

Appendix 5A

Example Questionnaire Used for Gathering Updated Social Baseline Data

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Aurora Mine Project
Social Baseline Study for the Updated ESIA**

HOUSEHOLD INTERVIEW CHECKLIST

This checklist is intended as a guideline, and not all questions need to be asked on every interview, but as much and as detailed information as possible should be gathered. Crosschecking of answers to questions offered by different informants is advisable in order to compensate for biases.

1. Community name:

- a. Ethnic composition:
- b. Distance to Bartica:
- c. Distance to Georgetown:
- d. Distance to Aurora Project Site:

2. Date and location of interview:

3. Interviewee name:

- a. Male [] or Female []
- b. Your Age Group:
 - 15-20 [] 21-26 [] 27-32 []
 - 33-38 [] 39-44 [] 45-50 []
 - 51-56 [] 57-62 [] Above 62 []
- c. Marital status:
- d. Number of children:
- e. Ages of children:
- f. Race and place of birth:
- g. Do you practice any religion/spiritual activities?
- h. If Amerindian: do you speak an Amerindian language?
- i. What is the highest level of school you achieved?
- j. Are you in good health?
- k. Are you employed /self-employed?
- l. Where do you work?
- m. What is your main employment activity?

- n. What is your secondary employment activity (something you may do to supplement the main one)?
- o. What special skills/knowledge do you have?
- p. How long have you lived in this community?
- q. Where did you come from?
- r. If you weren't born in this community, was there any particular reason why you decided to come here?
- s. How many persons live in your household?
- t. Does your entire household live in this community or also elsewhere?

COMMUNITY HISTORY

- 4. **Origin of the community** (describe how and when it was formed)
 - a. Summary description of its history (describe main events or changes during its existence and whether those events/changes were good or bad)
 - b. How did you learn about the community history? (e.g. from elders, from books, heard from neighbours)
 - c. Is it easy for all community members to access the sources of income/subsistence?

- 5. Are there **vulnerable groups** (elderly, single mothers, families headed by children, people with special needs or health conditions)?
 - a. Do you think that these vulnerable groups are somehow supported by the community, or are they self-reliant?

- 6. **Religion:** While we know there are no churches in this community, do any of the residents practice any religions?
 - a. If yes, which **religious denominations** are found in this community?
 - b. Are there any community gatherings/ common events / festivals that have a religious purpose?

LOCAL ECONOMY AND LABOR

- 7. What are the **main economic activities** in the community?

- 8. What is land used for in this community?

- 9. What is a common **plot size per family/household**?
 - a. What is the plot used for?
 - b. Are the plots owned, rented, or allocated in any other way (e.g., passed down from ancestors)?

10. What kind of **employment is available in the community**?
 - a. How many employed people are there?
 - b. Who employs them?
 - c. What are their wages?

11. How many people **work outside the community**?
 - a. Where do they work and how do they normally find work over there?
 - b. How do they get to work and for how long are they typically absent for work?
 - c. What kind of activity do they perform?

12. How many **women perform paid work**?
 - a. In what kind of activity are they involved?
 - b. Do women tend to look for work outside the community to find job opportunities with a better pay?

13. Who is responsible for your household most of the time?
 - a. Is it male or female headed?

INFRASTRUCTURE

14. Do all people live in close proximity?

15. **Drinking Water:** What are the **main sources and how accessible are they**?
 - a. Is a **sufficient** amount available, at all times or periodically?
 - b. What is your perception regarding **water quality**?

16. **Sanitation:** What happens to the waste?
 - a. How is it dealt with?
 - b. Are there different methods of waste disposal and sewage treatment?
 - c. Do you think that those methods are appropriate?
 - d. What would you like to see happen about waste disposal?

17. **Electricity:** Is there an electricity supply in the community?
 - a. What are the sources and are they easily accessible?
 - b. During what hours is it available, on a daily basis or few times a week?
 - c. What do they use for lights during the night if they don't have access to electricity?
 - d. How many people have access to electricity, and what alternative sources of lighting/power people may use when they can't access electricity?
 - e. If generators are used, what is the cost and origin of fuel?

