Support tool Impact: Family dwelling capacity evaluation on Mount Elgon

Interview Questionnaire Support Groups

January 2018

Client: Mount Elgon Trust of Kenya

Partner Applicant: Stichting Elimu Mount Elgon.

Location: Sokomjinge, at the slopes of Mount Elgon in Western Kenya

Catchment area approximately 5 km around the projects.

Researcher: Ir.-arch. Michiel Smits PhD Candidate

The department of Architecture, Chair of Methods & Analysis

Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology

RESEARCH INFORMATION

Central Research Question:

What is the current self-reliance level of family’s towards their housing situation?

What is the project’s impact on the family’s level of self-reliance towards their housing situation?

Objective: Assess and evaluate reached level of self-reliance regarding the new housing situation of the family and their community.

Aim: To determine the self-reliance level of the family and their community in relation to their housing situation. It will be used as a impact measurement for the *Rural Housing Studio Support Tool*, in order to compare the self-reliance level before and after application of the support tool.

QUESTIONNAIRE

INTRODUCTION:

You have previously signed a document about the recordings that will be made during the project and how they will be handled (privacy). By signing the audio/video consent form you have agreed that I as leading researcher, the engineer and the student are allowed to make audio/video recordings. In order to confirm authenticity of this questionnaire I would like to make a video recording. Do you have any objections for me recording this interview so that I am able to write out the interview later? Do you have any questions before we begin?

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - START VIDEO RECORDING - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

I am going to conduct an interview with you to get to know your new housing situation. You are Cleophas Wafula Soita living in the village of Sokomjinge and for the purpose of our research you have been given number 1.

This interview is voluntary, will take approximately 1,5 to 2 hours and can be stopped by you at all time. If you have any questions or uncertainties you are welcome to address them during the interview. I have written the questions down and printed them to be precise, I am sorry this might feel impersonal but is essential to take the same interview with the other families.

Your family has applied for the rural housing studio project, which has helped you to build a new house for your family. By signing the contract you had committed your family to the project and were you able to abandon the project at all time. This project is a part of my research at the Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands, that aims at helping rural families to build houses, which would increase the level of family’s self-reliance (independence). Although we have helped you to construct a new house, we intended to make you independent from external labour and help (NGO’s). In this way you would be able to maintain, extend or replicate your house by yourself. This interview is meant to understand how you built your house, to what extent did you do it yourself, with the help of the community or with hired labour. We are curious if you are more self-reliant with regard to your housing situation after the team has left.

Do you understand the procedure? Do you have any questions about the procedure?

THE QUESTIONS

Opening questions:

* How do you think the project went?

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* Are you happy with the help you got?

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* Are you happy with the team you worked with?

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* Was the project what you have expected?

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* Why?

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**Questions about the new house:**

1. Do you have a new house/extension to the house?

*yes/no*

1. Is that house finished?

*yes/no*

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*If not:*

* Why isn’t it finished?

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

*if the answer is finance:*

Did you have the whole sum budgeted with the team?

*yes/no*

Did you spend any of the money on the materials or labour which was not budgeted by the team?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

What did you spend the money on?

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*if the answer is time:*

How much time do you need to finish the house?

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*if the answer is support:*

Please explain why do you think the problem was the support?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* What is not finished?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* Do you have the knowledge/skills to finish it by yourself?

*yes/no*

*If no:*

* Will you need to hire labour?

*yes/no*

* Will you receive help from the community?

*yes/no*

* Do you have the means to finish the house?

*yes/no*

* Are you going to finish the house?

*yes/no*

1. Did you keep your old house?

*yes/no*

1. What is the size of the new house? (meters or feet)

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1. How many rooms does the new house have? (please list all the rooms)

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1. Is the house large enough for the whole family? (including the old house if kept)

*yes/no*

*If no:*

* Can you explain why not?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. How did you finance your house - savings, loan or both?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. What type of the house was built? (earth, bricks, blocks, wood, etc.)

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Who decided to build this type of house?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Why?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. What materials did you use to build the house? (please list material per phase: foundations, floor, walls, roof, finishes)

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

1. Who decided to use these materials?

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..…………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

1. Why was it decided to use these materials?

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..…………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

1. Are those materials locally available (walking distance or by using your own mean of transport)?

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..…………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

If yes:

* 1. Did you have to pay for the materials or are there other ways of collecting/ acquire these materials

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..…………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

*If not:*

* Did you bring materials yourself or did you hire somebody to do that for you?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

*If both:*

* Please answer a+b

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Are those materials local natural resources (e.g. mud or straw) or manufactured (e.g. cement, iron sheet)?

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1. Are those materials expensive or cheap, please answer using the following scale?

1-very cheap, 2 - cheap, 3- affordable, 4- expensive, 5- very expensive

*foundation*……………………………………………………………………………………………..

