

BRIEF

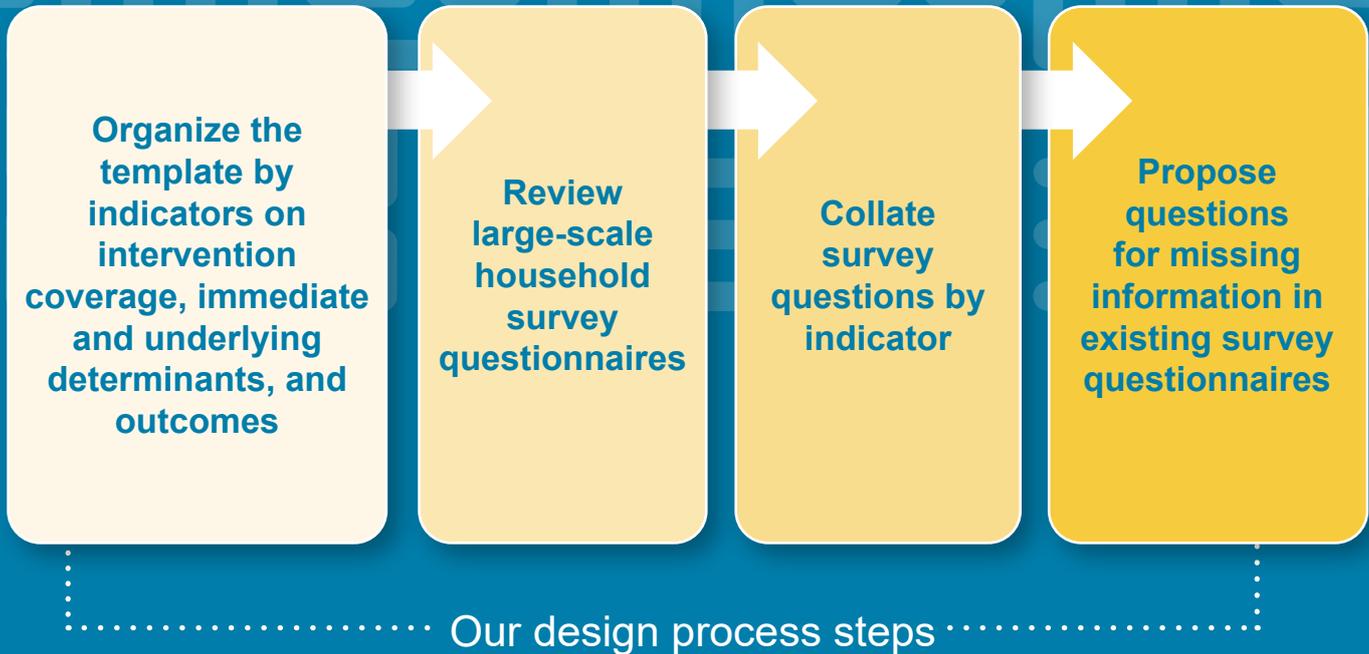
India household survey questions aligned to the POSHAN Abhiyaan interventions

Rationale and Purpose

Different metrics and data collection tools are used to track nutrition interventions and outcomes by government stakeholders, research organizations, and development partners in India, through large-scale surveys and impact evaluations. Ideally, measurement for monitoring progress by nutrition stakeholders should be harmonized with the national nutrition program. Using the list of indicators for the interventions, determinants and outcomes articulated in the [POSHAN \(Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment\) Abhiyaan](#) developed by NITI Aayog, IDinsight and IFPRI, we have compiled survey questions aligned to each nutrition intervention in an Excel file (attached).

The purpose of the compilation of survey questions is to provide a resource for measuring coverage of nutrition interventions as well as the related determinants and outcomes in India. This reference document is a work-in-progress that may be used in planning large-scale household surveys in India by national, state, and district-level government stakeholders, development partners, and research organizations.

Methodology



The compilation of household survey questions includes a set of questions across interventions, immediate and underlying determinants, and outcome indicators. Our design process involved the following steps:

1) Organize the template by indicators on intervention coverage, immediate and underlying determinants, and outcomes:

We organized information from the POSHAN Abhiyaan monitoring framework into separate worksheets. The worksheet is organized by a list of indicators, proposed questions for each intervention, response to question asked, source of proposed question, recall period for a question, and survey respondents.

2) Review large-scale household survey questionnaires:

We reviewed household and women questionnaires of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5, 2019-20; NFHS-4, 2015-2016), Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS 2016-18), UDAYA (Understanding the lives of Adolescents and Young Adults) Adolescent Survey, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, 2015-2016 by Population Council, and Alive & Thrive Maternal Nutrition study in Uttar Pradesh by IFPRI. We also referred to global survey questionnaires and modules - Demographic Health Survey - 8, Food Insecurity Experience Scale ([FIES](#)) for measuring food security, Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women ([MDD-W](#)) and the WHO guidance for measuring [IYCF \(Infant and Young Child Feeding\) indicators](#).

3) Collate survey questions by indicator:

From the survey questionnaires, we extracted the appropriate core survey questions aligned to indicators. Most survey questions are close ended.

4) Propose questions for missing information in existing survey questionnaires:

For interventions where questions were not available in existing survey questionnaires, potential questions were proposed based on adaptation from similar questions.

