

PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

For each of the factors below, indicate a) the degree to which the factor is critical to program sustainability (“Critical”) and b) the degree to which the factor is or has been addressed (“Addressed”) using a rating of 1 - 5, with a “5” being very critical/well addressed and a “1” indicating that the factor is not critical/is not being addressed.

	Critical	Addressed
Political Support: Internal and external political environments that support your program		
1. Political champions advocate for the program.		
2. The program has strong champions with the ability to garner resources.		
3. The program has political support within the larger organization.		
4. The program has political support from outside of the organization.		
5. The program has strong advocacy support.		
Funding Stability: Establishing a consistent financial base for your program		
6. The program exists in a supportive state economic climate.		
7. The program implements policies to help ensure sustained funding.		
8. The program is funded through a variety of sources.		
9. The program has a combination of stable and flexible funding.		
10. The program has sustained funding.		
Partnerships: Cultivating connections between your program and its stakeholders		
11. Diverse community organizations are invested in the success of the program.		
12. The program communicates with community leaders.		
13. Community leaders are involved with the program.		
14. Community members are passionately committed to the program.		
15. The community is engaged in the development of program goals.		
Organizational Capacity: Having the internal support and resources needed to effectively manage your program		
16. The program is well integrated into the operations of the organization.		
17. Organizational systems are in place to support the various program needs.		
18. Leadership effectively articulates the vision of the program to external partners.		
19. Leadership efficiently manages staff and other resources.		
20. The program has adequate staff to complete the program’s goals.		

	Critical	Addressed
Program Evaluation: Assessing your program to inform planning and document results		
21. The program has the capacity for quality program evaluation.		
22. The program reports short-term and intermediate outcomes.		
23. Evaluation results inform program planning and implementation.		
24. Program evaluation results are used to demonstrate successes to funders and other key stakeholders.		
25. The program provides strong evidence to the public that the program works.		
Program Adaptation: Taking actions that adapt your program to ensure its ongoing effectiveness		
26. The program periodically reviews the evidence base.		
27. The program adapts strategies as needed.		
28. The program adapts to new science.		
29. The program proactively adapts to changes in the environment.		
30. The program makes decisions about which components are ineffective and should not continue.		
Communications: Strategic communication with stakeholders and the public about your program		
31. The program has communication strategies to secure and maintain public support.		
32. Program staff members communicate the need for the program to the public.		
33. The program is marketed in a way that generates interest.		
34. The program increases community awareness of the issue.		
35. The program demonstrates its value to the public.		
Strategic Planning: Using processes that guide your program's directions, goals, and strategies		
36. The program plans for future resource needs.		
37. The program has a long-term financial plan.		
38. The program has a sustainability plan.		
39. The program's goals are understood by all stakeholders.		
40. The program clearly outlines roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders.		

Adapted from Program Sustainability Assessment, Scheirer Consulting. Available at:
<https://sustaintool.org/assess>