**Women’s Empowerment in Water Sanitation and Hygiene**

**(WE-WASH)**

**Individual Survey Modules**

**January 2025**

**Enumeration Manual**

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**International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**

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# Introduction to the Project

IFPRI has developed a set of women’s empowerment (WE) instruments and related metrics to measure empowerment and assess project impact in the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sector. These WE-WASH metrics are aimed at exploring WASH-specific empowerment in greater detail and are intended to be included in surveys that collect additional data, such as a household roster, WASH outcomes, and information on program participation. Including the WE-WASH data collection instruments can help us understand important research questions, such as, for example, how WASH-related women’s empowerment is related to other WASH outcomes, how WASH-related empowerment may vary among household members, the extent to which members of the same household agree or disagree, differences in WASH-related empowerment across different population groups, and the impact of development programs on WASH empowerment.

# Definition of Household and Respondents

## **Identifying Household Members**

With the aim of embedding these modules into a larger project-based survey, these modules take advantage of the standard definition of a household that is used in surveys. One example of a standard definition of a **household** is a group of people who live together and take food from the “same pot.” In our survey, a household member is someone who has lived in the household at least 6 months, and at least half of the week in each week in those months. Even those persons who are not blood relations (such as domestic workers, lodgers, or agricultural laborers) are members of the household if they have stayed in the household at least 3 months of the past 6 months and take food from the “same pot.” If someone stays in the same household but does not bear any costs for food or does not take food from the same pot, they are not considered household members. For example, if two brothers stay in the same house with their families but they do not share food costs and they cook separately, then they are considered two separate households. Generally, if one person stays more than 3 months out of the last 6 months outside the household, they are not considered household members. We do not include them even if other household members consider them as household members.

*Exceptions to these rules should be made for:*

Consider as household member:

* A newborn child less than 3 months old.
* Someone who has joined the household through marriage less than 3 months ago.
* Servants, lodgers, and agricultural laborers currently in the household and will be staying in the household for a longer period but arrived less than 3 months ago.
* A household member who has migrated temporarily but intends to return to this household in the next 6 months.

*Do not* consider as household member:

* A person who died very recently though stayed more than 3 months in last 6 months.
* Someone who has left the household through marriage less than 3 months ago.
* Domestic workers, lodgers, and agricultural laborers who stayed more than 3 months in last 6 months but left permanently.

The criteria used to define a household and a household member might vary based on the surveys that are embedding these set of modules. As a result, these modules should apply the same definition and criteria. Please discuss any questions with your supervisor.

## **Identifying Respondents**

The two respondents will be a woman aged 18-49, and a man aged 18-64. If there are multiple household members who fit one of these descriptions and are available to participate, the respondent will be chosen at random by the CAPI system. The household modules should be asked to the respondent most familiar with the household members and the dwelling itself. The individual modules, however, must be asked of both respondents.

A few notes about respondent selection:

* Given the sensitive nature of some of the modules, male enumerators should always interview the male respondents and female enumerators should always interview the female respondents.

# Informed Consent[[1]](#footnote-1)

Greetings! My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I work for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. We are conducting a study in this area to understand people’s experiences and opinions regarding their water, sanitation, and hygiene situation. Your household has been selected randomly, along with some other households in your community, to participate in this study.

Your participation will consist of an individual interview with one randomly selected woman and one randomly selected man in the household. The individual interviews will last about 45 minutes each. The interviews will mainly consist of questions about the water you and your household use for your daily activities and community decisions about water, sanitation, or hygiene. Your responses will be combined with those of others in your community to help identify challenges related to water, hygiene and sanitation, and to propose possible solutions for these challenges.

We ask for your support by responding to the questions as honestly and fully as possible. This is not an assessment of your efforts and there are no right or wrong answers. Your responses will be kept COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL. This means that no one will be able to find out what your responses to these questions were. The answers you provide will not be shared with regulators or any accreditation team. There will be no names that will be linked to any responses or data.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary. If you choose to participate, you may refuse to answer certain questions, or you may stop participating at any time. There is no foreseen risk to your participation in this survey.

If you have questions about this survey, or to report about human right or violence related activities, you may contact **(organization) (phone number) (principal investigator)** and **(local responsible organization (phone number)**. You can ask questions concerning the study at any point, whether before agreeing to be involved or during the interview.

Do you consent to participate in this interview? (Interviewer to mark oral response)

□ Yes, I am willing to participate voluntarily.

□ No, I am not willing to participate in the survey.

