

## Water Committee Group Interview: Informed Consent

*\*\*\*Notes to interviewer: If at all possible, when arranging for this interview, request that the committee member(s) come to the meeting with a complete copy of their records related to management of the MCA water project.*

*\*\*\*This survey will only be completed in communities with handpumps installed by the MCA. The interview is designed for the water committee. At a minimum one member of each of the three water committee sub-groups (management, operation and maintenance, and hygiene and sanitation) should be present. If possible the community leader should not be present during the water committee interview.*

Good morning (afternoon), my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I work with WE Consult, a consulting firm in Maputo. We were hired by Stanford University in the United States to help the government undertake a study on water services and quality of life for the MCC rural water project in about 30 communities in Nampula, including your own. The objective of this study is to evaluate the impact of water services in your lives.

Are you a member of the water committee for this water project? *[If there is more than one water committee member, invite all of them to participate.]*

We have asked you here today because you currently serve as a member of the water committee of *[name of community]*. The focus of our study is on water services in rural communities like your own, and we would like to ask you to participate in this study. We are speaking with water committee members like you in about 30 communities in Nampula province. The information you give us will be kept completely anonymous; we will not record your family name(s) at any point, or share any information that can be linked to you or your family .

Today, I would like to talk with you about your experience as a water committee member here for *[name of community]*. I will ask you some questions and make notes about your answers on this form. I expect the discussion will take about an hour.

Your participation in this study does not involve any risk to you, and your involvement is completely voluntary. Even if you begin to participate in the discussion now, you would be free to stop participating at any time, for any reason.

We have spoken with the leaders of your community to obtain permission for this study. In addition, if you ever have any questions about your rights as a study participant, or if you were dissatisfied at any time with any aspect of the study, you could contact Ellen de Bruijn at the consulting firm WE Consult—anonously, if you wish—who could help you contact the authorities at Stanford University in America. Ellen is available at her office *[give each participant the contact information sheet handout]*.

Do you have any questions about the purpose of the study or this interview? *[Answer any questions asked.]*

Can you tell me whether you would be willing to participate in our discussion today? *[Be sure to confirm each water committee member's willingness to participate. If anyone appears uncomfortable, reassure him/her that declining to participate is fine. If any water committee member declines, thank him/her for their time and let them leave the discussion. If all committee members decline to participate, thank them and leave the premises.]*

**Informed consent received from all committee members participating in the interview?**

Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_