

ES.2-54

Indicator	ES.2.54: Number of USG-supported partnerships that address regional, national, and/or local development objectives through or with higher education institutions
Definition	<p>This indicator captures partnerships for the purpose of strengthening higher education, regardless of program area or funding stream.</p> <p>“USG-supported partnerships” are formal, documented agreements between two or more organizations. They are characterized by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) or the like. These formal documents may follow the norms and requirements necessitated by the partnering organizations. (2) A set of documented, expected outcomes that will result from the partnership. (3) The explicit, stated purpose of addressing regional, national, and/or local development objectives. <p>Partnerships may or may not be financial in nature, though at least one of the partnering organizations must be receiving USG funding.</p> <p>A “higher education institution” (HEI) is an organization that provides educational opportunities that build on secondary education, providing learning activities in specialized fields. It aims at learning at a high level of complexity and specialization. Higher education includes what is commonly understood as academic education but also includes advanced vocational or professional education that is not part of general or technical secondary education. This may include public or private universities, colleges, community colleges, academically-affiliated research institutes, and post-secondary training institutes, including teacher training institutes.</p> <p>To be counted toward this indicator, the partnership must include at least one higher education institution, regardless of the country in which it is based, as a partner. Other partners could include the private sector, NGOs, research institutions, governments, or a USAID Mission.</p> <p>“Number of partnerships” refers to the number of formal partnerships that meet the definition above, not the number of organizations involved in a partnership. For example, if a partnership with one documented agreement involves five organizations, three of which are higher education organizations, and two of which are receiving USG funding, that partnership should be counted as one partnership. All partnerships that are supported with USG-funding in a given reporting year should be reported, regardless of whether they are new or existing.</p> <p>An example of a partnership is an Economic Growth activity in the Latin America and Caribbean region that built four industry/higher education “clusters.” Each of these clusters developed formal alliances between the private sector and universities that spur collaboration. Each cluster is composed of an industry association, a group of universities, government representatives, and an advisory board of prominent business people, academics, and administrators. Under this indicator, these four clusters would be counted as four partnerships.</p>
Primary SPS Linkage	ES.1, ES.2, EG.3, EG.6, HL 8.6, DR.1, DR.4

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Linkage to Long-Term Outcome or Impact	As described in the USAID Education policy, partnerships that involve HEIs are “critical to the U.S. economy and the quality of higher education programming, regardless of sector.” Such partnerships allow for mutual learning and can be the basis for sustained organizational performance improvement and systemic, locally-led development.
Indicator Type	Output
Reporting Type	Number
Use of Indicator	This indicator will be used to monitor the overall scale and reach of higher education partnerships. It will be used, along with other education-related standard indicators, to report progress and results in education and related sectors and supplement other reporting against the priorities of the USAID Education Policy.
Reporting Frequency	Annual
Data Source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official Documents from Partnerships • Official Reports from Implementing Partner(s)
Bureau Owner(s)	<p>Agency: USAID Bureau and Office: DDI/EDU POC: Benjamin Sylla; Senior Education Advisor; Center for Education bsylla@usaid.gov Technical POC: Deborah Greebon; Senior Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Advisor; Center for Education dgreebon@usaid.gov</p>
Disaggregate(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of partnerships that involve partner-country HEIs as a formal partner¹ • Number of partnerships that involve US-based HEIs as a formal partner¹ • Number of partnerships that involve third-country HEIs as a formal partner¹ <p>¹ Disaggregates may add up to more than the total reported to the indicator in the case where both a US-based, a partner-country HEI, and/or a third-country HEI are involved in the same partnership.</p>