

Guidelines for carrying out usage surveys for projects implementing household water filtration technologies

The guidelines in this document should be used in the surveys to determine the usage rate¹ of Household Water Treatment (HWT) technologies. It should be noted that these guidelines are only applicable to point of use HWT filtration technologies (e.g. sand filters, clay filters, ceramic filters, hollow fiber filters, bio-sand filters etc.) and not to safe water supply projects such as chlorine treatment, solar disinfection, bore wells, piped water supply etc.²

It is compulsory for the usage survey's to cover each of the six topics outlined in the table below. Additionally, other topics relevant to specific technology types and project conditions are required to provide accurate estimates of the usage of the units. If all six topics outlined are successfully completed the survey respondent can be classed as a user. If failure occurs in one or more of the topics, than the respondent is classed as a non-user. The project Proponent (PP) needs to clearly define what is deemed a success or a failure for each topic area as part of its usage plan. Non-applicability of any of the below mentioned topics in the context of a project activity needs to be justified by the PP and validated by the DOE. These guidelines should be used in the survey to determine usage rates and the survey template needs to be provided in the PDD in time for validation by the DOE and registration review by The Gold Standard.

Topic	Action	Type (Reported/Observed)	Reason	Expected result	Examples of questions that can be used in the survey (PPs to define appropriate questions according to project technology)	Applicable WHO toolkit ³ indicator
Introductory question and water treatment	1. Ask if the respondent does anything to their water to make it safe (w/o reading	Reported	1. This is to clarify if the respondent purifies water and does not consume raw/untreated	It should be first established if the household purifies water. And if it does, does it do so using the HWT	Q. <i>Did you do anything to make your water safer to drink?</i> Q. <i>How did you make</i>	Indicator 1

¹ The monitoring parameter $U_{p,y}$ in Annex 3: Application of the methodology to safe water supply project scenarios of the Gold Standard's TPDDTEC methodology

² These guidelines will be expanded in future to be applicable to these technologies.

³ http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/76568/1/9789241504621_eng.pdf

Topic	Action	Type (Reported/Obse rved)	Reason	Expected result	Examples of questions that can be used in the survey (PPs to define appropriate questions according to project technology)	Applicable WHO toolkit ³ indicator
	out options) 2. Ask what the respondent uses to make water safe? (w/o reading out options) 3. Ask if the person being interviewed is the primary user of HWT unit in the household		water in the project scenario 2. This question will address if the project specific HWT technology is used 3. This ensures that usage related questions are directed to the person who is aware of how to use the filter	technology. Once this is established it should be ensured that the primary user / operator of the filter is present and questions are directed towards that person. If the primary user is not present, the survey should be stopped, to ensure that subsequent questions are answered most accurately.	<i>this water safer to drink?</i> <i>Q. Are you the main user / operator of the filter in the household?</i>	
Rate of usage	Ask how often the respondent uses the water treatment technology?	Reported	This question checks the previous question by quantifying it and obtains additional information on the frequency of use	This will rule out users who report low frequency usage of the project HWT unit	<i>Q. How often do you filter water?</i> <i>Q. When was the last time you filtered water using the HWT device?</i> <i>Q. Have you used the HWT device in the last week?</i> (The PP should decide appropriate frequency	Indicator 9

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					of water treatment to be considered as usage, based on local practices and circumstances)	
Water storage	Ask and observe whether and how the respondent stores the filtered water	Reported and observed	This question will inform whether filtered water can be or is being stored.	This will rule out users of the project HWT unit that do not store filtered water.	<p><i>Q. Is there a safe storage container⁴ that contains filtered water in it?</i></p> <p><i>Q. If 'no', when was the last time there was filtered water in it?</i></p>	Indicator 4
Physical signs of	Observe to see if the HWT unit shows signs	Observed	This may give an indication of whether			Indicator 2

⁴ A sSafe storage container is one that meets the following criteria –

- Has a small opening with a lid or cover that prevents insertion of potentially contaminated hands or objects
- A size appropriate for household water treatment method with permanently attached instructions for using treatment method and cleaning the container

(Reference: <http://www.cdc.gov/safewater/storage.html>)

- Never used to collect water from the source
- Cleaned once per week with safe water

Topic	Action	Type (Reported/Observed)	Reason	Expected result	Examples of questions that can be used in the survey (PPs to define appropriate questions according to project technology)	Applicable WHO toolkit ³ indicator
usage	of usage, e.g. wet filter ⁵ , water in storage receptacle, dust on filter ⁶ , hanging properly, etc.		the unit has been in use recently			
Demonstration & knowledge	Ask the individual responsible for filtering to demonstrate use either directly or by asking for water	Observed	A user will need to be capable of using the HWT unit.	Inability to use the project HWT unit would rule the respondent as a non-user.	<p><i>Q. Can you please show us how you filter water?</i></p> <p><i>Q. Can you please give us a cup of drinking water?</i></p>	Indicator 2,5 and 6
Functionality	Observe whether the HWT unit is currently functional, e.g. tap and filter element are functional	Observed	This is to ensure that the unit is functional	This would rule out users with a non-functional unit		Indicator 2

It is required that sufficient precautions are taken by enumerators to ensure that there is no bias while conducting the usage surveys. For example:

1. The survey should not be conducted immediately after capacity building/awareness programs in the target households
2. Surveyors should not wear clothes with logos of their employers, etc.

⁵ Questions shall be specific to the HWT technology design. For example, the wetness of the unit may not be relevant for all HWT technology types.

⁶ Presence of dust on the filter could be an indication of non-usage of the HWT unit