

## FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE: WOMEN'S GROUP

[NOTE: The group should include women from each sub-village. It should also include women in each of these age groups: 18-30, 31-40, 40+. At least two women must have children still in school.]

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Hello,

I'm ----- with Savannas Forever. Savannas Forever is a Tanzanian non-governmental organization that works with rural communities, environmental groups and businesses to gather ideas and opinions about how to best manage Tanzania's natural resources. Our first step is to have discussions with people, like you, who live in rural communities throughout Tanzania. We want to find out more about current conditions in your villages and your ideas on how best to manage natural resources. We will use your ideas to help communities, leaders, managers, and businesses make good decisions about natural resource management that benefit the people of Tanzania.

We will be in your village for about three days talking to village leaders, people with specific knowledge about education and health, and to several households in each sub-village. Our discussion today will last about two hours, and we will provide soda about half way through.

Savannas Forever is also measuring and weighing babies and children under five years old and serving \_\_\_\_\_ to mothers and their children being measured. Savannas Forever plans to repeat these measures every few years so we can see and show you how the health of children changes over time and also how your village compares with other villages in Tanzania. Our staff was at / will be at the \_\_\_\_\_ (place) all day on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

### Introductions: (Time - 30 seconds per respondent or 5 to 8 minutes)

1. First, please introduce yourself and tell us about yourself and family.  
*[Facilitator introduces his or herself as an example saying where he/she was born, where she lives now and for how long, marital status, occupation and how many children he or she has]*

### Village Issues: (Time - 20 minutes)

- 2a. First we would like to know about conditions in *[name village]*. What do you believe are the most serious challenges or issues your village faces? *[Record on flipchart]* Which are the three most important issues: *[Facilitator asks each person what they believe are the top issues and puts a mark by each answer chosen. When the tally is finished, circles the top three issues. Note: If it is a large group and there is an obvious consensus after half the group has answered, ask if anyone has a different opinion, record the alternative views rather than going through the entire group]*
- 2b. Why is *[name first issue]* the most serious issue? What actions have been taken to address this issue by people in this village? What was the result? What actions have been taken by groups outside the village to address the problem? *[Probe for government,*

*businesses or development organizations] What was the result? [Repeat for top three issues]*

**Education: (Time 10 minutes)**

3. Now we would like to know about the education available to your children in this village. Tell me about each school you have here. First list the schools.
- 3a. For each school, tell me what you think its 2 best qualities are and its 2 weakest qualities.
4. What do you think are the two things that could improve the quality of your children's education the most in this village.

**Health: (Time – 15 minutes)**

5. Now we would like to ask about health issues in this village. For children, what are the 3 most serious health or disease problems you have?
  - 5a. How helpful are the local health dispensaries or clinics in treating these diseases/problems?
  - 5b. How helpful are the local traditional healers and herbalists in treating these diseases/problems?
  - 5c. Where do most mothers go for treatment for their children for these diseases – the clinic or dispensary or the traditional healer/herbalist?
6. For women in this village, what are the 3 most serious health or disease problems you have?
  - 6a. How helpful are the local health dispensaries or clinics in treating these diseases/problems?
  - 6b. How helpful are the local traditional healers and herbalists in treating these diseases/problems?
  - 6c. Where do most women go for treatment for these diseases – the clinic or dispensary or the traditional healer/herbalist?
7. For men in this village, what are the 3 most serious health or disease problems?
  - 7a. How helpful are the local health dispensaries or clinics in treating these diseases/problems?
  - 7b. How helpful are the local traditional healers and herbalists in treating these diseases/problems?
  - 7c. Where do most men go for treatment for these diseases – the clinic or dispensary or the traditional healer/herbalist?

**Awareness of natural resource or restricted areas: (Time - 15 minutes)**

8. What areas of restricted natural resource use do you know of that are located inside or close to your village? [*Do not probe*].
9. Are you aware of: *List national parks, forest reserves or game controlled area, if it has a name obtained from district offices.*
10. What hunting companies are you aware of inside or near your village?
11. Are you aware of: *List hunting companies operating inside or near the village*
12. Phototourism companies? [*Do not probe*]
13. Are you aware of: *List phototourism companies with permanent camps or another relationship with the village.*

**Benefits and Costs: (Time – 20 minutes)**

14. What benefits do you or the village receive because you are located near a protected area or hunting block or a phototourism company with a permanent camp or another relationship with the village? [*For each benefit mentioned, probe for the group or organization provided that benefit*]
15. What, if any, problems or issues has the village had, if any, with organizations or companies operating in the areas of restricted natural resource use or hunting blocks? What did you do to reduce or eliminate the problem? What was the result? What, if anything, did others do to reduce or eliminate the problem? What was the result? What do you recommend as a solution to the problem? [*Specify which organizations or companies. Have the individuals say what the top three problems are and mark the answers on the flipchart and tally the results*]

**Attitudes: (Time – 15 minutes)**

16. How would you feel if the areas of restricted natural resource use were degezzetted? Would you feel happy, sad or indifferent? [*Give each respondent a “feeling” card set – happy/sad/indifferent faces pictured and then each individual chooses a card from his or her deck*]
17. How would you feel if the hunting blocks were removed? Would you feel happy, sad or indifferent? [*Give each respondent a “feeling” card set – happy/sad/indifferent faces pictured and then each individual chooses a card from his or her deck*]

18. How would you feel if the photographic tourism companies were removed? Would you feel happy, sad or indifferent? *[Give each respondent a “feeling” card set – happy/sad/indifferent faces pictured and then each individual chooses a card from his or her deck]*

**Problems and Solutions with Wildlife: (Time – 10 minutes)**

19. What problems, if any, have you had with wild animals? Which animals? How often do these problems occur? What have you done to reduce or eliminate the problem for yourself? What was the result? What, if anything, have others done to reduce or eliminate the problem? What was the result? What do you think can be done now to help or eliminate the problem? *[List top three problems on flipchart and tally the results. Record current solutions and potential solutions].*

20. Do you think any of the following activities would improve the livelihoods of people living in this village?

- Beekeeping
- Fish farming
- Borehole
- Vegetable farming
- Sewing machines
- Microfinance to allow the setting up of small businesses
- supply of bushmeat
- Other

Please rank them in order of activities you would be most interested in participating in.

THANK THEM FOR THEIR TIME AND PARTICIPATION