Signature or fingerprint of male respondent of Personal Questionnaire: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature or fingerprint of female respondent of Personal Questionnaire: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Consent given and taken date to participate in the study: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# General Instructions for All Sections

* IMPORTANT: Instructions to enumerators in caps and **bold** should NOT be read aloud to respondents. Everything else should be read aloud!
* All response codes should be read unless otherwise indicated.
* Month should always be written in numbers from 1-12.
* Year should always be written in 4 digits.
* Complete dates such as birth dates or interview dates should have the following format: DD-MM-YYYY (i.e., 2 digit day, 2 digit numeric month, 4 digit year)
* Percentages should always be written from 0-100.
* Given the sensitive nature of some of the modules, male enumerators should always interview the male respondents and female enumerators should always interview the female respondents.
* If at all possible, the male and female respondents should be interviewed separately, without other household members or outsiders present. It is NOT ok for other household members to assist with recall for questions on the individual survey.
* Culturally appropriate ways of asking the questions should be discussed during the enumerator training. We recommend finding a comfortable space where others cannot hear the respondents answers so that they may talk freely. This need not be in a closed room. Many respondents may feel more comfortable in an open space where other can see you but are at too great a distance to hear your conversation.
* Although the research focuses on gender, at no point should you tell the respondent you are interested in gender so as not to skew or bias results.
* Please do not rearrange questions within a subsection.

The following codes may be appropriate in any question in the household survey. In no case (with the exception of skip patterns) should a question be left blank. If you are unsure, make a note and ask your supervisor at the end of the questionnaire how to fill the particular question.

**UNIVERSAL CODES:**

Other (Specify)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 94

Refused 95

Non-household member 96

Don’t know 97

Not applicable (N/A)/No decision made 98

Missing 99 (Should primarily be used by data entry.)

# Instructions by Section: Individual Questionnaire (WEAI-WASH)

## **MODULE A: INTRINSIC AND INSTRUMENTAL AGENCY IN WASH**

The purpose of this module is to assess the respondent’s agency with regard to their water, sanitation, and hygiene situation Each question in this module provides a water, hygiene or sanitation related scenario and asks the frequency in which the respondent responds/feels/experiences to this scenario in the last 4 weeks from the date of the survey.

The enumerator should ask the question, not provide any extra information other than what is already provided, clearly listen to the respondent’s answer and then select the appropriate choice option. The choice options are as below:

NEVER 0

RARELY 1

SOMETIMES 2

ALWAYS 3

REFUSED 95

DOESN’T KNOW 97

NOT APPLICABLE 98

If the respondent is having difficulties related to the ambiguity of the phrase “these days,” ask them how many times they have experienced a situation in the past month. Code 0 (never) means that the respondent experienced a certain situation for 0 days in the past month and code 1 (rarely) means that the respondent experienced a situation for 1 to 4 days in the past month. Code 2 (sometimes) means the respondent experienced a situation 5 to 19 days in the past month and code 3 (always) means that the respondent experienced a situation for 20 days or more in the past month. Use 97 if the respondent really does not know or remember (even after probing) and 98 if the situation is not applicable to the respondent.

If participants do not feel confident in their answers, or are having a difficult time responding, probe the participant about how many times these situations have occurred in one week. Multiply this number by four to get a cumulative response and select the most appropriate code from the options provided.

**Question 1**: These days, how frequently do you feel frustrated, upset, or angry about your water, sanitation, or hygiene situation?

* *This question refers to anger or any other negative emotions the respondent felt because of their water, sanitation, or hygiene situation. This could be due to lack of good quality water, their inability to properly dispose of human waste or unclean water, or not being able to do their usual practices in keeping themselves, their household or their possessions clean and sanitary. These issues can affect their life and schedule and upset, frustrate, or even anger them.*

**Question 2:** These days, how frequently do you quarrel with others outside your household about your water, sanitation, or hygiene situation?

* *This question refers to any arguments, fights, high pitched conversations, physical tension, or non-cooperative behavior/attitude that the respondent experienced with a non-household member because of their water, sanitation, or hygiene situation. A non-household member can be neighbors, water providers, or other community members.*

**Question 3:** These days, how frequently do you change your or your household members’ eating habits because there are problems with your water, sanitation, or hygiene situation, such as lack of water to prepare or clean food?

