

MICS Alpha-testing workshop and interview structure

Welcome & introduction (5 minutes)

(Re-)introduction to MICS.

- We are interested, not just in measuring the impact of the project but also characterising the project and providing useful feedback on how they can change and improve their project.

Context

- We have prepared a series of questions which we'd like to receive your feedback on.
- They are not the final set of MICS questions and there might be things which are missing.
- The questions are in Microsoft Forms. The interface on the MICS platform will be very different. You can provide comments on the questions as you see them, including how easy or difficult it is to answer them in the Forms but we will try and flag anything which we know will change in the platform.
- The indicators are not bound to a single domain.
- Almost everything is pre-defined. There are no free-text fields. But we are still building the answers, so if you select Other, we'll ask you for more details which we will use to improve our choice of answers going forward.
- People will not have to answer the questions in one go as we are doing today.

Purpose of the interview:

- To test the relevance and usability of the questions so that we can refine them before implementing them in a platform.
- To collect detailed data about each project to form the basis of an initial database for the MICS platform.

Practicalities:

- There are six questionnaires in Microsoft forms with a total of around 150 questions.
- We will go through each question together and you just have to answer it in the form.
- As you do, please describe your initial reaction and thoughts as you answer the question and give feedback on each question if you have anything to say. We might also ask questions about your reaction to the question.
- At the end of each questionnaire, we'll ask a few additional questions and there will be a short wrap-up at the end of all the forms.
- The interview is likely to take around five hours. We'll offer regular opportunities for breaks but feel free to request a short break whenever you want.
- (if an EU project) here is the Cordis link for your project which may be helpful for some of the basic questions.
- If during the interview you need to check anything please let us know what you're looking at e.g. Cordis, google scholar, project reports, so that we can use it to help future users answer the questions.

What MICS will do with the obtained information:

- From these interviews and other activities, MICS will test and refine this set of questions which can then be implemented on the MICS platform.

- The data collected on your project will also help us to develop the output of the MICS platform including how we describe the impact of each project.

All project data will be open access. All personal data, including pizza preferences and address will be strictly confidential.

[Make sure you have received a signed copy of the MICS Informed Consent sheet from the interviewee.]

Question prompts

- Does the question feel relevant to your project?
- Is the question easy to understand?
 - Do you need further information to answer the question?
 - Would more examples or prompts be helpful?
- Are any answer options missing in the question? If you selected “Other” what would your answer be in a free-text field?
- Are you able to answer the question with the information you have currently available or would you need to look things up or ask other people?
- Is there any way you can think of to improve the question?

Box 1: SDG questions asked only during the nine interviews and not during the workshop

- How did you choose the parameters that you are measuring in your project?
- If you are monitoring an SDG indicator, are you using the parameters required for the official reporting of the indicator
 - Do you know what these parameters are?
- If you’re not monitoring these parameters, why not?
 - A lack of knowledge about the SDG indicators and parameters?
 - No capacity in the project to align with the SDGs?
 - Not a project priority?
 - What would have made you consider using these parameters?

Section prompts

- Did any questions seem out of place or not relevant either to the domain or to the impact of your project?
- Did you find any questions particularly enjoyable, interesting or thought provoking?
- Did the order of the questions make sense?
- Are you surprised that we didn’t ask a particular question in this domain?

Wrap-up questions

- Follow up question to GG065 in general questions:
 - How would you rank the relative impact of the project in each of the five domains?
 - Can you score the project’s impact as “high” or “low” in each of these domains?
- How did you find the experience of answering all the questions?
- How do you think the experience would have been different if we weren’t together in a call? Would it have been easier or harder?
- Are you surprised that we didn’t ask a particular question? Is there anything missing in the 150 questions?

- Do you feel we could effectively characterise your project with the information collected in the questionnaires?
- Do you feel we could effectively measure the impact of your project with the information collected in the questionnaires?

Closing

Those are all the questions that we wanted to ask. Thank you for your time!

Explanation of the next steps

- All results from interviews will be analysed.
- The questions will be refined before being implemented in an online toolbox for citizen science projects to measure the (evolving) impacts of their project/initiative
- We will invite you to test the tools and give feedback

If these questions are implemented in the MICS platform, we'll offer to enter all the information you've provided today so that you don't have to refill all the questions.

We can now share some mock-ups of the project platform if interested.