

# FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY/KENYA

## QUESTION GUIDE FOR BARRIER ANALYSIS: WATER PURIFICATION

**PROMOTED ACTION:** Purification of water by boiling or chlorination.

**PROBLEM TO BE PREVENTED:** Waterborne diseases, especially diarrhea and dehydration.

**First ask:** Describe how you fetch and store water in your house. Who does it? What containers are used to fetch water? What containers are used to store water?

### **BARRIERS WITH SAMPLE QUESTIONS:**

#### **1. PERCEIVED SUSCEPTIBILITY: CAN I GET THE DISEASE? COULD THAT PROBLEM HAPPEN TO ME?**

- a. What do you think about the quality of water in this community? Is it pure enough to drink? Or is it contaminated?
- b. Are there people here that get sick from drinking the water here? How often does that happen? What is in the water that makes people sick?
- c. What kind of children get diarrhea?
- d. Do you think that you will have diarrhea or another disease caused by dirty water in the next few months?
- e. Do you think that your children could get diarrhea or another disease caused by dirty water by drinking the water in this community?
- f. (If they say that the water is NOT contaminated, ask: What would convince you that the water is contaminated here?)

#### **2. PERCEIVED SEVERITY: IS THE PROBLEM VERY SERIOUS?**

- a. What are the disease or health problems that you can get when you drink water that is contaminated or dirty?
- b. Are the diseases caused by dirty water simple diseases or dangerous diseases? Can people die from drinking dirty water?
- c. How dangerous are the diseases caused by dirty water?
- d. Is diarrhea a killer disease?

#### **3. PERCEIVED ACTION EFFICACY: DOES THE PREVENTIVE ACTION WORK?**

- a. Of the people who purify their water here, what methods do they use to purify their drinking water?
- b. Do you think that giving boiled water to a child will help keep the child from getting diarrhea?
- c. Do you think that giving water treated with bleach will help keep a child from getting diarrhea?

- d. When a person boils their drinking water for 30 minutes, does that make it safe to drink? Why? Will that help prevent diarrhea? Other diseases?
- e. When a person adds bleach to their drinking water, will that make it safe to drink? Why? Will that help prevent diarrhea? Other diseases?
- f. What are the main causes of diarrhea in this community?
- g. When a person adds alum to their drinking water, will that make it safe to drink? Why? Will that help prevent diarrhea?
- h. Does the three pot method make water safe to drink? Does it help prevent diarrhea?

**4. PERCEIVED SOCIAL ACCEPTABILITY: IS THE PREVENTIVE ACTION SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE?**

- a. What do people think about boiling water as a way to purify water?
- b. What do people think about adding bleach to water to purify it?
- c. What advice – if any – have you received from health workers concerning purification of water?
- d. Are there people in this community who think that it is a bad idea to boil water to purify it? Are there people who think it can hurt you? (Are there people who think that it is not necessary?)
- e. What would your neighbors or family members say if you started boiling your water? What would they say if you added bleach to your drinking water?
- f. Are there people in this community who think that it is a bad idea to add bleach to water to purify it? Are there people who think it can hurt you? (Are there people who think that it is not necessary?)
- g. What type of people purify their drinking water?
- h. Who do you know that purifies their drinking water? Why do they do it? To whom do they give the purified water?

**5. PERCEIVED SELF-EFFICACY: IS IT EASY TO DO?**

- a. Do you know how to purify water by boiling it? (For how many minutes must you boil it to purify it?)
- b. Do you know how to purify water by adding bleach to it? Tell me how to do it.
- c. Do you know other methods for purifying drinking water? Tell me how to purify water using those methods.
- d. Among the different ways in which water is purified in Marsabit, which do you think is the best method?
- e. What are the things that make it (or would make it) difficult to purify water by boiling it?
- f. What are the things that make it (or would make it) difficult to purify water with bleach?
- g. How difficult is it to get enough firewood to boil your water each day?
- h. How difficult is it to get bleach for purifying water?
- i. Are there times when firewood is difficult to get?
- j. Would it be difficult for you to buy X shilings of bleach each month to purify your water?
- k. Why do people here NOT always purify their water?

- l. If you were to buy bleach to purify your water, would you prefer to buy it from the Community Health Worker or from a store here? Why?
- m. Is purified water available at other places that you go where you need a drink (e.g., in the fields)? If not, do you take purified water with you?
- n. If you currently purify your water, describe how you do that. [Note if what they describe is correct or incorrect. For boiling, water should be boiled for at least 15 minutes. For chlorination, 5 drops of chlorine per gallon should be used.]
- o. If you currently purify your water, what do you like about the method that you have chosen to do that?

**6. CUES FOR ACTION: CAN I REMEMBER TO DO IT?**

- a. For those of you who do purify your water, is it easy to remember to purify it each day? Are there times that you forget?
- b. Do you ever ask for purified water for your children when you visit other people? (If so, why? If not, why not?)
- c. Do you find it difficult to remember how to purify water?

**7. PERCEPTION OF GOD'S WILL (Is it God's will that my child become sick?)**

- a. Why do you think that some children get sick from diarrhea and others do not?
- b. Is it sometimes God's will that children get sick from diarrhea?
- c. Can a neighbor make a child get sick from diarrhea (e.g., evil eye)?

**8. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ATTRIBUTES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACTION.**

- a. Let's talk about purifying water by boiling it. Have you drank water that was purified in this way?
- b. (If anyone says, Yes, ask:) What did you NOT like about that water? (Taste? Time needed to prepare it?) What DID you like about that water?
- c. Have you ever drank water purified with bleach?
- d. (If anyone says, Yes, ask:) What did you NOT like about that water? (Taste? Time needed to prepare it?) What DID you like about that water?
- e. If you were to boil your drinking water to purify it, would that damage the water or cause any health problems?
- f. If you were to add bleach to your drinking water to purify it, would that damage the water or cause any health problems? (And with iodine?)
- g. Are there any benefits of using purified water?

**Do taste test with boiled and chlorinated water.**