**SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

**Here are the steps to follow in order to facilitate a discussion:**

**1. Welcome and introductions (5 min)**

The two or three community catalyzers should welcome all participants and introduce the member of the CARE team that will be facilitating the discussion. Then each facilitator will give their name and a short introduction about themselves.

**2. Why are we here ? (5 min)**

Then the facilitator, a member of the CARE team, will thank all of the participants for responding to the invitation and give the reason for the discussion, saying:

"CARE International has been implementing projects in the health sector for several years now, including birth spacing and the management of abortion complications. These projects have been successful and we have just received a renewal of funding for the next three years. Before starting this new phase, we wanted to come together and learn from the communities, through dialogue, about things that are unimportant or that we do not know, and that can limit the use of these two services. We could not invite everyone, but we think that as a member of the community you can share with us the beliefs and needs of the community.”

**3. Discuss confidentiality (2 min)**

The facilitator will remind participants of the confidentiality of the discussion:

"Everything said here will only be used to improve the quality of the health services offered. We will not use your name or publish this anywhere. Confidentiality is guaranteed. We may record the discussion so we can listen later, and so we do not forget any of the ideas shared, but we will not use your name.”

**Before continuing, ask participants if they have any questions**

**4. Divide participants into small groups (8 min)**

You will have at least 40 participants. At this stage, have a co-facilitator divide the participants into 4-5 homogeneous groups according to participant demographics. The groups may consist of:

* Married men
* Married women
* Unmarried women 18 years or older
* Unmarried men 18 years or older
* Boys and girls under 18 years of age
* Mother in-laws
* Etc.

It is up to the facilitators to decide the groups (preferably of four to five participants) based on the influence that each group has on the use of FP and PAC services. Next assign a place for each group to work and give each group 3-5 pieces of paper from the flip chart and a marker. Finally, ask each group to choose a discussion moderator and a note taker who will also present on behalf of the group.

**5. Work in groups** **(1h00-1h30)**

* Let the groups work independently
* Co-facilitators should walk around and make sure each group is working without participating in the discussion
* Each co-facilitator should be available to answer any questions from group members

**6. Group discussion (1h30 -2h00) : Make sure to record everything that is said in the discussion**

* Each group may present for ten minutes and then hold a discussion for fifteen minutes
* Summarize ideas for validation by the entire group and go through final questions one-by-one

**7. After the discussion**: **Collect the flip chart papers used in group discussion**

**Discussion Questions**

**Module 1 : Community Perceptions and Attitudes on the Use of Family Planning**

* What do people in your group in the community think about birth spacing and family planning?
* What do people think and say about family planning methods?
* How does the community perceive those who use family planning?
* Who in your community is allowed to use family planning methods?
* What types of family planning methods are most used and why?
* Are there people who use traditional methods? If yes, why?
* Here is a list of methods, which ones are acceptable or not and why:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Method** | **Acceptable (Yes/No)** | **Why?** |
| IUD |  |  |
| Implant |  |  |
| Injections |  |  |
| Pills |  |  |
| Vasectomy |  |  |
| Tubal ligation (female sterilization) |  |  |
| Breastfeeding |  |  |
| Male condom |  |  |
| Female condom |  |  |
| Other (describe) |  |  |

* Does anything prevent some women or couples from using family planning methods? If yes, why?
* How do teenagers and young people find information about sex and sexuality in your community?
* What is your community's perspective on single women using family planning methods?
* What is your community's perspective on women whose husbands are away for a long time and who use family planning methods?
* How would you describe your level of satisfaction with the family planning services offered within your health center in terms of the information you receive, the attitude of the health staff, respect, confidentiality, wait time, cleanliness, cost etc., and why?
* What is the meaning of pregnancy for a single woman or girl in your community and why?
* What do you think about close and unwanted pregnancies in your community?

**Module 2 : Community Perceptions and Attitudes on the Use of Abortion**

* What is said in your community about abortion and its complications?
* What are the reasons why some women and girls have abortions?
* Have there been any cases of abortion in your community? If so, what were the causes and consequences?
* Do you ever discuss abortion in your community and why or why not?
* How are abortions perceived and experienced in your community?
* Where do women go or what do women and girls do when they have to have an abortion?
* How are women and girls perceived for having spontaneous or induced abortions?
* How much do women pay for abortions?
* What do you think of [country name]’s law on abortion?
* What if a woman or girl has a complication related to spontaneous abortion or causes?
* What can you do to avoid the complications and death of abortion in your community?

**Module 3 : Community Perceptions and Attitudes on Pregnancy**

* Where are the women of this village giving birth? Why?
* What do you think are the barriers that prevent pregnant women from attending at least 4 antenatal visits?
* When a complication occurs during pregnancy, where do women go for help? Why?
* Is it possible for a woman to refuse to give birth with the traditional birth attendant? How do the spouse and the community react when this happens?
* What does the community say about women dying during childbirth?
* What do you think are the reasons why women die during childbirth?

**Module 4 : Social Norms, Power and Decision Relations**

* What do you think is the ideal number of children a woman can have and why?
* What do you think is the ideal time interval for birth spacing and why?
* What do you think is the ideal age for first intercourse and why?
* In your opinion, what is the ideal age for a first pregnancy and why?
* For the sex of a child, between male and female, which is preferred in your community and why?
* What is the norm in your community about a couple discussing sex? Do couples discuss their sex life? And what does the community and family think about it?
* Are women entitled to refuse or to ask for sex? In what conditions? Why or why not?
* Can women alone decide to use a method of birth spacing (without the advice of the spouse or a family member or parents)? Why or why not?
* How does the community react if a man forbids his wife from using a birth spacing method?
* How are decisions made regarding the use of contraceptive methods?