

APPENDIX ONE:

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

This is a study of the impact of long-term chronic illness on land, agriculture, and land rights. We need to identify households which have been affected by any one of these long-term chronic illnesses - it can be TB, chronic pneumonia/bronchitis, or HIV/AIDS, or any other sickness that continues for a long period and uses up the assets of the household, resulting in poverty.

We are particularly interested in what households in this situation are doing with land, and what happens to their land assets as a result of the household being weakened by the chronic illness and the resulting process of impoverishment. That is, we are looking at land over the course of the illness: in terms of what land is held, how it is being used, and what kinds of transactions are taking place. Some of the symptoms, which are often found in these cases, are listed below to help identify families with these problems.

1. *DIAGNOSTIC SYMPTOMS*

- Loss of weight/ wasting/ progressive weakness
- History of trying different medical alternatives
- Sudden unexplained and undiagnosed illness
- Other opportunistic diseases: eg, pneumonia, TB, lung problems in general, skin problems, diarrhea
- Mouth and throat infections or difficulty in swallowing
- Death follows wasting onset, 6 months to 1-2 years
- Loss of access to wage work by supporters
- Forced retirement of workers, or medical resignation
- Changes in household support
- New mothers who are not breast-feeding their babies
- Loss of land or change in land access or land use
- Assets of household lost to treatment costs, transport costs getting to treatment

- Labour time demands on household of caring for ill person
 - women in household lose formal jobs or have to resign
 - children taken out of school to help with care

- Arrival of orphans in household
- Deaths of adults resulting in child-headed households

2. IDENTIFYING THE CHRONIC ILLNESS EVENT

There are a number of possible illness events that could identify events that could identify households for the study - we need to know what kind of event the household suffered from, when and over what time period:

- Chronic sickness of household member - who?
- Death of household member from chronic sickness, after extended illness
- Arrival of orphans, children of late relative needing care
- Establishment of child-headed household due to deaths of parents

All the case study narratives start from the onset of the original chronic illness that led to the consequences listed. Then we need some information on the course of the illness: when did it start, how did it proceed, how did the household respond and what were the coping strategies? What happened to the sick person? IF they have died, what has happened to the household? If the original household disappeared because of the death of the parents, then we are interviewing the household which has accommodated the survivors.

3. SHOWING THE IMPACT OF THE ILLNESS

General background: Origins of the household: where did this family come from - their original place? When did they arrive in this community, or when did a family born locally set up their own household?

Land assets: What land parcels does the household hold now? That is, how much land (in soccer fields) and of what kinds? Residential, garden, maize fields, other plots?

What land assets did the household have before the onset of the chronic illness? From whom did the household get the land they had before the onset of the illness?

Please include the history of the land plot(s) as part of the narrative case history.

Household tables: Create the 2 household tables, for all the individuals who are in the household now, and who were in the household just before the illness began. The household tables should cover:

- Who lives in the household?
- Who is the main supporter?
- For each member:
 - age and gender
 - Exact relation to household head - who are the parents?

- Schooling
- How often sleep and eat in the home
- Economic activity: wage job, informal work, receives remittances, pensions or other grants, home agriculture, reliance on natural resources?
- Is anyone outside the household actually supporting?

In relation to the types of income that the household is surviving on, for the sake of speeding up the interview we are only asking the amount of income from the two main sources of income. For all the others which are coming into the household, we are only asking yes or no - do they have that kind of income or not?

4. HOUSEHOLD CASE STUDIES

Making a living:

- How is the household supporting itself?
- Who is the main supporter?
- When things are tough, how do you make ends meet?
- How do you cope with emergencies?
- Have you incurred any major expenses as a result of the original illness?
- Are there now enough people in the household to do the necessary work? What tasks are going short?
- Is it still possible to do the same kinds of informal earning activity now as before the onset of the chronic illness?
- Is it still possible to do the same kinds of cultivation now as before the onset of the chronic illness?
- Does the household have any way of marketing its crops? Access to a local market? Or to outside markets? For supported crops like sugar or timber?

Assets:

- Have you bought, sold, lost, or disposed of anything valuable as a result of the chronic illness?
- Has anything valuable been inherited? Was any such inherited valuable thing lost during the course of the chronic illness?

Credit and debt:

- What use are you making of credits and borrowing? Personal debts? Stokvels? Bank loans? Other kinds of credits?
- Does the household use any kind of credit to provide the money for cultivation? If yes, what kind?
- How important is credit and borrowing to the household now? Is this more or less important than before the onset of the chronic illness?

