**Baseline Interview Transcription Family 1**

Interviewee: Cleophas Soita [CS]

Interviewer: Michiel Smits [MS]

Observer: Beata Duda [BD]

Social worker: Geoffrey Ngeywa [GN]

MS: ...we haven't found out one yet. I'm going to conduct an interview with you to get to know your views on your housing situation, which is where we are right now. You are the first family that applied for this project. *[Laughing]* Living in the village of Famia. Sorry, Famia. *[CS: Yeah]*. Yeah, it's something... there was a typo. I'm just wondering if... Did we make the questions in this one?

CS: *[inaudible sound 00:35]* It doesn't matter.

MS: Yeah. And... And for the purpose of this research you have been given number 1. You're the first family... the first family. This interview is voluntary; it will take approximately 1 ½ - 2 hours *[CS: Okay]*, 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've written the questions down and printed them to be precise. Just like yesterday, I am sorry this might feel impersonal but it's essential to take the same interview with the other families, so that I can compare.

CS: Okay.

MS: Your family has applied for the rural housing studio project, which will help you to build a new house for your family. By signing the contract, which you have just handed over to me, you have committed your family to the project and you...and are 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 and aims at helping rural families to build houses... I had some words that were removed but... that aims at helping rural families to build houses which would increase the level of family's self-reliance, in other words, independence. Although, we are helping you to construct the new house, we intend to... to make you independent from external labor and help - NGOs - in this case, me. In this way, you'll be able to maintain, extend or replicate your house by yourself. To do so, I've written a book to instruct the engineers and the students that have been appointed to you, to advise you how to build a house by yourself. The outcomes of this research will directly influence your living situation. It, however, will not directly influence the community. As we spoke about yesterday freely, we sure hope that it somehow will benefit the community but for now our main target is to make sure that you get a house.

CS: Yeah.

MS: This interview is meant to understand how did you build your house, to what extent you do it yourself, or you did it yourself, did you do it yourself... sorry... with the help of the community or will the help or with hired labor. We are curious if you will be more self-reliant with regard to your housing situation after the team leaves. So, we are going to... we are going to try to evaluate how self-reliant you are right now, self-sufficient, and we are going to compare the results with the new house after the project... to see if we were able to somehow make improvements, besides, a better new house but also to the level of *[inaudible 03:21]* you're able to maintain, to extend or replicate the house by yourself. *[CS: Okay]* So, you don't need us anymore, that's actually one of the most crucial factors.

CS: Okay.

MS: Do you understand the procedure?

CS: I think I have understand.

MS: Okay. This is just a... it was just an introduction to what is all about and how long the interview is going to take. You have any questions about what we're going to do?

CS: *[inaudible sound 03:48]*

MS: All right! But I have plenty of questions for you.

CS: There's no problem. I have...

*[Laughter]*

MS: P-l-e-n-t-y of questions.

CS: I'm ready to answer.

**Question 1,** MS: Oh, great! Alright! First question, do you own the house you live in, this house?

CS: Yes, I own. `

**Question 1a,** MS: Alright! Could you explain to me how it is financed? So how did you pay for this house? Did you need a loan? Did you have savings...?

CS: This house I... I caught cattle to build it myself *[MS: Ehem]* through my hard-working, I had to get money.  I assembled the materials and then I hired a fundi.

MS: A-ha. So you didn't need a loan?! Had no loan for this house?

CS: I did not... I didn't have any loan.

**Question 2,** MS: Okay. Does your house consist of one building or more?

CS: More.

MS: How many?

CS: Five rooms.

MS: And this is the main structure? So it's all one building?

CS: Yeah, one building.

MS: Okay. So, I'll write down one.

CS: Okay.

**Question 3,** MS: What is the size of the total building?

GN: In terms of?

BD: More or less.

MS: More or less, not precise, more or less.

CS: 6 by 15.

GN: 6 by *[inaudible 05:21]*, not 50.

MS: 6 by 12 feet.

CS: Yeah.

...

CS: Meters. That one is meters.

MS: Meters?

CS: Feet, feet.

MS: Oh, that would be really big.

*[Talking at the same time]*

**Question 4,** MS: I have no idea what is going on behind me but that would be really big. *[CS: Feet]* Haha. How many rooms does the house have?

CS: Five rooms.

**Question 5,** MS: 5 rooms. Is the house large enough for your whole family?

CS: It's not enough.

**Question 5b,** MS: Okay. Can you explain why it's not large enough?

CS: Because of the family. According to the family, boys need to have their own and the girls need to have their room. I need to have a dining room, sitting room and the visitors' room. Also, my bedroom. *[MS: Ehem]* Yeah, so I need about six rooms.

MS: So, you're lacking one?

CS: Yes, I'm lacking one.

MS: And... And which would be lacking?

CS: Dining room.

MS: Okay. *[To BD]* Should I continue the question on why the dining room, or not? What do you think?

BD: No.

**Question 6,** MS: No?! ... And plot... the house where we are in right now, do you own the plot?

CS: Yes, it's mine.

**Question 7,** MS: Okay. What materials did you use to build the house? And if possible try to explain from foundation floor, wall and roof, if possible.

CS: Okay.

MS: So the foundation?

CS: I used poles.

MS: Okay.

CS: Poles, then on the... I also used murram, then sand, cement, mud and of course some timber.

MS: And could you explain the murram, this is underneath the floor?

CS: Yeah.

MS: And the floor is made of concrete?

CS: No, no only murram... murram, cement -

MS: Ah, it has a finish on top.

GN: Nail.

CS: Nail

MS: So mortar?

GN: Murram.

MS: Yeah?!

GN: Mixture of cement and the sand. *[CS: repeating the same exact words]*

BD: Ehem.

GN: Then a final... nail.

CS: Nail.

GN: The cement.

MS: And nail is cement, right?

CS: Yeah.

MS: And is there any steel in the...

CS: No, no. I didn't use any steel.

MS: Okay. This is about floor. And what about the walls?

CS: The walls in mud.