* *This question refers to water only used for cooking or preparing foods. This question means that the respondent may have changed what was eaten because there was not enough water to wash, prepare, or cook a preferred food. For example, they could not wash vegetables, or did not have enough water to boil beans.*

**Question 4:** These days, how frequently do you worry you will not have enough water for all your household needs?

* *This question refers to the worry, concern, or panic that the respondent felt because of not having enough water. Household needs could include washing clothes, bathing themselves and/or their children, watering animals, washing dishes and utensils, cleaning the home, or other activities that may require water.*

**Question 5:** These days, how frequently do you feel afraid or unsafe while collecting water?

* *This question refers to fear, insecurity, or vulnerability that the respondent experienced while travelling outside their home to collect/fetch water. They could fetch water from a water body (e.g., pond, river) or a common tap or well that is within or outside their community. This could be because the journey to the water source is long, improperly lit, or insecure due to other reasons (e.g., wild animals, theft , which can cause the respondent to fear being exposed or vulnerable to any injuries/attacks. If the respondent has access to water within their household that does not require them to travel outside, choose the N/A option.*

**Question 6:** These days, how frequently do you feel afraid or unsafe while bathing?

* *This question also refers to the fear, insecurity, or vulnerability that the respondent experienced while bathing themselves. This could be because the bathing area is not secure, improperly lit or lacks privacy. For example, aspects of the structure, or location, such as an open roof bathing area, a bathing area that does not have proper locks or doors, or even a public bathing area (e.g.., by a river) might cause the respondent to fear being exposed or vulnerable for any injuries/attacks.*

**Question 7:** These days, how frequently do you feel afraid or unsafe when you are at home and need a place to urinate and/or defecate?

* *This question also refers to the fear, insecurity, or vulnerability that the respondent has experienced while trying to urinate and/or defecate. This could be because the toilet is not secure, improperly lit, or lacks privacy. For example, an open roof toilet, a toilet that does not have proper locks or doors, an external toilet with inadequate lighting or even a public toilet can cause the respondent to fear being exposed or vulnerable for any attacks.*

**Question 8:** I am going to ask you about the place where you work. This might be an agricultural field, a market, or a building where you work. These days, how frequently do you feel afraid or unsafe when you are at the place where you work and need to find a place to urinate and/or defecate?

* *This question refers to the fear, insecurity, or vulnerability that the respondent has experienced while trying to urinate and/or defecate in their place of work. This could be because the toilet is not secure, improperly lit, or lacks privacy. For example, an open roof toilet, a toilet that does not have proper locks or doors, a toilet with inadequate lighting or a public toilet can cause the respondent to fear being exposed or vulnerable for any attacks by their coworkers or others. If the respondent is unemployed or a homemaker, select the N/A option. However, before selecting the N/A option, probe to ensure that the individuals are not informally employed. For example, if the respondent supports their spouse in agricultural activities (i.e., by working in the field), then the agricultural field would be considered a place of work.*

**Question 9:** I want to ask you some questions related to having problems with water. By problems with water, we mean not having enough water, not having enough of the kinds of water you prefer, or any other problem you have collecting water. These days, how frequently do problems with water mean that clothes for members of your household are not washed?

* *This question refers only to water for washing clothes. Water used for laundry can come from within the household or outside the household (e.g., piped water, public well, river etc.).*

**Question 10:** These days, how frequently do problems with water mean that there is not as much water as you would like available to drink?

* *This question refers to drinking water in the household and the respondent’s experiences with not having enough drinking water. This could be because there is not always enough water for every household member to drink as much as they would like or there may be drinking water for some household members, but not for others.*

**Question 11:** These days, how frequently do you have to go without washing hands after doing something that makes them dirty because of problems with water?

* *This question refers the respondent being unable to wash their hands because there was not enough water in the household. This could be because there is not enough clean water for handwashing or there may be enough water for some members of the household to wash their hands but not for others.*

**Question 12:** These days, how frequently do you have to go without washing your body because of problems with water?

* *This question refers to the respondent being unable to wash their body because there was not enough water for bathing. This could be because there is not enough clean water or there may be enough water for some members of the household to bathe but not for others.*

**Question 13:** These days, how frequently do problems with water mean that you have to go without cleaning your household’s sanitation facilities?

* *This question refers to the respondent being unable to properly wash and clean their toilet/bathing/handwashing area because of not having any or sufficient clean water. This could be because the household does not have any clean water or there is only enough water for other household activities (i.e., attending to home garden, cooking, or bathing etc.)*

**Question 14:** These days, how frequently do you have to go without watering the home garden because of problems with water?

* *This question refers to the respondent being unable to water their home gardens because of not having any or sufficient clean water. This could be because the household does not have any clean water or there is only enough water for other household activities (i.e., cleaning sanitation facilities, cooking, bathing etc.)*

**Question 15:** These days, how frequently do problems with water cause you to feel ashamed, excluded, or stigmatized?

* *There are many reasons why people might feel ashamed, excluded, or stigmatized because of problems with water. This could include not being able to provide visitors with water if they stop by your home or feeling unclean due to lack of water.*

**Question 16:** I want to ask you about your experience when cleaning. When I say cleaning, I mean tasks like scrubbing the floors, wiping down a table with a damp cloth, clearing the household latrine, or any other cleaning activity that uses water. These days, how frequently do problems with water cause you to not clean as much as you want to or think you should?