- Has the household had any bad experiences as a result of using credits? What happened?

Changes in land size and use:

- What has happened to the total size of your landholding? Is it larger or smaller now than before the chronic illness began? Or the same as before?
- Have there been any changes in what the land is being used for? Different crops? More cultivation? Less? None now? None before?
- Has there been any change in the amount grown, of the main crops? More or less? None?
- If there have been such changes in the amount of land being used or the crops being grown, what are the reasons? Please tell the story.

Land transfers:

- If there have been changes in the total size of the landholding, what has happened?
- If some land has gone out of the household, who now has that land?
- Who had that land before, if the household has more land now than it did before?
- Are you thinking of selling or disposing of any land? What land, and why? Who to?
- Do you now have any land that you are not using? What do you intend to do with it? What is likely to happen to it if you are not able to use it?
- Has any land been taken away? By the other members of the family - the brothers of a late husband? By the neighbours? By the Tribal Authority? Or by anyone else? Who?

Temporary land transfers:

- Concerning leasing or sharecropping of land, we want to know whether there has been since the onset of the illness in the amount of land which is being used due to temporary transfers - that is, is the household using land which actually belongs to someone else, or is the household allowing some other person to use some of their land?
- If there is any such agreement, are the terms that were agreed to being observed in the proper way? Or is the other party not behaving in the right way about the arrangement?
- Has any of the household's land been lost to the household as a result of trying some temporary arrangement for someone else to use it?

Social capital and power relations:

- How many families that are related to you do you have around here?
- Any relations among the people who are in the community structures?
- Is there anyone around here who would help in an emergency?
- Does anyone in the household belong to any groups, clubs, associations or local institutions? If yes, to which ones?

Resolving the crisis of the illness:

- Who was able to help the family? What help did they give? Was anyone else asked, but they were unable to help?
- Has the situation for the household stabilized after the crisis caused by the chronic illness? Are things now all right, or has the situation remained difficult or very difficult?
- What would be needed for the household to come out all right? Can this be done by using the land?
- Are any death benefits or back wages due as a result of the illness? Have these been paid? Any insurance or other kinds of payment?

Agriculture:

- How do you see agriculture in relation to your sources of income? Is it a possible source of income or food support for your family under the present circumstances? Why or why not?
- In order to do some agriculture for the family, do you have the things you need? Are you short of money (money for what exactly)? Do you have as many workers as you need? Have you got any place to sell, or an outside market? Do you have access to transport for produce? Is it affordable to sell outside, or does everything cost so much you get nothing?
- How much of your land are you actually planting this year? How much did you plant before the onset of the illness?
- Does anyone in your household have a community garden plot? When did you obtain this plot? Is it helping you? Do you have a good way to get seeds and fertilizer and other supplies?
- How about ploughing services?
- Can you afford to buy supplies and also get your land ploughed? If it is too expensive, what are you able to do?

5. FOCUS GROUPS

We are asking for focus group interviews targeting surviving women, one group of 5-12 women in each community. We are specifically interested in what land-related opportunities are open for women in households affected by chronic illnesses to use land to make a living, especially when the husband or other employed person has died or become too sick to work. What things can women do safely, without risking loss of the land? What things would make money, but would be risky in terms of the security of the land?

What protection can the power structures of the community offer to women in such households? Do they offer protection? Or are some of these structures themselves a danger to women whose households have become weak? Does land get taken away unreasonably? How about the families of the husbands who have died? Do the male relatives try to take land from women who are now alone in supporting their family?

How do the women feel about the rights of their own children, if they themselves became sick with some chronic illness? Do they see as if the children would be able to inherit the land the women are holding now? If there was no father living at the time?

What can the participants say about child-headed households? What are the risks they are facing if they try to cultivate to support themselves? Do such households usually manage to keep the land they should inherit? Or does it usually go to someone else?

How about covering the costs of cultivation? Can surviving women or orphans usually find the money if they want to cultivate? Can they succeed at all if they do not have money to buy supplies and get the land ploughed?

Can women and children succeed if they want to grow crops for sale? Or is this only something that can be done by well organised households with men as heads?

Also, how about surviving men who are unemployed? If they become the only adult in the household and they have land but no job? Would they face a risk of losing land, either to relatives or to neighbours or to people connected to the power structures?