

# Farmer families, everyday life, busyness, and IT

## Interview questions (adults)

### I. Overview of daily activities

(General)

- Tell us about the farm
  - Animals? Produce? Other activities tied to the farm/land (e.g. forest)?
  - Who works on the farm?
  - Who lives on the farm and doesn't work on the farm? What do they do (where do they work/school)? Who works on the farm and doesn't live here, and where do they live?
  - How long have you lived here? (if moved there recently, where did they live before and why did they move?)
- Tell me what you did yesterday, from the time you woke up until you went to sleep.
- Was yesterday a typical day? If yes, how was it typical?
  - If no, why? How was it different from a typical day? Tell me about what you do on a typical day.

(Keeping track of work tasks)

- How did you keep track of all the things you needed to get done yesterday? How did you know these were the things you had to do?
  - Did you have a plan for the things you needed to do yesterday?
    - Did you follow the plan?
    - If yes -- how did you make sure you follow the plan?
    - If not (or partially) -- What interrupted you from following the plan? Did you then return to the plan? Why or why not?
  - Are there other things that you did spontaneously, that is, things that you did not plan or schedule but were a response to what was happening on the fly?
    - What did you need to respond to? How did it come in? How did you respond to it? Does this happen typically?

(Unpaid tasks)

(If the person talked only about workplace activities when talking about their day)

- Are there also other things that you have to do outside of work, for example, chores, errands, and duties at home or at some other place? Please tell me about one such thing that you did recently.
- How do you keep track of all the other things you have to do outside of work? How do you know these are the things you have to do? (ask for example)
- How do you make sure you get them done? If you don't get them done, why?

(Coordination of tasks on the farm)

- Who does what on the farm (e.g. animal care, domestic work, produce, maintenance (e.g. buildings, machines), and gardening)? (maybe they will already have answered this)
- Who decides who does what and how is the decision made?
- How does everybody know what they need to do and when? How is all the work coordinated between everyone?

(Leisure activities)

- What do you like to do for fun (by yourself or with the family)?
- When do you usually have time to do the things you enjoy? How much of this time do you have?
- Tell me about one fun thing you recently did: what did you do? When was it?
- How did it work into the other things that you had to do that day?
  - Did you plan or schedule this in advance? If yes, how did you plan it?
  - If this was spontaneous, how did you come to do it?
  - Did you need to coordinate it with others?

(Other doings/un-doings)

- Are there other kinds of activities that you do besides the ones you talked about? If yes -- please tell me about one such activity: what was it? When did you do it? How did you come to do it? Why did you do it?
- Do you have moments or times when you don't have anything to do? What happens when such moments come up?

## II. Tools

(Possibly weave into previous questions, but ask here if there are other tools they haven't talked about)

- Do you use any tools to help you keep track of the things you have to do? (calendar, todo lists, reminders, email, sticky notes, phone)
- For each tool: can you show me how you use this tool -- for planning, carrying out activities, and handling the things you have to do?
  - When do you use it? When do you not use it?
  - Where do you use this tool?
  - Who else uses this tool? How does using the tool help you coordinate with others?
  - How do you decide what goes or doesn't go in this tool?
  - Does it help you to manage your time and/or activities?
    - If yes - how?
    - If not - why? What are the problems you find with this tool for managing your time and activities?
  - How do you feel about this tool?
  - How would you change this tool to help you manage your time and/or activities? If you could imagine the ideal version of this tool, how would it be different from the one you currently use?

- Are there tools you used in the past that you don't use anymore? What were they? Why did you stop using them?
- Are there tools you wish you had and you currently don't? How would they be useful to you?

### III. Reflection

- How do you think that you manage your time? How do you do it?
- Would you like to change how you manage your time? If yes, why? If anything, what prevents you?
- Can you tell me about another person that you know of who manages his or her time well? What does he/she do? How do they do it?
- Can you tell me about another person you know who manages their time badly?
- Do you feel that you are a busy person? Too busy?
  - If yes - why? What drives your busyness? (ask for example)
  - If not - how so? (ask for example)
- Do you think you should be doing more or less things that what you currently are doing? (Why?)
- If you could, would you change the way in which you spend your time? What would you change about it? Why?
- How does running a farm affect your life as a family?
  - What do you enjoy the most of being a farmer family?
  - What do you enjoy the least of being a farmer family?
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### End

- Is there anything else you would like to tell me about how you manage your daily activities and your time?
- Do you have any questions for me?

Feel free to contact me later if you would like to add something you think may interest me or if you have any questions you forgot to ask.

### Interview questions (children/teenagers)

- Tell me what you did yesterday, from the time you woke up until you went to sleep. (ask about school, work, after school activities, chores)
  - How did you know these were all the things you were going to do? (routine, someone told, just happened, written somewhere, other)
  - How did you get to places (school, work, after school activities, other places)?
    - How was this arranged? Did anyone help you?
- What do you like to do for fun? Do you do it together with anyone? When was the last time you did it?
- Do you help out on the farm? (If not, why?)
  - What do you do?
  - How do you know what to do and when?
- What technologies like mobile phones, computer, games, TV, DVD do you have?
  - What do you use it for? When do you use it?
  - Do you use it together with anyone in your family? Can you give an example of how you use it together?

- What do you like the most about living on a farm?
- What do you like the least about living on a farm?