



International
School Project

ISP Impact Report:

2020 Survey of Key ISP Teachers

Equipping Educators to Change the World

ISP Impact at a Glance



15,000+
teachers
equipped



9,535
teachers
engaged



1,564
key teachers
providing
leadership



288
cities with
teachers
engaged



256
Teacher
Communities



32
countries
since 1991

On average, each ISP teacher...



Will impact
3,000
people in his/
her lifetime



Will use ISP
materials with
74-82
students per year



Will mentor
3 other
teachers
per year

Introduction

ISP equips educators to change the world. As of 2020, ISP has worked with over 125,000 educators in over 30 countries since 1991. This evaluation analyzes the results of a 2020 survey answered by a sample of 92 key teachers from 7 representative countries. These teachers are representative of the 1,564 key educators who are providing leadership to their local Teacher Communities in some capacity in their respective countries. The full 2020 Evaluation Report is available from ISP on request.



Who are the ISP Key Teachers?

- Participants in the 2020 survey who represented seven of ISP's countries including Albania, Ecuador, Honduras, Mongolia, Russia, Ukraine, and Zimbabwe.
- **85%** of the survey participants were female.
- **63%** of participants were classroom teachers with the rest of the educators serving as school administrators, counselors/psychologists, or retired teachers.
- **Over 75%** of the participants had joined an online ISP meeting or seminar this year and over **53%** of educators had completed key leader training in the past 12 months.



Olga¹ is a teacher in Russia who uses the ISP Parenting curriculum, a resource that helps teachers connect with parents of their students. "My colleagues in the school see how my class is different from other classes in the same school," says Olga. "Thanks to the Parenting Curriculum, I have very good relationships with my students' parents. They always come to me when they need advice."

¹Names changed throughout this report to respect the privacy of teachers involved



How does ISP equip teachers professionally?

- **97%** of educators agreed that ISP had positively impacted them professionally.

“Due to ISP, my experience there and ISP curricula that I used, I participated in different contests both on the city, regional and national level, [and] received grants from the city governor and president. I raised my professional status in my city.”

“I’m a better teacher, more patient and tolerant.”

ISP provides helpful resources and training that meet tangible needs. For some teachers, the most helpful resources are classroom materials and curriculum. But for other educators, these resources consist of trainings, educational approaches, and personal life skills.

“DMDB Curriculum offers teachers wonderful material that can be used at the form-periods for 9 grade. My students’ feedback after using this material was always very positive.”

How does ISP impact teachers personally?

- **99%** of educators said that ISP had positively impacted them emotionally.
- **79%** of participants said that ISP had also helped their family relationships.

ISP helps to provide community where educators can connect with their colleagues for professional and personal growth, as well as reaching out to other teachers. This year, this community has taken different formats including digital media platforms (e.g., WhatsApp).

“Through my ISP family I receive emotional support not just daily, but each minute of my everyday life”
- teacher in Russia.



How do ISP teachers help students and their parents?

- **77%** of educators surveyed said that they had used ISP materials in their classrooms. Educators found that ISP resources (e.g., curriculum) were very helpful.

“I use Parenting Curriculum and include [supplemental] components in my work with students and their parents.”

“The [students] have [changed for the better] in their conduct with fellow learners.”



How do ISP teachers influence their colleagues and their schools?

- **70%** of educators said they helped organize activities such as seminars or workshops.
- On average, each teacher has had life-changing conversations with **14 other educators in the past 12 months.**
- **50%** of key teachers indicated that they had mentored at least one other teacher in the past 12 months, with the number of teachers mentored ranging from 0 and 25, and an average of 3 teachers.²

“ISP provides lots of materials, tools and methods of how a teacher can [help] her colleagues, students and youth.”

“I try to be involved in any events that ISP offers. I participate or help organize and facilitate conferences, seminars, webinars, monthly calls, leadership meetings, and MLTs. In my city we organize seminars, dinners for the teachers and for women, as well as seminars for school administration and teachers. I publish articles that I write using ISP materials, take part in the educational contests, exhibitions, etc.”

² (M = 2.91, SD = 4.30)



What were ISP teachers' biggest challenges in 2020?

Teachers discussed some of the challenges they faced in general, as well as realities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic:

- **The most-referenced challenges** (in response to open-ended questions) in being an educator were heavy workloads (**26%**), COVID-19 (**17%**), and a lack of morality among students and others (**16%**).
- **COVID-19 specific challenges** included restrictions on gatherings, adjusting to online teaching and interactions, and overcoming personal/financial hardship due to the pandemic.

How is ISP helping teachers address these challenges?

Educators felt that ISP had helped them overcome many of these challenges, notably by providing practical resources, building community, and encouraging teachers in the midst of challenges.

“I learnt how to use Zoom which allowed me to meet with my colleagues from other regions more often.”

“It has been a very difficult year, busy at work and with my family. ISP has helped me emotionally how to control the negative workload and isolation during the quarantine and online teaching” - teacher in Albania.





What are teachers' needs for 2021?

Teachers' needs are evolving, especially as the COVID-19 pandemic influences their day-to-day realities. Top needs that were mentioned by teachers in the survey responses include:

- 1 Time management tools for dealing with intense workloads
- 2 Technical skills for online teaching
- 3 Relationship building and conflict resolution skills
- 4 Encouragement and help with avoiding burnout in the midst of the pandemic

Conclusion

This evaluation examined the perspectives of key teachers who are engaged with ISP. Throughout the report, it was clear that ISP positively impacts these teachers and equips them to leave a lasting impact on others.



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