**FGD Guidelines: Unmarried Young Women**

**Global Review of RH in Crisis Affected Populations**

We are from the International Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises and we are conducting some research to gain a better understanding of reproductive health among people displaced by conflict or crisis. We would like to hear you opinions on your community’s reproductive health needs and the services provided. We will not ask about your personal experiences, but if you would like to share something that you feel may be of interest and are comfortable doing so, it may help our research. There are no right or wrong answers to any of the questions. We ask that you respect each other’s opinions and that you do not repeat anything that is said in the discussion outside of this room.

(Note to moderator: Go through statement and informed consent procedure with each participant, if not already done so.)

First of all I’d like each of you to introduce yourselves, giving your age, the number, if any, of children you have and how long you have lived here. There is no need to give your name.

1. **General health and health services**

(Note to moderator: try to keep this section focussed on general quality of care issues in health service. Do not let the discussion focus on problems with immunization or child health services, for example.)

1.1 What are the main health problems faced by young people living here?

Probe – are they important because they are common, affecting many people, are they important because they are serious? Or both?

1.2 How about young women specifically – what are the main health problems for young women, like yourselves?

* 1. Where do people go for healthcare?

Probe for where people go for any RH problems mentioned in response to initial question

Why do people choose the health facilities mentioned? Staff attitude, good service, free services?

* 1. Can anyone use the services that are being mentioned, or only for refugees or nationals?
  2. Do you think that everyone gets treated the same or are some treated differently?

Probe – refugee, national, young people, unmarried people?

In what way are people treated differently?

1. **Family planning**

2.1 How soon after getting married do people have their first child?

Probe – what is a good amount time after marrying to have a child? Why?

2.2 Do women have children before they get married?

Probe – what happens if woman gets pregnant before she is married?

* 1. Do people think that there is a good number of children to have?

Probe – why is it good or not to have x number of children? Finances? Family life? Education? Health? Future plans? Anything else?

* 1. What can women do if they are pregnant and they and their partner do not want to have another baby?
  2. Thinking about these questions, do you think this is the same here as it was in your home country/setting?

Probe – what has changed? Why is it different? Is it different in a good way?

* 1. Do couples here do anything to avoid getting pregnant? What do they do?

Probe for modern methods, including pills, condoms, IUD, injection, implant.

Which methods are most popular and why?

Probe – what about for young women? Or women who have had no children?

* 1. What, about immediately after having unprotected sex? Is there anything that can prevent a pregnancy?
  2. What are the advantages of these methods, particularly for young or unmarried women? Or women with no children?

Probe – what are the advantages of each method mentioned?

* 1. How about the disadvantages, are they are disadvantages to any of the methods?

Probe – what are the disadvantages of each method mentioned?

* 1. Where do young women go to get family planning methods?

Why do they go to the mentioned places?

Probe – cost, distance, ease of access, good service?

* 1. Do young women go alone to get family planning or do they take someone with them? Probe –mother? Partner? Anyone else?
  2. Should others know a woman is going for FP, even if they do not go with her? Who should she tell? Why or why not?
  3. Are there any difficulties for young women in obtaining family planning methods here? What are those difficulties?

Probe – staff attitude, opening times, requirements for paperwork – marriage certificate or health records?

* 1. Do you think that some people might have more difficulty than others getting family planning services? Or those who don’t have any children? How about refugees? Or local people?

1. **Pregnancy and Delivery**
   1. How do young women here take care of themselves when they are pregnant?

Are there customs around pregnancy that women follow?

* 1. Do young women go for antenatal care? Where do they go? Do you think that the services are good?

Probe – what makes them good, or not good? Attitude of staff, given bednets, tested/treated for malaria or other illness?

Are young, unmarried women treated the same as married women when they go for care? How are they treated differently?

* 1. Where do young women have their babies? What are the reasons for giving birth in these places?

Probe: Is it because of comfort? Cost? Staff attitude at health facilities? What other reasons?

* 1. Who decides if a woman will give birth in the health facilities?

Probe – under what circumstances? If everything is ok or only if there is a problem? What problem? Who decides whether to go the health facility?

* 1. What are the main reasons they choose to go to that facility? Cost? Good quality care, Location?
  2. Can you tell me more about getting to the health facility?

How long does it take to get to the health facility? How does the pregnant woman get there? What about at night time?

1. **HIV/AIDS and STIs**
   1. Have you heard of HIV or AIDS?
   2. Are young people here worried about getting AIDS? What do they do to prevent it?
   3. What about other infections you can get through having sex (sexually transmitted infections - STIs)?

Probe – ask if there are different names for the STIs mentioned

* 1. Who is at risk at HIV or STI? Are some people more at risk than others? Why?

Probe – security personnel, commercial sex workers, vulnerable women, MSM?

* 1. Is there anything that can be done to prevent getting HIV or STIs? What can be done? Do young women do these things?

Probe – abstinence, condoms, limit number of sexual partners?

* 1. Are condoms available here? Are they affordable? Who uses condoms

Probe – men having sex with sex workers, MSM, married couples, young people, sick people?

* 1. What can people do when they think they may have STIs or AIDS?
  2. Can they get tests or get treated here at the camp?
  3. What are the reasons that young people don’t get tested?

Probe – cost, stigma, lack of services, lack of confidentiality (real or perceived?)

1. **Gender based violence**
   1. Do you think that some women have experienced violence since coming here / the fighting began?
   2. What sort of violence have you heard of being experienced?

Probe – any sexual violence, physical violence

* 1. Who committed the violence?

Probe – partner/husband, father, other family member, security personnel, humanitarian staff, other community member

* 1. Do women sometimes have sex in exchange for food or goods? Or anything else?

Probe – for security, for child’s access to education? What do you think about this? Is it right or wrong? Who is wrong?

* 1. Are there some women who are more at risk of sexual violence than others? Which women? Why are they more at risk?

Probe – single headed households, young girls, sex workers? Others?

Whose fault is it when a woman is sexually assaulted?

* 1. How about men? Are men at risk of sexual violence? Can you tell me more about that?
  2. Are there some places which are considered not safe? Do you need to go there anyway? If so why?

Probe – latrines, collecting fuelwood, camp office, security office?

* 1. Are there any services available for women who have been raped? Where are they located?

Probe – what services are available? For men? For young people?

* 1. Do you know of anyone who has used them? Do you know why people don’t use the services?

Probe – concerns about confidentiality, poor quality services, requirement to involve police or others.

That is all our questions. Do you have anything else you want to discuss or would like to tell us?

Thank the participants for the time and remind them that responses will stay confidential.