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

18. Approximate **number of families**:

19. Average household size (i.e. number of family members):

20. **Total population in the community**:

Number of males (approx.)	
Number of females (approx.)	
Number of children (approx.)	

- a. Do you think that the size of the community has been increasing/ decreasing or remained stable over the past five years?
- b. Could you think of any reasons why such changes in the community size have been taking place?

21. **Breakdown by age groups** (if you don't know the numbers please say an approximate portion of these age groups in the community):

0-20 years	
21-64	
> 64	

22. Average life expectancy (men/ women):

23. Can you think of typical causes of deaths in the community? (e.g. age, health problems, accidents, bad habits)

24. **Education**: highest level of school achieved by adult community members on a percentage/proportion basis

Primary school	
Secondary school	
Vocational qualification	

College/university	
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25. Are there **recent migration flows** (towards the community or departing from it)?
- Does youth leave the community or do they tend to remain living in it?
 - Are new people moving to the community?
 - Where do those who leave the community go?
 - What kind of people typically tend to leave the community?
 - What motivates men and women to leave the community?
 - Do they just leave for a short period of time or do they go permanently?
 - What kind of activities are they involved with or do they intend to get involved with when they leave the community?
 - How many of these people return afterwards to re-settle in the community?
26. **Are there community members who are wealthier than others** or with larger incomes?
- How big is the proportion of wealthy community members?
 - How many in the community are viewed as wealthy?
27. What are the **most important sources of income/subsistence**?
- Is it easy for all community members to access the sources of income/subsistence?
 - Are there unemployed people in the community who would like to have a job but can't find one?
28. What type of **fuel is used for cooking and where does it come from**?
29. What is the means of **communication** inside and outside the community?
- Do residents who have these services charge other residents to use them?
 - Are mobile/cellular communications available?
 - Is access to the Internet available?
30. What is the most common means of **transportation**?
- What expenses are associated with it/ how much does it cost?
 - Do many people have their own vehicles or any other means of transportation?
31. **Access roads** to the community- characteristics/quality:
- Where do the roads lead to?
 - Are the roads available throughout the year?
 - What kinds of people from outside the community use the local roads?
 - Do you know for what purposes and with what vehicles do those people use the local roads?

- e. Do the roads give access to people or activities that bring some kind of **problem** or opportunity/ **resource** to the community?

32. **What do you use the road for** (access to services? where? access to larger communities or to Georgetown?)?

- a. How often do you use it?

33. **River transportation** to the community- characteristics/quality:

- a. Where can you go by river?
- b. Is this transportation available throughout the year?
- c. What kinds of people from outside the community visit or pass through the community by river?
- d. Do you know for what purposes these people use the river transportation?
- e. Does the river give access to people or activities that bring some kind of **problem** or opportunity/ **resource** to the community?

34. **What do you use the river transportation for** (access to services? where? access to larger communities or to Georgetown?)?

- a. How often do you use it?

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE (EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE)

35. **Schools:**

- a. Where is the closest school?
- b. Do all children typically **attend school**?
- c. If not, what potential reasons may there be for some children being absent from school?
- d. How many children **attend school outside the community**?
- e. Up to which school year?
- f. How far do children travel to the school and how do they normally get there?
- g. Do they live at the school?

36. **Health Services:** There are no health services available in this community. Since no health services are available locally, where do residents go for medical treatment?

37. What are the **most common diseases or health concerns**?

- a. Can you think of any reasons why those illnesses occur and how they can be avoided?
- b. Do residents have or use mosquito nets?
- c. How are **emergencies evacuated** and where to?

38. **Social programs:** Is there any social/ support program available to community members?
- Do you know by whom/what organization those programs are implemented?
 - Can you think of any specific **social program/initiative** that may be particularly useful for the community?
39. Do people **go to larger communities/towns or to Georgetown?**
- Where do they go?
 - How frequently?
 - What for?

