

## Cognitive Testing of Small-Area Housing Environment Deterioration (SHED)

### Cognitive interview with think-aloud, ~20min

- Asking for personal details and interest in receiving study results
- Explanation for think-aloud: “When answering the following questions, please tell me everything you are thinking about or what is going through your mind before you answer the respective question. Please also say things that may seem unimportant to you.”  
[No demo video necessary. In this context everyone knows the principle of think-alouds]
- Probing questions on my part after ticking of respective answer
- 30 seconds to get an impression via pictures before answering

### Question 1:

Used cognitive techniques: think-aloud; category selection probing; if needed, emergent probing

#### 1.1 Think-aloud

“Please think out loud. The question is:”

*Is there any damage to windows or other glass?*

- no visible damage*
- minor cosmetic damage*
- minor structural damage*
- major structural damage*

#### 1.2 Category selection probing

“How do you distinguish the answer option 'minor cosmetic damage' from 'minor structural damage'?”

#### 1.3 If needed, emergent probing

Spontaneous question in response to a statement or behaviour of the person interviewed.



## Question 2:

Used cognitive techniques: think-aloud; comprehension probing; if needed, emergent probing

### 2.1 Think-aloud

“Please think out loud. The question is:”

*Is there any damage to the walls or roof?*

- no visible damage*
- minor cosmetic damage*
- minor structural damage*
- major structural damage*

### 2.2 Comprehension probing

“How do you understand the term 'structural' in this context?”

### 2.3 If needed, emergent probing

Spontaneous question in response to a statement or behaviour of the person interviewed.

## Question 3:

Used cognitive techniques: think-aloud; comprehension probing; if needed, emergent probing

### 3.1 Think-aloud

“Please think out loud. The question is:”

*Is there any garbage accumulation inside or outside the house?*

- no garbage accumulation*
- minor garbage accumulation*
- serious garbage accumulation*

### 3.2 Comprehension probing

“What do you understand by 'garbage accumulation' in this question?”

### 3.3 If needed, emergent probing

Spontaneous question in response to a statement or behaviour of the person interviewed.



#### Question 4:

Used cognitive techniques: think-aloud; comprehension probing; if needed, emergent probing

##### 4.1 Think-aloud

“Please think out loud. The question is:”

*Is there any graffiti on the walls inside or outside the house?*

- no graffiti*
- minor areas covered in graffiti*
- almost all walls covered in graffiti*

##### 4.2 Comprehension probing

“What do you understand by 'graffiti' in this question?”

##### 4.3 If needed, emergent probing

Spontaneous question in response to a statement or behaviour of the person interviewed.

#### Question 5:

Used cognitive techniques: think-aloud; comprehension probing; if needed, emergent probing

##### 5.1 Think-aloud

“Please think out loud. The question is:”

*Is the space outside the house, including gardens, well-kept?*

- gardens and outside space well-kept*
- some of garden and outside space overgrown and badly kept*
- almost all of garden and outside space overgrown and badly kept*

##### 5.2 Comprehension probing

“How do you distinguish between 'some' and 'almost all' in this question?”

##### 5.3 If needed, emergent probing

Spontaneous question in response to a statement or behaviour of the person interviewed.



## Question 6:

Used cognitive techniques: think-aloud; general/elaborative probing; if needed, emergent probing

### 6.1 Think-aloud

"Please think out loud. The question is:"

*How would you rate the overall living environment of the accommodation center?*

- very clean and well-kept*
- some areas dirty and badly kept*
- almost all areas dirty and badly kept*

### 6.2 General/elaborative probing

"How do you understand the term 'overall living environment'?"

### 6.3 If needed, emergent probing

Spontaneous question in response to a statement or behaviour of the person interviewed.

## Closing questions for the entire questionnaire:

### 7.1

"How does your answer to question 6 relate to your answers to questions 1-5?"

### 7.2

"Are there aspects of 'small-area housing environment' which you think are missing in this questionnaire?"

### 7.3

"When filling out the questionnaire, did you decide on an answer option rather intuitively/spontaneously or only after some consideration?"

### 7.4

"After my questions, was there any desire to change the answers you ticked off?"