

3rd & 4th Short Courses (SC) on Qualitative Interviewing

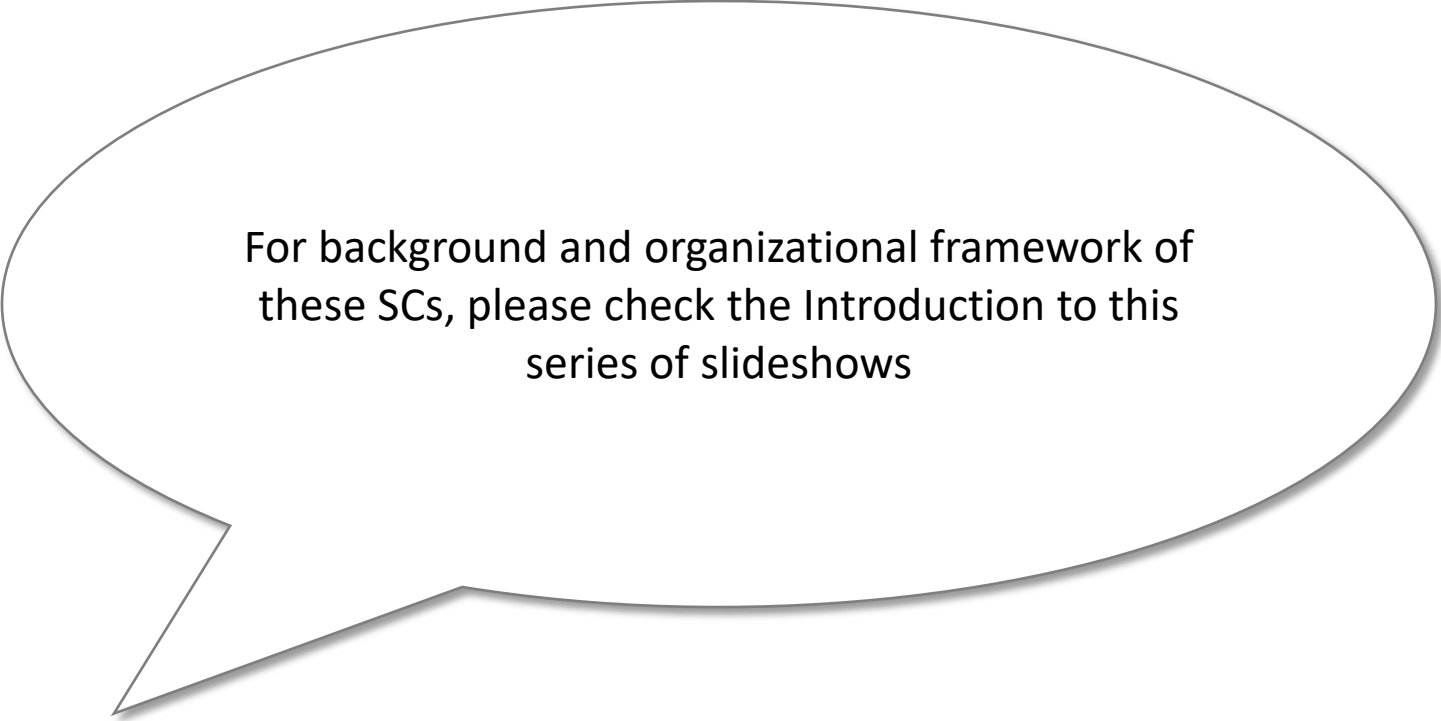
January 20th, 21st 2023

Interview techniques & Postprocessing



appear
Austrian Partnership Programme
in Higher Education and Research
for Development

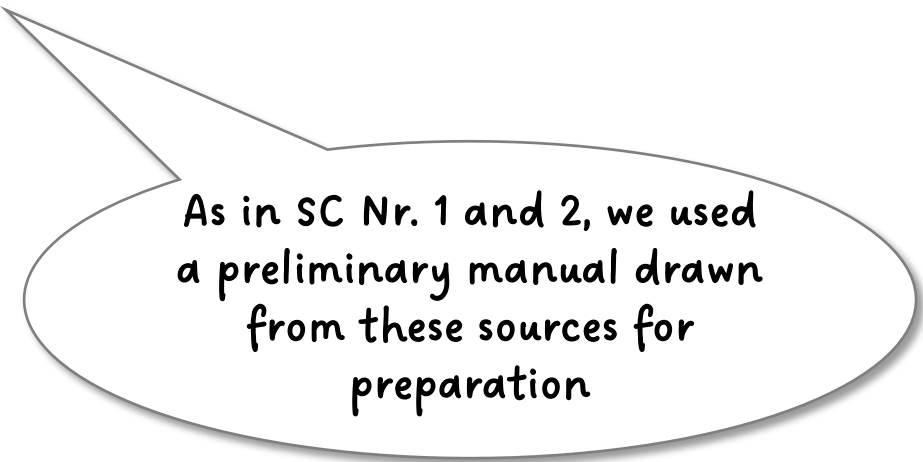
Strengthening Research and Educational Competences of HEIs for Gender sensitive Urban
(InfoRmal Settlement) Transformation

