

INVESTIGATE INNOVATE IMPACT

UC Irvine | School of Social Sciences

where I make a difference

- Founded in 2008 with \$2 million funding from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- In only two years, IMTFI has supported 54 researchers pursuing work in 25 countries
- Topics studied include:
 - Mobile phone enabled banking
 - Traditional systems of money & savings
 - Branchless banking via point of sale terminals
- IMTFI research is impacting policy discussions from the U.S. Federal Reserve to the global microfinance industry

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IMTFI annually funds researchers who investigate how the world's poorest people spend, save and store money, and how their habits are or could be affected by emerging technologies that provide greater access to financial services.

investigate

Through innovative research, IMTFI aims to learn how mobile technology services and the security they provide can be made available to millions of poor people around the world.

innovate

Studies by IMTFI researchers are helping countries like Haiti build new mobile financial services post earthquake, resulting in aid payments getting where they are most needed. Other IMTFI researchers are studying how direct deposited police paychecks in Afghanistan are mitigating corruption. Studies like these impact the lives of the world's poorest people.

impact