

The
**Dignity
Project**

**Survey Scale 1:
Proximate Process
Reactions
Questionnaire**

Introduction

We know there's more to life than health and wealth. But if we want programmes to show respect, we have to measure it and we have to monitor it.

This scale is based on a particular definition of dignity. You can read more about the theory and definitions that underpin all this here at our website. We are continuing to develop our work on dignity and respect. This scale is currently being piloted in the field, and we plan to keep updating it. If you would like to discuss this initiative more, you can also always contact us.

This is the Proximate Process Reactions questionnaire. It is the first of three measures we plan to develop. Each has a different purpose.

Proximate process reactions questionnaire	For those people that receive aid, how do they evaluate the aid distribution process?
Dignity self-evaluation questionnaire	What are people's overall levels of dignity, and how does this compare between those who do and do not receive aid?
Incentivized responses method	How can levels of dignity be measured more truthfully, given the strong pressures to be nice to aid-givers? Questionnaires are a good start, but we need to develop an incentive-compatible game to draw out the same ideas.

Currently the scale is in English. We plan to translate it into other languages soon, and we will update it as we go.

Resources

If you want to ask these questions, there is a pre-programmed module in ODK Build or XML available on our website.

If you want to analyse the results from these questions, there is sample Stata code available on our website.

Scale

Introductory text

We would like you to think about your life in general, and how a person like you ought to be treated. Now, you recently [took part in/received/etc] [AID PROGRAMME]. Think about how you felt then. We would like to ask you some questions about how you feel you ought to be treated, and then ask you some questions about how you actually were treated.

Expectation

We will ask you to score how much effort you feel [AID PROGRAMME] ought to put into treating you in certain ways. This is on a scale of 1-10, where 1 means very little effort and 10 means a great deal of effort.

- 1A. How much effort ought [AID PROGRAMME] put into being respectful?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort
- 2A. How much effort ought [AID PROGRAMME] put into giving you choice?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort
- 3A. How much effort ought [AID PROGRAMME] put into tailoring it to your specific individual needs?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort
- 4A. How much effort ought [AID PROGRAMME] put into treating you as an equal?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort

Reality

We will now ask you to score how much effort you feel [AID PROGRAMME] actually to put into treating you in certain ways. This is on a scale of 1-10, where 1 means very little effort and 10 means a great deal of effort.

- 1B. How much effort did [AID PROGRAMME] actually put into being respectful?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort
- 2B. How much effort did [AID PROGRAMME] actually put into giving you choice?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort
- 3B. How much effort did [AID PROGRAMME] actually put into tailoring it to your specific individual needs?
1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort
- 4B. How much effort did [AID PROGRAMME] actually into treating you as an equal?

1=Very little effort, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10=A great deal of effort

Note on analysis

We are looking at the gap between expectation and reality; A-B.

In scale construction, question 1 should be weighted most heavily, and 2 should be weighted second most heavily. We suggest the following weights: Q1: 40%. Q2: 30%. Q3: 15%. Q4: 15%. This is because Q1 is an overall measure of respectfulness, while autonomy (Q2) was particularly emphasized by qualitative participants.

This gives us a scale for how respectful the aid programme is. It measures whether it was respectful of people's dignity. It does not measure the level of people's dignity, which is inalienable and cannot go up or down.