MS: Walls... Any specific about the mud? About the mixture of the mud? Is it just one soil? Did you get the soil here, or..?

CS: I bought soil from Chepchoina scheme.

MS: A-ha.

CS: Yeah. Transported the soil.

MS: And... Okay. I guess we're going to details later on.

BD: Yeah.

MS: So, the... the walls are made of soil, also the posts, I guess.

CS: Yeah, the posts.

MS: Okay. And yeah, is there any other material in the walls?

CS: No, no.

MS: Like branches?

CS: Oh, those are branches. We use branches to make... to make form the mud.

BD: Okay.

MS: Ehem.

CS: Yeah.

MS: How did you... that was a very good question of Geoffrey last round, how did you connect the branches to the posts?

CS: I used the nail.

MS: Nail.

BD: The roof?

MS: The roof?! Yeah.

CS: These are trusses *[MS: Ehem]* made of poles from trees.

MS: And the roof is made of mabati?!

CS: Yeah.

MS: Is this corrugated mabati?

CS: No, this is simba mabati.

MS: A-ha, simba mabati. Any fini-... The doors and the windows are all..?

CS: Made up of wood.

MS: What type of wood?

CS: This is soft wood.

MS: Ah, Cyprus.

CS: Yeah, Cyprus.

MS: And is there other finishes in or outside on the walls?

CS: Nothing, no.

GN: As in after putting the mud. Is there proper finishing of maybe cow dung or maybe cement or what?

CS: Oh, we used the same mud to smooth... yeah.

MS: Okay.

CS: Yeah.

**Question 8a,** MS: Alright! How would you describe that the iron sheet in the house behaves when it rains really hard, when you have a big shower?

CS: It makes a lot of noise but it's not leak. It does not leak. Noisy.

MS: You see, with him I don't even have to explain.

*[Laugher]*

GN: Ahead of you.

MS: It's great. Yeah.

BD: It's going to take way shorter.

MS: It's going to go a lot faster.

*[Laughing]*

**Question 8b,** MS: What's the temperature inside during the midday, so let's say during noon under the iron-sheet roof?

CS: The temperature is... it is hot when there is sun. *[MS: Ehem]* I think the problem is the posts were short than expected. This house needs to be raised up to control heat.

GN: It is few feet.

CS: Yeah. It's five feet. And that's how... I tried to regulate the heat.

GN: By digging.

*[Laugher]*

GN: Discovering is a bit...

*[Laugher]*

**Question 8c,** MS: How much did this iron-sheet roof cost? So, how much did you... Do you remember how much you paid per sheet?

CS: Uhm, by then the cost of one was 450. [*Kenyan shilling - KsH]*

MS: Okay. Do you remember how many they were?

CS: Sixteen plus eight that is twenty-four plus six, thirty.

MS: Thirty. That's a big roof.

BD: Ehem.

**Question 8d,** MS: Do you consider this expensive for the roof?

CS: Yeah, it is. It was expensive but I just felt comfortable because I was in need of it.

MS: I understand.

CS: Because it was necessity. I didn't feel like being expensive too.

**Question 8d1,** MS: Okay. Do you know if there are any cheaper alternatives instead of mabati?

CS: According to...

*[Interruption in the background]*

MS: Good afternoon.

XX: Hi!

CS: According to modern life of today, I think... it is very cheap. According to me right now... because this is the cheapest material now. *[MS: Ehem]* Because if you go to gall sheet, gall sheet is very expensive. simba mabati is cheap, cheaper than gall sheet. So we go for simba mabati because is cheap. Yeah.

MS: Are there any other materials besides mabati you could use that are cheaper then...

CS: I don’t think there is...

**Question 9,** MS: No? Uhm. If I ask you why did you choose the iron sheet for the simba mabati for this roof, what would be your answer? You already kind of give somehow what the answer is but what would be the main reason why you chose these for the roof?

CS: The main reason, it was available at the market.

**Question 10,** MS: Uhm, yeah, okay, uhm *[discussion with BD: Tennise was referring to everything that was explained by seven, right?!].* So on the questions ten; these are all about the materials that you mentioned before. Uhm, so are the materials that you used for this house locally available? This means if they are on walking distance available. So if we would go through the materials, uhm, that you mentioned, the posts for instance.

CS: Posts are locally available.

MS: Okay.

BD: Mud?

CS: Locally.

MS: Yeah, you bought at Chepchoina right? The mud, the soil?

CS: Uhm, mud... at Checphoina scheme...

GN: Pokot.

CS: Checphoina scheme.

GN: Cause you've been *[inaudible 15:16]*.

CS: Yeah, yeah, roads are.

MS: A-ha, this soil you used inside the floor?

CS: No, no, sand, sand for the floor, I took it from Katkoma.

MS: Okay, and the soil for the walls?

CS: Yes, also from Checphoina scheme, from eruption.

MS: Okay. Cement?

CS: The cement I put it from Kitale.

MS: From Kitale?

Cs: Yeah, that one is not local.

MS: So that is not local, no?!

CS: Iron sheet plus nails plus cement are not local.

BD: And murram?

MS: Murram, yeah.

CS: Murram, I took it from ADC farm Japata ADC.

MS: Japata ADC?!

CS: Yeah.

GN: *[inaudible 16:06]*

MS: Ah, yeah, sure, yeah. What about the doors and windows - were they locally available?

CS: Timber, I bought from Chepchoina market.

MS: Okay, uhm, did you have to pay for all those materials? Or were there other ways of collecting/acquiring these materials?

CS: I paid for most of them. Yeah.

**Question 10a,** MS: And... So which materials did you not have to pay for? Which one were you able to collect/acquire without payment?

CS: I think all of them; because at the time when I was producing there were no trees here it was just a plain land. I was forced to buy. So, everything I was forced to buy.

MS: So, even the branches in the walls?

CS: Yes, also the branches I bought.

MS: So, everything.

CS: Everything.

GN: The area was still very new.

MS: Okay, uhm, I think question eleven is covered.

