



ADMINISTRATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONNAIRE IN ROUND 6

As in Round 5, the Round 6 ESS Supplementary Questionnaire contains two sets of items. It begins with the 21-item Schwartz Scale of Human Values which continues to be of excellent analytical value. There then follow a number of test questions devised by UPF in consultation with the team at City University in order to test different wordings or approaches to measuring the same variables. These methods experiments are an integral part of the ESS, and aim to inform future question design both in the ESS itself and more widely. There are four different versions of the test questions, each administered to a split ballot of one quarter of respondents.

In Round 6 all countries will use the same experimental design. The only difference permitted between countries is in the choice of administration – some countries prefer to use face-to-face and others self-completion. This decision must be taken and communicated to the team at City University in advance of fieldwork (see below).

- All countries will field four versions of the supplementary questionnaire (whether face-to-face or self-completion) to a different group of respondents (see below). Each version will contain the same 21-point Schwartz scale of human values, followed by a DIFFERENT variant of the test questions
- As in Round 5, a split-ballot design is to be carried out, dividing the sample into four RANDOM SUB-GROUPS, each of whom will get the appropriate version of the Supplementary Questionnaire. In Round 6 there will be four groups (A, B, C and D) whereas in earlier rounds there were just three groups

The CST have produced eight different versions of the Supplementary Questionnaire – Versions F-2-F A, F-2-F B, F-2-F C and F-2-F D (face-to-face), and Versions S-C A, S-C B, S-C C and S-C D (self-completion). **Each country needs to email the team at City University (ess@city.ac.uk) to request EITHER the four face-to-face versions OR the four self completion versions. This is not for interviewers to decide, but for National Coordinators (with survey agencies) to determine in advance of fieldwork in each country.**

Occasionally respondents in countries using the self-completion method may in fact require interviewer help in administering the questions (for example because of poor sight or literacy problems). **In these exceptional circumstances only**, interviewers would use the same self-completion version and would complete it with the respondent. This must be recorded in the interviewer questionnaire.

Specific information about translating the Supplementary Questionnaires

The test questions in Section I are primarily re-formulations of questions already asked in the Main questionnaire. Translators should refer back to the Main questionnaire for annotations and should be careful to be consistent in their translations where the formulation is identical. Questions which are exact repetitions are marked in the footnote as 'Identical to Qx' and teams should use the same translation as in the Main questionnaire. Where questions are similar but not identical, the annotations and translations from the Main questionnaire should still be referred to, to ensure harmonisation where possible (these are marked in the footnote as 'Similar to Qx'). Sometimes there is only a very small amendment such as a change to the scale or to the introduction. For each question the corresponding question number in the Main questionnaire is given in a footnote. In addition, some new questions have been added to the supplementary questionnaire. These are marked in the footnote 'New Question'.

ACTION POINTS

1. NCs should consult and decide as soon as possible (if they have not already done so) whether the Round 6 Supplementary Questionnaire is to be administered in their country by face-to-face or self-completion methods and they should inform the City team accordingly.
2. As in R5, NCs must inform the City team (ess@city.ac.uk) in advance of fieldwork, their proposed method of randomly splitting the sample into Groups A, B, C and D for the Supplementary Questionnaire. Please remember that four groups are required in Round 6.
3. The City team will then send the appropriate four versions (face-to-face or self-completion) to each NC for translation, etc.

Note that where a self-completion methodology is employed the evidence suggests that a significantly higher response rate is achieved if the interviewer waits whilst the respondent completes the questionnaire. Furthermore, from a methodological perspective it is best if the time between completion of the main and supplementary interviews is as short as possible (and ideally if the supplementary is completed immediately after the main interview).