**Questions for Key Informant Views with Policy Makers on School attendance and Menstrual Hygiene Management**

**Guide for Interviews with Key Informants**

Note this guide includes a list of possible questions for the relevant key informants. This guide is an iterative instrument and not intended to be administered verbatim.

**Introduction for Key Informants:** We are currently in the early phase of our research, which will include interviews with students, teachers and parents or guardians, as well as interviewing a range of policy makers, development partners and health care providers to gain informative perspectives on the sexuality, HIV/AIDS, menstruation and safe male circumcision.

I am interested in your perspectives on school attendance and issues around menstruation for girls. It would also be helpful if you could suggest other relevant people or groups in the community whom I might speak to. I would like to know as much as you can tell me.

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| **Questions** | **Probes/follow-ups** |
| **A: School attendance**   * 1. What are the main reasons that pupils miss attending school? Which would say are the top 3 reasons for missing school   2. Are there specific reasons why girls miss school (compared with boys)? Which would you say are top 3 reasons for girls?   3. How might the monitoring of school attendance for students generally be strengthened?   4. Suggest any improvements which may be necessary to support the female students’ attendance in schools.   5. 5. In your opinion, does menstruation affect   the school attendance of female students? If  so, what are the main effects |  |
| **B: Teaching puberty & menstruation**   * 1. Give us your views about teaching students on puberty and sexuality in schools, to girls and boys respectively   2. Share with us some of the existing policies, guidelines, initiatives and programs which support the sharing of information on puberty, menstruation, hygiene, sexuality and its management in schools. What are some of the reasons which have made them work or not work?   3. What is your view about male teachers teaching the mentioned topics? |  |
| **C: Problems girls face while menstruating**   1. What are the main problems that female students face at school during menstruation periods? What can be done to reduce these problems? Can you suggest ways that schools can better support female students during menstruation period 2. What are some of the practical ways of disposing sanitary pads for females at schools? 3. Should the government and its development partners start providing sanitary pads to female students in schools? How would they be distributed within school? |  |
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