Advancing Social Justice

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Creating Social Justice Leadership

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The Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program is a powerful force for social change. With the goal of creating new social justice leadership in developing countries, IFP provides scholarships for post-graduate study to exceptional individuals from marginalized groups who have a deep commitment to improving the welfare of their communities.

The program has been remarkably successful in changing the lives of the Fellows, and by enabling them to become more effective leaders, in changing the lives of others in their communities and their nations. In 2007, as the program passed its halfway point, nearly 1,500 Fellows had completed their studies, and already nearly 80% of the alumni have returned to their home countries and regions. The promise that broadening access to higher education can foster development and social justice around the world is starting to be realized, through the work of these outstanding individuals.

Partnership for Change | The IFP Secretariat is housed at the Institute of International Education's headquarters in New York. IIE collaborates closely with IFP to place Fellows who choose to study in the United States and Canada. In Mexico, IIE helps place IFP Fellows at host universities, while IIE staff in China, Indonesia and Russia oversee Fellows' selection in those countries. IIE/NY manages the financial and administrative arrangements for all Fellows. The IFP Secretariat also works with 16 other partner organizations around the world.

The Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program was launched in 2001 with the largest single grant ever made by the Ford Foundation, \$280 million over ten years. Due to its early success, the Ford Foundation pledged another \$75 million in 2006.



IFP by the Numbers
Through 2007:

50,000 applications received
3,000 Fellows selected
1,000 current Fellows
1,500 Fellows have completed their studies
22 home countries
500 host universities in 40 countries

49% female

79% Masters students

21% Doctoral students

4,300 Fellows will benefit by 2014

Joby John works to fulfill his dream of providing educational opportunities for all in his native India, with skills obtained while studying Education Leadership and School Improvement at Manchester University in the UK on an IFP Fellowship.

◄ Impact: Tackling poverty

High in the Andes, Breezy Martinez Walls is tackling poverty and inequality by helping citizens to sell crafts, raise guinea pigs, improve cattle stock, and strengthen camellias grown for export. Knowledge gained through an MBA program enabled her to establish these commercial development projects in her home region.

▼ Impact: Community outreach

In Kenya's Maasai community, Sakuda ole Nkitoria dropped out of school to work as a herdsman. With IFP's help, he completed a degree at the U.S. International University in Kenya and now directs the Simba Maasai Outreach Organization, where his work assists herdsmen and helps children to stay in school.