*floor*…………..………………………………………………………………………………………..

*walls*………………..…………………………………………………………………………………..

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*…………………………………………………………………………………….

1. Were you at the construction site every day?

*yes/no*

*if no:*

* Were there other family members at the site every day?(specify who)

*yes/no*…………………………………………………………………………………………

1. What phases of the building were you directly involved in? Please explain what you did per construction phase

*ordering materials*…………………………………………………………………………………….

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..……………………………………………………………………………….

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………...………………

1. Do you think you were involved enough into the project of building your house?

*yes/no*

*If no:*

Why?

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1. What phases were your family members involved in? Please explain per construction phase

*ordering materials*…………………………………………………………………………………….

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..……………………………………………………………………………….

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………...………………

1. Did you have help from your family, friends or the community?

*yes/no*……………………………………………………………………………………………………

*If yes:*

* From who? Please list everyone

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* What did they help you with? Please list per phase

*ordering materials*…………………………………………………………………………………….

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..……………………………………………………………………………….

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………...………………

* Was it small or substantial help?

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*If the community members helped:*

* Were these skilled or unskilled tasks

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* Did the team teach the community members new skills?

*yes/no*

* Did the community members help for free or were they compensated?

*free/compensated*

*If compensated:*

* In what form were they compensated? (did you help them in return, did you provide the with meals, did you pay them?)

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* Did you hire any labour?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Were the workers for all or some of the work?

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* Was is skilled or unskilled labour?

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* Why did you hire labour?

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*If the lack of knowledge was the problem:*

* Did the team offered that missing knowledge to you or your family members?

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1. To what extent do you have the knowledge to build in this way (with the chosen method)?

*0 - unknowing, 1- beginner, 2- familiar, 3- proficient, 4- expert, 5-teacher*

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

1. Did the team train you (and/or family members) to build this way?

*yes/no*

*if yes:*

* Please specify:

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..……………………………………………………………………………….

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………...………………

1. Do you know how to repair your house?

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………

*If yes:*

* Could you still afford the repairs if your income got smaller?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

*If not:*

* Do you need to hire somebody to do it for you?

*yes/no*

* Can you afford that?

*yes/no*

* Could you still afford the repairs if your income got smaller?

*yes/no*

1. Could you extend or duplicate the house by yourself (with the family and community)?

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*if the answer is partially:*

* Please specify what you can’t do

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1. Are you satisfied with your new house?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* What do you like about the house?

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* What makes your house special?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

*If no:*

* What don’t you like about the house?

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* What could you change to make it more likeable?

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1. What does your house have in common with other houses in the community?

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1. How much did the whole house cost?

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1. Looking back at the project and the realized house could you have realized this house without the help of the team? Please explain why?

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**Questions about the desired house:**

1. Would you like to have a different house to the one that was just built?

*yes/no*

*If no go to question nr...33*

*If yes:*

Why?

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* What type of house would you rather have?(mud, bricks, blocks, wood, etc.)

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* What size (meters or amount of rooms)

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* What shape?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* What materials would you like to use? please specify per phase:

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Are those materials locally available (walking distance or using your own mean of transport)?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Would you have to pay for the materials or are there other ways of collecting/ acquire these materials?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

If not:

* Would you bring materials yourself or would you hire somebody to do that for you?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Are those materials expensive or cheap, please answer using the following scale?

1-very cheap, 2 - cheap, 3- affordable, 4- expensive, 5- very expensive

*foundation*………………………………………………………………………………………………

*floor*…………..…………………………………………………………………………………………

*walls*………………..……………………………………………………………………………………

*roof*……………………..………………………………………………………………………………

*doors and windows*……………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Would you have preferred to build your house differently?

*yes/no*

*If no go to the next section*

*If yes:*

* What would you have done differently?

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1. Why didn’t you build your house like that?

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*If the answer insufficient fund (or similar)*

* What is the cause of such high price (e.g. materials, method)?

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1. Do you have knowledge how to build all the elements of this house yourself?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Explain why you didn’t build this house yet

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*If no:*

* Is there anybody in the community that could teach you that for free? Or is it so complicated you need to hire skilled labour to do it for you?

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1. Would you prefer to build the house by yourself (and your community) or to hire labour?

*self/hire*

*If by yourself:*

* Do you have the knowledge how to build all the elements of this house yourself?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Explain why you didn’t build this house yet

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…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

*If no:*

* To what extent do you have the knowledge to build in this way?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* Would you like to learn how to build it by yourself?

*yes/no*

* Is there anybody in the community that could teach you that for free?

*yes/no*

* Could you extend or duplicate that house by yourself?

*yes/no/partially*

*If partially:*

* What can’t you do?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

*If hire:*

* Would have enough money to buy materials and hire labour?

