

STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE: ED-022-F	Community: School/ Community Engagement - Number of community members, out of the total number of community members the Volunteer/partner worked with, who increased their participation in activities that strengthen the school community. (ED-022-F)	
EDUCATION SECTOR	Sector Schematic Alignment Project Area: Girls' Education and Empowerment Project Activity Area/Training Package: Student-Friendly Schools	
Type: Outcome	Unit of Measure: Community Members	Disaggregation: Sex: Male, Female

Definitions:

Community Members – parents or other members of the local community who do not necessarily have an official role within the school setting but could be mobilized for the success of the school and the wider community

Community-school activities include but are not limited to –

- teacher home visits, school newsletters, using school data to inform decisions that impact community and families (i.e., altering school schedule to align with community priorities such as harvest season) ; parent-teacher associations, gender committees, field trips, contests, adult mentoring sessions, safe school promotion activities, supporting children’s rights (including the elimination of gender-based violence [GBV] and corporal punishment)*
- increased parental engagement in their child’s learning such as parents helping children with homework or other practices at home to support their children’s academic progress

*Due to the sensitive nature of these issues, Volunteers should consult with PM/APCD regarding appropriate role in organizing/participating in activities related children’s rights, gender-based violence (GBV), and corporal punishment elimination.

Rationale: An increase in the number of community members who participate more in community-school relationship strengthening activities will create a student-friendly environment that will lead to improved student motivation and increased opportunities for learning.

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 selected and/ or developed for the 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 with a community member or group of community members. It provides a basis for planning and/or assessing subsequent progress or impact with these same people. Volunteers should take a baseline measurement regarding the outcome(s) defined in this data sheet. Volunteers should collect baseline information early in their work with community members, and may use their judgment to determine timing because the information will be more accurate if the Volunteer has built some trust with the community members first. The information for 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.

Because Volunteers are expected to implement relevant and focused activities that will promote specific changes within a target population (see “Unit of Measure”), taking a baseline measurement helps Volunteers to develop a more realistic snapshot of where community members within the target population are in their process of change instead of assuming that they are starting at “0.” It also sets up Volunteers to be able to see in concrete terms what influence their work is having on the community members they work with during their service. 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:** 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 community member(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. Once Volunteers have measured that at least one community members 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 community member (or group of community members) for the following valid reasons:

- a. Volunteers may want to measure whether or not any additional community members 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);
- b. 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;
- c. 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 community members achieving the outcome in their next VRF.

- 5. Definition of Change:** The minimum change to report against this indicator is any school community member increasing their participation in activities that strengthen community-school relationships. The increase may be from *no* participation in such activities to *some* participation in such activities or from *some* participation to *more* participation. If a community member is already participating to some extent in community-school relationship promotion activities, then examples of how they might *increase* their participation include spending more time than before in these activities or taking on a leadership role in these activities.
- 6. General Reporting in the VRF:** The “number achieved” (or numerator) that Volunteers will report against for this indicator in their VRFs is the number of school community members who, as a result of working with the Volunteer increased their participation in activities that strengthen community-school relationships. The “total number” (or denominator) that Volunteers will report on for this indicator in their VRFs is the total number of community members who participated in the activities designed to meet this indicator.
- 7. Reporting on Disaggregated Data in the VRF:** This indicator is disaggregated by “Sex.” When reporting in the VRF, a Volunteer should disaggregate the community members who achieved the outcome based on male and female gender.

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: ED COMMUNITY SUPPORT