IIE and AIFS Foundation’s 2018 publication synthesized some of the existing research that examines the positive correlation between employability and study abroad. The report gives a comprehensive picture of the benefits of study abroad and includes recommendations for higher education institutions, industry, and graduates to better articulate the value of study abroad for the contemporary marketplace. Here are 8 takeaways from the report:

1. **Start Outreach Earlier**
   Education about the benefits of study abroad should start earlier—in recruiting students and in first-year orientation programs.

2. **Collaborate**
   Collaboration between study abroad and career services offices is vital to helping students maximize the benefits of study abroad.

3. **Improve Communication**
   Improve communication between colleges and industry to better articulate the job performance-enhancing skills that study abroad engenders.

4. **Keep Employability Skills in Mind**
   Study abroad programming needs to be more intentional to match with employment as well as academic outcomes.

5. **Expand & Promote Internships Abroad**
   Employers cite that internship experience is highly desired when they are recruiting recent college graduates.

6. **Encourage Underrepresented Students**
   Higher education institutions should continue to encourage students of all backgrounds to study abroad.

7. **Recruit STEM Students**
   Study abroad programs should aim to recruit STEM students and STEM faculty should encourage international experiences as part of the curriculum.

8. **Track Employment Outcomes**
   Higher education institutions and study abroad providers should track study abroad student employment outcomes after graduation.

Visit IIE’s publication section at IIE.org to download the full Study Abroad Matters report.