**Focus Group Guide**

1. **For Pre-Assessment Focus Group**

The purpose of this focus group is to gather direct farmer insight on the socioecological conditions and context unique to *[text removed to maintain confidentiality]*. Your feedback will also be used to adapt the SHARP survey tool to local conditions. For this focus group, I will invite all of you to engage in two group activities: a community resource mapping exercise and cropping calendar. We will then discuss key components featured in the maps and calendars created*.* The pre-assessment focus group is expected to take approximately 2 hours, and a meal break is scheduled between both activities. The meal will be provided.

**ACTIVITY 1**

Community resource mapping

1. Map local natural and physical features in the community and surrounding area, such as water sources, slopes, forests, etc.
2. Set boundaries and clarify the area under consideration.
3. Identify areas of importance to SHARP (e.g. degraded land, disputed territory, crops).
4. The map should display (potential or current):
   * Key natural resources
   * Hazards and safety concerns
   * Health concerns (e.g. malaria)
   * Socio-political issues such as land redistribution through outlining resettled areas
   * Environmental threats / areas of environmental concern
   * Areas prone to flooding / least affected by flooding
   * Areas/land that has changed in the last 10 years
5. Discuss and answer the following questions:
   * Are the resources identified in the map used sustainably by the community? For example, are there any issues with how these resources are used in terms of environmental sustainability? Equity/social sustainability? Livelihood sustainability?
   * How do people in the community survive and recover after disasters?
   * Are the current survival and recovery strategies working? Why / why not?
   * What are the roles and responsibilities? Who is responsible for what?
   * Are these survival and recovery strategies sustainable, particularly in the face of climate change?
   * What can the community change? How can the community influence change with the support of others in the short, medium and long terms?

**ACTIVITY 2**

Cropping calendar

1. Create a cropping calendar for a period of 1 year based on past experiences and the anticipated future.
2. Participants should identify the following:

* Rainy seasons
* Periods of hunger
* Periods of income generation
* Periods of expenses
* When coping strategies are implemented (e.g. planting of different crops)
* Who is responsible/does the work for each component (weeding, harvesting, etc)

1. Discuss and answer the following questions:

* What laws and policies affect your community?
* How are they implemented and how have they affected your community?

*Note: Both activities are derived and adapted from Choptiany et al. 2015.*

**B. For Post-Assessment Focus Group**

The purpose of this focus group is to gather direct farmer feedback to determine the areas of strong and weak resilience of farmers or pastoralists to climate change. We will also identify existing gaps in education, training, and practices. I will ask participants to answer a series of question related to their survey results and feedback, as well as encourage participants to partner up and/or engage small group discussions. The post-assessment focus group is expected to take approximately 90 minutes.

* Hand out hardcopies of individualized SHARP survey rapid assessment reports and begin participatory gap analysis.
* Verify rankings to see if they make sense to the group and if not, try to understand and discuss why not. For example, do participants have a shared understanding of the questions presented in the survey and referred to in the rapid assessment report? Is there additional information possessed by farmers? What are the trade-offs and synergies in resilience of different farm system components?
* Discuss aspects which have been found to be least resilient across farm systems in the community.
* Discuss existing actions to increase resilience of selected aspects, at the level of individual farmers and community itself (albeit this might be less accurate but common problems can be discussed e.g. everyone has problems with access to credit).
* Invite individuals with low resilience in a certain aspect to raise their issue and receive solutions from other individuals.
* After obtaining consent from both parties to be matched, we will offer matching of people with low resilience in areas with those who obtained high scores in an effort to foster exchanges of information.
* Give participants an opportunity to discuss other topics they feel are important and pertinent.

*Note: Discussion topics derived and adapted from Choptiany et al. 2015.*

**Key Informant Interview Guide**

**PART I**

**Organization description**

1. Describe your role and position within MASIPAG/IRRI.
2. How would you describe MASIPAG’s/IRRI’s values, mission, and priorities?
3. How does MASIPAG/IRRI stay aligned with values, carry out its mission, and prioritize its initiatives?
4. Who/what are the implementing bodies?

**Institutional Infrastructure**

1. What is the most important and least effective national law/policy to enhancing agricultural resilience?
2. What aspects and/or components contribute to its (in)effectiveness?
3. What is the most important and least effective local law/policy to enhancing agricultural resilience?
4. What aspects and/or components contribute to its (in)effectiveness?
5. What land committees, government agencies, and/or organizations are most active on issues pertaining to agriculture and specifically climate resilience?
6. How are their engagements (not) useful and effective?

**Farming System**

1. What/who influences agricultural management practices?
2. How do farmers obtain access to seeds?
3. How do farmers access knowledge/information?
4. How do farmers learn to use and access pesticides, fertilizers, and other inputs?
5. What/who are the implementing bodies for these kinds of farmer support mechanisms?

**Local Resources**

1. What are the rights and regulations around water use?
2. How is water managed?
3. What is the state of land tenure in the region?
4. What land management practices are being employed?
5. What are the main electricity/energy sources in the region?
6. What forest management practices are being employed?
7. What climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives are being implemented?
8. What/who are the implementing bodies for water, land tenure, energy, forest, and climate change management.

**Sociopolitical Context**

1. What citizen/farmer organizations are present in the region?
2. What is the current state of food security?
3. How is food security defined and what/who are the implementing bodies?
4. Are there opportunities for public participation or are there consultation mechanisms for the purposes of local policy making?
5. What is the current state of employment, skills and education for farmers in the region?

**Economic Context**

1. What kinds of insurance programs are available to farmers?
2. What markets do farmers have access to and where do they obtain market information?
3. What finance, including microfinance, options to farmers have access to?
4. Are there fiscal incentives, such as investments and/or tax rebates, that farmers have access to?
5. What/who are the implementing bodies?

*Note: Several of the questions in PART I are derived from Choptiany et al. 2015.*

**PART II**

**Prescribed Interventions**

1. What initiatives/strategies are being implemented by MASIPAG/IRRI to enhance agricultural resilience?
2. With a specific initiative/strategy in mind, discuss and answer questions listed in pages 6-16 in the Agroecolgoical Risk & Resilience Screening Tool (MercyCorps, 2014).

**Final thoughts**

1. Give interviewee an opportunity to discuss other topics s/he feels is important and pertinent.

**Semi-Structured Farmer Interview Guide**

**MASIPAG Organic Farmers**

1. How long have you been organic farming?
2. When did you become a member of MASIPAG?
3. When did you get access to/ownership of your land? Can you tell me about that process?
4. What are the benefits of being a member of MASIPAG and practicing organic farming?
5. What are the challenges of being a member of MASIPAG and practicing organic farming?
6. Why are farmers practicing conventional farming?
7. What climate change and/or other farming related challenges are you experiencing?
8. What should farmers do to cope with/adapt to climate change and/or other farming related challenges?

**Conventional Farmers**

1. How long have you been conventional farming?
2. When did you get access to/ownership of your land? Can you tell me about that process?
3. What are the benefits of being a conventional farmer?
4. What are the challenges of being a conventional farmer?
5. Why are farmers practicing organic farming?
6. What climate change and/or other farming related challenges are you experiencing?
7. What should farmers do to cope with/adapt to climate change and/or other farming related challenges?