

Annex 10

ESRC Project Trained/Untrained Adolescent FGD Information Sheet and Informed Consent

Introduction

Hello, my name is _____. I am part of a team of researchers from Makerere University. You are being invited to participate in a study which is part of promoting inclusion in decent work for young people in Uganda: Will reducing violence help? This is a research project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) of United Kingdom. Makerere University is working with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). This study will include approximately 24 adolescents who participated in the Footprints study and over 20 other key people in Luwero district who emerge as important from the individual adolescent interaction. We shall also conduct four (4) focus group discussions for adolescents trained in skilling programmes and those that are untrained.

We will read this form with you. It will tell you about the study and what will happen if you agree to join. If you have any questions while we go through this form, please feel free to ask any of us. If you want to be in the study, please sign at the end of the form. Your participation in the study will last approximately 1 hour.

What is the purpose of this study and the FGD?

The purpose of the study is to understand how violence in childhood and adolescence affects labour, participation in skills programmes and employment outcomes in Uganda in order to find ways to promote inclusion in decent work. The study will explore young people's perception of their pathways into work, training or employment and how these are affected by their life experiences and circumstances, and the potential role of skills programmes in supporting young people's transition into decent work. The purpose for conducting a FGD is to assess the perspectives on the views mentioned above.

What would I have to do?

The procedures involve participating in a focus group with 6-8 people who have a similar role in the study. This focus group discussion will be conducted by two members of the research team where, one will be facilitating as another team member takes notes. It will take 2 hours to complete the focus group discussions. You will be asked a series of questions regarding your perspectives about young

people's experiences of transitioning into work/training; these may include the opportunities and challenges; Young people's experiences of skills and employment programmes and the barriers to participating in these programmes; and your opinions on the limitations of these skills programmes and how they might be improved. This discussion will be recorded but the recording will be destroyed once it has been transcribed.

What are the risks of participating in the study?

It is possible that you could feel sad or uncomfortable during an interview because some of the questions are personal. If this happens, we can take a break and you can choose whether or not to continue. You can also choose to pass on answering some questions. You do not have to give a reason for not answering. If the interview raises any issues that you would like to discuss further with a counsellor or support worker, we would be happy to arrange this.

What are the benefits of participating in the study?

There are no direct benefits for you as an individual because of your participation in the study. However, telling us about young people's experiences could mean that you are able to inform policy. Information gained from this study may lead to increased knowledge about transitions to work and how these can best be supported which may ultimately inform national youth and work related policies and guidelines.

Will you be paid for participation?

You will not be paid for participation in this study; as we earlier noted it is voluntary. Instead you will be given a drink during the interviews. Adolescents above 18 years will also receive 5,000/= as transport refund.

What about our confidentiality?

You will be assigned a unique identification number so your name or personal information will be kept confidential. After the focus groups, we will immediately transfer the audio-recordings to a password-protected computer network and prepare summaries of the focus group discussion. The summaries will not contain any information that could link your responses back to you. If we write a report or article about this research project, your identity will be protected to the maximum extent possible.

What if I want to stop participating during the focus group discussion?

Your participation in this focus group discussion is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide not to participate, there will not be any consequences. If you decide to participate, you may stop participating at any time.

If you have questions as a result of this study, please contact the in-country PI or Study Coordinator on the addresses below

Dr. Eddy. J. Walakira
ESRC Project In-Country PI
Department of Social Work and Social Administration
Makerere University
[Telephone]

OR

Agnes Kyamulabi
ESRC Project (Qualitative) Coordinator
Department of Social Work and Social Administration
Makerere University
[Telephone]

This study was approved by Mildmay Uganda Research Ethics Committee (MUREC) which is an accredited research ethics committee, Uganda National Council of Science and Technology, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Ethics Committee. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact:

Ms Harriet Chemusto
The Chair
Mildmay Uganda Research and Ethics Committee,
Plot 27, Lweza, P.O. Box 24985, Kampala, Uganda
[Telephone]

And,

The Executive Secretary
The Uganda National Council of Science and Technology,
Kimera Road. Ntinda P. O. Box 6884 Kampala, Uganda
[Telephone, email]

The data collected in this study will be used for the purpose described in this information form. By signing this consent, you are also saying that you understand that the information you provide (with your name removed) might be used to inform policy, and will be joined with other adolescents' experiences so that we can understand how they navigate these issues of concern.

The summary results of the study (with no identifying information about participants) will be made available to participants at the end of the study.

Statement of Consent

Do you have any questions about any of the things that I have just said?

Interviewer, please read the following aloud and potential participant tick agreement in each box (or interviewer tick on their behalf).	Yes	No
I have read this form, or had it read and explained to me		
I understand this information, had time to consider and was able to ask all my questions on the study		
I understand that my participation is voluntary and I can stop this at any time, and I know I can contact Agnes Kyamulabi at Makerere University if I have questions in the future or choose to stop participating.		
I understand that my name will not be used in any reports produced as part of this study		
I consent to having my interview audio recorded		
After the study I will allow the researchers to store my anonymous data (with all names and identifying information removed) in a database that others may access		
If I cannot read or sign, I understand that a witness can sign on my behalf.		

PARTICIPANT

I certify that I have read the above consent procedure/ that it was read to me and I agree to participate in this focus group discussion:

Signature of Participant:

Date: _____ Time: _____AM/PM (Circle)

PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT

I have explained to _____ the nature and purpose of the study and the risks involved. I have answered and will answer all questions to the best of my ability.

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ AM/PM (Circle)