* *This question refers to the respondent not having enough water to do all their cleaning tasks. These tasks could be scrubbing the floors, wiping down a table with a damp cloth, clearing the household latrine, or any other cleaning activity that uses water. This could be because the household does not have any clean water or there is only enough water for some household activities (i.e., cooking, bathing, taking care of elder/sick person etc.) which means that they do not have sufficient water to complete all their cleaning activities to their satisfaction.*

**Question 17:** I want to ask you about your experience with water and income generating activities. By income generating activities, I mean any activities you and/or your household members do to support yourselves or earn money. This could be growing or processing crops, raising livestock, or off-farm work, such as selling goods. These days, how frequently do you not have enough water to conduct income generating activities in the way you normally do?

* *This question refers to the respondent not having enough water to for their income generating activities. These activities could be growing or processing crops, raising livestock, or off farm work, such as selling goods. This could be because the household does not have any clean water or there is only enough water for household activities (i.e., cooking, bathing, taking care of elder/sick person etc.) which means that their income generating activities were disrupted or altered from their normal state.*

**Question 18:** Sometimes problems with water, sanitation, or hygiene might force people to change their schedule or plans to provide care for others, do household chores, work, rest, relax, or socialize. These days, how frequently do you change your schedule or plans due to problems with your water, sanitation, or hygiene situation?

* *This question refers to the respondent’s plans or schedules being interrupted by problems with water, sanitation, or hygiene. In some places, people have to travel to get water, which takes time and can interrupt plans. Interruptions also include if the respondent wants to visit a friend/market/community event but feel ashamed to because they feel unclean, if the respondent cannot invite friends/community members over to their household because their house or sanitation facilities are unclean.*

The purpose of next set of questions is to get an idea about men’s and women’s relative roles in decision-making within the household around WASH related activities. When we ask who makes a decision, we are now asking for ID codes from the household roster so we can link decisions to individual respondents. In the CAPI system, the response to this question will be a dropdown list of the household roster with the names of all the household members. Do not attempt to ensure that responses are the same between the male and female respondent. It is okay for them to be different.

This module included two questions each for four different activities: (A) Build, install, or improve your household’s latrine or toilet facility, (B) Build, install, or improve a cistern or large water storage tank, (C) Build, install, or improve a water source, for example a well, pipe, tap, or pump, and (D) Purchase equipment or materials for treating household drinking water.

Read: Now, I would like to ask some questions regarding the decisions in various activities in your households and what your role is in those decisions.

**Question 19:** If your household needed to make a decision whether or not to [ACTIVITY] and how to do it, who would most likely make that decision?

* When you ask who would most likely make that decision, indicate the household member ID codes in order to link decisions to individual respondents. You may enter up to 3 member ID codes.
* If the respondent mentions decisionmakers who are not part of the household, use the code:

Non-household member………………….…….96

* If no decisions were made regarding the [ACTIVITY], use code 98 (Not applicable) and skip to the next activity.
* If there are more than 3 decisionmakers, ask the respondent to mention the 3 most important ones.
* Note if the respondent answers “self” only (i.e., there are no other decisionmakers mentioned except the respondent herself/himself), then move to the next activity. Question 20 asks about the level of input the respondent feels he/she has over the activity, but if she/he indicates that he/she alone makes the decision, then we can safely assume they have high input and control over the decision.

**Question 20:** How often do you think that your input would be part of the decisions whether to [ACTIVITY] and how to do it?

* + The purpose of this question is to assess the level of input that that the respondent feels that they can have in a decision-making process, even if the respondent did not actually participate in the decision.
  + Choose one response from the following categories:

NEVER 0

RARELY 1

SOMETIMES 2

ALWAYS 3

REFUSED 95

DOESN’T KNOW 97  
NOT APPLICABLE 98

* Even if a respondent did not participate in decisions, he or she may be doing so by choice, like when a decision is delegated to others, or if the respondent has no interest in the particular activity or decision. This question is intended to capture whether the respondent can participate in the decision-making process if they choose to.

## **MODULE B: COLLECTIVE AGENCY IN WASH**

The purpose of this module is to understand the collective power or ability of the community or groups of people within the community when it comes to managing their water, sanitation, and hygiene situation.

All questions in the module will ask a statement and the respondent will need to decide on what scale to they agree or disagree with the statement, based on their personal experience with their community members.

The categories to choose from are as follows:

Completely disagree 1

Partially disagree 2

Partially agree 3

Completely agree 4

Refused 95

Don’t know 97

Not applicable 98

If the respondent feels like a certain situation does not occur in their community, you can select code 98 (Not applicable) and move to the next question.

The first 3 statements relate to water, sanitation, or hygiene issues that the community faces as a whole and how the community comes together to deal with it. In other words, it relates to issues or problems that many (if not all) members of the community are affected by and the ability of the community to unite through formal or informal meetings or gatherings to address these issues.