BD: No, but did you bring materials yourself.

**Question 10b,** MS: A yes, sorry, uhm, did you bring these materials yourself or did you hire somebody to bring them in for you?

CS: I hired for transport.

MS: Because the cement and the nails are from Kitale and the roofing sheets. Somebody transported them for you.

CS: Yeah.

MS: And murram and posts?

CS: Also, I hired someone to bring them for me.

MS: Okay.

BD: Yes, eleven you can skip.

**Question 12,** MS: Twelve, if I would ask you if these materials are expensive or cheap please answer by using the following scale on the next page on the top. You see, very cheap, cheap, affordable, expensive or very expensive. It is just kind of a feeling that you have, like you look at that the money you had at that time and you already kind of expressed how you felt about, how you financed the house, uhm, but for instance the mabati, the nails and the cement from Kitale. Would you consider those to be very cheap, cheap, affordable, expensive or very expensive?

CS: I think they were as I was collecting in bits.

BD: And this was for mabati and nails?

MS: Yeah, and cement. Do you feel like the nails is the same as for the mabati?

CS: No, no.

MS: So the mabati, do you consider this to be an expensive material?

CS: Yeah, mabati was expensive.

MS: And -

CS: Before I started building this house, I started with poles. First of all I collected poles.

MS: Were those cheap, very cheap, affordable, expensive or very expensive?

CS: Poles were affordable, because I was paying one 40 shillings.

MS: Ah, okay. *[Chuckle]*

GN: Now one is 120.

MS: I remember... Let's not go there, yeah, so the poles?

CS: The poles, I went to buy the mabati, I brought. So, -

MS: And did you find them expensive or very expensive, the mabati?

CS: I think at that particularly time it was slightly expensive, because of five; we needed five to go on. I was forced to buy because it was neat.

MS: So expensive or very expensive?

CS: Expensive not very expensive. Expensive.

MS: Just to be sure. Okay. Please continue, you were going through the materials.

CS: Yeah. So after I put mabati, you see also at the time when I put mabati I also bought nails. After that I had to start with this local mud. After bringing all materials I hired a fundi and we start constructing, we constructed, we finished, we used this local mud.

MS: Ehem. Is this mud very cheap, cheap?

CS: I used this local one before going outside according to the capital in which I was having. So the funds could not allow me to go and buy mud from outside. So I used this one and I stayed for almost five years, then I decided to go to change; because this mud of ours was falling every time. According to us this loam soil is not good for making mud walls, to make a house. So it forced me to bring mud from Checphoina.

MS: And the mud that you had in the first four-five years, how expensive was that?

CS: It was not expensive, but it was locally acquired.

MS: And it was free?

CS: Yeah, it was free.

MS: And the soil that you bought later on, uhm, would you consider this to be cheap, affordable, expensive or very expensive?

CS: It was affordable as one trip I was paying 3500 per trip and I used four trips, yeah.

MS: Okay, uhm.

BD: We have still murram, sand and nails.

MS: And nails, yeah. So, the murram?

CS: Murram... after staying for those five years where I went into bring murram.

GN: So for five years you stayed into dusty...

CS: Yes, so I went and brought murram. After murram -

MS: Do you consider this to be very cheap, affordable or expensive, very expensive?

CS: Murram was affordable. Yeah. Cement was not affordable as it was not locally acquired.

GN: Nails?

CS: Nails also were not locally acquired.

MS: Was it expensive or affordable?

CS: Affordable. You cannot buy mabati expensive and you refuse to *[inaudible 23:54]*

MS: *[Chuckle]* Yeah, that’s understandable. And then we are left with the roofing.

BD: Yeah, the timber/poles.

CS: Yeah, poles.

MS: Yeah, the poles.

CS: I think at the time I was buying poles, is where I bought also these trusses. I collected at the same time.

GN: Poles and trusses at the same place.

MS: Affordable, how about the doors? The Cyprus for the windows and the doors?

CS: They were pretty expensive because I bought, I had to hire a fundi to look for timbers, so that he makes wood.

MS: I understand, okay. So, uhm, the next questions will be in building your house, did you have help in building your house?

**Question 13,** BD: Did you build your house yourself?

MS: Ah, sorry yeah. Did you build your house yourself? Please explain per phase of the house, foundation, floor...

CS: Please, a minute.

MS: Sure.

CS: Okay, continue.

MS: If you could explain the phase or part of the house if you built it yourself?

CS: Okay, this time or?

MS: Yeah, for this house.

CS: Okay.

MS: So the poles, did you build this yourself? Did you put them in the sand, did you take the measurement?

CS: There is a fundi/technician who helped me.

MS: Okay, and the floor?

CS: Also technician.

MS: And the walls?

CS: Myself.

MS: And the roof?

CS: Fundi, expert.

MS & BD: Doors and windows?

CS: Expert.

**Question 13a,** MS: Yeah, you already explained that. So, the question is, did you have help during the...?

CS: There is no one who assisted me, the help which I had was from my spouse.

MS: Okay.

CS: Or that is not help?

MS: Oh, that's help. Absolutely.

**Question 13e,** BD: And from any family, relatives or community?

CS: No.

BD: No.

MS: I am surprised by that.

CS: You see I stay away from the community; the community I stay away from the family; you see I was sponsored somewhere else and I moved away from my indigenous place to this place. The community was assisting me to make mud and some times the community assisted me digging holes for posts. Yeah, that is where the community came in.

MS: So there was some help?

CS: Yeah.

GN: For technical...

CS: Yeah.

MS: With the walls also maybe?

CS: Putting mud also the community assisted.

**Question 13d,** MS: So a, b, c is clear, right? [To BD]. So d, do you consider the help of the community to be small or substantial in building the house?

CS: It was moderate.

MS: Sorry. Moderate?

CS: Yeah.

BD: The next we can skip. Are they compensated?

**Question 13g,** MS: So g, that is thirteen g, did the community members help you for free or were they compensated?

CS: They were compensated.

**Question 13g1,** MS: And in what form were they compensated?

CS: I paid in cash.

