

# Project Partner Interview Protocol

---

## Personal Background

- 1) Please tell me about yourself and your organization.
  - a. What is your current role? How long have you had this position?
  - b. Have you done work related to STEM education in the past?
  - c. Do you have experience working with the targeted participant group (e.g., teachers, middle school girls, etc.)?
- 2) When did you start working with this ITEST project (e.g., in the design phase, after it was operational)?
  - a. Did you have an existing relationship with the PI or project staff? If not, how did you become involved in the project.

## Project Background

- 3) Were you involved in the planning process? If you were, tell me a little bit about the planning process?
- 4) How would you characterize your organization's level of involvement in this project?
  - a. Number of staff members involved
  - b. Types of project roles filled by your organization's staff.
  - c. Other resources contributed to the project
- 5) What are the key goals of this project?
  - a. Have these goals changed since the beginning of the project?
  - b. How do they relate to your organization's goals?
- 6) Were there any external/contextual factors that had a large influence on the design of the project? Probe for:
  - a. Resources (or lack thereof) in the local community or schools
  - b. Local school district initiatives
  - c. Priorities of your organization
  - d. Priorities of other local institutions

## Project Participants

- 7) What is your role, if any, in recruiting participants?
  - a. Which methods are most successful (and how do you know)?
  - b. What do you think motivates participants to become involved?

## Project Activities

- 8) Briefly describe the project's interventions that you are involved with.
  - a. Include activities and number of contact hours.
  - b. Is there any variation in the experience of the participants?

- c. What technologies do you use and for what purposes?
- 9) Which strategies have been implemented well and what has facilitated implementation?
- 10) Which strategies have been the most difficult to implement?
- a. What is being/has been done to address these challenges?
- 11) How has the project evolved over time?
- a. What changes were made? Why?
  - b. Have these changes been effective?
  - c. What changes do you see (if any) going forward?

## Evaluation and Outcomes

- 12) Do you have any data on the effectiveness of the project?
- 13) How are the evaluation results used?
- 14) What have been the key short-term and long-term outcomes for the teachers involved in your project?
- a. How do you know?
  - b. Do outcomes vary based on group (e.g., cohort, grade level, school)
- 15) What have been the key outcomes for the students involved in your project?
- c. How do you know?
  - d. Do outcomes vary based on group (e.g., cohort, grade level, school)?
- 16) What have been the key benefits of this work for your organization (e.g., increased capacity, shifts in mission, etc.)?

## Sustainability and Scale-up

- 17) What are the current plans for your organization's involvement in the project when the grant period ends?
- a. What resources are needed to continue the project?
  - b. If you plan to continue in some way, what is the plan for providing the resources to support the project?
- 18) Has the project model been implemented at other institutions or in other communities?
- a. If yes: What part(s) of the model was implemented? Were there any challenges in scaling-up the model?
  - b. If no: What would it take to scale up and reach multiple institutions or communities? What do you see as the barriers to scaling up this type of work?

## The ITEST Community

- 19) To what extent do you think this project contributes to the STEM education community. Probe on:
- a. Publishing journal articles or presenting papers at conferences.
  - b. Creating products that can be of use to STEM educators

- 20) To what extent do you work with, share advice, or otherwise interact with other ITEST projects?
- a. What do you interact about? How often? Where?

### **Closing Questions**

- 21) What have been the major successes of the project? What about major challenges?
- 22) What are the key features and lessons learned from this project that might be of interest to others engaged in similar work with teachers or youth?
- 23) What is the likelihood that participating in this project will influence the STEM academic and career outcomes for youth participants, or students of teacher participants?