By water, sanitation, and hygiene issues, we mean how the community accesses water, their access to clean and sufficient water, how they manage the disposal of human waste and unclean water in public spaces, other practices that keep the community clean (i.e., doing regular garbage pickups, cleaning the streets etc.), and sharing new information about these issues within the community.

These statements include:

**Question 1**: When there is a problem with water, sanitation, or hygiene in your community, people in your community come together to find a solution.

* + We aim to understand if the community the respondent lives in collaborate or work together to solve problems with water, sanitation, or hygiene.

**Question 2**: When there is a problem with human waste management, such as with urine or feces, in your community, people in your community come together to discuss how it should be solved.

**Question 3**: People in your community share new information about water, sanitation, and hygiene issues with other community members if they learn something new.

The next question relates to the support that the respondent feels they can receive from the community or give to the community when it comes to water, sanitation, or hygiene issues that a household is affected by.

**Question 4:** If you need help with water, sanitation, or hygiene issues, you can count on people in your community to help you.

The last 3 statements in this module relate to the community decision-making process around water, sanitation, and hygiene issues and the extents to which the respondent feels like they are a part of this process and their voice is being heard, and the benefits they might get from the process.

These statements include:

**Question 5:** When your community addresses water, sanitation, or hygiene issues, you typically feel like you are able to participate in the process if you want.

**Question 6:** When your community addresses water, sanitation, or hygiene issues, you typically feel like you are able to express your personal concerns and viewpoints to other community members.

**Question 7:** When your community addresses a water, sanitation, or hygiene issue, you typically feel like you benefit from the solution.

## **MODULE C: WASH TIME-USE AGENCY**

The purpose of this module is to understand how household members divide water, sanitation and hygiene responsibilities within the household. There are four areas of WASH that we aim to gain understanding about in this module: (A) Water collection, (B) Food preparation and related clean up, (C) Bathing of children or others who rely on help to bathe and (D) Cleaning of the house and surrounding area, such as washing floors, wiping down surfaces, cleaning surfaces of the latrine. (E) Washing clothes.

When we ask who usually does each of these four activities, we are asking for ID codes so we can link back to the household roster. In the CAPI system, the response to this question will be a dropdown list of the household roster with the names of all the household members. Note that the respondent may answer that they themselves usually does the activity. Do not attempt to ensure that responses are the same between the male and female respondent. It is okay for them to be different.

This module includes four questions, asked about 4 activities.:

**Question 1:** Who in your household usually does [ACTIVITY]?

* When you ask who usually does the [ACTIVITY], indicate the household member ID codes in order to link individuals to their code in the household roster. You may enter up to 3 member ID codes.
* No other members …………..0
* If the respondent mentions individuals who are not part of the household, use the code:

Non-household member………………….…….96

* If the [ACTIVITY] is not done in the household, use code 98 (Not applicable) and skip to the next activity.
* If there are more than 3 individuals, ask the respondent to mention the 3 individuals that do the [ACTIVITY] most regularly.
* Note if the respondent does not include themself (i.e., they do not usually do the [ACTIVITY]), then move to the next activity. Question 2 asks about if the respondent would like other household members to help them with the [ACTIVITY]. If they do not do the [ACTIVITY] this question is not relevant.

**Question 2:** Would you like other adult household members to help you with [ACTIVITY]?

* In this question we want to understand if the respondent prefers to do the [ACTIVITY] on their own, without any help, or if the respondent would prefer other household members to help them with the [ACTIVITY].
* If other household members already help the respondent with [ACTIVITY] and this help is preferred by the respondent to not receiving help, then indicate “yes” to this question. If other household members already help the respondent with [ACTIVITY] and the respondent would prefer not receiving any help (i.e. doing the [ACTIVITY], on their own) then indicate “no” to this question.

**Question 3:** In the last month, how often have you asked another adult household member to help you with [ACTIVITY]?

* The enumerator should clearly listen to the respondent’s answer and then select the appropriate choice option without anchoring the answers. The choice options are as below:

NEVER 0  
AT LEAST ONCE 1  
AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK 2  
AT LEAST ONCE A DAY 3

**Question 4:** When you wanted or needed help with [ACTIVITY], how often did someone help you?

* The response options are the same as those for Q1-18 in Module A: The enumerator should clearly listen to the respondent’s answer and then select the appropriate choice option without anchoring the answers. The choice options are as below:

NEVER 0

RARELY 1

SOMETIMES 2

ALWAYS 3

## **MODULE D: FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IN SANITATION**

The purpose of this module is to understand a women’s ability to move freely, without barriers caused by the lack of adequate facilities to urinate or defecate. As such, this module is only asked to women. If the respondent is not a woman, skip to module H.

