Safe and Inclusive Cities – Hatcliffe Survey (January 2015)

Field Report

After completing in-depth interviews with Community members in the suburbs of Hatcliffe and Mbare in Harare, it was resolved by the team to carry out a survey to validate and confirm the findings from these interviews. It appeared that most of the issues raised by the respondents were common and widespread and would be best represented by carrying out a survey on a wider sample of households in the community. The survey would also be used to narrow down on the specific issues relevant to the research – particularly issues related to housing and tenure.

Random Selection of Dwelling Units

Using the training conducted by IES (Institute of Environmental Studies) of the University of Zimbabwe, random selection of the households to be visited was employed. The process was done using Enumeration Area Maps from Zim Stat. These maps are used in the delimitation exercise during the National Census and the Elections. So they have a record of all dwellings and house numbers in any given area by Ward.

Method of Selection

Using the maps, we selected the wards that we wanted to survey – namely Garikai and Consortium areas of Hatcliffe. It had been decided to sample 50 households in each area. The method used makes an allowance of the same number of replacement households in the event of being unable to find a suitable interviewee at the selected house number. In effect, our random selection had to produce 100 households so that each household would have a replacement household if needed.

Garikai Random Selection

The selection exercise started with the randomization of the enumeration maps. It was not necessary to use all the enumeration maps for the Garikai area of Hatcliffe. And because we would be using five enumerators, each person would have 20 households so we selected the 20 from one enumeration area for easier logistics on the ground.

From the enumeration area, we selected the house numbers in any one direction on a street and input the first two numbers consecutively on an excel spreadsheet. Highlight the two numbers to the last value you want on that street – for example number 23, 24 and highlight the first two and drag to number 45. You do the same process on another area in the same enumeration area, using different numbers. On the right hand column, beside the first number,

we enter the randomization formula - =r and it would give you a list of words and double click on 'random'. This would bring up an open bracket, you close the bracket and press enter and this would give you a random value. You also drag the random values to the last number you selected on the first column, which would be 45 in this example. Then you highlight the random values, copy and paste values back in the same column. Then sort the numbers in descending order. This would produce a list of random values on the column with the house numbers and you would select the first 20 and allocate them to the enumerator covering that specific enumeration area. The same process was followed for Consortium as well.

Training of Enumerators – 5ᵗʰ, 6ᵗʰ and 7ᵗʰ January 2015

During the in-depth interview exercise, five ladies had been used successfully as Community Researchers and it was decided to employ the same team of researchers to assist with the survey. One of the young ladies had left town and we replaced her with another community member recommended by the existing team.

The community researchers and field assistant Albert, were trained by the SEARCWL team on how to conduct the survey. The training took place at the SEARCWL offices with a full day of theory on the technical administration of the survey and question by question interpretation of the survey instrument itself, which had been translated into Shona.

The training also involved role plays that the enumerators undertook in order to get full understanding of administering the questionnaire and also to practice the interview technique which was slightly different from the in-depth interview questionnaire they had used in the previous community engagement exercise. These questions had to be asked as they were on the questionnaire; it was not merely a guide.

The second day of training would be a 'test run' of the questionnaire to pick up any glaring mistakes or omissions that could be ironed out before the actual survey administration.

Challenges

In the office random selection versus situation on the ground

On the day of the test run, which was also part of the training, we realized that the majority of the house numbers which we had attributed to the Garikai area of Hatcliffe in our random sampling exercise actually belonged to the Consortium area or Hatcliffe one. This left us with very few households that were actually in the correct Enumeration area. We then enquired from the Community Researchers, what the house numbers in the Garikai area were and with this information, went back to the drawing board and re-started the random selection process. Using the list of numbers from the ladies, we went back to the Enumeration Area Maps of

Hatcliffe Extension and picked out the maps with the correct numbers for Garikai and proceeded to randomly select the households using the method highlighted above.

GPS devices

We had been advised by our Survey Consultants from IES that the current trend in conduction surveys is the production of GPS co-ordinates of the households visited. For this, one needed to arm each enumerator with a GPS devise from which they would record the co-ordinates of every household visited. This proved to be a challenge for the ladies and it was decided at the test run stage that our Field Assistant Albert, take over the recording of all the co-ordinates of the households visited.

Conducting the Survey 8th – 14th January 2015

Once the teething problems had been ironed out, it was fairly simple to administer the questionnaire to the respondents in Hatcliffe. The ladies managed to administer the survey to 67 respondents in the Garikai area of Hatcliffe Extension and 58 in the Consortium area, bringing the total to 117.

The initial random selection in the Consortium Area had produced household numbers that appeared to be concentrated around the same area. We had to re-randomise the households to cater for the large section of house numbers that had been left out in the initial process. In addition, the Consortium area was unfamiliar to the Community Researchers and it took a while for them to locate the house numbers provided but eventually they did.

There were questions from members of the community on why we had not produced any tangible results since our last engagement with the community. Some community members also wanted to know why they were being left out of the survey. All questions were fielded competently by our enumerators.

After three days of training and seven days of field work, the survey for Hatcliffe was completed with no further incidents.