

# Semi-Structured Interview Topic Guide

## Interview Topic Guide for Federal Level

### Introduction

The research concerns the implementation of public policies to address geographic child health inequalities in Ethiopia. The focus of the research concerns the development and implementation of policies from 2000 -to date I am interested in your own thoughts, opinions, and experiences; anonymity and confidentiality are guaranteed.

### Background:

1. Could you tell me about your background position in your ministry ?
2. What does your work involve?

### Theme 1: Policy problem representation

1. What living conditions (give example from the sector) do you consider have an effect on health? (the health of the population / the health of children under the age of five)? In what way does your sector contribute to the health of a child?
2. Could you tell me about your organization's involvement in policies, programs, activities that contribute to improvement of child health?
3. Is inequality considered a concern in your region's policy making and program implementation? If yes, what are the equity concerns in your sector in this region?
4. What do you think were the underlying causes of regional inequalities in your sector?
5. What are the major contextual factors specific to your region that contributed to persistent inequalities? Probe Economic, Political, Cultural, Historical, Security, environmental factors.
6. In your opinion what does ensuring equity in general or geographic (regional) equity mean in your sector?

7. What policy measures have been taken in the last 15 years to narrow the inequalities between your region and the rest of the country in your sector?
8. To what extent the national policy(program) in your sector addressed the equity problem?

### **Theme 2: Policy Design**

9. What was the main goal of health related policy in your sector? (Universalism / targeted / egalitarian / generosity of welfare system)
10. What was the main objective of the policy in terms of addressing equity?
11. To what extent the policy objectives were specific (identifying target group), realistic, attainable, and measurable ?
12. What were the strategies for implementing programs addressing regional inequalities in your sector?
13. Were the human, financial and other resources required for successful implementation considered in the policy design?
14. Was there a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the policy?

### ***Theme 3: Implementation***

15. What guidelines/strategies do you have to narrow the inequalities gap between your region and rest of the country or urban rural variation in providing programs with contribution to child health?
16. How were financial resources (in addition to budget allocation by Regional Administration ) and technical support provided to Regions in your sector?
17. Given the decentralized powers to regional state, how does the your Ministry (RHB) operate in terms of reducing and monitoring inequalities of service coverage?
18. What were the positive service benefits and/or challenges child health related programs in your sector from a national point of view?

19. Budgeting for sector ministries at regional level is done by the respective region, What is the Regional response when woredas are unable or unwilling to allocate adequate resources for the implementation of a program?

20. Not all regions are effective in implementation of programs. What measures were taken to provide support to underperforming regions ?

21. What do you think were the reasons for underperformance in regions such as xxx (To be specified)?

### ***Proposed Changes?***

1. Can you think of ways in which the policy could be improved?
2. Its implementation could be improved?

### **Closing**

- Thank the interviewee for their time and helpful insights. Ask if it will be acceptable to contact them by email or skype if one or two additional questions arise.
- Offer to be contacted at any time should questions/concerns arise via the contact details on the consent form

## **Interview Topic Guide for Regional Level**

### **Introduction**

The research concerns the implementation of public policies to address geographic child health inequalities in Ethiopia. The focus of the research concerns the development and implementation of policies from 2000 – to date. I am interested in your own thoughts, opinions, and experiences; anonymity and confidentiality are guaranteed.

### **Background:**

1. Could you tell me about your background position in your ministry ?
2. What does your work involve?

### **Theme 1: *Policy problem representation***

1. What living conditions (give example from the sector) do you consider have an effect on health? (the health of the population / the health of children under the age of five)? In What was your sector contributes to the health of a child?
2. Could you tell me about your organizations involvement in policies, programs,activities that contribute to improvement of child health?
3. Is inequalities considered a concern in your region policy making and program implementation ? if yes, What are the equity concerns in your sector in this region ?
4. What do you think were the underlying causes of regional inequalities in your sector ?
5. What are the major contextual factors specific to your region that contributed to persistent inequalities ? Probe Economic, Political, Cultural, Historical, Security, environmental factors.
6. In your opinion what does ensuring equity in general or geographic(regional) equity means in your sector ?
7. What policy measures have been taken in the last 15 years to narrow the inequalities between your region and the rest of the country in your sector?

8. To what extent the policy(program) in your sector addressed the equity problem?

**Theme 2: *Policy Design from regional policy makers and program managers perspective***

9. What was the main goal of health related policy in your sector? (Universalism / targated / egalitarian / generosity of welfare system)
10. What was the main objective of the policy in terms of addressing equity?
11. To what extent the policy objectives were specific (identifying target group), realistic, attainable, and measurable ?
12. What were the strategies for implementing programs addressing regional inequalities in your sector?
13. Were the human, financial and other resources required for successful implementation considered in the policy design?
14. Was there a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the policy?

**Theme 3: *Policy Implementation***

15. What guidelines/strategies do you have to narrow the inequalities gap between your region and rest of the country or urban rural variation in providing programs with contribution to child health?
16. What is the planning process at your office? How do you narrow the inequalities gap between your region and rest of the country in child health related program coverage Probe: (urban/rural), Regions
17. Who leads equity reduction interventions in your office? (Is it a team? Unit? How does its structure look like?)
18. How have you addressed the underserved poor and rural community in your strategic plan ?
19. How were financial resources (in addition to budget allocation by Federal support ) and technical support provided to woredas(districts) in your regions?

20. Given the decentralized powers to regional state, how was your Ministry (regional level) operating in terms of reducing and monitoring inequalities of service coverage?
21. What were the positive service benefits and/or challenges child health related programs in your sector from a national point of view?
22. Budgeting for sector ministries at regional level is done by the respective region; What has been the Regional response when woredas(districts) are unable or unwilling to allocate adequate resources for the implementation of a program?
23. How do you see the intersectoral collaboration with relevant sectors ?
24. Not all woredas are effective in implementation of programs. What measures were taken to provide support to underperforming woredas (districts) ?

### ***Proposed Changes?***

1. Can you think of ways in which the policy could be improved?
2. Its implementation could be improved?

### **Closing**

Thank the interviewee for their time and helpful insights. Ask if it will be acceptable to contact them by email or skype if one or two additional questions arise.

### **Appendix 3: Consent Form**



### **CONSENT FORM**

**Study Title:** Why have spatial child health inequalities in Ethiopia not improved?: Analysis of public policy

**Participant Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>Please initial box</b>
I confirm that I am over the age of 18 years.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have read and understood the information sheet for the above study and have had the opportunity to ask questions.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving reason.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I agree to take part in the above study.	<input type="checkbox"/>

	<b>Please initial box</b>	
	Yes	No
I agree to the interview / focus group / consultation being audio recorded.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I agree to the use of anonymised quotes in publications.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I agree that my data gathered in this study may be shared (after it has been anonymised) with other researchers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I agree that my data gathered in this study may be shared (after it has been anonymised) may be used for teaching purposes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Name of Participant

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Date

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Signature

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Name of Researcher

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Date

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Signature