

Interviewer's Script for Survey Questions
Millennium Villages Project

Instructions for Obtaining Informed Consent

"Hello and good morning/afternoon. My name is _____ and I am conducting research in collaboration with Colombia University's Earth Institute, Millennium Villages Project. I am here to ask you if you would answer questions. The questions I want to ask you relate to your and your family's health, your agricultural and economic activities, transportation, education and energy use. You have the right to refuse to participate. If you agree to let me ask you some questions, the information gathered will be used by our team of researcher to better understand the issues affecting your community.

The goal of our research in your community is to measure the impact of interventions in the field of agriculture, health, energy, sanitation and education, health and economic well-being of your community. Participation in this research is completely voluntary and you are under no obligation whatsoever to participate. You may skip any question that you do not wish to answer and you may, without any consequence to you, refuse to answer any of the questions.

Procedure:

I would like to speak with a member of your household. If you think at any time that any adults in your household might object to the questions, then we will discontinue the interview. The information we will ask you about will be noted, but it will be confidential. Again, you are under no obligation whatsoever to participate in the study. If you have any questions about this, please ask them now.

Risks, discomforts and inconveniences

We estimate that the entire interview will take up to a couple of hours. The interview will take place in your home, and will be conducted by a trained interviewer who is fluent in your language. There may also be a supervisor present during the discussion.

Benefits

There may be no direct benefits to the household. The information gathered will be used by the team to better understand the status of your community. No payment or incentive will be given to you for answering these questions. All households will receive the benefits of the MVP's interventions, regardless of their decision to participate.

If through the course of this study, a subject is found to have any disease or medical problem they did not previously know they had, they will be referred to the community clinic.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The information gathered in the interview will be kept confidential and will not be shared with any persons or agencies not affiliated with this study. Your answers will be combined with the answers of other households in such a way that it is not possible to associate particular responses with particular households. Your household will be assigned a code, and this code will be stored separately from the responses to the research. Individual responses will thereafter be referred to by codes alone. The names of household member will not be shared with organisations outside the research organisation and the identifying information linking names to codes will be destroyed once the information is compiled into a computer.

Now, I must ask you, are you willing to participate in this survey?"

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If the respondent says yes, please complete a VERBAL CONSENT ATTESTATION FORM

If the respondent declines to participate, please say:

"I understand that you do not wish to participate. Are there any questions I may be able to answer which might clarify the purpose or content of the research?"

If the respondent still declines, please say:

"I understand. Thank you for your time, I appreciate it greatly."

Then leave the home, note on the list of households that you were refused, and continue to the next household on your list.