**Sample Focus Group Discussion Guide: Women’s Needs Assessment**

**Instructions to Interviewer/Facilitator**

* Please make sure you have an attendance list and that all those present sign it.
* Make sure that your notes include the date and place where the discussion is taking place.
* This FGD is intended for each group of women and only those women who have gone through the enrollment process should participate; therefore the number of participants should be 20 to 25.
* It is important to have a voice recorder. Check to make sure the batteries are working and that the women are sitting in a manner that will help with voice recording.
* If you do not have a voice recorder then you will need to have two people manage the focus group discussion: One of you will moderate and the other will take notes.
* Moderation of this FGD should aim to have as many women as possible participate and provide information. Do not allow any of the women to dominate the conversation.

**The objectives of the FGD are:**

1. To understand the land tenure situation in the community: women’s aspirations and their tenure insecurities as well as how they would assess any improvements.
2. To understand community-level issues that can affect women’s participation and what stakeholders are likely to have an impact on the pilot.

**Note:** You will need to introduce the project generally and also talk about objectives of the pilot. This background is important to the discussion.

**PART A: CURRENT SITUATION**

**LAND TENURE ASPIRATIONS AMONG WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY**

1. With examples, please explain the aspirations you as women have with regard to land in this community.
2. What are women doing to realize these aspirations? *(probe: individually and collectively as groups)*
3. With explanations, how difficult or easy is it for women to realize their aspirations regarding land in this community?*(probe for individual and group difficulties; what kinds of women experience the most difficulties?)*

**INSECURE TENURE SITUATIONS AMONG WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY**

1. With examples, please explain insecure tenure situations associated with land that women experience in this community. *(probe: whether land tenure insecurity for women is a community, household, or individual matter and what types of women experience the different insecure tenure manifestations)*
2. With explanations, how easy or difficult is it for women to overcome/manage insecure tenure situations associated with land?
3. What kind of actions would help women help themselves with regard to these situations? *(probe: what can women do to help themselves out of insecure land tenure situations?)*

**PART B: MEASURES OF IMPROVEMENT IN TENURE SECURITY/ LAND RIGHTS**

1. If a series of actions were undertaken by you to improve your land rights situation or your land tenure security, what would you use as yardstick for success or which things would show you that your situation has improved? *(probe: can women do something about the different insecure land tenure situations and aspirations they have on land, how would they know the situation has improved from the context of their community, and which yardsticks/measures would they use to say this?)*

**PART C: PARTICIPATION IN THE PILOT AND STAKEHOLDERS**

***Interviewer: Please take time and explain the overall perspective of the project before asking the subsequent questions***

1. Looking at participation in this project, what are your expectations, hopes, and fears?
2. Given your expectations, hopes, and fears how best should the project engage with you to realize an improvement in your land tenure security? *(probe: how the project should support them as they work towards realizing their secure land tenure aspirations as well as overcoming insecure tenure problems)*
3. As far as land rights/land tenure security is concerned what individuals, institutions, and structures around you as a woman have an influence and what kind of influence do they have?
4. How can the project take advantage of these individuals, institutions, and structures around you to help you realize your aspirations for secure land tenure?

***Interviewer: Thank the women for their participation and close the session***