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Sources of our preliminary manual:

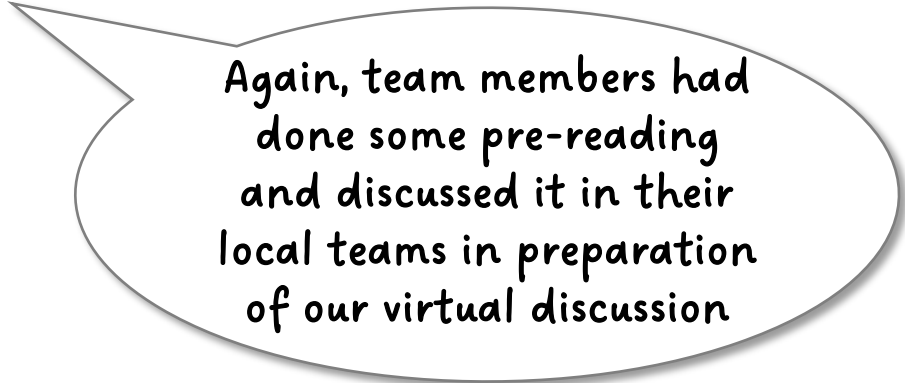
- Brett, B. M., & Wheeler, K. (2022). ***How to do qualitative interviewing***. Los Angeles, London, NewDelhi, Singapur, Washington DC, Melbourne: Sage.
- Rubin, H. J., & Rubin, I. S. (2012). ***Qualitative interviewing: The art of hearing data*** (Third edition). Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore, Washington DC: Sage.



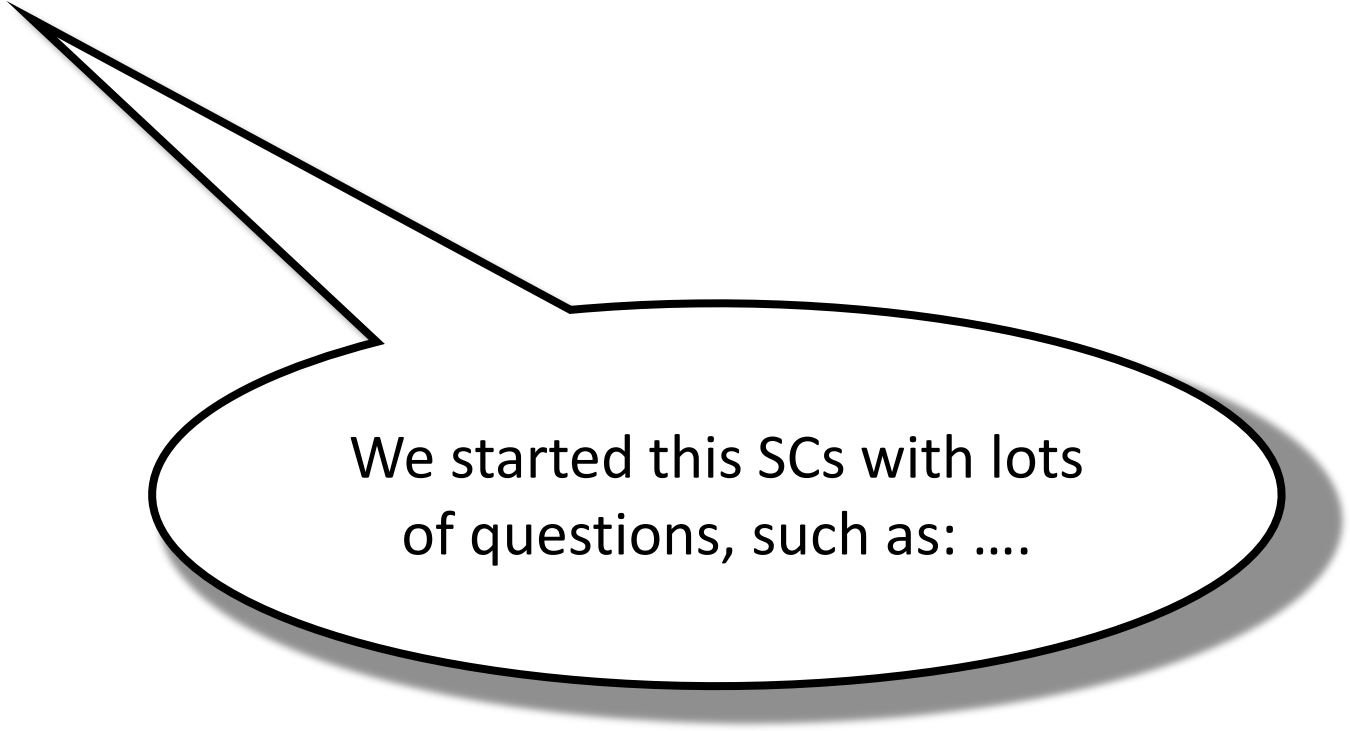
As in SC Nr. 1 and 2, we used a preliminary manual drawn from these sources for preparation

