**Wells – First community meeting script**

**I. Script to be read collectively to village residents at first community meeting**

Thank you for coming to this meeting.

**Introduction of team**

We are a team of researchers from a university (big school). We do not belong to the government and also do not belong to an NGO. We would like to conduct a project in your village.

My name is Shakti Lamba and I am from Delhi. Accompanying me are:

Usha – from Sarguja

Maitreyee – from Maharashtra

Vishaal - from Sarguja

Kanhaiya - from Sarguja

Madhu - from Sarguja

Rankeshwar - from Sarguja

David – from London

**Filming**

We would like to film the proceedings during this meeting. If anyone feels at any point, either now or later, that they do not want to be filmed then please inform any member of our team and we will remove the footage of that person from the film. It is entirely each persons choice whether they would like to be included in the filming or not so please do not hesitate to inform us if you do not want to be filmed at any time, now or later.

**What we want to do**

We want to give your village a sum of money to build wells and springs for drinking water. The money that we wish to give you cannot be used for any other purpose and also cannot be used to create means of irrigation. This money is only being given to you to build wells and springs for drinking water. You cannot use this money to install hand pumps. It is important to remember this.

Your village will collectively decide:

1. whether or not you want to build any wells or springs.
2. what you want to build and how many wells and springs you want to build within the money allocated to you.
3. where you want to site the wells and springs in your village
4. and how you want to build them

Our research team will not be involved in any of the decisions you make. These decisions are entirely up to you and you will get three weeks to make these decisions. After three weeks we will return to your village and ask you what decisions you have taken.

You can only build wells and springs within the budget that has been allocated to you. This budget will include the costs of the material and transportation of the materials to your village. However, it will not include the costs of the labour that goes into building the wells and springs. You will have to contribute the labour yourselves.

If you decide to build any wells or springs, we will buy all the material that goes into building these and deposit these in your village. Therefore, you will not be given the actual money for the wells and springs but rather will be provided materials to build them directly.

The wells and springs will have to be built between March and June this year and need to be completed by June before the monsoon. The money for this project cannot be saved up and carried over to the next year or to any other time.

During the three months that the wells and springs are being built, we would like to observe and film the process of building. We would like to set up cameras that will record the building process. We will set up two cameras to record the building process. One of the cameras will take videos like you see in a film and will only run for a few hours a day. The other camera will take photographs of the building process all day long. But, as we said earlier, if anyone feels at any point, either now or later, that they do not want to be filmed working on the wells then please inform any member of our team and we will remove the footage of that person from the film. ? It is entirely each persons choice whether they would like to be included in the filming or not so please do not hesitate to inform us if you do not want to be filmed at any time, now, during the project or later.

During the three months that you are building the wells and springs we will have a research team of up to four people living in the village in order to observe and film the building process. But this team will not be involved in the actual building of the wells. They are simply here to observe and film the process.

**What we will do with the film footage**

We will use the film footage to understand how people take decisions about well building and the labour that they put into it. We will also make a film about this project which we will show to people from across the world. Once the film is completed in about a year and a half from now, we will bring the completed film back to your village and show it to you.

**Money**

The money for this project has been provided to us by the university (big school) and is not our personal money. It has been given to us to run this project. This money does not belong to the government or any NGO.

Your village is being given XX rupees to build wells and springs for drinking water.

One well costs XX rupees to build and one spring costs XX rupees to build.

Therefore you can either build:

1. One well
2. XX springs

Once again please remember that you cannot use this money for any other purpose except to build wells and springs. You also cannot save this money to use in the future as it must be used by June this year.

Please remember that if you do not wish to participate in this study or do not wish to be filmed, you do not have to do so. You can inform any member of the research team at any time that you do not wish to participate or be filmed and we will remove your details and film footage from the study.

**II. Clarificatory questions to be asked collectively to village residents at community meetings**

Now I will ask you some questions to check whether you have understood the information that I have given you or not.

**About the research team**

1. Who are we and where have we come from?
2. Do we belong to the government or an NGO?

**About the money**

1. How much money are we going to give your village?
2. Can you ask for any more than has been allocated to your village?
3. Will each individual receive money or will your village receive this money collectively?
4. Who is providing the money for this project?

**About the wells**

1. What are we giving your village this money for?
2. Can you use the money we are giving you for any purpose other than building wells and springs?
3. Can you use the money to build handpumps?
4. Does the budget you are being given include the costs of transportation of the materials?
5. Will you get paid for the labour you put into building the wells?
6. Will we give you the money for the wells in hand or will we deposit all the material for the wells in your village?

**About the timescale of the project**

1. When do the wells need to be built by?
2. Can you save up this money to use next year or at any other time?

**About the decisions that need to be taken**

1. Who will decide whether or not you want to build any wells or springs in your village?
2. Who will decide what you want to build and how many wells and springs you want to build within the money allocated to you?
3. Who will decide where you want to site the wells and springs in your village?
4. Who will decide how you want to build the wells and springs?
5. Will our research team be involved in any of the decisions you make about the wells and springs?
6. How many weeks will you get to make your decisions?

**About monitoring the project and why we are doing it**

1. While the wells are being built, will our research team observe and film the well building process?
2. Why are we doing this project?

**About filming**

1. What will we do with the film footage that we take?
2. If you do not wish to be filmed, can you choose not to be filmed?
3. Can you tell us that you do not wish to be filmed at any time or only at the start of the project?

**About participation**

1. If you do not wish to participate in this study, can you choose not to do so?

**III. Time for village residents to ask us questions**

Now you can ask us any questions that you have for us. Please let us know if you have any questions for us.

**IV. Time for village residents to discuss the project amongst each other**

Now there is time for you to talk to each other about this project. After that we will ask you whether or not you are interested in this project and would like to build wells and springs in your village.

**V. Open discussion about what village residents would like to do.**

Would you like to participate in this project and build wells and springs in your village with the money we want to give to you?

So far, what would you like to build? Remember that you will have the next three weeks to discuss these issues with everyone in this village and make your final decisions.

**What we want to do**

1. **Give them money to build wells/springs and alleviate their drinking water problems. The money cannot be used for any other purpose and also cannot be used to create works for irrigation. It is important to remember this.**
2. **Observe and film the process of building wells**
3. **During the whole period of well building and observation we will have a research team posted in the village observing the process. However, we will not be involved in the actual building of the wells.**
4. **The village will take all decisions about (a) what to build (b) where to site it and (c) how to build it**
5. **We will not be involved in any decisions**
6. **We will give them 10 days to make up their minds about what they want to build with the money. After 10 days they will have to tell us what decisions the village has made.**
7. **The wells/springs will be built between March and June this year and need to be completed by June before the monsoon arrives. Money cannot be carried over to next year or any other period.**
8. **Once they have decided what they want to build, we will buy the materials and give the materials to them. Therefore they will not be given actual money. They will also not be paid for their labour in building the wells. Labour they have to provide themselves. We will simply provide building materials.**
9. **Your village is being Rs. XXXXX to build wells and springs.**

* **Where the money from the project is coming from**

**- Filming: Describe process including camera traps. Their right to say no. At the end we will make a film about the project and show it to the people from the village.**

**- Remind them at the end that they must not build anything other than wells or springs or structures related to drinking water. They cannot use the money for anything else and they cannot save the money and run it over to the next season or year.**