**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.

Response: We are sending the requests for revisions as individual researchers.

# **Section II. Indicator definition and rationale**

1. 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)

**Proposed indicators**

Food and water security module:

Indicators: 1) Frequency of not having enough food at home, 2) Frequency of buying unpreferred/low quality food, 3) Have enough water to meet household needs, 4) Affordability of food and water prices.

Health behaviour module:

 Indicators:

1. Daily F&V intake:

Indicators: 1) Number of servings of fruit/day, 2) Number of servings of fruit/day

1. Salt and sugar intake

Indicators: Whether or not trying to cut down salt and sugar intake.

1. Other dietary behaviour

Indicators: Frequency of taking e.g. processed food, eating out.

1. Physical exercise

Indicators: Leisure time 1) Vigorous, 2) Moderate activity.

Health communication module:

Indicators:

1)Frequency of using internet, 2) type of social media use, 3) time spend on SM, 4) encounters health related information in SM, 5) whether the information are useful and help make better decisions, 6) level of trust in the information.

Self-reported health and well-being module:

Indicators: 1) Health status during childhood, 2) Health today, 2) Feeling of sadness/depression during last 12 months, 3) Quality of life, 4) Happiness.

Social capital module:

Indicators: 1) Parents education, 2) Parents type of employment, 3) Have someone to trust within family and friends, 4) Trust in local government officials, 5) frequency of visiting friends, 6) attending social events (wedding, community gathering).

Living standard module:

Indicators: 1) Satisfaction with housing quality, living environment, 2) Availability of fresh food in the neighbourhood, 3) State of public transportation facilities, 4) Availability of green space/playground, 4) Quality of air/water

Healthcare module:

Indicators: 1) Distance to nearest facility, 2) Quality of care in the facility, 3) level of trust on care providers, 4) faces discrimination, 5) availability of necessary medicines/equipment, 6) satisfaction with the environment of the facility, 6) asked for improper payments.

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

These indicators are easy to measure and provide key information on social determinants of health. These are widely used in health surveys by WHO, social surveys, and barometer surveys conducted in middle- and high-income countries.

# **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.*

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.

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

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

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| **DHS-7 question number** | **DHS-7 question text** | **Proposed new question** | **Rationale** |
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* 1. **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.

BMI should be replaced/accompanied by waist-hip ratio, this is easier to measure and more reliable measure of adiposity.

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?

Adding these indicators can make the DHS questionnaire exceptionally rich and advance health research in the low-income countries.

# **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.

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.*

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| Indicator | Useful only for subnational endemicity zones or project intervention regions. A single estimate at the national level is not meaningful. | Useful at both national and subnational regions, as sample size allows. | Useful only at the national level. Subnational estimates are not needed. |
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# **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).

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).

# **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).
	+ Are the data produced by this indicator actionable?
	+ Who will use the data?
	+ What kinds of decisions will be made using these data?
* For what kinds of countries would the indicator(s) be most useful?
* Does the DHS survey offer any particular advantage over other available data sources for measuring this indicator? If so, what?