**STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE:** CED-020-D

**New businesses started:** Number of new businesses started by individuals the Volunteer/partner assisted in entrepreneurship. (CED-020-D)

**CED SECTOR**

**Sector Schematic Alignment**

*Note: This indicator belongs to the “Business Development” Project Area and “Entrepreneurship” Project Activities/Training Package (PA/TP) within the CED Sector but is borrowed by the following Project Activities/Training Packages within the AG and ENV Sectors.*

- **CED Sector (“Home” of the SI)**
  - PA/TP: Entrepreneurship

- **AG Sector**
  - PA/TP: Business Development Services

- **ENV Sector**
  - PA/TP: Business Development Services

**Type:** Outcome

**Unit of Measure:** Businesses

**Disaggregation:** NONE

**Definitions:**

- **New** – Business did not exist prior to the individual working with the Volunteer/partner on entrepreneurship

- **Business** - whether formal - officially licensed or informal (operating without full compliance to law) that provides a service or product for a profit

- **Partner/s**—refers to the local counterpart who is co-facilitating entrepreneurship promotion activities with the Volunteer

- **Entrepreneurship** – the willingness to take a risk and invest time and money to launch a business venture

**Rationale:** An increase in the number of new businesses will lead to improved income.

**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—observation, 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 [this link](#) on 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:** For this indicator, the baseline is always “0” since only new businesses can be counted.

4. **Frequency of Measurement:** For reporting accurately on this outcome indicator, Volunteers must take a minimum of two measurements with members of the target population reached with their activities. After taking the baseline measurement (described above), Volunteers should take at least one follow-on measurement with the same individual(s), typically after completing one or more activities focused on achieving the outcome in this indicator and once they have determined that the timing is appropriate to expect that the outcome has been achieved. Please note that successful documentation of a behavior change or new practice may not be immediately apparent following the completion of activities and may need to be planned for at a later time. Once Volunteers have measured that at least one individual has achieved the indicator, they should report on it in their next VRF.

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

- Volunteers may want to measure whether or not any additional individuals initially reached with activities have now achieved the outcome in the indicator, particularly for any activities that are on-going in nature (no clear end date);
- 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;
- 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 individuals achieving the outcome in their next VRF.

5. **Definition of Change:** The minimum change to report against this indicator is a new business started by one or more individuals. The baseline will be “0” for this, because we would only count a business if it had not started previous to the Volunteer’s work. Also, a single individual, or set of individuals, may start more than one business, so by the time a Volunteer is collecting data following work with participants, they may have 10 participants, and 12 new businesses. In this example the number to report would be “12.”

6. **General Reporting in the VRF:** This outcome indicator is reported in the VRF with only one number – the number of new business plans created by participants.
7. **Reporting on Disaggregated Data in the VRF:** This indicator is not disaggregated.

**Data Quality Assessments (DQA):** DQA 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:** CED NEW BUSINESS