



## **Pretesting in Nsanje**

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**faith. action. results.**

# Objectives of the pre-test

## Pretest the tools on:

- Understand the value of what already exists in terms of architecture, culture and technical solutions linked to the housing
- Understand the techniques and the evolution of local building practice
- Understand the impact of <<natural>> hazards on habitat, and identify local strategies to deal with these

## Pretest the skills to capture the required data

- Understand what exactly is required to be captured
- How best pictures can be taken with the required information on it

# Methodology

- Reviewed the forms
- Reviewed forms were adapted with support from CRAterre
- Trained enumerators on the content and usage of the forms
- Data collection
- Analysis of the data
- Synthesis of data
- Report writing
- GCRF team reviewed the reports and gave feedback
- CRS and CADECOM reworked on the comments and sent again to GCRF team
- GCRF team reviewed again and gave second feedback to CRS and CADECOM
- CRS and CADECOM reworking on the reports to include more data

# Procedure for the pre-test

- One day training on all forms and methodology of data collection
- Two days for data collection
- Divided into 4 work teams
- The team comprised of mixed social background

<b>Group</b>	<b>Work teams</b>	<b>No. of participants</b>
FDG	2	15(8M & 7F)
Disability	2	5 (3 F &2 M)
Women	2	10 F
Chief	1	1F
Household	2	2 different households
Tradesmen	2	2 different shops
Local artisans	2	6 M

# Assessment activities

- Selection of the site was done based on the existing project area that CRS and CARD is implementing a shelter integrated WASH project
- Contacted local authorities a day before the data collection and informed them on the number of groups needed, composition of each group, time and logistic arrangements
- The team drew up a detailed schedule on the 2 days data collection

# Lessons learnt/ Recommendations

## Trainings

- Adequate training for the enumerators (at least 3 days)
  - Enumerators to be trained on sketching skills
  - Enumerators to be trained on getting meaningful picture with an illustration
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- A need to develop a checklist on all activities to be captured so that all data is collected before leaving the site area
  - Once in the community, enumerators to observe and listen more to detail and pay attention to strength on existing structures and some weakness (strength-based approach)

# Lessons learnt /Recommendations

## On Methodology;

- Some questionnaires are too long; they will require a break in between (form 2)
- Community to be divided into smaller groups regarding COVID prevention

## Report consolidation

- Team to gather and brainstorm all the responses from site then report them just after the field exercise
- Each section to have detailed illustrative photos

# Strengths of the existing shelters

- Cheap local materials hence easy to maintain
- Mosquito-nets in windows to shield mosquitoes
- Plenty of trees around as wind breakers, shade and for cooling
- Masonry columns instead of timber poles post to avoid termites
- Narrow spacing on battens strengthening the roof
- Tied thatch grass with bamboos to avoid strong winds.
- Cladded with clay soil to add an extra protection layer to adobe soaking.



# Strengths of the existing shelters

- Skill in molding strong earth bricks
- Most people prefer burnt bricks to construct their houses
- Use of burnt brick for construction
- Mud-mortar on both foundations and walls.
- Double-brick wall for foundation
- Elevated foundations to prevent the adobe soaking and running water.



# Weaknesses of the existing shelters

- Roofing not well thatched to protect from leaking and strong winds
- Exposed walls cannot stand heavy prolonged rainfall
- Most houses are built without foundations



# Weaknesses of the existing shelters

- Few houses with foundations they don't use Damp-Proof Membrane after foundations
- Most house has no plinth wall to protect foundation from soaking.
- No adequate windows for ventilation and lighting
- Lack of gauze wire on opening for mosquito protection being a malaria area

Most house walls are not cladded, and floors are not smeared



# Weaknesses of the existing shelters

- health hazard as some household sleep with livestock in their houses due to security issues.



# Weaknesses of the existing shelters

- Roof not tied to walls with tie wire/linear thread hence prone to winds



- Latrines have no roofing and thus not safe during rainy season
- Use of weak burnt bricks

# Weaknesses of the existing shelters



# Thank You