

4.9 Sample questions

Box 4.4 Sample questions for women and men in target households

Your situation in recent 'normal' times (e.g. this same season, but last year)

1. What were the main foodstuffs (cereals, meat, fish, oil, and vegetables) that your household consumed?
2. How did you obtain these basic foodstuffs? (*e.g. own production [agriculture, fishing, livestock], purchased in market, collected wild food, gifts from family, barter labour for food, food aid*)
3. What were the most essential non-food items or other services (*e.g. transport, loans*) that your household used?
4. What were your primary sources of cash income (or benefits in kind) at this time of year? (*e.g. wage labour, sale of crops, livestock, micro-enterprise activities, remittances*)

Food situation now

5. How is your household's normal food consumption being affected by the emergency situation? Which of the different foods (above) are affected?
6. How big is the gap (deficit) that you are now facing in each of these basic food items?
7. In each case, in what way is the emergency having an impact on your normal consumption? (*e.g. destroyed your crop, reduced your income, raised prices, reduced availability in market, blocked your access to market*)

Essential non-food items or other services now

8. Which of the essential non-food items and services (above) that your household normally uses have been affected by the emergency situation?
9. In each case, in what way has the emergency had an impact on your normal usage? (*e.g. increased your need, reduced your income, raised prices, reduced availability in market, blocked your access to market*)
10. What other urgent non-food or service needs do you now have as a result of the emergency situation?

Income and/or employment situation now

11. If you normally rely on casual labour or employment for income, please describe any changes in the amount of work that you are able to find currently; and/or the wage rates.
12. If you normally rely on selling your own produce (food, livestock, manufactured goods) for income, please describe any changes in the amount that you are able to sell, and/or the prices that you obtain.
13. In each case, tell us in what way the emergency is having an effect on your normal earnings / income. (*e.g. made you unable to work, reduced demand for labour, reduced demand for produce, cut transport to jobs, reduced wage rates, reduced selling prices for your goods, changes in the way time is allocated to paid and unpaid activities*)

Humanitarian response

14. How are you and your household coping? What changes have you and your family made to adjust to the new hardships?
15. Have any agencies intervened to alleviate the situation yet? What activities are offered by the government or NGOs to help you through this time?
16. If you were given cash rather than material aid, what types of goods or services would you purchase first? Where could you spend? Given a choice, how would you prefer to receive assistance with your household food needs? (*e.g. food distributions, cash-based help*)
17. Given a choice, how would you prefer to receive assistance with your household non-food needs? (*e.g. item distributions, cash-based help*)

Box 4.5 Sample questions for local market actors**Your business**

1. How is your business doing? What is the impact of the crisis on your business? How do traders and community usually cope in difficult times / how are they managing now?
2. Which products / items are you selling since the crisis began? How much / how many?
3. How much / many would you normally expect to sell at this time of year?
4. What level of stocks are you holding? Is this more or less than normal for you?

Your customers / buyers

5. Who are your customers? What are their characteristics? (NB: 'customer' means person who buys from you, not necessarily the end-user)
6. How many customers do you have these days? (*e.g. number of transactions per week*)
7. How many sales did you have at a similar time of year before the crisis?
8. How has the crisis affected your customers' demand for particular products / items?
9. What is your selling price now? What was your selling price this time last year?

Credit / debt

10. Before the crisis did you normally give any of your customers credit?
11. Are you allowing any of your customers to pay later (have credit) now?
12. How much in total are you owed by your customers? (How many weeks of income?)
13. Before the crisis did you normally get any credit from your suppliers?
14. Are you still able to get credit from your suppliers?
15. How much do you owe your suppliers? (How many weeks' supply?)