

Household Selection

1. What do we understand by “a household”?

A household is a **dwelling in which members live permanently and have a cooking facility** (such as a stove, a fire in the courtyard, etc.) In the case of communal living where multiple families live in an apartment, each family sharing one room and a common cooking facility, it would be important to use the notion of a cooking pot to determine households. That is, members who share food cooked from a common pot or share from the same budget.

A **dwelling unit** is a living quarter for one household, whether it is a single house, an apartment in a house or a block of flats, staff quarters in a house, hospital or a school (excluding students' dormitories), a simple room, etc. Knowing this definition is crucial to household selection. This also means people living in the institutionalized population such as students living in dormitories, prisoners, hospital patients, etc. would not be surveyed. However, households can still be associated with these institutions where doctors (and their families) might be living within the hospital premises or on its grounds, janitorial staff or guards living in or on the grounds of prisons, etc.

2. Household Selection

At the start of fieldwork and when you are in the community that was selected for this research, team leaders need to identify a starting point for the enumerators. The starting point is a permanent and easily identifiable/traceable structure that is not a household. Good starting points are:

- Mosque
- Marketplace
- School
- Hospital
- Government/community building

Each enumerator should have a starting point assigned to them. From there, enumerators **will follow the following set of rules to determine which households to visit** for the interview:

1. When the enumerator is at the starting point, he or she needs to stand with his or her back to the entrance of the starting point. If there are multiple entrances, the enumerator will choose the main entrance. The enumerator will then start walking to the right and start counting households. **The enumerator will attempt to take the interview at the third household counted.**

Due to limited time, each household will only be visited once. If there is nobody available at the household or if the members of the household refuse to participate in the interview, the enumerator will have to find a substitution household to take the interview.

The enumerator is under no circumstance allowed to deviate from the random walk procedure. The team leader will need to control carefully if enumerators follow the procedure. **If the random walk procedure is not followed closely, this will impact the quality of data and have serious consequences for the degree to which the data represents the entire population.**

2. If the enumerator is able to conduct the interview at the household, he or she will follow the same rules again for the second interview: walk to the right and count three households.





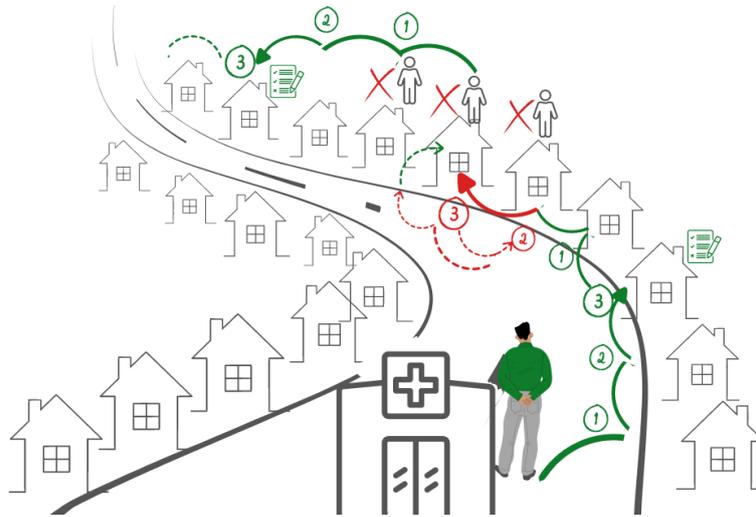
3. If the enumerator is unable to conduct the interview, he or she will attempt the interview with a substitution household. The first substitution household is directly to the right of the main household.



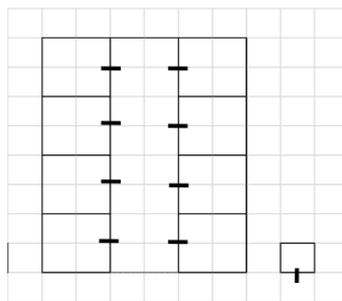
4. If for some reason again the interview is not successful, the enumerator will try to conduct the interview at the household directly left from the main household.



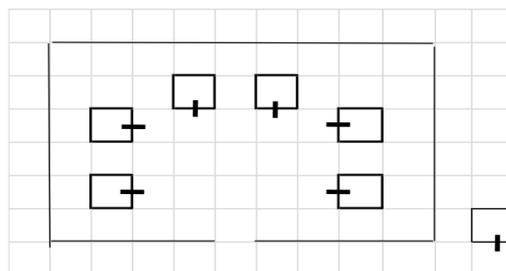
5. If the enumerator is unsuccessful at both substitution households, he or she will have to go to the next main household, which he or she can reach by counting three households from the initial main household.



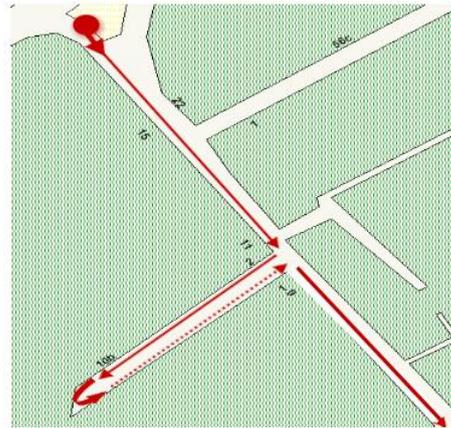
6. In locating the household to be interviewed, the enumerator could come across various scenarios. It is important, however, to keep in mind that the rules always remain the same. The following are some examples of situations the enumerator could encounter:
 - a. A Compound Yard or Compound with Several Apartments/Houses: There are two possible types of yards/compounds, either with households on either side or with households all around.
 - b. Flats/houses are on either side of a main square/street: Only consider the households on the right.



- c. Flats/houses scattered around a central courtyard: All households are eligible to be interviewed.



- d. If a street leads to a dead end, the enumerator should follow the walk route until he or she reaches the dead end. From there, the enumerator needs to turn around and walk back to the first crossroad, where he or she will go to the right. When turning around on that street, although households that were initially on the left are now on the right, the interviewer cannot survey at these households because they were initially on his or her left. If instead of a dead end, the street continues in a curve, then the interviewer should follow the street. This would be the case of a cul-de-sac with a house at the end.



7. If the enumerator encounters a building on the walking route, he or she will need to inquire if people live there permanently and if they have their own cooking facilities. This could be the case of a warden, a priest, shop owner, etc. Assessments can be made by asking someone working in a shop, a knowledgeable neighbour, someone in a church, etc. If someone lives in these buildings permanently and has his or her own cooking facility, the enumerator should consider the building a household and count it in the walking route. Only mixed dwellings with a business and a household would be considered as eligible for counting (for example: a small shop downstairs and the owner and his or her family live above the shop). If no one lives in these buildings, the interviewer should disregard them as eligible households and consider them in the walking route (not part of the counting).
8. Once the interviewer has reached the selected household, he or she will introduce themselves to the person answering the door and request permission to speak with the head of the household. If the head of the household is available and willing to speak, the enumerator will ask for permission to conduct the interview. If the head of the household is not available or willing to conduct the interview, the enumerator will ask for the spouse of the head of the household to be interviewed. If the spouse of the head of the household is unavailable, the enumerator will ask for another adult (+15) in the household to conduct the interview. If no person knowledgeable of the household's affairs is present, you should substitute the household.

