INDICATOR: Number of OVC and caregivers who report having improved financial stability

STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE: HE_HIV_232

Type: Outcome

Unit of Measure: Individual

PROJECT AREA: HIV/AIDS

Disaggregation: <1, 1–4, 5–9, 10–14 Males, 10–14 Females, 15–17 Males, 15–17 Females, 18+ Males, 18+ Females

Related Objective: Increase the knowledge and skills of people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, including OVC and their families, to improve their well-being and resilience (Objective 2.1)

Precise definitions

OVC: children under 18 who are most affected\(^1\) by HIV, including:
- Children orphaned due to HIV/AIDS (having lost one or both parents)
- Children directly affected by the disease—which includes children:
  - living with HIV
  - living in a household where there is a person living with HIV (PLHIV) or that has taken in an orphan
  - exposed to HIV (in vitro, during delivery, or during breastfeeding)
- Children vulnerable to HIV or its socioeconomic effects in high-HIV prevalence areas (e.g., adolescent girls and young women at risk)
- Other vulnerable populations as defined by each country and/or PEPFAR interagency teams

Caregivers of OVC: Caregivers include parents, guardians, or foster parents (formal or informal) who have primary responsibility in the home for caring for a child affected by HIV/AIDS.

Financial stability: Improved personal money management practices, and encouragement of saving in particular, has been shown to positively influence educational attitudes, health outcomes, social protection, and entrepreneurial success—especially for women.\(^2\) The ability to balance household income and expenses—and increase the predictability of both—over the long term is a critical dimension of household economic security. This indicator is asking the participant to self-report whether they feel more financially stable through either better access to credit or increased savings. This may be through employment outside the house, income-generating activities (IGAs), village savings-and-loan associations (VSLAs), or community savings groups (CSGs).

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\(^1\) The definition of “affected” children includes, but is not limited to, children living with HIV. The Peace Corps and PEPFAR recognize that individuals, families, and communities are affected by HIV in ways that may hinder the medical outcomes of PLHIV as well as the emotional and physical development of OVC. Please consult PC/post staff for country-specific guidance or prioritized populations defined in the PEPFAR Country Operation Plan.

**Access to credit:** The ability of an individual to borrow capital (most often money) from another party without immediately reimbursing the second party (thereby generating a debt), and instead promising to repay the debt at a later date.

**Data collection**

**Tool:** OVC Outcomes Survey

The OVC Outcomes Survey is intended to be given to either the caregiver/parent or OVC who participated in a long-term OVC-focused intervention facilitated by a PCV and their counterpart. The individual should have attended at least 75 percent of the defined sessions to be included in the survey. Data for the outcome indicators should be collected three times over the course of the activity: 1) at the start of the activity, or a pre-test; 2) at the end of the formal activity/sessions, or a post-test; and 3) three to six months after the completion of the activity to measure whether the behavior/knowledge was sustained. If the timing of a PCV’s close of service (COS) or other factors will not allow for this, a survey could be conducted earlier if need be. The indicator value from Step 3 (the three- to six-month follow-up) will be recorded in the VRF.

See the OVC Outcomes Survey tool for further instructions.

**Reporting**

To be counted for this indicator the following criteria must be met:

- The individuals participated in at least 75 percent of the training sessions and/or intervention focused on income generation, personal money management or financial stability.
- The information was provided by a PCV or their partner in an individual or small group setting with 25 or less.
- Attendance at each session was documented by the Volunteer or their counterpart.