Template for Requests for Revisions to the DHS Model Questionnaires, Optional Modules, and Biomarkers for DHS-8 (2018-2023)

Section I. Information about the requesting party

1. Is this request being submitted on behalf of a group? If so, please provide the name of the group and the participating parties.

This request is being submitted on behalf of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Section, UNICEF Mozambique.

Section II. Indicator definition and rationale

2. Please define the indicator or indicators you are requesting The DHS Program to incorporate.
Multiple indicators derived from a single set of questions should be included in the same submission.
(Response required)

Indicator 1. Percentage of households keeping animals in dwelling/yard/plot

Indicator 2. Percentage of households safely disposing of animal feces

3. What is the rationale for measuring this indicator (each of these indicators) in DHS surveys?
(Response required)

There is a growing evidence suggesting that unsafe disposal of animal feces is a major fecal-oral transmission route among infants and young children[1]. While WASH interventions emphasize on safe disposal of human excreta, there has been a little attention paid to animal feces disposal practices. The Household Questionnaire includes a question about the ownership of animals (DHS-7 question number 118 (6)). The proposed Indicator 1 measures the percentage of households keeping those animals within their housing premises. Indicator 2 provides a proxy for the percentage of households practicing safe animal feces disposal among households with animals on their compounds.

Section III. Proposed additions/revisions to the questionnaires or biomarkers

4. Please describe the requested addition or revision.
If the requested change is the addition of new questions to the DHS questionnaires or modules, complete questions 4.1 and 4.1.1. If the requested change is a revision to existing questions, complete question 4.2. If the change relates to anthropometry or a biomarker, please complete question 4.3.

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[1] Toward a Hygienic Environment for Infants and Young Children: A Review of the Literature. USAID 2018.

4.1. **For additions**: If you have developed a question or set of questions to measure the indicator(s), please provide them in the space below or in a separate file attached with your submission.

Question 1: Are the following animals kept in dowelling/yard/plot?

- a) Milk cows or bulls?   Yes/No/NA
- b) Other cattle?   Yes/No/NA
- c) Horses, donkeys, or mules?   Yes/No/NA
- d) Goats?   Yes/No/NA
- e) Sheep?   Yes/No/NA
- f) Chickens or other poultry?   Yes/No/NA

Question 2: Observe presence of animal feces in dowelling/yard/plot?
Yes
No

4.1.1 If requesting multiple questions, please specify the relative priority of each new question.

If only one question can be added, Question 2 should be prioritized.

4.2. **For revisions to existing questions**: Please specify the DHS-7 question number, the proposed revision to the question, and the rationale.

DHS-7 question number	DHS-7 question text	Proposed new question	Rationale

4.3. **For anthropometry and biomarkers**: Please describe the measurement procedures or specimen collection procedures, point-of-care or laboratory testing procedures (as relevant), and any recommendations for return of results.

5. Can any related questions be deleted from the questionnaire to make room for the proposed new content? If so please specify which questions using the DHS-7 question numbers.

6. What are the implications of these requested changes on measurement of trends using DHS data?

There is no implication on trend measurement to adding these questions to the Household Questionnaire.

Section IV. Indicator calculation

7. Indicate how to calculate the indicator(s). Include detailed definitions of the numerator and denominator of each individual indicator. If you have developed a tabulation plan for the indicator(s), please attach a file including the suggested table(s) with your submission.

Indicator 1. Percentage of households keeping animals in dwelling/yard/plot

Numerator—Number of households keeping animals in dwelling/yard/plot

Denominator—Number of households having animals

Indicator 2. Percentage of households safely disposing of animal feces

Numerator—Number of households where the presence of animal feces is observed

Numerator—Number of households keeping animals in dwelling/yard/plot

8. Is the indicator useful when measured at the national level, or is it useful only when disaggregated to specific subnational areas, such as endemicity zones or project intervention regions?

For each indicator, select one of the three options by clicking in the appropriate box.

Indicator	Useful <u>only</u> for subnational endemicity zones or project intervention regions. A single estimate at the national level is <u>not</u> meaningful.	Useful at both national and subnational regions, as sample size allows.	Useful only at the national level. Subnational estimates are not needed.
Indicator 1	☐	☒	☐
Indicator 2	☐	☒	☐
	☐	☐	☐

	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐

Section V. Prior testing of the proposed question(s)

9. Have the proposed questions undergone any formal validation; i.e., have the questions been tested against a "gold standard" to assess their accuracy? If yes, please describe how well or poorly the questions performed and/or provide a publication or report of the validation exercise (or a link).

   To our knowledge, a "gold standard" for measuring animal feces disposal practices has not been developed.

10. Have the questions undergone any other kind of testing; e.g., cognitive testing, pilot testing. If so, please describe the results of the testing and/or provide a publication or report of the findings (or a link).

    To our knowledge, the proposed questions have not been undergone the above-mentioned testing.

Section VI. Other considerations

11. Please provide information relevant to the kinds of questions below, and/or anything else you wish to share with us about this indicator (these indicators).
- Describe how the data for this indicator are being used (or will be used).
  - o Are the data produced by this indicator actionable?
    Yes, the data will inform WASH interventions designed to address unsafe animal feces disposal and national policies and strategies for sanitation promotion.

  - o Who will use the data?
    The data will be used by development partners, researchers, community health and hygiene promotors, and policy makers in WASH, health and education sectors.

  - o What kinds of decisions will be made using these data?
    The data will inform WASH programmes with a focus on safe animal feces disposal, national strategies and policies for sanitation, including community-based hygiene promotion and hygiene education in schools.

- For what kinds of countries would the indicator(s) be most useful?
    All countries in the DHS programme

- Does the DHS survey offer any particular advantage over other available data sources for measuring this indicator? If so, what?

  Yes, the DHS survey enables to collect nationally representative data on animal feces disposal, which provides evidence base for national policy development. In addition, the survey provides disaggregated data by administrative divisions, which helps prioritization of resources in sanitation and hygiene promotion.