This module includes one question, asked about 6 places.: (A) The closest market to either buy or sell goods, (B) A place to do work for several hours, such as a field, fishery/fishpond, a market, or your place of business, (C) A place to conduct business in an office, such as a bank or a government office, (D) A hospital, clinic, or doctor’s office, (E) A religious site, such as a temple, church, Maszid, Gumba or sacred site, and (F) Another village or community.

The enumerator should ask the question, not provide any extra information other than what is already provided, clearly listen to the respondent’s answer and then select the appropriate choice option. The choice options are as below:

YES 1  
NO 2  
NOT APPLICABLE 98

**Question 1:** These days, do you avoid traveling to or spending time at [PLACE] because you are concerned about the availability of a place to safely or comfortably urinate or defecate?

## **MODULE E: INTRINSIC AGENCY IN MENSTRUAL HEALTH**

The purpose of this module is to understand a woman’s agency related to the experiences and management of her menstrual cycle. Before starting this module ask the respondent if she understands the term “menstruation”, if she does not explain what this term means in colloquial terms. Due to the sensitive nature of this module the enumerator should be very kind and gentle with the respondent. Culturally appropriate ways of asking the questions in this module should be discussed during the enumerator training. We recommend finding a comfortable space where others cannot hear the respondents answers so that she may talk freely. Remind the respondent that her identity will be protected and she need not answer any question she feels uncomfortable in answering. Do not push a respondent to answer a question that she does not want to answer and do not continue with the module if any questions seem to be causing tension between household members. Only women should respond to this module. If the respondent is not a woman, skip to module H.

Question 1-16 will ask a statement and the respondent will need to decide on what scale to they agree or disagree with the statement, based on their personal experience. These questions ask about a respondent’s perception of menstruation, the limitations it poses to a woman and the support that should be offered to menstruating women. The categories to choose from are as follows:

COMPLETELY DISAGREE 1

PARTIALLY DISAGREE 2

PARTIALLY AGREE 3

COMPLETELY AGREE 3

REFUSED 95

DOESN’T KNOW 97

NOT APPLICABLE 98

These statements include:

**Question 1:** You understand what is happening to a woman’s body when she menstruates.

* + For this question we are interested in whether the respondent feels that she has an understanding of what happens to a woman’s body when she menstruates. The respondent’s perception may or may not be scientifically correct. Scientific accuracy is not needed for a respondent to agree that she feels that she has an understanding of what happens to a woman’s body when she menstruates.

**Question 2:** Menstruation is a normal thing that happens to women.

**Question 3:** It is good for girls to know what menstruation is and what to do before they experience it for the first time.

**Question 4:** When women or girls experience pain during menstruation, it is acceptable for them to treat the pain with medication or other remedies.

**Question 5:** You feel ashamed when you are menstruating.

**Question 6:** You feel comfortable speaking to healthcare providers about your experiences with menstruation.

**Question 7:** You feel comfortable speaking to other people in your household about your experiences with menstruation.

**Question 8:** You feel that you are unclean or that you smell bad to others when you are menstruating.

**Question 9:** When you menstruate, you are often concerned that an accident will happen, and blood will show on your clothes.

**Question 10:** You do not feel shy or ashamed when you need to acquire products related to menstruation.

**Question 11:** Any pain that women feel when they menstruate is something that they should learn to tolerate instead of relying on pain medication or other remedies.

**Question 12a:** Women need to be separated from others when they are menstruating.

**Question 12b:** Women need to be separated from certain places when they are menstruating.

* Emphasize the distinction between questions 12a and 12b, as it is very possible for the answers to both questions to be quite different for the same respondent.

**Question 13a:** You feel that you should not prepare food when you are menstruating.

**Question 13b:** You feel that you should not enter the kitchen when you are menstruating.

* Emphasize the distinction between questions 13a and 13b, as it is very possible for the answers to both questions to be quite different for the same respondent.

**Question 14:** You feel that you should not participate in certain religious activities when you are menstruating.

**Question 15:** If you can’t do it yourself, family or friends will help you obtain the products or pain medication you need when you are menstruating.

**Question 16: I**f you are feeling unwell or experience pain due to menstruation, family or friends will help you with your daily responsibilities.

## **MODULE F: FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IN MENSTRUAL HEALTH**

The purpose of this module is to understand a women’s ability to move freely when menstruating, whether outside or inside her home. As such, this module is only asked to women. Furthermore, the module starts with a question that specifically targets those who have menstruated recently:

**Question 1:** Did you experience a menstrual period during the past 12 months?

* If no, skip to Module H.

