

## EXAMPLE

### Focus Group Discussion Guide for Women/Girls (community)

#### GBV Risk Mitigation in natural resource management/domestic energy use Baseline Survey in XYZ settlement, ABC and DEF Districts, COUNTRY

##### Instructions to Facilitator and Note taker:

- 1) The number of participants should not exceed XX
- 2) Record the following details before the start of the session (s):
  - a. Age category of the respondents
  - b. Location (district/sub county/parish/village)
  - c. Category of participants: Women/Girls/Men/Boys/Refugees/Citizens
  - d. Facilitator and Note taker's name

Greetings. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ I am part of the team from ..... This project will be supporting your community in addressing cooking fuel challenges in order to improve safety.

I want to assure you that the answers you will provide will be kept strictly confidential with your names and identifying information not being taken. I would like to let you know that:

- No one is obligated to respond to any questions if s/he does not wish
- Participants can leave the discussion at any time
- No one need share personal experiences if s/he does not wish
- Be respectful when others speak
- The facilitator might interrupt discussion, but only to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to speak and no one person dominates the discussion
- We shall take note of the discussions and that no identifying information will be mentioned in the notes
- The purpose of the notes is to ensure that the information collected is precise
- The interview will take about 60 minutes to complete
- Participation in this study is voluntary and you may withdraw at any time during the interview. We would highly appreciate your being part of this study given that your views are very important.

**If you agree, then I will ask you a few questions:**

##### Explorative Questions:

###### **FUEL AND COOKING TECHNIQUES:**

- Do you use firewood for cooking? If so, where do you get it?
- [If yes to above]: What has been your experience getting firewood for cooking from the forest or bush? [*Note: Be aware of your context. Are there legal concerns re: accessing firewood? If so, are the FGD participants potentially putting themselves at risk by saying that they collect wood from forests? If so – this might potentially skew their responses (ie, they will say they're not collecting wood because they don't want to get in trouble with the authorities). How can FGD participants' safety be managed by the interviewer?*]
  - **[Probing questions:** Which forest do you collect firewood from? What is the distance to the location(s)? How frequently do you have to go? How long does it take you? What is the arrangement of getting firewood from forest reserves? Do

<p>you get it for free? What is your opinion about the amount you collect from the forest? Is it enough to serve your cooking needs? If not, why are you not able to collect enough?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do you generally feel safe when you collect firewood? If you have concerns about your safety, are these more en route to/from firewood collection, at the collection site, or both? Have these feelings changed at all over time? What makes you feel safer or less safe?</li><li>• In your opinion, what can be to protect women while collecting firewood in the forest Who should do it?]</li><li>• Have you ever used fuel briquettes? If so, what has been you experience with briquette?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>[Probing questions:</b> What would be the advantages and disadvantages/challenges of using briquettes as a source of fuel, ask participants if there is any agency providing cooking fuel in their community. If so, which agency? Whom are they providing cooking fuel to? What kind of cooking fuel? Would you use a fuel briquette if it was provided? Would you use it as a replacement for firewood or a supplement?]</li></ul></li></ul>
<p><b>PARTICIPATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What do you think about girls and women’s participation in community issues?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>[Probing Questions:</b> How are [women or girls] participating in this community? What do they (women/girls) participate in? Who/which agencies mainly consult women or girls in this community? What could be done better to make sure women and girls’ voices are heard?]</li></ul></li><li>○ What is your general feeling about your participation in XYZ activities?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>[Probing questions:</b> What kind of activities have you participated in? Why have you or why have you not participated in certain XYZ activities? How were you treated? In your opinion, what could be improved so that women and girls feel safe and respected when participating in XYZ activities? Have XYZ activities improved self-esteem of women and girls in this community? If so, how? Why would you recommend your peer to participate in XYZ activities?]</li></ul></li></ul>
<p><b>ACCESS TO SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What services [include sample list, relevant to context and topic at hand] are safely available to women and girls in this community?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>[Probing questions:</b> What are available services for girls and women separately? What are the organizations offering these services? Why are some women and girls unable to access some of these services? What are women and girls in your community doing to generate income to meet basic needs?]</li></ul></li></ul> <p>[NOTE: here, consider using the AAAQ framework in your preparation]</p>
<p><b>GENDER ANALYSIS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Who has the opportunity to make use of natural resources in your community?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>[Probing questions:</b> How about women, girls, boys or men]</li></ul></li><li>○ Who normally collects firewood for your household use? [ which members of the household? Children? Women?]</li><li>○ In your community who decide (s) how a natural resource like forest is used by your household?</li><li>○ Who use (s) the natural resources in this community the most?</li></ul>

- **[Probing questions:** Is it women/girls/boys/men?]
- Who are the most vulnerable people/categories in this community? Why are these groups considered to be most vulnerable? What do you think can be done to improve their safety, access to and use of natural resources?
  - **[Probing questions:** For example women/girls/boys/men/person with special needs?]

**HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL RESPONSE TO GBV: (include only if relevant)**

- Are health services available for girls and women in the community?
  - **[Probing questions:** If yes, do girls and women have access to the health services at any time? Are there female doctors, nurses and/or midwives at the health facilities?]
- What are some of the reasons that girl or women survivors of GBV may not be able to access health services?
  - **[Probing questions:** Are there psychological and/or social support systems for girls or women survivors in your community? If yes, what kinds of support systems are available to women/girls survivors? Are there informal community-based networks of women/girls? If yes, what sorts of services do they provide?
- What are some reasons that girl or women survivors of GBV may not be able to access psychosocial support services?