

GOJoven 2015 Alumni Survey: Summary of Alumni Reported Results

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The 2015 survey of GOJoven alumni from 2004 to 2014 was completed by 72.5% (n=140) of the contacted alumni, including at least one representative from every GOJoven cohort in each of the four countries (Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and Quintana Roo, Mexico). The key findings, across all four countries combined, are summarized below.

Participation in GOJoven Phase IV (scale-up through local GOJoven Associations) activities was robust. Over four-fifths of respondents (88.5%) reported participating in at least one GOJoven Phase IV activity or role. For example, 43.2% reported training health service providers or teachers in SRH and/or SRR through GOJoven; and 59.7% reported training new adolescent/youth leaders in SRH and SRR through GOJoven; and 47.8% reported representing their GOJoven organization in a network or committee at the sub-national level.

Involvement in work to address adolescent/youth sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and sexual and reproductive rights (SRR) is extremely robust. Over four-fifths (88.6%) of respondents reported currently doing some type of adolescent/youth SRH and/or SRR work, paid and/or unpaid, as a primary job and/or as part of other work. Only 4.5% reported not doing any work related to adolescent/youth SRH and/or SRR and not currently seeking related employment.

A sizable proportion of respondents are currently in positions of authority from which they are addressing adolescent/youth SRH and SRR. Of respondents who were currently doing some type of paid or unpaid work related to adolescent/youth SRH and/or SRR, 82.1% reported currently being in some type of leadership position in such work. For example, 40.0% reported being in a management, coordination, or other leadership position in an NGO or company working in this area; 33.6% reported being a Board Member of an NGO working in this area; and 24.6% reported being a member of a committee, commission, or network working to address adolescent/youth SRH and/or SRR at an international level. Among those currently serving in the various leadership positions, 81.3% reported that they did not have a similar leadership position when they became a GOJoven fellow. Overall, 84.5% of eligible respondents reported that they have more leadership responsibilities related to adolescent/ youth SRH and/or SRR now than when they were accepted as GOJoven fellows. Among them, 96.9% attribute their advances, at least in part, to GOJoven. For example, one wrote:

"...[T]he [school] principal asks me to coordinate sessions for my staff. My community recognizes me as an active member in society. I personally, recognize my ability and confidence to speak about SRH with students, staff, family and friends. I also strengthened my skills in public speaking and advocacy, to name a few. My personal and professional growth is undoubtedly attributed to GOJoven" (Belize).

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) knowledge and skills increased during Phase IV. Over half of respondents reported having more knowledge (54.9%) and skills (51.6%) pertaining to M&E now than at the outset of Phase IV; over four-fifths attributed these changes to GOJoven (at least in part). Reported areas of improvement due to GOJoven include: developing theories of change, objectives, process and outcome indicators, M&E plans, and instruments; and collecting and analyzing data.