

STANDARD SECTOR INDICATOR CODE: YD-004-A	Life Skills - goal setting: Number of youth, out of the total number of youth the Volunteer/partner worked with, who made a plan to achieve a long term-goal. (YD-004-A)	
Type: Outcome	Unit of Measure: Youth	Disaggregation: Sex: Male, Female Type of Youth: In-School Youth, Out-of-school Youth

Definitions:

Youth – In-country projects may adapt a locally appropriate definition of youth. While youth are commonly defined as ages 15-24, some external agencies, such as UNFPA and WHO, more broadly define young people as ages 10–29. Volunteer reporting against youth indicators should reflect the ages of youth their project is designed to reach in their host country, and PMs/APCDs should clarify for Volunteers the target age of youth for their activities.

Partner/s – refers to the local counterpart who is co-facilitating goal setting activities with the Volunteer.

Realistic steps – refers to steps that a particular young person can reasonably complete in the context of their communities and lives.

Long-term goals – refers to goals that will help a young person be successful in their adult work and family life.

Rationale: Setting long-term personal life goals and identifying the realistic steps towards those goals is evidence of vocational competence, which is one of the competencies contributing to a young person engaging in positive behaviors and avoiding negative, destructive behaviors. An increase in the number of youth identifying realistic steps towards their goals shows a growth in that critical competency.

Measurement Notes:

- 1. Tools and Methods:** A post should select the most appropriate tool for the post, and adapt it at the post level for their Volunteers’ use. Recommended methods for gathering data from individuals to show progress toward achieving this indicator include observation, an interview or another method.
- 2. Activity-Level Baseline Data Collection:** Baseline data is required for measuring change and progress toward indicator achievement for this outcome indicator. Volunteers are asked to maintain a record of youth with whom they are working (TOTAL) and baseline and follow-up measures for each youth. Please note that successful documentation of a life skills change requires a period of relationship and trust -building with young people, and an understanding of cultural norms and gender relationships. It is recommended that a level of trust be developed before taking initial baseline measures for this indicator, and that the “program” of activities adopted begin following this baseline measure.
- 3. Frequency of Measurement:** 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. Volunteers should report in their VRF once at least one individual has achieved the indicator. Indicator achievement per individual can be reported only once per fiscal year in the VRF.
- 4. Definition of Change:** The minimum change to report against this indicator is youth achieving three or more realistic steps toward their long-term goals as evidence of positive goal setting behavior by each young person the Volunteer/partner works with. A young person’s identification of two or fewer steps towards their goals

would not count as a change to be reported on this indicator, though the Volunteer/partner may continue working with the young person to later report on them identifying three or more steps. If the youth already achieved three steps toward their goal at the baseline measurement, the Volunteer would not count him/her as having achieved additional change for this activity because the maximum level of change measured for this indicator has already been achieved. NOTE: If at baseline, nearly all of the youth with whom you are working have already identified three or more realistic steps towards achieving their long-term goals as evidence of positive goal setting behavior, consider measuring change toward a different sector indicator, so that additional change can be achieved, measured, and reported.

Alignment with Summary Indicator: YOUTH LIFE SKILLS