Pre-Readings for SC 3 on Interview techniques

- Finch, J. (1984). **'It's great to have someone to talk to': the ethics and politics of interviewing women.** In C. Bell & H. Roberts (Eds.), *Social researching. Politics, problems, practice* (pp. 71–87). London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.
- Fletcher-Brown, J. (2020). **Reflexivity and the challenges of collecting sensitive data in India: a research note.** *Qualitative Research*, 20(1), 108–118.



Again, team members had done some pre-reading and discussed it in their local teams in preparation of our virtual discussion

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We started this SCs with lots
of questions, such as:

Engaging Women for Interviews

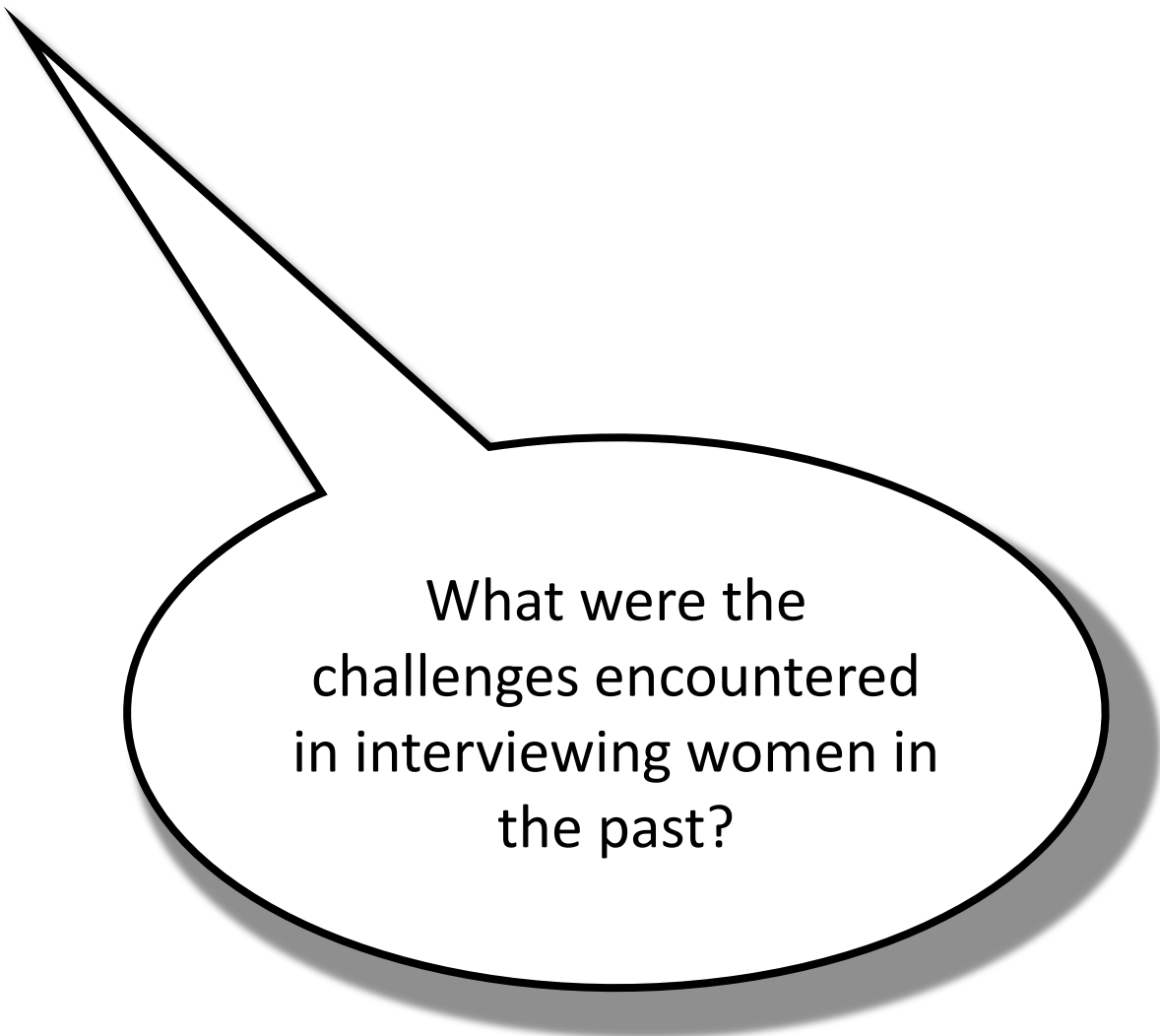
- What are the benefits of our research for the interviewed women and their households?
- How can we demonstrate to them that it is worthwhile giving us an interview?
- How exactly can we build trust with women in the selected informal settlements?
- Should we offer interviewed women some kind of compensation for their time spent in the interview?

