

Interview Guide
PSSN Discontinuation/Interruptions Study

Thank you very much for participating in this interview today. My name is _____, I work as a researcher for EDI Group. I would like to have a conversation with you to learn more about you, your household, and your community. We are interested in the economic situation of your household as a part of the evaluation of the Productive Social Safety Net project (PSSN), in order to capture lessons that can be used in future interventions. Particularly, we are interested in how possible changes in the program might lead to changes in decisions you make for your household. We are interested in anything that you want to share with me to help me learn about you and your household.

The interview should take less than an hour. I will be taping the session because I don't want to miss any of your comments. This is an informal conversation and there are no right or wrong answers. All responses will be kept confidential. This means that your interview responses will only be shared with the research team members and we will ensure that any information we include in our report does not identify you as the respondent. Remember, you don't have to talk about anything you don't want to and you may end the interview at any time. Do you have any questions for me before we start?

A. Background

A1. Please tell me about the people who live here in your household.

B. PSSN experiences

B1. How did you come to participate in the PSSN program?

B2. How much money do you receive every month?

B3. Do you know how is that amount determined?

B4. Have you experienced any delays or interruptions in payments?

[if so] Please tell me what happened and how that affected your purchases and decisions at the time.

B5. How do you typically use the money from PSSN?

B6. *[For PLUS participants only]* Did any of the adolescents in your household participate in the Cash Plus Programme for adolescents?

[if necessary, probe with specific programs: adolescent livelihood and SRH-HIV life skills training, mentoring and coaching, and linkages to existing SRH and HIV services for adolescents]

C. Payment delays - hypothetical

C1. Sometimes programs experience delays in payments. If your next PSSN payment was delayed, how would it affect your family? How would you feel?

C2. Would a delay in payment affect how you spend the PSSN transfer when you next receive it?

C3. Would a delay in payment affect other household decisions?

[if so] Please tell me what would change.

C4. Would a payment delay affect your children's education be affected in any way?

[if so] Please tell me what would change.

[if necessary, probe regarding school costs, including books and uniforms, the need for children/youth to work, etc.]

D. PSSN programme end/graduation - hypothetical

Sometimes programs have to end, if there is not enough funding to support them. If PSSN ended, how would it affect your family? How would you feel?

D1. Would it affect your work—how much or what types of work you do?

D2. How about the work of other adults in the household?

D3. If you no longer received PSSN, would it affect your relationships with other people in the household?

D4. Would your children’s education be affected in any way?

[If so] Please tell me what would change.

[If necessary, probe regarding school costs, including books and uniforms, the need for children/youth to work, etc.]

D5. Without the PSSN income, would your household purchase less?

[If so] Where would you cut back on spending?

D6. If you no longer had the cash assistance, what would be your priorities for your remaining income?

E. Conclusion

E1. Thank you for participating in this interview today. Is there anything else that is important for me to understand about how changes to PSSN might affect your household?

E2. Do you have any questions for me?