The remaining part of this module includes one question, asked about 10 places outside of the house, as well as a second question, asked only about the house itself. The 10 places are: (A) The closest market to either buy or sell goods, (B) A place to do work for several hours, such as a field, fishery/fishpond, a market, or your place of business, (C) A place to conduct business in an office, such as a bank or a government office, (D) A hospital, clinic, or doctor’s office, (E) A religious site, such as a temple, church, or sacred site, (F) The home of family or neighbors, (G) Another village or community, (H) A community water source, such as a public well, pond, spring, or river that people outside your household use, (I) A private water source, such as piped water within your household, a residential well, bore hole, or springs, and (J) A home/kitchen garden where food for your household consumption is grown.

The enumerator should ask the question, not provide any extra information other than what is already provided, clearly listen to the respondent’s answer and then select the appropriate choice option. The choice options for questions 2-4 are as below:

YES 1  
NO 2  
NOT APPLICABLE 98

**Question 2:** During our last menstrual period, did you avoid traveling to or spending time at [PLACE] because you were menstruating?

**Question 3:** During your last menstrual period, did you avoid spending time in parts of your household, such as your kitchen, because you were menstruating?

**Question 4:** During your last menstrual period, did you avoid participating in any aspects of food preparation because you were menstruating?

**Question 5:** During your last menstrual period, were you prevented from touching or using the household’s main water source, because you were menstruating?

## **MODULE G: INSTRUMENTAL AGENCY IN MENSTRUAL HEALTH**

Questions 1-5 ask about how the respondent manages her menstruation. These questions should only be asked for women who have menstruated in the past year (12 months). If a woman has not menstruated in 12 months due to pregnancy, breast-feeding, menopause or for any other reason she need not answer questions 1-11. For these questions do not read response options aloud. Rather listen to the respondent and select the appropriate code.

**Question 1: These days w**hat menstrual product do you currently use most often when you are menstruating?

* + Allow one choice only
  + Do not read answer choices, which include:

REUSABLE PADS MADE SPECIFICALLY FOR MENSTRUATION 1

SCRAP CLOTH 2

DISPOSABLE PADS 3

GRASS OR LEAVES 4

PAPER OR TOILET PAPER 5

TAMPONS 6

MENSTRUAL CUP 7

NOTHING 8

OTHER (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 94  
REFUSED 95  
DOESN'T KNOW 97  
NOT APPLICABLE 98

* + See Appendix 1 for explanations and images of these products.

**Question 2:** Are there any other products that you currently commonly use when you are menstruating?

* + Select all that apply
  + Do not read answer choices, which include:

REUSABLE PADS MADE SPECIFICALLY FOR MENSTRUATION 1

SCRAP CLOTH 2

DISPOSABLE PADS 3

GRASS OR LEAVES 4

PAPER OR TOILET PAPER 5

TAMPONS 6

MENSTRUAL CUP 7

NOTHING 8

OTHER (SPECIFY) 94  
REFUSED 95  
DOESN'T KNOW 97  
NOT APPLICABLE 98

**Question 3:** When you use reusable pads or a scrap cloth during menstruation, are you typically able to wash and dry them?

* + Ask only if responses to questions 1 or 2 (one of the two previous questions) is 1 or 2 (reusable pads made specifically for menstruation or scrap cloth.)

**Question 4:** Over the last year, how frequently did you have trouble getting menstrual products when you were menstruating?

* + Answer choices include:

NEVER 0 ⭢ SKIP TO Q6

RARELY 1

SOMETIMES 2

ALWAYS 3

REFUSED 95 ⭢ SKIP TO Q6

DOESN’T KNOW 97 ⭢ SKIP TO Q6

NOT APPLICABLE 98 ⭢ SKIP TO Q6

**Question 5:** Why were you not able to use one of your preferred products when you were menstruating? MULTIPLE RESPONSES IS POSSIBLE.

* + Select all that apply.
  + Do not read answer choices, which include:

I CANNOT AFFORD THEM 1

I DON’T FEEL CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO TRY THEM 2

THEY ARE NOT AVAILABLE NEAR WHERE I LIVE 3

THEY ARE NOT CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE BY OTHERS 4

I DON’T KNOW WHERE TO GET THEM 5

I’M EMBARRASSED TO BE SEEN PURCHASING THEM 6

I’M AFRAID OF VERBAL OR PHYSICAL HARASSMENT IF I AM SEEN

PURCHASING THEM 7

I DIDN’T PLAN WELL 8

REFUSED 95

DOESN'T KNOW 97

NOT APPLICABLE 98

Questions 6-11 ask about a respondent’s access to facilities, at home and in her place of work, to safely manage her period. A respondent’s place of work might be an agricultural field, a market, or a building where she works. Explain to the respondent that in the following questions, when we say menstrual product, we mean something like a pad or a cloth, or whatever she normally uses to absorb or collect blood when she menstruates. The answer choices for these questions include:

NEVER 0  
RARELY 1   
SOMETIMES 2   
ALWAYS 3   
REFUSED 95  
DOESN’T KNOW 97  
NOT APPLICABLE 98

**Question 6:** During the past year, when you were at home, how often did you have access to a private, clean, and safe place to change your menstrual product?

