

## Focus Group Discussion Guide—Farmers groups group members

**Instructions:** This FGD will be conducted with 6 to 12 participants who are members of a farmers group targeted for OFSP.

**Introduction:** Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you. We are a research team interested in learning more about agriculture in this area. We assure you that all the information that you provide to us will be used exclusively for our research and analysis. We will record the session but all responses will appear anonymously. This is not a test, and there are no right or wrong answers. The most important thing is that you should feel comfortable and contribute as much as you can. You can express opinions and discuss issues freely.

### Background information on participants

*For each participant of the FGD, please take down the following information in your notebook*

1. Name
2. Age
3. How long member of farmers group
4. Ever grown OFSP [Y or N]
5. Grew OFSP in the last cropping season OR currently preparing OFSP [Y or N]
6. If growing OFSP, for how long?
7. Household head [Y or N]

### Module 1: Agricultural decision making

1. Generally speaking, how do households in this community access land for agricultural purposes?
2. For most of the households in this community, is it common for men and women to use the same plots for agricultural activities or separate plots?
3. For a given plot used by a household for agricultural activities, who makes decisions regarding what type of crop to grow on a plot?
4. Generally speaking, what factors do men take into consideration when deciding what type of crop to grow on a plot? *[for example, marketability of crop, soil type, yield, maturity, security, taste preference, size of plot in relation to quantity and so on]*
5. Generally speaking, what factors do women take into consideration when deciding what type of crop to grow on a plot? *[for example, marketability of crop, soil type, maturity, security, taste preference, size of plot in relation to quantity and so on]*
6. In a household, for crops mainly operated by men who makes the decision regarding what quantity of crops to grow on a household plot.

7. In a household, for crops mainly operated by women who makes the decision regarding what quantity of crops to grow on a household plot.
8. In a household, for crops jointly operated by men and women who makes the decision regarding what quantity of crops to grow on a household plot.
9. What factors do men take into consideration when deciding what quantity of a crop to grow on a plot?
10. What factors do women take into consideration when deciding what quantity of a crop to grow on a plot?
11. For a given crop, who in the household makes the decision regarding how the produce will be used? *[For example, will the crop be sold for profit, consumed, stored, given away and so on.]*
12. For a given crop, what factors do men consider when deciding how produce will be used?
13. For a given crop, what factors do women consider when deciding how produce will be used?

## **Module 2: Feeding and nutrition**

1. In your opinion, what types of food are good for children to eat?
2. For each type of food mentioned, why is this type of food good for children?
3. Do you make any special efforts to feed your children any of the good foods you just mentioned? *[Probe to find out why or why not].*
4. In your opinion, who in the household is most knowledgeable about what foods are good for children? *[Probe to find out why]*
5. What role do women play in determining what children eat?
6. What role do men play in determining what children eat?
7. Who in a household makes decisions about what quantity of food children eat? *[Probe to find out why people mentioned make these decisions]*
8. Who in a household makes decisions about the variety of food children eat? *[Probe to find out why people mentioned make these decisions]*
9. In your opinion, do men and women have different opinions about what type of food children should eat? *[probe to find out why or why not]*

## **Module 3: Adoption of OFSP**

1. What do you know about OFSP?
2. In this farmers group, why did people initially decide to adopt OFSP?
3. Are there people in your farmers group who did not initially adopt OFPSP? If yes, why did people decide NOT to adopt OFSP?
4. In your experience, generally speaking are men or women more likely to adopt OFSP if it is introduced to their community? *[Probe to find out why]*
5. Please rank the following traits in order of importance with respect to members of the farmer's group's decision to adopt OFSP in the first place. *[Probe to find out why certain traits are ranked as more important than others].*

- Yield
  - Shorter maturity
  - Health/nutrition benefits
  - Access to vines (planting materials)
6. For those members of your farmers group who continue to plant OFSP, please rank the following traits in order of importance with respect to people's decision to continue planting OFSP. *[Probe to find out why certain traits are ranked as more important than others].*
    - Yield
    - Shorter maturity
    - Health/nutrition benefits
    - Access to vines (planting materials)
    - Profitability
    - Weather
    - Pests and diseases
  7. Are there any additional traits of OFSP that influenced people to continue planting OFSP?
  8. For those members of your farmer's groups who stopped planting OFSP, please rank the following traits in order of importance with respect to people's decision to stop planting OFSP. *[Probe to find out why certain traits are ranked as more important than others].*
    - Yield
    - Shorter maturity
    - Health/nutrition benefits
    - Access to vines (planting materials)
    - Profitability
    - Weather
    - Pests and diseases
  9. Are there any additional traits of OFSP that influenced people to stop planting OFSP?
  10. In your opinion, generally speaking are men or women more likely to continue to plant OFSP? *[Probe to find out why].*
  11. From your experience, do members of this farmer's group make their decision about continuing to grow OFSP based on what other members of the farmers group do or do they make their decision independent of others? *[Probe to find out why].*
  12. In your opinion, what benefits has OFSP brought to this community?
  13. In your opinion, what challenges has OFSP brought to this community?

#### Module 4: Diffusion of vines and information

1. What information is available about planting OFSP?
2. To whom in this community can farmers go to for information on OFSP? *[For example, an extension agent, community leader, NGO, friend, family member and so on]*
3. If someone from this farmers group loses OFSP vines, who can they go to in order to gain access to new vines? *[For example, an extension agent, community leader, NGO, friend, family member and so on]*
4. If someone outside of this farmer's group wants access to OFSP vines, who can they go to in order to gain access to vines? *[For example, an extension agent, community leader, NGO, friend, family member and so on]*
5. Is it common for members from this farmer's group to share OFSP vines with other members of the community **for free**? *[Probe to find out why or why not].*
6. When members from this farmer's group share OFSP vines, what types of people do they distribute vines to for **free**? *[for example friends, neighbors, relatives, strangers, men, women and so on]*
7. Is it common for members from this farmer's group to sell OFSP vines to other members of the community **for profit**? *[Probe to find out why or why not].*
8. When members from this farmer's group sell OFSP vines **for profit**, who do they sell to? *[for example, to NGOs, organizations, individuals, strangers, friends or so on]*
9. If they sell OFSP vines **for profit**, do they do so in the market or elsewhere? *[Probe to find out where].*
10. In general, do people in this farmer's group keep OFSP for home consumption or do they bring it to market for sale? *[Probe to find out why]*
11. In those households where OFSP is sold for profit, who in the household takes the initiative to sell OFSP? *[Probe to find out why it's that person]*