MS: Sorry.

CS: I paid in cash.

MS: And did you also offer food in return?

CS: At the time we were working?

MS: Ehem.

CS: Sometimes, but not always. When food is ready then they eat, if there is no food then not.

*[Laugher]*

MS: Did any of the people that helped you, did you help them in return?

CS: No no no, it was just locally.

**Question 13h,** MS: [question] h: Did you hire labor? Well, you were quite specific about it. So to go through it, you said that you hired fundis for the poles?

CS: Yeah.

MS: For the floor?

CS: Yeah.

MS: For roof and the doors and windows?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 13i,** MS: Okay. Were the workers for all or for some of the work? Looking at what you answered it was for most of the work you had fundis.

CS: Pardon?

MS: So, were the workers for all or for some of the work on the house?

CS: I think I had one fundi called [name: Fry] who did the whole work.

MS: Would you consider he did most of the house or just a little bit?

CS: Most of the work was done by him. Yeah.

**Question 13j,** MS: Why did you hire? Why did you hire the fundi?

CS: I didn’t have experience.

**Question 13j1,** MS: Okay. Uhm, would you have build the house yourself if you would have known how to build it?

CS: It was not my hope. It was not my interest.

MS: But if you would have the knowledge how to build this house, would you have preferred to build it yourself?

CS: Yeah, I could have done.

**Question 14,** MS: Uhm, to what extent do you have the knowledge to build this house if you would say, right now?

CS: I think measuring and also digging posts, placing it up, roofing as I have small experience about it.

**Question 15,** MS: Small. The things that you did do yourself, the walls in this case, how and when were you trained to build this way? Where did you learn how to make the walls? It is kind of a weird question maybe [laughing], so when you fill up the walls and you smoothen them out, where did you learn this skill?

CS: From my parents, as I was looking at how they were doing when I was young and also the community.

**Question 16,** MS: Uhm, could you extend or duplicate the house by yourself without help? This house?

CS: No, no.

**Question 17,** MS: Uhm, did you help any other community member in this community in constructing their house? Even if unskilled or it doesn’t matter, just helping.

CS: I didn’t have time because of commitment.

**Question 18,** MS: Uhm, are you satisfied with this house?

CS: No.

**Question 18c,** MS: What don’t you like about the house?

CS: I think according to me...

MS: That’s why we are here.

CS: I need a decent house.

MS: Decent.

CS: Yes, a decent house.

**Question 18c1,** MS: What do you perceive as a decent house? Let me change that question, what is not decent about this house?

CS: I think, first of all this house is very short, I need a house that has been raised up. Also, I need a house that is specious, this one is not specious. It doesn’t accommodate all of us. I think, it is enough.

*[Laugher]*

**Question 18c2,** MS: I think that you already answered c. Uhm, what, instead of building a new house, what could you change to make this house more likable? What would you change?

CS: It would be very expensive to raise this house up.

MS: You would raise it up?

CS: Yeah, it would be very...

MS: But you say it's expensive.

CS: Yeah.

MS: It is just to understand you reasoning, it's not like we're are saying we’re going to do this, it is just to understand what you perceive as an improvement and what you would have done differently if given the chance. So, you would raise it up?

CS: Yeah.

MS: You would raise the roof, anything else?

CS: You know when I entered here, first of all, I didn’t do planning very well in this compound, so this time I can do planning and see where I can situate it; so that the compound can also accommodate most of us.

MS: Uhm, anything about the appearance of the house or any...?

BD: Or any other elements?

MS: Yeah, any other elements that you add or anything to make it more likable, that you would like the house more?

CS: You see, there is electricity which we are soon going to get, so we have seen moving posts.

MS: Yeah, a lot of them.

CS: Yeah, so we need some house which can be fitted with electricity and cannot bring problems. You see, like this house it is not convenient to download electricity inside, it can be staying with fear, because rats -

MS: Yeah, eat the wiring.

CS: So, that’s the main reason. Because has started to change in this area, so we can start moving according to the changes of the community life. It is hard for me to stay behind when others are moving forward.

**Question 19,** MS: That would be great. What does your house have in common with other houses in the community? You would say?

CS: Pardon?

MS: What does your house have in common, so what other...?

CS: Houses?

MS: Yeah.

GN: Similarities between your house and your neighbors' houses?

CS: Iron sheet roof, wooden doors and windows, mud walls, sand/cement and murram down in the floor.

MS: Maybe something about shape or size?

CS: I think this is not similar.

*[CS speaks on the phone]*

CS: So we continue?

**Question 20,** MS: Did this house already need repair? This house is quite old; you built it when you were a bit younger. *[Chuckle]* Did it have many repairs?

CS: I didn’t do repairs so many times.

**Question 21,** MS: Like on average how often would you say?

CS: After five years, I removed the mud walls that were here. After seven years also I did minor repairs. Yeah.

**Question 22,** MS: And what do you needed to repair? So after five years you had to repair the walls and...

CS: After seven years also I had to repair the walls again. Because the walls are not permanent, so when it rains it makes the soil to drop down or to fall.

MS: And are there any other things that needed repairs over the years?

CS: There were none.

MS: Alright, uhm, I already kind of asked how frequently you had to repair the house, so you said after five and seven years you had to repair the house. Where that in between now and seven years of age of the house any repairs done?

CS: No

**Question 22a,** MS: Uhm, what would you consider which is the component that needs the most repairs in the house? I know I am repeating sometimes, but uhm...

CS: Sometimes it needs repair; you are forced to repair, where sometimes when the wall have fallen you need to re-mud.

MS: Re-patch.

CS: Yeah.

**Question 22b,** MS: What type of those repairs do you do yourself?

CS: I normally do myself.

**Question 22c,** MS: Uhm, which type of repairs can’t you do yourself?

CS: Like roofing, I cannot do myself when the iron sheets are laid on the top, that one I need a fundi to help.

MS: And the floors or...?

CS: Also floor, I need an expert.

MS: Doors or windows?

