

# Focus Group Discussion Tool, Men and Adolescent Boys (Under 18, 18-24 years, and 25-49+ years):

# MISP Process Evaluation

## Description

### *Purpose and objectives*

The purpose of undertaking focus group discussions (FGDs) during a MISP process evaluation is to better understand crisis-affected communities’ (female and male adults and adolescents) perceptions about and knowledge of SRH services, as related to the components of the MISP.

The objectives of the FGD tools are to:

1. Understand the main SRH concerns among crisis-affected communities.
2. Explore crisis-affected communities’ knowledge and perceptions of MISP services.
3. Gain insight on the availability of MISP services.
4. Explore factors that influence the accessibility of MISP services

### *Instructions*

Before beginning the focus group discussion, ensure that each participant provides informed consent. For participants under the age of 18 years who cannot provide consent, the participant should provide their assent and informed consent should be sought from an appropriate guardian. See sample consent and assent forms in the *MISP Process Evaluation Tools*. Certain questions for adolescent-only focus groups are indicated in the guide.

This focus group discussion guide should be adapted for the current research context. Questions in the guide provide guidance on key concepts that are important for understanding the sexual and reproductive health needs of men and adolescent boys and can be replaced or removed, as needed. Researchers should review the questions to make sure they are appropriate for the context, revising the wording of questions as necessary. Also note that this guide is comprehensive and explicitly asks about many aspects of MISP implementation. If facilitators are experienced, consider modifying this tool to include fewer, open-ended questions on these topics.

Given the sensitivity of the questions in this guide, it is recommended that focus group discussions are held separately by sex and age. It is also important to ensure that marginalized groups (e.g., people with disabilities) are represented in focus groups.

## Focus Group Discussion Guide

### *SECTION I. Preliminary Information*

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| **Was informed consent obtained from all focus group discussion participants?** YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Proceed with focus group.) NO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (STOP! Thank the participant(s) for their time and do not proceed with the focus group.) |
| **Date:**  | **Location of focus group discussion:**  |
| **Start time:**  | **Participants’ country of origin:** |
| **End time (if available):** | **Host country:**  |
| **Name of focus group discussion facilitator:** | **Please list the names of the area/s where participants live:** |
| **Name(s) of note-taker(s):** |
| **Translation used for interview:** Yes No | **If yes:**Translation from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(language)to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(language) |
| **Number of participants in this group (total):**  | **Age of FGD participants:**☐ Males (specify number) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ☐ <18 years  ☐ 18-24 years  ☐ 25-49+ years  |

### *SECTION II. FGD Introduction*

“Hello, my name is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I work for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is my team [introduce note-taker(s) and translator]. We are conducting a sexual and reproductive health assessment in this emergency in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The purpose of this focus group is to learn about integration of sexual and reproductive health services in the humanitarian response and people’s experiences in accessing these services. During the discussion, I will ask questions about your experiences in the sexual and reproductive health response and my colleague(s) will write your answers down. We are holding discussions in other communities as well. The answers you and others provide will be used to inform a report that might be published or presented in one or more public health forums. Your name will not be included in any documents or presentations, but we may include the name of this location. There is no direct benefit to you from being in this study. If you are uncomfortable with any question during this discussion, you are free to stop participating at any time. You can also choose not to answer any of the questions. Please stop me at any time during the discussion if you have questions or concerns. ***Is it OK to get started******?***

### *SECTION III. Questions*

THROUGHOUT THE FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION, REMIND STUDY PARTICIPANTS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT USE ANY NAMES OR PROVIDE INFORMATION THAT COULD IDENTIFY OTHER PERSONS.

Before beginning the discussion, make sure to discuss and establish ground rules. These should include, but are not limited to:

