



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATION ADVANCING DEVELOPMENT (GLOBAL LEAD)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

WHAT IS GLOBAL LEAD?

Global LEAD is USAID's Agency-wide initiative to support the capacity and commitment of emerging young leaders to become partners in building self-reliant communities, as well as align with key foreign assistance priorities and other U.S. Government (USG) partners. Global LEAD serves as an umbrella that responds to the priorities of emerging young leaders and Missions to build a continuum of education, civic engagement, and leadership development across sectors.

The initiative builds on USAID's work with young leaders, such as the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI); Young South-East Asian Leadership Initiative (YSEALI), the European Democracy Youth Network (EDYN); partnerships with higher education institutions; support of Career Development Centers; and other civic, political, health, educational, entrepreneurship and peacebuilding development activities.

The Goal: Activate and support one million young leaders over the next five years to advance self-reliance, stabilization, peace and security, citizen-responsive governance, and human capital outcomes.

PUTTING GLOBAL LEAD INTO PRACTICE

Indicator Data: Global LEAD will track progress in increasing youth education and leadership through a combination of indicators, Project Performance, Plan and Report (PPR) narratives, and surveys. Standard F indicators will allow us to track results related to Global LEAD. These include indicators under the cross-cutting category of Youth, as well as Education Sector indicators under the ES 1 (Basic Education) and ES

2 (Higher Education) Program Areas. Indicator guidance for Education Indicators is [available here](#), and guidance beyond PIRS for Youth Indicators are currently in development.

- **Youth-1:** The number of young people participating in life-skills and soft-skills training each year.
- **Youth-2:** Number of laws, policies, or procedures adopted or implemented with U.S. Government assistance designed to promote youth participation at the regional, national, or local level.
- **Youth-5:** The number and percentage of young people who participate in civic engagement after completing USAID training activities.

The U.S. Government (USG) Standard Indicator (Youth 1) will measure the number of young people participating in life-skills and soft-skills training each year, and Standard Indicator (Youth 5) will measure increased levels of civic engagement.

WHAT ARE SOFT SKILLS/LIFE SKILLS?

A broad set of skills, competencies, behaviors, attitudes, and personal qualities that enable people to effectively navigate their environment, work well with others, perform well, and achieve their goals. This includes management, leadership, social, and/or civic engagement skills. More information on soft skills can be found in the [Social and Emotional Learning and Soft Skills USAID Education Policy Brief](#).

ILLUSTRATIVE GLOBAL LEAD ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Supporting the European Democracy Youth Network (EDYN), the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), and the Young Southeast Asian Leader Initiative (YSEALI);
- Supporting the State and Youth New Approaches to Social Engagement (SYNAPSE) pilots;
- Supporting activities related to young digital leaders and digital literacy;
- Providing increased strategic technical assistance and partnerships for Missions to expand programming in this area; and
- Forming strategic alliances with U.S.-based and international models of youth development.

HOW WILL GLOBAL LEAD ACTIVITIES BE SUPPORTED?

The Center for Education has two mechanisms for USAID Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices (M/B/IOs) to utilize to make assistance awards - both cooperative agreements and grants - under Global LEAD:

- [YouthPower2 \(YP2\)](#) is an unfunded umbrella Annual Program Statement (APS) available for Missions and Bureaus to use for youth programming that engages youth-led and youth-serving organizations and systems to generate cross-sectoral Positive Youth Development (PYD) outcomes. The YP2 APS seeks to provide flexibility to Missions and Bureaus to collaborate with youth, their communities, relevant institutions, sectors, and systems (including higher education institutions, non-formal education providers, private sector, government, civil society organizations, faith-based organizations) to build sustainable partnerships and build local capacity around key development challenges and opportunities.
- [Higher Education for Leadership, Innovation, and Exchange \(HELIX\)](#) is an unfunded umbrella APS designed to support the Agency's higher education programming, regardless of sector. HELIX will empower and enable USAID Missions and Bureaus to consider new approaches to strengthen working with, through, or in connection to higher education through individuals, institutions, and/or systems to achieve locally-led development objectives. HELIX is also a fully-aligned New Partnerships Initiative APS.
- Other Mechanisms across the Agency: Missions and OUs can use other mechanisms as well to support activities that can qualify under the Global LEAD initiative.

WHAT COUNTS AS CIVIC EDUCATION, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, EDUCATION, AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES?

- Any activity focused on developing leadership skills, soft skills, and/or civic engagement of youth ages 10-29, regardless of sector;
- Any activity creating or supporting youth leadership networks at a local, regional, or national levels;
- Any activity focused on improved education and learning outcomes of youth ages 10-29 (secondary, out-of-school youth, and higher education). *See expanded list of illustrative activities below.*

Civic Education: Formal and non-formal activities that promote knowledge, attitudes, values, skills, and behaviors desired of citizens to increase political participation and civic engagement.

- Examples include: service-learning, debate, in-school or community-based civic educational activities. *Supported by Youth Standard Indicator 5.*

Civic Engagement: Active participation of young people in age-appropriate activities that advance social and civic outcomes.

- Examples include: community service, volunteerism, participation in/leadership of CSOs, youth clubs/councils/organizations, joining political parties or youth party wings, expression of ideas/advocacy to effect change. *Supported by Youth Standard Indicator 5.*

Education: Includes formal and informal education opportunities for children and youth leading to learning outcomes in support of the [2018 USAID Education Policy](#).

- Examples include: scholarship and exchange programs, youth workforce activities for skills development. *Supported by ES 1 and ES2 Standard Indicators.*

Youth Leadership: Leadership skills are critical for the success of youth participation in social and political structures and for initiating change through youth-led organizations and community organizing.

- Examples include: training and capacity building of youth on issues of leadership, organizational development, project management, networking, resource mobilization and management, etc.; networking leaders; providing seed capital for youth-led organizations and activities. *Supported by Youth Standard Indicator 1*