IRB # 20-0002

Appendix 7a. Focus Group Discussion Guide

# **FOCUS GROUP FOR WOMEN and MEN**

Name of facilitator: ­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of note taker: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of FGD: ­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sex of participants: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of men or women \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Note to interviewer:**

* Do not mix men and women in the focus groups!
* First, complete the informed consent process individually.
* Do not start the interview without ensuring that the participant has signed the consent form and has a copy.
* Ensure that you have a quiet, private place to conduct the FGD.
* Ensure that the note taker has notebooks and pens ready and that you have your illustrations and dice.

**Introduction**

As you know, we are doing a study to identify the effects of land certification for women and men in your village. We are very interested in your opinions and would like to ask questions about the most important changes you have noticed on the lives of men and women in your village as a result of obtaining land certificates. Please avoid giving personal examples if possible. There are no right or wrong answers. Your opinion will help us understand what women and men think worked well and what did not work so well with the land certification to make recommendations for program and policy improvements.

1. **WARM-UP**

**Note to the facilitator:** Participants should be comfortable when we start this activity; the question below aims to find a way to quickly relax them by taking their mind off their children or work routine. Please start by answering the question below yourself, and then have the note taker answer it, and then move quickly to the participants.

**Question for participants:**

* 1. Please, can you let us know your name and something fun about you, for example, do you have a favorite thing to do when you are not working? Do you have a favorite animal? Why is that your favorite?

**SECTION 2. Setting up the activity by talking about land in the village**

**Note to the facilitator:** Please, let participants know that now we are going to start talking about land in the village.

**Question for participants:**

* 1. In your village, who decides how to allocate agricultural land? Has that changed since 2010? In what year did the government start issuing land certificates in this village?

**SECTION 3: IDENTIFYING THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE VILLAGE**

**Note to the facilitator**: Use the illustrations we gave you to explain that we have identified some dimensions of a person’s or a community’s life that can change, for good, or bad, after women and men obtain land certificates. Show them the illustrations one by one. Please, state:

“We identified some dimensions of life that could be affected, in a positive or negative way, by having your name on a land certificate, and we will show you some pictures to illustrate what we mean. Later, we will ask you to tell us how change may, or may not, happen when you get your name on a land certificate in relation to any of these dimensions. I will show you illustrations that represent some of these dimensions.”

**Question to participants:**

3.1. Can you tell me, which of these changes you have seen in people that received land certificates? Of all, which ones are the most significant in your opinion?

**Note for Facilitator:** Please, explain each of the ideas using the labels at the back of the illustrations:

* 1. Access to credit from banks, NGOs or formal institutions;
  2. Number of Land disputes (incidence and time until resolution);
  3. Land rental activity, including share-cropping;
  4. Investment in productive assets;
  5. Increased productivity;
  6. Soil and water conservation investments;
  7. Land tenure security;
  8. Involvement in off-farm income generating activities;
  9. Female empowerment and intra-household decision-making;
  10. Risk of experiencing domestic violence

**SECTION 4: Identifying how change happened**

**Note to the facilitator:** Please, tell the participants: “Now, we want you to discuss the most significant changes you all have observed in the village for each of the pictures I showed you. Changes can be positive or negative”

Please keep in mind that participants should focus on speaking how change happened as a result of the certificate rather than something that was already happening. Please, ensure they cover details, otherwise, please feel free to ask them details, probing with:

* Why did that happen?
* Why do you say that?
* What effect did this have?

Enumerator, please repeat these questions for every picture you show the participants. Please, follow the order in which they are listed in the first section of this FGD guide.

**Questions for participants:**

* 1. Let’s look at the first picture, what does this represent? (e.g., credit)
  2. How is [what the picture represents] (e.g. obtaining credit) the result of having a person’s name in the land certificate?
  3. Does it work the same for men and women?
  4. What if you are younger? Older?
  5. For whom that doesn’t it work that way?

**Section 5: Specific interest questions**

In addition to identifying what most important changes that you have seen in your village since the land certificates were issued, we are curious about some specific findings that the researchers could not understand during the study in 2015. We are hoping you can help us understand that:

* 1. Are there still any barriers for women or men to obtain land certificates? Can you give examples?
  2. In the previous rounds of the study, researchers found that people with land certificates asked for more credit from individuals informally than from banks or NGOs, do you think that happened in this village? Why would people ask for informal loans instead of reaching a bank loan or one from an NGO?
  3. For whom it is still difficult to use land, even with a certificate?
  4. Do you have any questions or comments?

Thank you for your time and participation. If you have any questions about the study or wish to discuss anything further, please contact:

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