* Respect everyone’s opinions even if you do not agree.
* There are no right or wrong answers.
* Do not share personal information about your or anyone else’s health or health-related experiences.
* Everything shared during this discussion is confidential and should not be shared or discussed outside of this focus group.
1. **First, we would like to ask you some general questions about the situation for [refugee/displaced] men and adolescent boys in [location].**
	1. What issues are of greatest concern among men and adolescent boys in [location] and where do they go to receive assistance?
2. **Next, we would like to ask you some general questions about the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services in [location] since the emergency.**
	1. What sexual and reproductive health services have been available to your community since [name of emergency]? [**PROBE**: Tell me about the specific types of services that are available in your community. Which organizations provide these services?]
	2. How did you hear about these services? [**PROBE**: Can you tell me more about how you received this information? How have organizations been communicating about their available services?]
	3. Since arriving, how have you and women and adolescent girls in your community accessed delivery kits? [**PROBE**: Have there been any distributions of delivery kits? What was included in the kits? How was the distribution of these supplies done?]
		1. How does the community feel about the availability of these supplies/these distributions?
	4. How have men and adolescent boys in this community been involved in the services that they receive? [**PROBE**: At what stage of the planning process were they involved? What were their contributions during the planning of the services?]
	5. Who could you talk with if there are unmet needs for men and adolescent boys in this camp/area (for example, residential block leader, camp leader, men’s groups, NGO, UN, etc.)?
	6. How are adolescents included in sexual and reproductive health programs in [location]? [**PROBE**: Have you ever visited a program that is specifically targeted for or by youth? How have adolescents been involved in the planning of these programs?]
	7. **[FOR ADOLESCENT FGD ONLY]** How do adolescents access sexual and reproductive health services in [location]?
	8. [**FOR ADOLESCENT FGD ONLY]** What aspects of the sexual and reproductive health services in [location] are you comfortable accessing as an adolescent?
3. **Now we would like to discuss the quality of sexual and reproductive health care services in [camp/area].**
	1. What are some reasons you have heard that community members would not seek sexual and reproductive health services in [location]? [**PROBE**: Have you heard of any problems with clinic or hospital hours? Providers? Medicines? Safety concerns?]
	2. What have you heard about the quality of services for pregnant women and adolescent girls for giving birth?
	3. Overall, how do you think sexual and reproductive health services for the community within [camp/area] could be improved?
4. **Now we would now like to talk about pregnancy and giving birth.**
	1. Where do women and adolescent girls go for health care when they are pregnant, giving birth or postpartum, and what services are available to them? [**PROBE**: Are there different locations for each of these services that women would visit?]
	2. During childbirth, who in the community do women seek help or assistance from? For example, traditional birth attendants, traditional healers, midwives, etc.
	3. If a woman is having problems with the delivery of her infant, what can she do? [**PROBE**: How can women receive care if they need assistance with a delivery at night, during a weekend, or a holiday?]
	4. How much do childbirth services cost? (**PROBE:**  Are there costs of travel to get to the clinic or costs once at the clinic?)
	5. What problems would cause women to seek help during their pregnancy or for their newborn? [**PROBE**: health issues, danger signs.]
5. **We would now like to talk about contraception/family planning.**

***[\*\*Note to assessment team****: Questions in Section E should be coordinated and reviewed with the local SRH partners to ensure cultural sensitivity****\*\*]***

* 1. What do men and women do if they want to prevent or postpone having babies in [location]? [**PROBE**: What methods of birth control are available in [location]?]
	2. Tell me about the availability of the different methods that men and women would like to use. [**PROBE**: What barriers exist to accessing birth control if someone would like to use it?]
	3. What have you heard about emergency contraception? [**PROBE**: Tell me more about when women and adolescent girls may need emergency contraception.]
	4. What do women and adolescent girls in this community do if they are pregnant but do not want to be pregnant?

1. **Now we would like to talk about sexually transmitted infections (also called STIs)/HIV/AIDS for a few minutes.**

***[\*\*Note to assessment team:*** *Consider modifying or removing HIV/AIDS questions in settings where the prevalence is very low****\*\*]***

* 1. What do you know about infections that you can get from having sex, for example, about sexually transmitted infections, and how you can prevent them? [**PROBE**: Can you name any sexually transmitted infections?]
	2. What are people doing to prevent sexually transmitted infections in [location]? [**PROBE**: Where can people get free condoms?]
	3. What would people in this community do if they thought they had a sexually transmitted infection?
	4. What do people do to prevent HIV transmission?
	5. What services exist for people living with HIV? [**PROBE**: For individuals taking HIV medications (antiretrovirals) before they fled, are they able to continue receiving treatment? Are there programs or organizations that work specifically with people living with HIV?]
	6. Are there barriers to accessing these services? [**PROBE**: Cost? Location?]
1. **Now we would like to ask you some questions about how to get care if someone is a survivor of violence.**

***[\*\*Note to assessment team****: Questions in Section F should be coordinated and reviewed with the local Gender-Based Violence Working Group****\*\*]***

* 1. Tell me about the problem of sexual violence in this community. [**PROBE:** Can you share an example of an incident of sexual violence that you have heard about?]

***[\*\*NOTE to assessment team****: Remind participants that they should not share identifying information about anyone in their community when providing examples****\*\*]***

* 1. What options or services are currently available if someone has experienced sexual violence in [camp/area]? [**PROBE**: Are there services or health centers that someone can go to if they experience sexual violence?]
	2. What have you heard about how these services are provided? [**PROBE**: Are there reasons that someone may not use these services if they experience sexual violence?]
1. **Before we finish, I would like to invite you to speak up if there is anything about health care services, especially as it relates to sexual and reproductive health care, that we have missed and you would like to discuss.**

*We thank you for your time. You have all helped to provide a good understanding of the situation here. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. If you have any concerns, or think of additional information that you’d like to share, you can contact our organizations through the following contacts this week.* [Provide each participant with information about local contacts for complaints, concerns, or follow-up.]

**NOTES from anecdotal conversations or additional notes:**