

## Instructions for notes on monthly events and developments

*Akosua Mirjam Kabki, October 11 2003*

Every month I would like to receive some notes on events and developments in your town.

Please describe in about two pages whether there were any specific events or developments during the previous month that have may have led to changes in your respondents' spending on each of the topics below, and whether there were any changes in community/regional/national circumstances that affect your town.

You can base your notes on your own observations, conversations with friends, talks in town, written or oral announcements in town, or programs on FM stations about your town. It will be useful to discuss it with your fellow research assistants in your town. If you have used a specific source of information, please mention it.

The main purpose of these notes is to give me short and rough information (like news flashes) of what is going on in town, so that developments and events in town will not go unnoticed by me. I am especially interested in any events that have a link with abroad, with migration, with international contacts of the town and with transactions of our respondents.

The writing of these notes should take you no more than one hour since you don't have to conduct any interviews or visit any special places. A few lines per each of the below topics is enough.

### **Housing**

- Have you observed any new trends or fashions in building styles?
- Have any new constructions started or have houses been finished last month?
- Were there any disasters that affected existing houses?
- Was there any increase or decrease in prices of construction materials?
- Have any new laws regarding construction been implemented?
- etc

### **Business**

- Have any large businesses been opened or closed down?
- Has there been any change in the situation regarding (un)employment?
- Has anything else influenced business in town?
- etc

### **Farming**

- Which crops have been harvested last month?
- Have there been any changes in crop prices?
- Were there any disasters that affected crops?
- etc

### **Funerals**

- Were there funerals of important persons in town?
- Have you observed any changes in funeral rites?
- Have you observed any changes in opinions about funerals?
- etc.

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### **Church**

- Were there any important events in churches in town?
- Have any churches received considerable financial support from abroad?
- Have any new churches started in town?
- Have any important collections been held in churches?
- etc.

### **Community projects**

- What is the progress in ongoing community projects?
- Have any new community projects started?
- Have any new needs been identified in the town?
- Has the town received any support from the government, NGOs, individuals, churches, foreign organisations, individual migrants or migrant associations abroad?
- etc.

### **Education**

- Were there any events like exams or holidays in schools?
- Have any educational programs started, like afternoon classes, literacy classes, adult or vocational training?
- Have any new schools started?
- Have any schools closed down?
- Have any schools received financial support?
- Did you observe changes such as improvement or decrease in school results, change in drop out rate?
- etc.

### **Festival or other events in town**

- Have there been any local festivals in town?
- Which?
- If there was any national/religious or traditional festival, how was it celebrated in your town?
- Has there been any other memorable event in town? What?
- etc.

### **Migration:**

- Have any migrants from Holland visited town last month?
- Do you know for what they came?
- Have any people migrated to Holland?
- Have any migrants returned to stay in your town last month?
- etc.