has produced more than 300 NetAcad graduates since 2003.

"I really appreciate not only the facilities and equipment, but also the partners' commitment and dedication. They have influenced my way of working and my passion for teaching. A window opened for us here. Now we can see the sky and the future."

- Han Yu, IT instructor, Qingchengshan High School, Dujiangyan, Sichuan Province, China

More Information

To learn more about Cisco's CSR initiatives in education, please visit:

csr.cisco.com/pages/education

Education Partners

To help educate future employees for work in STEM fields, we partner with a number of nonprofits and social enterprises with international scope, including the following:

- **MIND Research Institute**, a U.S. nonprofit that develops ST Math, a software program to increase math proficiency among elementary and middle-school students, worked with Cisco to launch a web-based version of the program and is now piloting initiatives in London, Johannesburg, and Qatar.
- **Teach for All** is a network of independent social enterprises working to expand educational opportunities in 23 countries. Cisco is helping the organization lay the foundation for a global telecommunications platform that will facilitate resource sharing and collaboration.
- **Teachers Without Borders** aims to close the global education divide. Cisco and the Cisco Foundation have awarded US\$2.8 million to support TWB's programs and have helped launch a number of TWB's initiatives, including its Certificate of Mastery (CTM) program, the TWB Toolset, the Community Evaluation GET tool, and the online community GETIdeas.org.

Cisco Corporate Social Responsibility

csr.cisco.com



We believe that businesses have a responsibility to operate in ways that respect and ultimately benefit people, communities, and the planet we live on; we call this Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Our core CSR philosophy is that impact multiplies whenever human and technology networks combine to solve a problem.

This is why we approach CSR the same way we approach business—by applying our technology, employee expertise, and partnerships. We are focused on four primary goals: improving the well-being of people and communities around the world, reducing our environmental impact and helping our customers do the same, conducting our business ethically, and creating a workplace where our employees thrive.