CS: Windows also I need an expert, plus doors.

MS: Uhm, this is kind of a repetition.

BD: Yeah.

**Question 23b,** MS: 23. We go to 'b' *[question]*. 23b. Could you still afford the repairs to this house if your income gets smaller.

CS: I will not afford it.

MS: So, even the walls, if they need repair?

CS: I will afford minor things to repair like walls. But major things can bring problems to me if I'm forced to repair.

MS: Such as?

CS: Major things like roofing. Yeah.

**Question 23c,** MS: And you would need to hire somebody?

CS: Yeah, I would need to hire somebody.

**Question 23d,** MS: And would you be able to afford that?

CS: Hmm...

MS: So, if your income gets smaller, if you would still be able to hire somebody to fix your roof?

CS: Even though my income is small, because I don’t have the experience, I still have to hire somebody.

MS: I think that the rest does not...

BD: 24.

**Question 24,** MS: Yeah. Just a general estimation of the house, how much would you say that this house cost to build?

CS: 120.000.

MS: Sorry? How much?

CS: It almost cost 120.000.

MS: That includes all the repairs?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 25,** MS: Would you have preferred to build your house differently at that time? Given the option, if you preferred to build it differently at that time?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 26,** MS: What would you have done differently?

CS: First of all, I would have looked for the plan of the house.

MS: So the design, yeah.

CS: Then plan according to the family. Uhm, build it in a modern way.

MS: What do you mean by that?

CS: Uhm, probably I can make sure that the kitchen is inside the house. The bathroom/the toilet, the living room it is a self-contained house. Yeah, if I could have been in the position. Self-contained house.

**Question 27a,** MS: Why didn’t you build your house like that?

CS: To minimize the compound, because if I built the kitchen outside the compound the toilet outside bathroom outside, I need more land. So, if I just want to build the compound on the land I must put the things together so that the land can be used to any activities.

MS: Ehem. And also this modern way of house you would have preferred. Were there also different materials you would have preferred to use?

CS: Yeah.

MS: Which would they be?

CS: Bricks, sand, timber, blocks.

MS: Blocks? What type of blocks do you mean?

CS: Uhm.

GN: Because you have different block and stones.

CS: It can be like normal stones.

MS: Instead of brick?

CS: Yeah.

MS: Any type of finishes that you would have preferred in this house?

CS: Cementing and painting.

**Question 27,** MS: When you think of all these materials and the design and the plan and compound, what would you say that was the main reason that you didn’t build your house in that way? What was your main reason at that time to build that house?

CS: Finance was a problem and I just built the house because people they stay in the house, yeah. I just wanted a house.

MS: I understand.

CS: I didn’t know there is a plan, which can make somebody which can build in a certain compound. It is suppose to be done. So this house was done without a plan. You see, I was just thinking of extending this one, I thought it would be a veranda. But I changed it into a sitting room.

MS: Interesting and it became a part of the house?

CS: Yeah.

MS: Lacking space.

GN: Initially it supposes to be a veranda.

MS: Uhm, if you say that you didn’t have sufficient funds to build that house at that time. What would you say that causes such a high price for the house? What is the most important reason why it is so expensive?

CS: First of all, I thought of hiring a fundi.

MS: Yeah.

CS: After that, materials... most of materials were not local.

MS: That also includes that you had to pay for transport?

CS: Yeah, yeah.

**Question 28,** MS: Okay, uhm, did you have any knowledge how to build all the parts of this house yourself?

CS: I didn’t know.

**Question 28b,** MS: Is there anybody in the community that could teach you how to build that house that you wanted for free? So, was there somebody around that could have taught you how to build that house for free?

CS: No.

**Question 28c,** MS: Or is it so complicated, that you need to hire skilled labors/ fundis to do it for you?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 29,** MS: Would you prefer to build a house that you have sufficient building knowledge of? Would you prefer to build a house that you know how to build?

CS: I think, I have.

**Question 30,** MS: Would you prefer to build the house by yourself and your community? Or would you prefer to hire labor?

CS: I prefer to use my community plus family members.

**Question 30a,** MS: Do you think that you need the knowledge/help of the engineers/ students in that process?

CS: Yes.

**Question 30b,** MS: For which aspects would you need the knowledge and help of the engineer/student, do you think?

CS: First of all have the plan, and then direct me on ground breaking, and most of all techniques that are needed to make the house.

GN: Skills.

**Question 31,** MS: Seems that we offer the right thing. Would you consider alternative materials to mabati/bricks that you liked, that are cheaper but that are similar in characteristics. Just as durable but with the same characteristics but they are cheaper, would you consider those?

CS: I think, I consider those I can get locally and others that are cheap. From outside most things I would take into consideration so that I do my work efficiently.

**Question 32,** MS: Okay, would you consider a building method that is closer to the building method you have right now? Would you consider that at all? So for instance, you did the walls yourself, would you consider a building method that is similar or closer to what you know?

CS: I think according to the life of know things are changing and we need to have experienced people to direct you to what you are suppose to do.

MS: Would you consider something easier so that you can do it yourself? Or do you consider complicated things that you need help?

CS: I think I need to be assisted to something I know very well that, according to the people that now live a modern life some things are complicated so we need help so that we can overcome those complications.

**Question 33,** MS: Would you be interested to learn how to build the materials/methods yourself?

CS: Yes.

**Question 33a,** MS: Why is that?

CS: Because I just need to benefit from the exercise. I need to benefit from the exercise and after the exercise I also need to assist more.

MS: Assist where?

CS: Assist my family members and community at large.

MS: *[sigh of relief]*

GN: Download to others.

**Question 34,** MS: Makes me very happy. Okay, this was all about this house and the past house. All the following questions are about the house that you desire. Your future house. Which parts/elements of this house would you like to use in the new house? So it can be a part or a material. Whatever you prefer, it is not literal it's just anything you like about this house.

GN: You pull out the thing and…

MS: Just the things you like about this house.

CS: Iron sheets, cement plus sand and the murram.

