

Soils/gender survey questions to be included in larger household survey or serve as a guide for unstructured interviews (Oct 15, 2010)

Created by Gender CCRA 7

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SANREM CRSP Household Soil Survey

- 1. Who taught you about soils and what did they teach you?**

- 2. How have you learned about soil quality?**

- 3. Has anyone come to your community to provide information on how to take care of the soil?**

- 4. How are people in your community being trained to take care of soils?**

- 5. How would you describe a good soil or soils?** Allow interviewee to list characteristics and explain, do not guide conversation. Write down exact quotes (in original language and translation) please in order to collect valid ethnographic data.

- 6. What do you do to judge the quality of soil?**

7. (**Script for researchers to fill in chart below:**) How many soil types are there? (list them in chart, expand size of chart as needed)

Which soils are most fertile?(rank top 3)

Which soils are least fertile? (rank bottom 3)

Which soils are most erodible? (3 most erodible)

Which soils are resistant to erosion? (3 least erodible)

What is _____ soil's position/slope? (ask for each soil, or observe if on transect walk)

Who has access to _____ soil?/Who manages _____ soil? (Men, Women, Boys, Girls)

What use is best for _____ soil?(ask for each soil)

List of Soil Types (local names)	Fertility (rank)	Erodibility	Catena (position on slope)	Who has Access?	List of Best Uses for each soil

8. (Script for researchers to fill in chart below): Has this soil improved or deteriorated over the last 30 years?

List the factors that have deteriorated soil

List the factors that have improved soil (manure, fertilizer)

What factors are most influential in improving soil quality?

What factors are most influential in deteriorating soil quality? (they give you initial list)

1 = no influence

2 = not much influence

3 = has some influence

4 = fairly influential

5 = very influential

9. How important is fertility to soil quality?

- a. Very important
 - b. Somewhat important
 - c. Fairly important
 - d. Not very important
 - e. Not important at all

10. How important is manure to soil quality?

- a. Very important
- b. Somewhat important
- c. Fairly important
- d. Not very important
- e. Not important at all

11. Who decides what fertilizer or manure to put on the soil?

12. What do you do to the soil to prepare it for harvest or after harvest?

Notes:

Some factors that might influence soil quality:

- texture
- color
- water-holding
- porosity
- evidence of soil fauna activity (earth worm castings, etc)
- ease of field preparation (if they plow)
- soil amendments, manure, shells, ash
- land uses

Land use & location

- slope
- aspect
- terrain features
- geologic features/parent material
- traditional uses
- more recent uses
- settlement patterns/changes

Record all words used for texture and color

Keep track of land uses present. Perhaps some soils are not used for agriculture, but are structural amendments, used for pottery, mixed with others as a type of fertilizer, etc.