*yes/no*

1. Would you like to use any elements of your new house in your desired house?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Which parts/elements of the current house would you like to use in the new house?

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1. Would you be able to finance this type of house?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* How? (From your savings, By taking a lone?)

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1. Would this house need a lot of repairing?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Why?

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1. How frequently would you need to repair the house?

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1. Would you know how to repair this house by yourself?

*yes/no*

1. Would you want to know how to repair the house yourself?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Would you repair your house yourself?

*yes/no*

* Could you afford the repairs if your income got smaller?

*yes/no*

*If not:*

* Would you need to hire somebody to do it for you?

*yes/no*

* Could you afford that?

*yes/no*

* Could you afford it if your income got smaller?

*yes/no*

1. Would you want to learn how to build and repair your desired house?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

* Would you be willing to help construct/repair a house for one of the community members in order to learn?

*yes/no*

* Would you be willing to help construct/repair a public building (school/hospital/etc.) in order to learn?

*yes/no*

1. Do you think that you will need help from an NGO to build such a house?

**The following part of the interview will be about the team and the research process . The team will not be notified about any of your answers.**

1. How would you describe the communication with your team?

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1. Did you like the ideas the team presented to you?

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1. Did the team incorporate your ideas into the design of the house?

*yes/no*

If yes:

Which ones?

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1. Who was mainly making final decisions about the new house?

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……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. Do you feel you were forced into any decisions?

yes/no

*If yes:*

Which decisions:

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1. Did you force any decision on the team?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

Which decisions:

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1. Do you believe that the team had substantial influence in making decisions or were they mainly advising and did the family made the final decisions?

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1. Do you think the team would have prefered to build the house differently?
2. What did they want differently?

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1. Why were these ideas not used in the build house?

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1. Were you feeling comfortable talking to the team members about your wishes and ideas?

*yes/no*

*If no:*

Why?

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1. Were there any conflicts between you and the team?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

What were they?

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……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Were they resolved?

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1. What types of buildings the team proposed to you?

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1. Why did you choose this one?

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1. Were you convinced and comfortable with this choice?

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1. Did the team explain why they advised you on that type of building?

*yes/no*

*If yes:*

Please say what were the arguments given by the team

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1. Do you think the team is happy with the result of the project?

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**Open ended section:**

1. Do you have any regrets about the project?

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1. What would you have done differently?

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1. Did the project influence the wellbeing/composition of the family?

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1. Did the project influence your position within the community?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* Why and how?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Did your relation with friends/community members changed due to the project?

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1. Did the project benefit the community?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

* How and who?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. How would you describe the current state of the team; are they happy or disappointed?

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* Why?

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1. Would you advise other community members to participate in this project in the future?

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* Why?

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Would you help another community member with building their house in a future project?

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Questionnaire Consent Form

Research investigator: Ir. Arch. M. Smits PhD candidate

We don’t anticipate that there are any risks associated with your participation, but you have the right to stop the questionnaire or withdraw from the research at any time.

Thank you for agreeing to be questioned as part of the above research project. Ethical procedures for academic research undertaken from Dutch institutions require that the questioned explicitly agree to being questioned and how the information contained in their questionnaire will be used. This consent form is necessary for us to ensure that you understand the purpose of your involvement and that you agree to the conditions of your participation. Please therefore read the information below and then sign this form to certify that you approve the following:

* the questionnaire will be recorded and a transcript will be produced
* you will be sent the transcript and given the opportunity to correct any factual errors
* the transcript of the questionnaire will be analysed by (Michiel Smits) as research investigator
* access to the questionnaire transcript will be limited to (Michiel Smits) and academic colleagues and researchers with whom he might collaborate as part of the research process
* any summary questionnaire content, or direct quotations from the questionnaire, that are made available through academic publication or other academic outlets will be anonymized so that you cannot be identified, and care will be taken to ensure that other information in the questionnaire that could identify yourself is not revealed
* the actual recording will be kept for valorisation purpose only
* any variation of the conditions above will only occur with your further explicit approval

Agreeing to this form I confirm that;

1. I am voluntarily taking part in this project. I understand that I don’t have to take part, and I can stop the questionnaire at any time;
2. The transcribed questionnaire or extracts from it may be used as described above;
3. I have read the Information sheet;
4. I don’t expect to receive any benefit or payment for my participation;
5. I can request a copy of the transcript of my questionnaire and may make edits I feel necessary to ensure the effectiveness of any agreement made about confidentiality;
6. I have been able to ask any questions I might have, and I understand that I am free to contact the researcher with any questions I may have in the future.

If you have any further questions or concerns about this study, please contact:

Name of researcher: Michiel Smits

E-mail: [m.w.m.smits@tudelft.nl](mailto:m.w.m.smits@tudelft.nl)

Phone number: 070 091 81 46