

Appendix 2. Survey weekly programme

Crop Post-harvest Project of Northern Province

Participatory Rural Appraisal and Questionnaire Survey

Weekly Programme

Day 1

1. Meeting of both teams with Regional Extension Staff (12h30)

Confirm arrangements made during planning visit in July

Key informant interview with extension staff about:

- General agricultural conditions in the District
 - Average farm sizes
 - Average rainfall patterns
 - Crops grown
 - Agricultural practices
 - Average yields
 - Environmental issues, etc
- Stakeholders active in the District other than farmers, eg.
 - Millers,
 - NTK,
 - Processing industries,
 - Transporters,
 - NGO's,
 - Projects, etc.

Teams proceed to their respective villages accompanied by local extension officers.

2. Introduction to tribal authorities and village community

- Explain purpose of visit and clarify availability of farmers for exercises.
- Explain that we are there to learn from the community about their farming practices and constraints, so that future research is directed at solving their most important constraints.
- Explain rough timetable and hours for each of the 5 days, making sure they agree. Find out about ideal place for meetings with farmer groups (e.g. community centre).
- Make sure that the farmers selected for the questionnaire interviews are informed. Explain how sampling takes place.

3. Discussions with key informants such as NGO staff, millers, etc

4. Start questionnaire interviews – by two sub-teams if possible

5. Daily recap

Day 2

1. Village mapping exercise combined with semi-structured interview

Make sure there is a balanced group of farmers including different categories such as men, women, better off and poor, old and young. Try to avoid letting groups become larger than 20 farmers.

Agree with farmers what materials should be used for scoring and mapping exercises.

Ensure that all groups, in particular women, are happy with procedures. Use locally available materials as much as possible.

Bear in mind that the village mapping should also serve as an ice breaker.

Points to identify:

- Background to village (History, size, location, ...)
- Livelihood assets:

Natural Resources (land sizes, types of ownership, water, rainfall, forests, environmental issues etc.)

Physical capital (general village infrastructure, such as clinics, roads, transport, and farmers' physical assets such as tools, buildings, etc)

Human capital (schools, educational level)

Social capital (community-based organisations, clubs, social cohesion etc.)

Financial capital (formal and informal savings and credit mechanisms used, remittances, pensions)

2. **Scoring exercise: Survival strategies** (cash and subsistence). Ask farmers to prepare list, indicating whether it is women or men who are mainly responsible; score out of 100. Probe – so that you understand in detail what is presented. Do separate scoring exercises with men and women (This doesn't take much longer once the list has been established).
3. **Scoring exercise: Crops grown** (up to 10), ask farmers to prepare list, indicating whether it is women or men who are mainly responsible; indicate use of crops (e.g. food, sale, etc) score out of 100.
Probe – so that you understand in detail what is presented.
Do separate scoring exercises with men and women.
4. **Questionnaire survey – if possible use two sub-teams of two members each.**
5. **Daily recap Write up information for presentation to community, using flipcharts and symbols.**

Day 3

1. Recap with villagers on previous day's information
2. **Seasonal agricultural and food security calendar: (with women only)**
There is no need to have exactly the same farmers participate in the group exercises on all three days.
Analyse with farmers on a monthly basis using the agricultural calendar (and bearing in mind that it should be them who do it):
 - Annual rainfall pattern (score out of 10, starting with wettest month)
 - Labour requirements (score out of 10, starting with most labour intensive month)
 - Key agricultural activities (draw straight lines, use symbols on lines)
 - Consumption of staple foods (score out of 10, starting with month when food is most abundant)
Concentrate on maize, other grains, and roots and tubers.
Discuss whether food is produced on-farm or bought in, and whether traditional varieties or HYV are used. Highlight distinctions between different social categories, and vulnerable groups.
 - Coping strategies (verbal discussion of coping mechanisms employed by different social groups in times of food shortage or when no food is left in granary).
3. **Diagram - Information flow** (undertake separate exercises with women and men)
Use Venn diagram techniques:
 - indicate sources of information on pieces of paper and place them in relation to the community;
 - paper size should indicate importance of information source;
 - **discuss the types of information** obtained from what source, and recommendations to improve the situation re the flow of agricultural information, bearing in mind that there is a 2 way flow of information (from and to farmers).
3. **Questionnaire survey.** (afternoon) see Appendix 3 for full questionnaire template.

4. **Daily recap. Write up information for presentation to community, using flipcharts and symbols.**

Day 4

1. Recap with villagers on previous day's information
2. **Scoring exercise: Agricultural constraints** (All constraints, in general)
 - Ask farmers to prepare list; let them score out of 100;
 - Do separate scoring exercises with men and women.
 - Probe – so that you understand in detail what is presented.
3. **Semi-structured interview: Post-harvest activities and problems;**
 - Try to find answers for the following subjects.
(Harvesting; transport (to house and town); processing; storage; marketing - use the table as a checklist for a semi-structured discussion). Grains, Legumes, Oilseeds, Roots & Tubers, Vegetable, Fruit.
 - Indicate gender responsibilities per activities and constraints
 - Discuss with farmers suggestions to improve the situation.
4. **Questionnaire survey, bearing in mind the target is 30 questionnaires per village.**
5. **Further discussions with key informants.**
6. **Write up information for presentation to community, using flipcharts and symbols.**

Day 5

1. **Revalidation of information with community. Discuss their suggestions with them.**
Take note of any changes of information. Try to fill gaps.
2. **Thank farmers for the time provided for the exercises.**
3. **Complete questionnaire interviews (30 per village)**
4. **Final team meeting and recap before the weekend.**
Finalise notes.
Plan survey of the coming week.