

**Summary:** This tool presents an introduction to three useful information gathering methods, namely pocket voting, focus group discussion (FGD) and individual interviews. These methods, which can either be used separately or combined, are useful for the collection of information on knowledge, perceptions, practices and preferences of individuals or groups. The tool also explains how to conduct randomised sample surveys and provides sample questionnaires.

#### Application Within the Planning Process:

**Step 1:** Process Ignition and Demand Creation

**Step 3:** Detailed Assessment of the Current Situation

**Step 4:** Prioritisation of the Community Problems and Validation

#### Related Tools:

**T3** Participatory Assessment Methods

**Purpose** Three question-based methods for investigating the stakeholders' perspective on environmental sanitation issues are introduced in this tool, and their application and meaningful combination is explained.

In a pocket voting exercise, participants anonymously vote and state their views on sensitive subjects. FGDs serve to elicit norms and values of a group and to assess the broadness of ideas and opinions of their members. Individual interviews can be used to investigate issues that do not arise during FGDs and to research personal attitudes and practices, as well as to obtain data from key informants. Surveys represent one application of individual interviews. In CLUES, the detailed assessment (step 3) comprises randomised sample surveys for the collection of basic

statistical information from households. This tool gives practical advice on how to do it and provides questionnaire examples.

**How to use this tool?** Detailed descriptions of the three methods and information on their appropriate application and combination are given in **Document D2.1**. **D2.2** contains instructions for conducting randomised sample surveys and provides a short generic questionnaire. A sample questionnaire for individual interviews and household surveys are provided in **D2.3**. Further participatory assessment methods including participatory mapping and transect walk can be accessed in **Tool T3**.

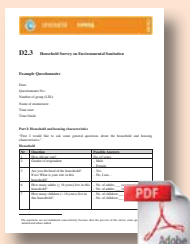
### Resources



**Document D2.1:**  
*Interview Methods*  
[D2.1.pdf](#)



**Document D2.2:**  
*Conducting Randomised Sample Surveys*  
[D2.2.pdf](#)



**Document D2.3:**  
Sigel, K. (2009). *Household Survey Environmental Sanitation. Questionnaire for the HCES Case Study in Darkhan, Mongolia*. UFZ, Leipzig, Germany.  
[D2.3.pdf](#)