

Developmental Assets Profile (DAP) Tool

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I want to use the Development Assets Profile (DAP) survey?

The DAP is useful for measuring many of the Child Well-being Outcomes. The strengths and characteristics of the DAP include:

- Rigorously developed tool with well established **reliability and validity** across cultures and contexts, along with a solid evidence base - links between assets & correlated behaviors
- Increasingly recognized by **donors and child focused agencies** as a reliable tool to measure children's subjective well-being and positive youth development outcomes
- Self-Interview style tool that generates **quantitative data** through qualitative (self-reported) experiences across 8 categories and 4 contexts
- User friendly instrument that can be administered via **oral or self-administration** in 15-30 minutes
- Open-source-code scoring matrix that generates **sub-scale and scale scores** by hand, in Excel, or via a SPSS data base + provides DM&E applications

How can I use the DAP?

The DAP is particularly helpful in measuring the first Child Well-Being target when used for baseline surveys and evaluations. The DAP can be used in several ways:

- Rapid appraisal and **assessment** work – profiling populations (“what do we know about the youth we serve”)
- Monitoring and **evaluation** (M&E) applications (“what changes over time can we track – through existing or modified interventions”)
- Guidance and **coaching** uses –DAP data can help us set goals, build on strengths & address gaps for individual children and adolescents
- Community **mobilization** efforts– DAP data can be used to engage and focus family & community investments towards enabling children and adolescents to thrive

Who would take the survey?

Like most tools, the DAP should not be used unless there is programming and associated indicators specific to children and adolescents that need to be measured. The DAP can be the most valuable when used alongside other measures of child well-being outcomes in children, for example, healthy or risky behaviours, academic performance, or specific life skills development.

Can I use the DAP with any age children? What about in an emergency situation?

There are two DAP tools, one for use with children aged 8 to 11 and one for use with adolescents aged 12 to 18. In most countries, the use of the 8 to 11 year old DAP would serve for adolescents too. The items are the same, but phrased in simple language. WV is currently developing a shorter version of the DAP, “DAP-Lite”, available for both slow and rapid onset emergencies. The DAP-Lite will be ready for use in the first quarter of FY13.

Do they have to be literate?

The DAP survey uses a Likert scale (i.e. never, sometimes, always, etc) and can be administered by an adult among a group of literate children who are able to respond individually by reading the survey themselves using paper and pencil to respond. It can also be administered one-on-one with children that are not able to read. In this case, the administrator notes the child or adolescent’s response on a survey form. Alternatively, the DAP items can be read out loud to a group of children who are able to track the numbers, lines and pictorial representation of the scale and responds with pencil on paper.

How do I find out more about the DAP for my own country context?

In order to find out if there is a local language DAP for your country context, you need to contact Ashley Inselman at Ashley_inselman@wvi.org who will liaise between your office and the Search Institute (SI) to find out what is already available for your country. If there is already an SI-approved language version for your context, your office may be able to use it without entering into a contract with SI and need only be trained on how to use it.

Why do I need to work with the GC and SEARCH Institute?

Each time the DAP is used in a new context, it must not only be translated into the appropriate language but also contextualized for the culture where it will be used. Under the agreement between WV and SI, SI will guide this process to ensure the integrity and reliability of the tool in capturing the data that will be useful to WV programming. This includes advising on pilot and field testing of the tool and the associated statistical analysis and feedback to the National office using it.

The Developmental Assets framework and the DAP are copyrighted by Search Institute and are used by World Vision (WV) under a joint agreement. Developmental Assets® is a registered trademark of Search Institute and is used by WV with permission of Search Institute. For details about how national offices and others may utilize these resources appropriately, please contact Ashley Inselman (ashley_inselman@wvi.org). Under this Agreement, national offices must contract with Search Institute to develop a local language version of the DAP tool. Once this is done, the NO has the right to use the tool for data collection free of charge.

How much will it cost for our office to use the DAP?

If the DAP tool has never been translated or contextualised for a given language, the cost is likely to be a one-time fee of \$12,000. Each additional NEW language within a given country would be \$6,000 (this would be modified if the second language is similar to the first language or in the instance of using both DAPs for both age groups.)

How long does it take to get a DAP for use in my context?

The process of deep translation, contextualising and testing the DAP for your context in order to get a reliable tool can take anywhere from 6 weeks to six months depending upon the complexity and nuance

of the language as well as the time it takes the national office to carry out the work on their side. A draft timeline is developed as part of the initial preparations for contextualization.

What kind of training does our office need in order to use the DAP?

Before an NO can begin the process of translating and contextualising a DAP for their setting, or doing data collection with an existing DAP, the key DME staff who will be using the DAP need to be trained in the process and a general introduction to the Development Assets framework. This is generally a 6 day training, and currently, is only available face-to-face. The Asia Pacific Region has developed a strategy of rollout and there are members of the Global Programming Effectiveness Team who can assist national offices in APR to be trained. At present, all other regions are still working towards this. If you are interested in hosting a training, please contact Ashley Inselman at Ashley_inselman@wvi.org who can either work towards scheduling training with GC trainers or suggest a consultant who can do the training. We plan to develop virtual or self-study training materials for use in FY13.

Who does the analysis?

Under the contract with Search Institute (SI), SI will assist the national office in the statistical analysis used to determine the tool's reliability during the pilot and field testing phases. NOs will enter the data into an excel template and SI will analyse the data and furnish the national office with a report on the tool's reliability for use in general DME practices. The report will include two statistical comparisons that the national office sees as important to their programming, such as gender or ethnicity. Once the tool has reached an acceptable level of reliability, each National Office takes responsibility for data gathering, analysis and application in ongoing DME of WV projects and programmes. Staff will be trained on how to do this during the training offered to the regional and national offices by the GC and consultants.