MS: Ehem. And this porch, it's not a porch anymore. You were talking about the porch. I never heard somebody specifically talk about he wanted a porch in front of the house. Is it something you would like to take to the new house?

CS: Yes, yes. Even this house has a bathroom.

MS: And you would also like to take this?

CS: Yeah.

MS: Anything else?

CS: I think, those are the things, wooden door but not all.

MS: Some are old.

CS: Yeah.

**Question 35,** MS: This question is similar to what you thought in the past but this is really about the now. So you had... we have asked you questions if you have had the option how you would have liked in the past, these questions now are about what you would prefer right now. So out of what materials would you like to build the new house? If you could specify from foundation floor, wall, roof and finishes. So, which materials would you like to build the house from?

CS: Bricks.

BD: What type of bricks?

CS: 10 by 6 in measurement.

MS: Okay, specific. *[Chuckle]*

BD: What material?

MS: Yeah, are they stone cut, are they burned bricks?

BD: Or cement?

GN: Compressed blocks?

CS: Compressed and burned.

MS: So, that’s for the walls. And for the foundation what would you like?

CS: Foundation, uhm, hard cores, and also stones. I do not know which.

MS: I think I know, you mean the bigger blocks so you can build the floor on top. What would you make the floors out?

CS: The floor?! I think the floor would be made of murram plus cement and sand plus ballast.

MS: And the walls? You said bricks. Any finishes on the walls?

CS: I think, I would use sand and cement to smoothen the walls.

MS: Inside and outside?

CS: Yeah.

MS: And the roof?

CS: I would use timber. Softwood timber.

MS: And?

CS: And iron sheets.

MS: Alright. If you have any questions, you can always feel free. We are going almost in the [inaudible 58:01], but please feel free.

*[Discussion between GN and MS regarding the questions]*

MS: Could you explain -

BD: We are 35.

GN: 36.

BD: Almost 36.

**Question 35a,** MS: Yeah, 'a', 'b'. If you could explain a little bit why would you prefer hardcore and stones in the foundation.

CS: To make the house firm.

MS: Okay. Firm. And the murram, the cement/sand on the floor whether you prefer those?

CS: There are companies *[inaudible 58:38]* could be used in building. So, if you just want to build, you must use it. The house cannot stand without it.

MS: Okay, okay. The walls? So, by which do you prefer to use? Bricks and sand and cement for *[inaudible 58:56]* why do you prefer this type of wall?

CS: I just wanted the house to look smart.

MS: *[chuckle]*

GN: Smart, eh?!

MS: And the roof?

CS: Roof - I think I just use this local simba mabati, because of the price.

MS: You already -

CS: I just want to use something which is affordable.

MS: You are already adjusting the expectations.

*[Laugher]*

GN: Nice, eh?!

MS: Yeah.

CS: It's normal because of the -

MS: Not for everybody.

CS: *[inaudible 59:34]*

MS: *[laughing]*

CS: It is supposed to be that.

MS: It's not normal for everybody. I can assure you that. 36.

*[Phone ringing]*

**Question 36,** MS: 36. Do you have the knowledge how to build all the elements of this house that you just described yourself?

CS: No.

**Question 36b,** MS: To what extent do you have the knowledge to build in this way? So, do you have little, a bit, none? How would you exp-

GN: The range.

MS: The range of knowledge, the amount of knowledge to build this new house?

GN: Know how.

CS: It is a challenge.

*[Laugher]*

MS: Yeah. It's... It's just a feeling, not very specific.

GN: Like for example, the mixture of sand and cement?

CS: *[inaudible 01:00:33]*

MS: But also the setting of the house, putting mortar, masonry work, carpentry of the roof, etc. So, if you consider plastering the walls, how much knowledge do you think... would you consider -

CS: Very little.

GN: *[laughing]*

MS: It's good to be honest, eh?! It's good to be honest.

BD: It's very honest.

**Question 36c,** MS: Do you think that you would be able to learn all these skills within three months?

CS: I will try.

GN: *[chuckle]*

**Question 36d,** MS: Is there anybody in the community that could teach you those skills, all those skills for free?

CS: No.

**Question 36e,** MS: Or are they so complicated you would need to hire skilled labor to do it for you?

CS: Yes.

**Question 37,** MS: Could you extend or duplicate the house by yourself?

CS: No.

**Question 38,** MS: Would you prefer to build a house by yourself and your community or to hire labor?

CS: To hire.

MS: Yeah?!

CS: Yeah, to hire labor.

**Question 37b,** MS: Would you have enough money to by materials and hire the labor for such a house?

CS: No.

*[Someone whispering: he's honest then]*

MS: Uhm...

BD: No. 40.

MS: Oh, yeah. Sorry, that was a mistake. Uhm, ...

GN: Would you ask 39?

BD: We're skipping 39 because he already answered.

**Question 40&b,** MS: Yeah, that's somehow a glitch in our system. Uhm, 40. Are those locally available materials that you stated before, so are they... are you able to get them within walking distance? Or... oh yeah, or by using your own form of transport?

CS: I think I will hire transport for most of materials.

MS: So, you automatically answer the two questions.

GN: *[chuckle]*

MS: Right?! *[To BD]*

BD: Ehem.

**Question 41,** MS: Yeah. 41. Are those materials expensive? Generally speaking these materials - it's only about the materials - are those materials expensive or cheap; please answer using the following scale...

GN: Be honest.

MS: ...on the next page. So, are they very cheap, are they cheap, affordable, expensive or very expensive, you would say?

CS: I didn't think are expensive.

**Question 42,** MS: Would you be able to finance this house/this type of house?

CS: Yes, I would be.

**Question 42a,** MS: And how would you be able to finance? Is it from savings you have, or is it by taking a loan, or...?

CS: From my savings.

**Question 43,** MS: Uhm, would you want to build this house yourself?

CS: I need to be assisted.

MS: Okay. But if you are... If you would like to build your own house? Obviously you said 'I need some assistance', would you prefer to build it yourself?

CS: No. I need to be assisted.