Points of Reflection

- Will it be difficult to find women in informal settlements who agree to sit with you for 1 - 1,5 hours and talk freely about their daily problems?
- Will it be difficult to talk to only one woman each (without her husband or neighbors & friends joining)?
- Do you think it might cause any difficulties for these women if others in her settlement knew that she gave an interview to you?
- Will eye contact (to build rapport) be deemed appropriate by our female respondents, especially if the interviewer is male?



... and:

A large, black-outlined speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the top-left. It contains the text 'What were the challenges encountered in interviewing women in the past?' and has a soft grey shadow underneath.

What were the
challenges encountered
in interviewing women in
the past?



power difference:
researcher on the chair,
residents sit on the
ground

Women might be afraid of law
enforcement bodies to displace
them from their homes and
neighborhoods since their
settlement lacks legal ground.

Sometimes, the women may
be uncomfortable for the
interview when departing
from her family, neighbors
and friends.

Some answers from the
debates

"Will my voice be heard?" (or will
researchers only report what I am saying
& this can be negative for me)



Women showing sign of shyness

In my case, not the women but her husband was uncomfortable. His doubt was related to land tenure security and tax issues.

Women responding out of the issues

Women lacking openness and confidence during responding

Women interrupting the interview and going to perform tasks occurring during the interview

Women expecting aid and related government/NGO support

**Might recording of the interview be problematic to female respondents?
Will it make them more hesitant to talk freely or to talk at all?**

With the ongoing demolitions of informal settlements in Addis it might be difficult to record interviews (as the issue has become so contested).

From ethical point of view be honest about interview procedure.

The content and sensitivity of the question might influence their willingness to use the recorder

Building trust needs time. Be careful about hierarchies.

the setup of the interviewing is also important; Hide the recording device (after initial consent) to make interviewees feel more at ease. Better use mobile phones.

In the southern part of Mozambique approaching women by male interviewers might be long and difficult (patrilineal structures).



Two ideas:

- Despite the fact that we ensure informed consent, female respondents may not talk freely.
- It is the manner of our approach that matters: i.e as far as we ensure informed consent, confidentiality and anonymity; the reason of recording the interview; females can talk freely.

Things to be considered

1. Context - Cultural, political and social.
2. Content - the nature of our questions should be optimized in a way it wouldn't create discomfort to the interviewees



Some more questions ...

Informed consent

Will female respondents most likely be able to read and understand consent form and information sheet?

If not: which alternative modes of information can be applied?

Transcription

- Do all partners have foot pedals for transcription?
- How much detail in transcription do we need?
- Or: should typists be engaged for transcription?

.... which we
could only
briefly touch
upon

This is where we stopped our SCs.

All four local teams then went on to finalize selection of the informal settlement in their area ...

... and started site engagement there as a preparation for qualitative interviews.