FOOD RESOURCES

40. What typical types of **food** are available in the community?
- What are the means of food supply? (e.g. farming/subsistence plots, markets, delivery from outside, stores/outlets, barter)
 - How/where do residents obtain their supply of **beverages**?
 - Have food prices/availability/quality changed over the period of the past five years?
 - Can you think of any reasons why such changes have occurred?

LIVING CONDITIONS

41. **Housing:** From what materials are the houses built?
- What is the typical size of a house/ number of rooms?
 - How many people normally live in a house?
 - Are there households in risk areas? [Yes] [No] How many?
 - What is the risk area?
 - Do people own their land?
 - Are there any conveniences/amenities in the houses? (bathroom, kitchen, garden, hot water supply)
 - Do many people own some home appliances, electronics, or a computer?
 - Is it possible to buy home appliances in the community or outside?
42. What **shops and/or services** are located in the community?
- Are those shops and services run by community members or somebody from outside?
43. What **entertainment/recreation/leisure activities** and services are available in this community?
- By whom are these activities/services typically provided? Are they free or charged for?
 - Do those activities make life in the community better?

44. **Crime:** What incidents occur?
- Who creates these incidents?
 - If outsiders, where are they from?
 - How frequently do they occur?
 - Are there new tendencies you perceive? If yes, what are they?
 - Do you think the situation will improve in the future?
 - What do you think could be done to improve the situation?
45. Are **alcoholic beverages and/or some stronger substances** available in the community?
- Do you think it might be creating some problems?
46. Where can people who think that they may have contracted some illness through sex find medical advice/assistance?
- Do such incidents happen often?
 - Do illnesses of a particular type occur more frequently?
 - How frequently do these illnesses occur?
47. **Childbirth:** What is the typical age for women to give birth?
- Are there any sources of advice/counsel available in the community for women who are planning a family?
 - Is such advice available to women of all ages?
 - Since there is no health clinic in the community, do women go somewhere else to give birth?
 - Are babies normally born in good health?
48. **Literacy** level: How many years do people usually study in this community?
- Can people read, count and write easily?

PUBLIC SECTOR: LOCAL ORGANIZATION

49. Are there **public spaces/ communal buildings**? [Yes] [No] What are they used for?
- Are they from **government agencies**?
 - Are there permanent government officers in the community?
 - Where is the location of the **nearest police station**?
 - How frequently do governmental authorities visit the community?
 - Who visits?
 - For each authority, how often do they visit: on average, once a month, quarter or year?
 - Do they meet/hold discussions with the community?
50. Name areas where **public or other investments** would particularly be useful to address the community's needs.

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS AND PROJECTS

51. In your opinion, what are the most significant **strengths** of the community, e.g. something that the community may be proud of?
- Afterwards ask specifically for social impacts, environmental impacts and the influence of one upon the other.
 - Can you name aspects and issues important for the community which the Project should be aware of?
52. Are there any aspects/issues in the community that arouse concern?
53. What are the **main needs** in this community that require attention and solution?
54. What **social issues** in the community need to be addressed? E.g., family values, youth/elderly relationship, community support and unity, etc.
55. Are there any **environmental issues** in the area?
- Can you think of any particular activities/events that have caused those environmental issues?
 - Has there been any deforestation in the area in the past few years? If yes, specify reasons.
 - Has there been any contamination of air, water, soil, etc. in the area? If yes, specify reasons.
 - In your opinion, can these environmental problems be solved and how?

EXPECTATIONS REGARDING THE PROJECT

56. **Are you aware of the Aurora Project?**
- How did you learn about it?
 - What is your impression of the Aurora Project?
57. Do you think the implementation of the Project is important for and will have influence on the community? [Yes] [No] **Why?** (If yes, what benefits do you think will result? If not, for what reason?)
58. **What impacts do you believe the Project may cause?**