**Question 43e,** MS: Okay. Clear. Uhm, would you need to hire labor for one or some of the jobs? Or all of it?

CS: I think, I have to... I need to hire.

MS: And is it -

GN: Different cause, cause you have *[inaudible 01:04:28],* we have building the wall and roofing. Do you have to hire all types of -

MS: For some or for one?

CS: No, no. Because I believe that the technician would start with the taking off the crown to the roofing, so when you reach below the roofing place, there is the carpentry who is supposed to do roofing. So, I need to have two technicians, one for roofing and the other one for the wall and the crown *[please double check from 01:04:41 regarding this answer].*

MS: Is that for some or for most of the work on the house?

CS: For some.

**Question 44,** MS: Some. 44. Would this house need a lot of repairing? This house that you have in mind, the one that you described? You think it's -

CS: No.

MS: Uhm...

BD: I think it is 45.

**Question 45,** MS: Ah, okay. Sorry. My bad. Uhm, how frequently, if there would be any repair on this house, how frequently would you need to repair the house?

CS: I think there will be no repairs. I'm building the house which is not... which is not a *[inaudible 01:05:56]* a house.

MS: Okay.

CS: *[inaudible 01:06:00]* the house you don't have to repair.

**Question 46,** MS: Okay. Uhm, which you consider materials or methods/building methods that are cheaper but they have the same characteristics, durability as your preferred materials that you just explained?

CS: According to me, the materials which I've chosen they are materials which are *[inaudible 01:06:24]*. I don't think there is cheaper material than that one.

MS: If they are there?

CS: I... I...

MS: If they are there. So if they would exist, would you consider it?

CS: I consider it.

**Question 47,** MS: Uhm, would you know how to build/maintain the house that you've described yourself?

CS: Hmm?

MS: So, if you have to rebuild or add a part to the new house -

GN: Extension maybe.

MS: ...would you be able to do this by yourself?

CS: Yeah. According to what we're going to do -

MS: This is according to the project, but what you have been describing this house were you hire labor, so masonry workers, carpenters... So, if we would not be there, you'll be building this new house and you want to make an attachment to the house, would you be able to do this by yourself?

CS: Yes.

MS: Are you sure? Because now for... I know it's a little bit confusing because you have all the rights to think 'okay, but I'm a part of this project' so that we're going to make sure that you're going to be able.

CS: I won't be able.

MS: Yeah, because in this scenario you would not get our help, you would do it by yourself. You would hire all the labor and the question is about... yeah, if you would be able to extend or maintain the house by yourself?

CS: No. Won't be able.

**Question 47c,** MS: Would you need to hire somebody to do it for you?

CS: Yes.

**Question 47d,** MS: Could you afford that?

CS: According to the need, I will afford it.

**Question 47e,** MS: Okay. Could you afford it if you would lose your income, if you would lose your job?

CS: No, I won't afford it. No.

**Question 48,** MS: Would you want to learn how to build/repair your desired house?

CS: Yes.

**Question 48a,** MS: Would you be willing to help construct/repair a house for one of the community members, to learn how to build?

CS: Yes.

**Question 48b,** MS: Would you be willing to help construct/repair a public building, a school, a hospital or orphanage in order to learn how to build?

CS: Yes.

**Question 49,** MS: Do you think that you will need help from a NGO after the project is finished? So, this is about your desired house? Am I wrong now? *[To BD]*

BD: Yeah, just about the house.

MS: Yeah, this is about your desired house - so, for instance, in case that you build this house and you need to make a repair but you lost your job, are you in need of support from an NGO, from a...?

CS: Consultation.

MS: Okay. Not an easy part.

GN: That's fast.

MS: The fast part.

GN: General information?

**Question 49,** MS: General information. What is your name?

CS: Cleopas Soita.

MS: What is the name of your wife?

CS: Stella.

MS: Stella?!

CS: Yeah.

MS: But two 'LL'-s.

CS: Yeah.

MS: Does she have a second name?

CS: Nakoha. *[01:10:08]*

*[Discussing about the spelling of the above mentioned name]*

**Question 51,** MS: What is your age, if I might ask?

CS: 44 years.

MS: 44. And Stella, how old is she?

CS: *[inaudible 01:10:32]*

MS: Sorry?

GN: 44. 44 - 44.

*[Laugher]*

**Question 52,** MS: Hey! That's nil. What is your occupation?

CS: Designed farm.

MS: Sorry?

CS: Designed farm. Small skill.

MS: And of Stella?

CS: The same.

BD: Equal family.

MS: You're equal.

CS: We do the same job.

MS: *[laughing]* But that's good. And -

CS: I have something small...

GN: Grocery kind of, eh? Kiosque?

CS: Kiosque, yeah.

MS: A-ha. Ah, yeah. At the Chepchoina market.

CS: Yeah.

MS: Small business. Sodas.

GN: Yeah?

MS: Right?!

GN: *[laughing]*

**Question 53,** MS: The names of your children.

CS: Mircy.

*[GN helping with the pronunciation]*

MS: Mircy.

CS: Brian.

MS: Brian.

CS: Brenda.

MS: Brenda.

CS: Faith.

MS: Faith.

CS: Meltresa.

MS: Meltresa... Mel-t-r-e-s-a.

GN: That was it. e-r..

MS: What are -

CS: That depends. I don't know if you can use in English. Yeah, that depends.

**Question 57,** GN: Yeah, he's keeping like extra *[inaudible 01:12:14]*

MS: Here? In the house?

GN and CS: Yeah.

MS: Yeah?! They're relatives or...?

CS: They are relatives.

MS: A-ha. Relatives to you or to Stella?

CS: To Stella.

MS: Relatives...Now I start to understand why you are a little bit congested, yes.

GN: *[laughing]*

**Question 57a,** CS: Sharon, Daniel...

MS: Sorry?

CS: Daniel.

MS: Daniel.

GN: *[inaudible 01:12:48]*

CS: And Gideon.

MS: Gideon. G?

CS: Gideon.

