

<p>STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE: AG-046 FTF (FTF Code: HL.9-1)</p>	<p>U5s in Nutrition Programs: Number of children under five (0-59 months) reached by Peace Corps-supported nutrition programs. (AG-046 FTF)</p>	
<p>AGRICULTURE SECTOR</p>	<p>Sector Schematic Alignment Project Area: Resilience and Stability Project Activities/Training Package (PA/TP): Nutrition for Healthy Families</p>	
<p>Type: Output</p>	<p>Unit of Measure: Children under 5 years of age</p>	<p>Disaggregations: Sex: Male, Female Type of Nutrition Intervention: Production of nutrient-dense foods; Home or community gardens with a specific nutrition activity included; Behavior change communication activities that promote essential infant and young child feeding behaviors; Improved complementary feeding practices (children 6 – 24 months); Preparation of age-appropriate, nutrient-dense meals; Immediate breastfeeding of newborns; Exclusive breastfeeding for infants to six months; Continued breastfeeding for children to two years; Use of iodized salt; Participation in appropriate Vitamin A supplementation programs; Participation in appropriate Zinc supplementation programs during episodes of diarrhea; Participation in appropriate Iron supplementation programs; Behaviors to reduce anemia; Screening and referral of acute malnutrition cases; Participation in growth monitoring and promotion programs</p>

Definitions:

Nutrition programs can include but are not limited to: workshops, sessions, events, activities, counseling and negotiation, and other programs that promote behavior change related to food and nutrition.

Nutrition programs must include work that promotes at least one of the following:

- A. Production of nutrient-dense foods, which includes animal source foods, bio-fortified foods, legumes, nuts, or dark yellow or orange fleshed root/tuber/fruit/vegetable (excluding citrus)
- B. Home or community gardens with a specific nutrition activity included
- C. Behavior change communication activities that promote essential infant and young child feeding behaviors
- D. Improved complementary feeding practices (children 6 – 24 months)
- E. Preparation of age-appropriate, nutrient-dense meals
- F. Immediate breastfeeding of newborns
- G. Exclusive breastfeeding for infants to six months
- H. Continued breastfeeding for children to two years
- I. Use of iodized salt
- J. Participation in appropriate Vitamin A supplementation programs
- K. Participation in appropriate Zinc supplementation programs during episodes of diarrhea
- L. Participation in appropriate Iron supplementation programs
- M. Behaviors to reduce anemia
- N. Screening and referral of acute malnutrition cases
- O. Participation in growth monitoring and promotion programs

For this indicator, unit of measure is children under 5 (U5), so a mother with three U5 children reached by a nutrition program would be counted as three.

Volunteers should count children reached by the mechanism **only once** during the fiscal year regardless of the number of interventions the child received from the activity.

Values reported should reflect country-wide results in Feed the Future focus countries; results should **not** be restricted to only those achieved in the Feed the Future Zone of Influence.

Rationale: Good coverage of nutrition projects among children under 5 years of age is essential to prevent and treat malnutrition and to improve child survival. Under-nutrition is an underlying cause in 45 percent of childhood deaths. Peace Corps nutrition programming is guided by evidence-based practices. Through focused programming on these proven, efficacious activities, Volunteers are able to have positive impacts on the communities they serve. Increasing the coverage of nutrition programming activities therefore, and scaling up efforts is essential to preventing and treating cases of malnutrition, reducing the rates of malnutrition in communities, and improving child survival. The greater the number of children reached by nutrition programs, the greater the number that can benefit from them.

Measurement Notes:

- 1. Sample Tools and/or Possible Methods:** Volunteers should use data collection tools to measure progress against project indicators. For this Standard Sector Indicator, a tracking sheet that collects the number of children under 5 reached by USG (Peace Corps) supported nutrition programs will capture the needed data.
- 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:** Because this is an output indicator that does not measure any change, there is no need to take a baseline measurement before reporting the results of this indicator. However, Volunteers should take baseline measurements for any outcome indicators that are related to this output indicator. Refer to the project framework to review related outcome indicators.
- 4. Frequency of measurement:** An output indicator only needs to be measured once—in this case, every time the Volunteer holds a nutrition program, he/she will want to keep track of the number of unique children who are supported by the program and report on it in the next VRF.
- 5. Definition of change:** Outputs do not measure any changes.
- 6. General Reporting in the VRF:** In the case of output indicators, Volunteers only have one box to fill in on their VRF: “total # (number).”
- 7. Reporting on Disaggregated Data in the VRF:** This indicator is disaggregated by “Sex”. When reporting in the VRF, a Volunteer should disaggregate the total number of children under 5 reached by Peace Corps supported nutrition programs by male and female.

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. CHILDHOOD NUTRITION PROGRAM REACH (INDIVIDUALS)