**Question 7:** During the past year, when you were at home, how often did you have access to a safe place to dispose of disposable menstrual products?

**Question 8**: During the past year, when you were at home, how often did you have access to a safe place to store reusable ones?

**ENUMERATOR: Read this to respondent:** “I am going to ask you about the place where you work. This might be an agricultural field, a market, or a building where you work.”

**Question 9:** During the past year, when you were at your place of work, how often did you have access to a private, clean, and safe place to change your menstrual product?

**Question 10:** During the past year, when you were at work, how often did you have access to a safe place to dispose of disposable menstrual products or store reusable ones?

Question 11 is no longer asking about the respondent’s place of work.

**Question 11:** During the past year, how often did you have access to sufficient clean water to clean your body and your reusable menstrual product when menstruating?

## **MODULE H: ROLES AND TIME SPENT ON WASH ACTIVITIES**

The purpose of this module is to assess who in the household is responsible for different WASH activities, as well as how much time the respondent themselves spends time doing these same activities.

There are two questions in the module. For both of these questions, the enumerator should ask the question, not provide any extra information other than what is already provided, clearly listen to the respondent’s answer and then select the appropriate choice option.

* If the respondent mentions individuals who are not part of the household, use the code:

Non-household member………………….…….96

* If the [ACTIVITY] is not done in the household, use code 98 (Not applicable) and skip to the next activity.

These two questions are asked about 9 activities total. The activities are: (A) Water collection (for drinking, handwashing, cooking, and general household use); (B) Ensuring that all members of the household have sufficient clean water for consumption; (C) Food preparation and related cleanup; (D) Bathing and washing hands of children or other people in your household who rely on help to do so; (E) Cleaning and maintaining the toilet, latrine, or other place where people defecate or urinate; (F) Cleaning of the house and surrounding area, such as sweeping and mopping floors, and wiping down surfaces (other than the toilet or latrine); (G) Acquiring hygiene products, such as soap, for the household; (H) Purchasing or bringing home menstrual hygiene products, such as pads, for household members; (I) Household contributions to or participation in any community or school related water or sanitation activities; (J) Managing urine chamber pot, such as fetching it during the evenings and throwing it out and cleaning it during the mornings; and (K) Washing clothes for household members, such as children, the sick, the elderly, or the disabled.

These questions are:

**Question 1:** For your household, who is normally responsible for ensuring that [activity] happens?

* + The enumerator should record up to 3 household member IDs to answer this question.
  + If the respondent does not list themself as someone who is normally responsible for [activity], continue to the next activity.

**Question 2:** On average how much time do you personally spend doing [activity] each day?

* + The enumerator should record the respondent’s answer in minutes. For instance, if the respondent says they do [activity] for half an hour, record 30 minutes. If the respondent says they do [activity] for 2 hours, record 120 minutes.

**This is the end of the questionnaire. Confirm in the CAPI that all questions have been answered and every module has been completed.**

**Read out**: That's it for now. Thank you very much for answering all questions and helping us know more about your ideas and opinions. This information is important.

If you have any questions about the survey, you can call [COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PHONE NUMBER HERE]

# 

# Appendix I: Lesser known menstrual products

**Reusable pads made specifically for menstruation**

Reusable Pads are cloth pads worn in the underwear to collect menstrual fluid. They are a type of reusable menstrual hygiene product, and are an alternative to disposable sanitary napkins. They are cloth pads that are washed after use and can be used several times.

Figure 1: Example of a reusable pad

**Tampon**

A tampon is a menstrual product designed to absorb blood and vaginal secretions by insertion into the vagina during menstruation. Unlike a pad, it is placed internally, inside of the vaginal canal. Once inserted correctly, a tampon is held in place by the vagina and expands as it soaks up menstrual blood.

Figure 2: Example of a tampon

**Menstrual cup**

A menstrual cup is a menstrual hygiene device which is inserted into the vagina during menstruation. Its purpose is to collect menstrual fluid. Menstrual cups are usually made of flexible medical grade silicone, latex, or a thermoplastic isomer. They are shaped like a bell with a stem or a ring.

Figure 3: Example of a menstrual cup

1. This consent form only references the WE-WASH (individual) modules, and must be adapted if other modules, such as a household survey, are also being administered. Additionally, information about context-specific risks, such as the risk of transmitting COVID-19 during survey enumeration, must be mentioned in this consent form. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)