MS: Yeah. Gideon. Ehem.

CS: They're enough.

MS: *[laughing]* You think so? I'm pretty sure that's enough. That's a list. How old is Mercy?

CS: I think she...

MS: Difficult questions here? *[Laughing]*

CS: 1997.

BD: That's 20.

MS: Brian?

CS: Brian - 1999.

MS: Brenda?

CS: 2002.

MS: Okay. Faith?

CS: 2004.

MS: Meltresa?

CS: 2011.

MS: Late one.

CS: Yeah.

MS: Do you know/have any chance the age of Sharon?

CS: Sharon - she was born in 2008.

MS: And Daniel?

CS: Daniel - 1995.

MS: This is almost impressive. Gideon? That you would know this.

CS: Gideon was born in 2014.

GN: 2014, 3 years.

**Question 56,** MS: Ah. Recently. The occupation of the children? So Mircy is 2 years old. Is she

CS: She's still in college.

MS: College. And Brian?

CS: Secondary school.

MS: And Brena?

CS: Secondary school.

MS: And Faith?

CS: Grade 1.

MS: Meltresa also primary?

CS: Baby.

MS: Sorry?

CS: Baby.

MS: Oh, 2011.

CS: 20-

GN: Pre-unit.

CS: Next year she'll be.

MS: Ah okay. Baby it is, fine with me. Sharon?

CS: Sharon is '96.

MS: That's prime.

CS: Ehem.

MS: Daniel?

CS: Daniel...

MS: He's older eh? College or not? Is he working?

CS: Ground boy.

MS: Ground boy?

CS: Ehem.

MS: Just wondering what that is. Ground boy. Does he live in the ground?

*[Laugher]*

CS: He takes care of the comb.

GN: Gardener.

CS: Gardener.

MS: A-ha. Gardener. And Gideon, she is? Oh, too young. Never mind. ... Yeah, 57 we already had.

BD: 58.

MS: Yeah, 58. Oh yeah. Do you have an income at this moment? So, you share your job with Stella?

CS: Yeah.

MS: You do it together?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 58,** MS: So, you have an income, generating from these activities?

CS: Yeah, we have an income from farming and also that small business.

**Question 59,** MS: Yes. Farming and business. And how much would you say is your shared income per month?

CS: Thirty thousand *[30,000].*

**Question 60,** MS: Good business. Is it stable or does it fluctuates?

CS: It fluctuates, so no money sometimes from customers and there's no ready income.

**Question 60b,** MS: Does it fluctuate seasonally or...? Is it like with every season, so you would say like in the wet -

CS: Seasonally.

MS: Okay.

GN: In December business comes.

MS: Business comes?

CS: Yeah.

GN: It comes good in Christmas and...

**Question 61,** MS: A-ha. And when business is good, 30,000 is the income. And when the business is poor this is around -

GN: Highest, lowest?

CS: When the business is low, the income becomes like 20,000-15,000. It drops.

MS: Oh, still not bad. Not bad. Substantial I would say.

CS: Yeah.

MS: Ah...

BD: 62 now.

**Question 62&a,** MS: Yeah. Do you own a mean of transport? So, bicycle, motorbike, donkey?

CS: There is a bicycle.

MS: One?

CS: Two [2].

**Question 63,** MS: 2. Do you have a shamba?

CS: Yes.

MS: Well, you're farming so... What is the size of this shamba?

CS: 2 acres.

MS: Too big. That's also explains -

CS: I'm staying in 2 acres, 1.5 but there's others outside. I have in total, like in total I'm owning 8 acres.

MS: 8?

CS: Yeah.

MS: *[whistle]*

CS: It's not here -

MS: No, no. I understand.

CS: Recommended.

MS: Okay. So, the plot, this plot is included in this 8 acre?

CS: Yes.

MS: Ehem. But this plot is where you want to build the new house?

CS: Yes.

**Question 64,** MS: Okay. Uhm, the rest, besides this plot, which size of acre do you own? Or you don't own them? The shambas, sorry.

CS: The size of the plot?

MS: No, no. If you owned those lands, if they're yours, you don't rent them or?

CS: Ah, just own. I don't rent.

BD: Okay.

CS: Those are personal assets.

GN: *[laughing]*

CS: Permanent assets.

MS: WOW! I've never heard that before here. That's -

CS: *[inaudible 01:19:28]*

**Question 65,** MS: No, that's such a big amount of land. It's a lot, eh?! Yeah, and the question was, does it generate income? But as you are farming, this is like besides the small business in Chipchoina, your main source of income, the farming.

CS: Yeah.

MS: Alright. Alright, sir. If you agree... Do you have any questions or remarks that you would like to make?

CS: Remarks?! I don't have really.

MS: Okay. So, you understand that we needed to ask you all these questions to understand everything about this house, the past or your desired, or what you desire now, so we better understand what you want and how this changed maybe over time.

CS: I've done this thing, because you cannot call somewhere to say something without asking and discussing to know what is in it. So, I'm getting it.

MS: And this is only for the research. Can you imagine?! You do not one to know what is coming from *[inaudible 01:20:55]*

*[Laugher]*

BD: From the university to all over.

*[Laugher]*

MS: And I'm really warning you. At some point, you will think, okay maybe we should start actually building something. Maybe you are over asking at some point.

CS: Ehem.

MS: Because we are from a completely different country context - socially, culturally. So, we really need to understand properly before we can make any plan or...

CS: That's a good idea, and I think to my side I just cooperated with you the way you has just asked discussing, and you are open and I'm open and I believe that and last we shall do something which will be constructive.

MS: You should become, like a village elder.

GN: Yeah. *[Laughing]*

*[Laugher]*

MS: I meant it in the serious way.

BD: We need a signature.

MS: Yeah. I thought of on this one... cause... It's just that you were able to... that you understand everything, that you were able to ask all the questions.

CS: Where do I sign?

MS: Just here.

GN: I'm going to sign. I've been so busy with the mobility to make sure I got the right people...

MS: And we are also just getting started with the community, eh?!