Figure 1: Interventions, immediate and underlying determinants targeted by POSHAN Abhiyaan (Source: Menon et al., 2020)

LIFECYCLE STAGES	INTERVENTION		IMMEDIATE DETERMINANT	UNDERLYING DETERMINANT	
		Adolescence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iron and folic acid (IFA) supplementation Deworming Food supplementation (in- and out-of-school) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy diets for all No illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of improved sanitation facilities Safe disposal of feces Safe water, hand washing No poverty Food security Care and education of the girl child Appropriate age at marriage Appropriate age at childbirth
	Preconception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IFA supplementation Contraception Food fortification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy diets for all No illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of improved sanitation facilities Safe disposal of feces Safe water, hand washing No poverty Food security Family planning to support birth spacing 	
	Pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mother and Child Protection (MCP) card Antenatal care (ANC) Treatment of complications Weighing Pregnancy care counseling Breastfeeding counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neonatal tetanus protection IFA supplementation Calcium supplementation Deworming Malaria treatment Food supplementation Maternity cash benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy diets for all No illness Consumption of IFA supplements Consumption of calcium supplements Consumption of food supplements Use of preventive health care (e.g. use of ANC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of improved sanitation facilities Safe disposal of feces Safe water, hand washing No poverty Food security
	Delivery & Postnatal period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family planning Institutional delivery Skilled birth attendant Cash transfer / financial assistance (for institutional birth) Emergency obstetric care Breastfeeding counseling at delivery Special newborn care (including home-based newborn care) Breastfeeding support after C-section Counseling on hygiene, cord care, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> kangaroo mother care Extra care for low birthweight babies Care of sick and small neonates Postnatal care for babies IFA supplementation Calcium supplementation Healthy diets for all No illness Use of preventive health care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy diets for all No illness Consumption of IFA supplements Consumption of calcium supplements Consumption of food supplements Use of preventive health care (e.g. use of ANC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of improved sanitation facilities Safe disposal of feces Safe water, hand washing No poverty Food security Family planning to support birth spacing
	Early Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full immunization Vitamin A supplementation Pediatric IFA supplementation Deworming Counseling on breastfeeding and complementary feeding Food supplementation Growth monitoring Counseling on nutritional status Identification of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and referral for community-based or facility-based care Oral rehydration solution (ORS) during diarrhea Zinc supplementation Treatment of acute respiratory infections (ARI) / Pneumonia Home-Based Care for the Young Child (HBYC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy diets for all No illness Exclusive breastfeeding and continued breastfeeding until 2 years Timely initiation of complementary feeding, minimum dietary diversity, minimum meal frequency, minimum acceptable diet. Consumption of IFA supplements Use of preventive health care and appropriate curative health care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of improved sanitation facilities Safe disposal of feces Safe water, hand washing No poverty Food security Family planning to support birth spacing

Use of compilation of the household survey questions

This compilation of questions is designed to provide a ready reference for researchers or organizations who are planning or conducting household surveys. To promote methodological research and harmonization, questionnaires should be designed in accordance with standardized questions, response options, recall periods, and respondent types. This will also help to optimize measures that align with the interventions targeted under POSHAN Abhiyaan.

For example, for anemia among pregnant women, refer to: (1) the intervention coverage worksheet for IFA supplementation, (2) the worksheet on immediate determinants for information on consumption of IFA supplements among pregnant women, and (3) the outcomes worksheet for indicator details on anemia among pregnant women.

References

The DHS Program. 2020. DHS Model Questionnaire - Phase 8 (English). Retrieved from <https://dhsprogram.com/publications/publication-DHSQ8-DHS-Questionnaires-and-Manuals.cfm>.

IIPS (International Institute for Population Sciences). 2015. National Family Health Survey—4 (2015–16). Accessed July 6, 2020. <http://rchiips.org/NFHS/NFHS4/schedules/NFHS-4Womans.pdf>.

IIPS (International Institute for Population Sciences). 2019. National Family Health Survey—5 (2019–20). <http://rchiips.org/NFHS/NFHS5/schedules/NFHS-5Womans.pdf>.

Menon, P., R. Avula, E. Sarswat, S. Mani, M. Jangid, A. Singh, S. Kaur, A. K. Dubey, S. Gupta, D. Nair, P. Agarwal, and N. Agrawal. 2020. Tracking India's Progress on Addressing Malnutrition and Enhancing the Use of Data to Improve Programs. POSHAN Report 12. New Delhi: International Food Policy Research Institute. <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134227>

Population Council, 2017, "UDAYA, Adolescent Survey, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, 2015-16", <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/RRXQNT>, Harvard Dataverse

MoHFW (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare), Government of India, UNICEF and Population Council. 2019. Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey, 2016–2018. New Delhi: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Accessed May 6, 2021. <https://nhm.gov.in/WriteReadData/l892s/1405796031571201348.pdf>.

Acknowledgements

Manita Jangid, Sattvika Ashok, and Purnima Menon from IFPRI led this effort and Rasmi Avula (IFPRI), Riley Auer (JHSPH), and Tricia Aung (JHSPH) provided feedback.

APHRC provided editorial and design support.

Suggested Citation

India Household Survey Questions Aligned to the POSHAN Abhiyaan Interventions. New Delhi: Data for Decisions in Nutrition (DataDENT), 2023.

PROJECT NOTE

The compilation of India household survey questions was led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) as part of the Data for Decisions in Nutrition (DataDENT) initiative. DataDENT is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and is implemented by four institutions: The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), Institute for International Programs (IIP) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and Results for Development (R4D).