

Gambia Pre – Testing Report

We have started the fieldwork at the end of March 2006 due to the delay in receiving the funds. The field staffs were trained for five days so that they could understand the instruments very well. We have completed 100 interviews for the cognitive test. For the field test data entry, we have designed the data entry screen using SPSS and it was sent it to the consultant for her perusal before we start the data entry. For the cognitive test we used the prescribed format that was sent to us. Those who were interviewed were very cooperative during the exercise but complained about the bulkiness of the questionnaire. Secondly, some of the respondents reported that for the proxy interviews it would have been better if the individuals concern were interviewed rather conducting proxy interview. There was no refusal.

What we have learnt in the pre – testing is that we have come across many people during the exercise whom physically do not seem to have any form of disability but during the interviews we realised they have some impairment.

In the cognitive test questionnaire, there was no provision for people without impairment in the interview debriefing (Question 4 – IMPAIR) and this was brought to the attention of the consultant and the Kristin. They have advised us to put code ‘0’ in a situation the respondent does not have any impairment.

Post Interview Discussion

Some of the interviewers said the respondents were very nice to them when they introduce themselves and tell them the purpose of this survey. Some of them reported that they were told by some of the respondents particularly those with disabilities that, they have been surveyed over and over and they have not seen thing. They said after this survey, they hoped something would be done to improve their status. They also reported that some of the respondents said the questions were so many. They have also reported that, some of the respondents said what was more apt was to ask the individual themselves rather than conducting proxy interviews. They have also reported that, some respondents said they are afraid that most the responses they will have from the proxy interviews will be don’t know, because they belief that there are certain questions, it is the only the individual concern who could answer such questions.