

## **IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW (IDI) GUIDE FOR DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER (DHO)**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- The purpose of the IDI is to document the role of the DHO in regards to community preparedness and supporting resilient health systems as a result of natural disasters and climate-related emergency shocks (droughts, floods, etc).
- To determine whether the DHO office has the appropriate emergency preparedness plans and mechanisms in place to collaborate with communities and support local health systems.

### **INTERVIEWER DETAILS**

**Name of Interviewer:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PARTICIPANT DETAILS**

**Name of DHO:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Gender:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact details:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tehsil Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **CONSENT FORM**

#### **PLEASE READ TO THE PARTICIPANT:**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am conducting an in-depth interview today.

You are nominated to participate in this IDI on the behalf of Department of Health, Sindh. We would like to hear from you because the Department of Health has the mandate to work on community health education and awareness plus, to ensure service delivery during routine and emergencies in your respective district.

We are asking for your help to document barriers and challenges in the implementation of the DoH's plan regarding the continuation of health services and preparedness to cope with natural disasters i.e., floods/droughts. We will ask about your knowledge and perception in your district regarding emergency shock, your views regarding climate change and drought, and DoH's role at the community level for preparedness and communication mechanisms and its channels. We will use this information from all selected respondents, in a completely non-identifiable way, to help us improve emergency preparedness during and after the emergency shock.

The IDI will take about 30-45 minutes to complete. All information that you provide us will remain strictly private and confidential. We will not write your name on any of the questionnaires, and it will not be possible to identify you from any information we release or use. We will not discuss your individual answers with any staff members either Pathfinder or else.

Whether you decide to take part in this interview is voluntary – this means that you do not have to answer these questions if you don't wish to. Whether you take part or not will not affect any service that you receive. Additionally, you may decline to answer any question or withdraw from the interview without giving a reason at any point of time.

If you have questions about this discussion, you may contact Nighat Lakhari at any time at this number [+923333145876] and Shazia Noor at this number [+923333181151].

You can take as much time as you need to decide whether you would like to continue with the interview. Do you need more time to think about it?

If not, may I continue with the interview?

1) Yes                      2) No (Thank you for your time)

Signature of the participant if s/he wishes to attend this IDI:

Date of signature:

Thank you for your time.

## Section 1: Status of Health Services and Impact of Climate Change

*Let's start with a discussion about climate change/drought impacts in your district.*

**Q101:** How has climate change affected the health system in your district?

**Q102:** In your opinion, how has climate change affected the health of local communities in your district? Are there certain types of health issues that you are noting as a result of climate change?

**Probe:** Have you noticed an increase in GBV or mental health cases after any emergency shock in your respective district?

**Q103:** Have you witnessed or seen any natural disasters/ emergencies in this district? If so, what type of a natural disaster have you seen/witnessed?

**Q104:** How did the community respond to those emergencies in terms of disaster and in accessing basic health services? How about services related to SRHR and SGBV?

**Q105:** What coping mechanism (both positive and negative) does the community use to deal with drought/flood in terms of basic health services? How about for SRHR and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)?

**Q106:** How did the health department respond to those emergencies at the local level?

**Q107:** In your opinion, how well-prepared are health facilities in your district able to cope with any natural disaster/emergency (flood, drought, etc.) and would they be able to continue providing health services?

**Probe:** How well-prepared are health department staff in coping with these natural disasters / emergencies and continuing to provide health services?

**Q109:** In your opinion, what are some measures that might help the health department at the district level be more resilient against such emergencies?

## Section 2: Plans for Emergency Preparedness

*Now, we will talk about the plans of DoH for emergency preparedness at the district level and coordination mechanism with other stakeholders.*

**Q201:** What are some key measures that the DoH takes as a main stakeholder for emergency preparedness at district level planning, and coordination with District Disaster Management Authority and community awareness?

**Q202:** Do the DoH have any plans to aware/ educate the communities in your district on the public health emergency threats or possible risks during a natural disaster/ emergency? If yes, what do you do?

**Probe:** How frequent such events/activities are being conducted in a year by DHO office?

Do any one from DHO office participate in community awareness sessions about public health emergency? If yes, who usually take part in those events/meetings?

**Q203:** Is there any written plan available at DHO office to inform the communities and other line departments about the possible health emergency due to natural or climate induced disaster?

**Q204:** If yes, how frequently are those plans updated? When was the last time those plans updated? If not, why?

**Q205:** Do you set up, maintain, review, and upgrade the mechanism for early warnings and dissemination of proper information to public about health risks/emergency? If yes, how do you implement this?

**Probe:** If not, what are some reasons of why this is not done?

**Q206:** If yes, when was the last mechanism for early warning was upgraded? Exact dd/mm/yyyy. If no, Reasons?

## Section 3: Frequency of Emergencies in the district and Role of DoH

*Next, we will discuss about the frequency of disaster occurrence in the district and the preparedness of DoH.*

**Q301:** Which type of natural disasters occur or may occur in your district? In response to a disaster, what did district health department do at community level?

**Q302:** Which natural disasters have hit your district in the past decade and with what frequency?

**Q303:** Which types of natural hazards are prevalent in your district? Did you do any mapping exercise with community and other stakeholders? If not, what were the reasons?

**Q305:** What precautionary measures (disaster preparedness measures) are usually taken by DHO office in case the disaster (of a specific type) occurs in your district?

**Probe:** Any precautionary measure which ensure availability of staff at health facility and continuity of services?

#### Section 4: Disaster Awareness and Planning

*Now, we will talk about the emergency planning and awareness mechanisms, opportunities, and linkages between key stakeholders.*

- Q 401:** Do the DHO office organize and coordinate specialized emergency awareness, planning, and response training programs for different levels of staff in the district? These can include training programs such as psychosocial support, emergency evaluation, etc. If yes, what do these training programs focus on and what is the frequency of training programs? If not, why?
- Q402:** Do the DHO office facilitate community training and awareness programs for the prevention or mitigation of communicable and non- communicable diseases to cope up with climate shocks (e.g., drought/heatstroke etc.) with the support of local authorities, governmental and non-governmental organizations? How frequently does it happen in a year?
- Q403:** In your opinion, what is the state of disaster preparedness and management in your DOH district at community level? Why is that the case?
- Q404:** Do you know about the preparation of Village/UC Disaster Management plans in your district? If yes, did your department participate in its preparation process?
- Q405:** Do you remember when the last disaster management drills are carried out in your district?
- Q406:** Has your department participated in conducting mock drills at village / school level to save HH members / children and belongings from disaster?
- Q407:** What kind of disaster mitigation/ prevention measures have recently been adopted or planned by DDMA in your district? What is the role of your department in achieving it?
- Q408:** Is there any community based early warning system established in your District by Department of Health? If yes, please share its details.
- Thank you for taking the time to participate in this interview.** Do you have any final comments or remarks that you would like to share with us?