

<p>STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE: AG-020</p>	<p>Household Increased Access to Fresh Food: Number of households out of the total number of households trained by Volunteer/partner, who reported increased access to fresh foods at six months after establishing a garden. (AG-020)</p>	
<p>AGRICULTURE SECTOR</p>	<p>Sector Schematic Alignment <i>Note: This indicator belongs to the “Productivity” Project area and “Garden” Project Activities/Training Package (PA/TP) within the AG Sector but is borrowed by the following Project Activities/Training Packages within the AG and ENV Sectors.</i></p> <p><u>AG Sector (“Home” of the SI)</u> PA/TP: Gardens</p> <p><u>AG Sector</u> PA/TP: Nutrition for Healthy Families</p> <p><u>ENV Sector</u> PA/TP: Gardens</p>	
<p>Type: Outcome</p>	<p>Unit of Measure: Household</p>	<p>Disaggregation: Gendered Household type: Adult Female no Adult Male (FNM), Adult Male no Adult Female (MNF), Male and Female Adults (M&F), Child No Adults (CNA)</p>
<p>Definitions:</p> <p>This indicator measures the number of households who self-report increased access to fresh foods through their own production, increased purchasing power, greater availability nearby, or otherwise. The time period for measurement of this indicator is six months after establishment of a garden to measure impact of the garden activity for the household. Six months is used as the time period after which measurement is taken, however, increased access could take place at any time during the six months between planting the garden and measurement. For instance, if a household generally has the same access to fresh foods today as when they planted the garden, but self-report that during the time between planting and measurement they had increased access, then they should be counted.</p> <p>The indicator will generate two pieces of data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the percentage of trained households with increased access to fresh foods total number of households with increased access to fresh foods <p><i>Please note that seasonality and differences in growing seasons and climatic conditions will likely affect household access to fresh food, so Volunteer should consider this fact and attempt to determine a household’s access to fresh food during similar climatic, economic, and social periods of time.</i></p> <p>In international nutrition programming, fresh foods are loosely thought of as produce. They can be garden items, tree products or other items that are cultivated in the local area and thus are locally available.</p> <p>Gardens— can be defined as areas cultivated specifically for production of food crops, which can be either annual or perennial plants. Gardens are typically intensively managed areas, perhaps receiving supplemental water through</p>		

irrigation.

Partner/s—refers to the local counterpart who is co-facilitating increased access to fresh food through household gardening activities with the Volunteer.

Rationale: The most direct impact of an activity aimed at increasing production of vegetables and/or crops is an increase in accessing of those fresh foods. This indicator aims to measure the increase in access which can arise through several pathways associated with the productivity of the garden activity.

Measurement Notes:

- 1. Sample Tools and/or Possible Methods (for Peace Corps staff use):** Volunteers should use data collection tools to measure progress against project indicators. A data collection tool to measure this indicator could be based on one of the following methods—survey or interview—though there may be other data collection methods that are appropriate as well. For more information on the suggested methods, please see **Appendix I in the MRE Toolkit**. Also be sure to check the intranet page as sample tools are regularly uploaded for post use. Once a tool has been developed, post staff should have a few Volunteers and their partners pilot it, and then distribute and train Volunteers on its use.
- 2. General Data Collection for Volunteer Activities:** All Volunteer activities should be conducted with the intention of achieving outcomes – knowledge change (short-term), skills demonstration (intermediate-term), and behavioral changes (intermediate to long term) as defined by the progression of indicators within the objectives of a project framework. The progression of measurement for all Volunteer activities should begin with baseline data being conducted prior to the implementation of an activity (or set of activities), followed by documenting any outputs of the activities and then later at the appropriate time, measurements of specific outcomes (see “Frequency of Measurement”).
- 3. Activity-Level Baseline Data Collection:** Activity-level baseline data should be collected by Volunteers/partners before or at the start of their activities that provide a basis for planning and/or assessing subsequent progress or impact. This is a self-reporting indicator about improvements in access to fresh food six months after the establishment of a garden. A baseline is not required for this indicator. However, because Volunteers are expected to implement relevant and focused activities that will promote specific changes within a target population (see the “unit of measure” above), taking a baseline measurement helps Volunteers to develop a more realistic snapshot of the level of access to fresh food of the households within the target population. A baseline provides context to a household’s process of change instead of assuming that they are starting at “0.” The information from the baseline measurement will be the same or very similar to the information that will be collected in the follow-on measurement (see “Frequency of Measurement”) after the Volunteer has conducted his/her activities and it is usually collected using the same data collection tool to allow for easy management of the data over time. Please note that data collection is a sensitive process and so Volunteers will not want to take a baseline measurement until they have been able to do some relationship and trust-building with the person/people the Volunteer is working with, and developed an understanding of cultural norms and gender dynamics.
- 4. Frequency of Measurement:** A baseline measurement for this indicator is not necessary, however it will provide context for programmatic decisions. A Volunteer must measure this indicator six months after the establishment of a garden. The Volunteer should then report against this indicator in the VRF reporting period immediately following the collection of the measurement. If a Volunteer conducts activities or projects that result in the

establishment of gardens at different times of the Volunteer's service, he/she should measure following the same frequency of measurement as stated above. Any additional measurement taken by a Volunteer should be reported in the most appropriate VRF reporting period.

Volunteers may determine to take more than one baseline and one follow-on measurement with the same household (or group of households) for the following valid reasons:

- a. Volunteers may want to enhance their own learning and the implementation of their activities by using the data collected as an effective monitoring tool and feedback mechanism for the need to improve or increase their activities;
- b. A Peace Corps project in a particular country may choose to increase the frequency of measurement of the indicator and Volunteers assigned to that project will be required to follow in-country guidance.

In all cases, any additional data collection above the minimum expectation should be based on the time, resources, accessibility to the target population, and the value to be gained versus the burden of collecting the data. Following any additional measurements taken, Volunteers should report on any new households achieving the outcome in their next VRF.

5. **Definition of Change:** The minimum change to report on this indicator is a household self-reporting a net increase in access to fresh food six months after the establishment of a garden. A Volunteer should not assume that a household that they are trying to influence, change or develop is starting at "0" (i.e. no access to fresh food). Regardless of the household's previous access to fresh food, the change identified in the indicator is a net increase in access to fresh food.
6. **General Reporting in the VRF:** The "number achieved" (or numerator), that Volunteers will report against this indicator in their VRFs is the number of households who have self-reported an increase in access to fresh food six months after the establishment of a garden. The "total number" (or denominator) that Volunteers will report on for this indicator in their VRFs is the total number of households whom the Volunteer/partner reached while implementing the activity/ies being reported.
7. **Reporting on Disaggregated Data in the VRF:** This indicator is disaggregated by "Gendered Household Type". When reporting in the VRF, a Volunteer should disaggregate the households who achieved the outcome based on Adult Female no Adult Male (FNM), Adult Male no Adult Female (MNF), Male and Female Adults (M&F), Child No Adults (CNA).

Data Quality Assessments (DQA): DQAs are needed for each indicator selected to align with the project objectives. DQAs review the validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness of each indicator. For more information, consult the Peace Corps MRE toolkit.

Alignment with Summary Indicator: AG. ASSIST. TO HOUSEHOLDS, & ENV. NAT. RES. MGMT (HOUSEHOLDS)