**Guide for In-Depth Interview and Focus Group Discussion**

***Note****: Questions below are indicatives. Sufficient probes should be made, and additional relevant follow-up questions raised to guide the interview or discussion in order to ensure that substantive responses are obtained to each main question. Questions must be appropriately adapted to the respondent(s).*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Research questions** | National, provincial and district health officials; Government staff involved in CRVS  **(In-depth interview)** | Community and local leaders, key informants, existing community health workers/community volunteers, women of reproductive age  **(In-depth interview)** | Mothers of young children living in study community  **(Focus group discussion)** | Women of reproductive age with no children **(Focus group discussion)** | Fathers of young children  **(Focus group discussion)** |
| 1. **Are there currently available approaches for identifying vital events at community level? How are these approaches functioning? (e.g. village registers held by community chiefs; Community health worker reporting)**    1. Do you know if there exist approaches for systematically identifying vital events such pregnancies, births and deaths at community level?    2. If yes, who are doing the reporting?    3. Are the data submitted anywhere? Where?    4. Are the data used for any purpose?    5. Do you know the quality of those data?    6. If no, why do you think there are no such approaches right now?    7. Do you think such approach is feasible in the country (or in your community?)    8. How would data from such system help you and the country in decision making? What would you like to obtain from those data?    9. What do you think about electronic report within communities using cellphones? | 🗸 |  |  |  |  |
| 1. **Who are the appropriate persons within communities who can serve a community surveillance assistants charged with identifying and reporting vital events, including pregnancies and pregnancy outcomes such as pregnancy loss and stillbirths?**    1. Who in this community do you think can the community rely upon to identify pregnancies, births and deaths?    2. Are there people in this community who are already doing this?    3. Can the community designate and trust someone to do this?    4. How can the community support such person to do his/her activity well? |  | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **Who are the key informants at community level who are generally aware of events such as pregnancies, births, and deaths and work with the community surveillance assistants?**    1. Are there community people who are generally aware of pregnancies, births and deaths and who can help the community worker to ensure complete identification of pregnancies, births and deaths?    2. Who are they?    3. How do they happen to know about these events?    4. Would you trust these persons to tell the community worker about pregnancies, births and deaths in the community? |  | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **What are the appropriate strategies for identifying vital events at community level, including pregnancies and pregnancy outcomes such as pregnancy loss and stillbirths?**    1. What do you think are the appropriate strategies for identifying pregnancies in the community?    2. How about births and deaths?    3. How about stillbirths    4. How about abortion or miscarriages    5. Would community member easily accept to report these events to a designate community worker? | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **How to engage the community to support reporting of pregnancies, births outcomes and deaths?**    1. What according to you would motive community members to accept a surveillance system that report on pregnancies, births and deaths?    2. What would motivate them to report their events, including pregnancies, births and deaths to the community workers?    3. How can the community support such system to ensure that it is working well? | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **Are there cultural barriers to reporting pregnancies, births outcomes and deaths within the community? How to address these barriers from the community members’ perspective?**    1. Do you think community members would accept a community worker to go house to house to ask about pregnancies in order to report?    2. What are the barriers for doing so?    3. How can the community help explain the objective of community pregnancy surveillance? |  | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **What is the community’s interest in learning about cause of death in the population? How acceptable are verbal autopsy and social autopsy interviews with the bereaved families to try to ascertain cause of death?**    1. How do people learn about causes of deaths in the community?    2. Do you think community members are interested in learning about cause of death in the community?    3. Would the community members be willing to provide information surrounding each death to allow the government to know more about the causes of death?    4. Are there community people who are generally aware of deaths and who can interview the family member to collect information about the circumstances, signs and symptoms that may have caused the death?    5. Who are they? | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **What is the general mourning period of death that needs to pass before a verbal and social autopsy interview can be undertaken?**    1. What is the general mourning period that community member follow?    2. Do you think it would be acceptable for data collectors to come do interviews to gather information about the death immediately after the mourning period?    3. What would be the acceptable time period for doing this interview?    4. What are effective ways to approach the grieving family for this interview? |  | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |
| 1. **Status of civil registration of births and deaths and barriers to registration**    1. Do community member generally register their birth with the government and obtain birth certificates?    2. When does this registration occur?    3. What about deaths?    4. What about death of children?    5. What do you think are the barriers registration of births?    6. What about deaths?    7. How can the community support registration of births and deaths? | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 | 🗸 |