# ANNEX 7-Consent- Household- Enrollment- English

**Innovations for Poverty Action, Kenya**

Consent form for household enrollment

Study Title: WASH Benefits - Handwashing, Water Treatment, Sanitation, and Nutrition Interventions and Outcome Measures in Rural Kenya (also known as the Child Health Project)

Principal Investigator: Clair Null

Organization: Innovations for Poverty Action, Kenya

**Purpose of the Research, Why you are being invited, and what is expected if you participate**

Hello. How are you? I am (name) from Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), a research based organization, in Kisumu with offices in Kakamega/Bungoma.

We are interested in conducting research on children’s health to better understand how environmental factors might affect child growth and health. You are being asked to participate in this study because you are pregnant or you have a young child. We hope you will agree to participate in the study and enroll your child/future child into the study upon learning more details of participation.

The study will last for two years. Following your permission we will enroll this household into the study. It may then be assigned into a group that may receive handwashing supplies, water treatment supplies, sanitation supplies, or nutritional supplements for children under 24 months. If any of these supplies are provided, an IPA assistant will visit your compound and household to encourage their use. You and your household members or anyone else in your community cannot choose your group; you will be randomly assigned to a group through a lottery. It may be that even though the household is eligible, no interventions will be given. However, we hope that you will still participate for the knowledge this research will provide.

If your household decides to join the study, study representatives may visit your household 3 times (today, 12 months from now, and 24 months from now) to collect some information through interviews with the family members, observations and by taking some measurements. Participation in the study will take about 2.5 hours for each of the three visits. Initially, our study staff will collect some socio-demographic characteristics and information about your environment (e.g. compound) and household members interaction with it. Study staff may measure motor outcomes such as crawling, standing, and walking at enrollment and monthly during the study. They will also ask mothers or caregivers about their infant feeding practices, and whether the infant has been sick. The study representative will also measure and weigh your child.

During the study, only with your permission, we may audiotape, photograph, and videotape your child, your family and your environment during assessment visits. Some videotapes and photographs (but not audiotapes) may be used in public presentations and on project websites. Your acceptance or refusal to these activities will not affect your consent to participate in the overall study.

**Risks and Benefits**

There are no major risks involved in this study. The interventions that may be provided would aid in improving your environment and children’s health. Some aspects of the interventions and data collection activities might be uncomfortable or embarrassing for you to discuss. There is a slight risk of loss of confidentiality.

Your child might experience health benefits from growing up in a cleaner environment or receiving other interventions. In the long term, the results of this study could benefit other children in Kenya and elsewhere by helping us understand the effects of providing nutrient supplements alone or in combination with water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.

**Rights of Participants, Confidentiality**

Your participation is voluntary and you do not have to participate. You do not need to talk to me if you do not want to. And if there is any question you do not want to answer, that will be fine. You can withdraw from the study at any time, even in the middle of an interview.

If you do want to talk with me and participate in this study, I will keep everything that you tell me entirely private and confidential, and will not talk to other people about what you have said. I will also keep you and your family’s names confidential, and not tell anyone that you have talked to me. Your answers will in no way affect what IPA may provide to your community or your family. If you have any problems, or if you feel uncomfortable answering any question, you should feel free to stop talking with me at any time. If you have any questions or comments about this study you can also speak with people in the IPA office in Kakamega/Bungoma Town. I will give you the phone number for IPA. If you “flash”[[1]](#footnote-1) them they will call you back.

**If you have additional questions about your rights as a research subject , you can contact KEMRI Ethics Review Committee on 0722-205901 or 0733-400003**

**Compensation**

You need not pay us to take part in this study, and similarly we will not pay you money for participating in this study. However, you will be able to keep the items that we give you.

**Person to Contact**

If you have any question, you can ask me any time.

If you have any questions or comments about this study you can also speak with people in the IPA office in Kakamega/Bungoma Town (**0728716661**). If you “flash”[[2]](#footnote-2) them they will call you back.

If you agree to participate, please say so now, and indicate that by putting your signature or your left thumb impression at the specified space below.

Consent to enroll into the study: YES\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature or left thumb impression of Participant Date

**Additional consent to photography**

During the study we would also like to be able to take photographs of your child, your family and your environment to use in presentations or reports at scientific meetings or to the general public.

Photographs may be taken during the study:                YES\_\_\_\_\_\_     NO\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Additional consent to videotaping**

During the study we would also like to be able to take videos of your child, your family and your environment to help us collect data.  These videos will be used for research purposes only, and will not be shared outside of the research staff.

Photographs may be taken during the study:                YES\_\_\_\_\_\_     NO\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. “Flashing” is a common practice in Kenya when the caller does not want to bear the cost of the call – by dialing and letting the phone ring only once so that the number registers on the recipient’s line. IPA can then return the call without costing the subject anything. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
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