

## ESS Rounds 1 to 7 – Supplementary Questionnaire: contents and mode of administration

This document summarises how the Supplementary Questionnaire was administered in ESS Rounds 1 to 7. From ESS Round 8 onwards, all countries were asked to administer the entire questionnaire face-to-face.

### ESS Round 1 (2002)

In addition to the Human Values Scale, the [ESS1 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) contained 36 MTMM test questions. In the MTMM experimental design not all questions were asked to all respondents. Instead, the 36 questions were divided and randomly allocated to different respondents. Each country could choose between randomly allocating:

- Two different versions of the MTMM questions (each with 18 questions), plus the Schwarz items, or
- Six different versions of the MTMM questions (each with 6 questions), plus the Schwarz items

Thus, each country was free to choose both the mode of interview and the extent of random allocation. If the 6-version split was chosen, each respondent would get 6 MTMM questions plus the Human Values Scale, i.e. 27 questions in total (under 7 minutes). If the 2-version split was chosen, each respondent would get 18 MTMM questions plus the Human Values Scale, i.e. 39 questions in total (under 10 minutes).

As regards randomisation, for CAPI countries it could simply be built into the programme - either as a two-way or a six-way random split. For PAPI countries it could be achieved by collating the appropriate forms in order in a booklet, so that the interviewer could peel off one at a time when required. Alternatively, a suffix (A to F, or A to B) could be added to each serial number to ensure that each respondent was given the right form. This made it possible to randomise across interviewers and respondents.

### ESS Round 2 (2004)

As in ESS Round 1, the [ESS2 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) contained two sets of items: the 21-item Human Values Scale and a small number of MTMM questions testing different wordings or approaches to measuring the same constructs. These methods experiments are an integral part of the ESS, devised to inform future question design both in the ESS itself and more widely.

Unlike in Round 1, where different countries were free to choose different designs for the Supplementary Questionnaire, the process was simplified in ESS Round 2 so that all countries used the same experimental design. The only difference across countries was that some preferred to administer this part of the ESS face-to-face and others via self-completion questionnaire. The mode was chosen in advance of fieldwork by National Coordinators in consultation with their survey organisations and communicated to the CCT who then

supplied the appropriate questionnaires. Note that this decision could not be taken by interviewers.

All countries fielded three versions of the supplementary questionnaire (either face-to-face or self-completion) to different groups of respondents. Respondents were allocated into one of three random sub-groups using a split ballot design. Each version (A, B, C) contained the same 21-point Human Values Scale, followed by a different variant of the 12 test questions.

Thus, six different versions of the supplementary questionnaire were available: Versions F-2-F A, F-2-F B, and F-2-F C (face-to-face), and Versions S-C-A, S-C-B and S-C-C (self-completion). Only in exceptional circumstances could interviewers assist respondents with self-completion questionnaires - for example, where the respondent had difficulties due to poor eyesight or literacy problems. All such instances were recorded in the interviewer questionnaire.

### **ESS Round 3 (2006)**

The method for administering the [ESS3 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) was the same as that developed for ESS Round 2. This method was also used in ESS Rounds 4 and 5 (using the same number of supplementary questionnaire versions) and ESS Rounds 6 and 7 (using a different number of supplementary questionnaire versions).

### **ESS Round 4 (2008)**

The method for administering the [ESS4 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) was the same as that developed for ESS Round 2. This method was also used in ESS Rounds 3 and 5 (using the same number of supplementary questionnaire versions) and ESS Rounds 6 and 7 (using a different number of supplementary questionnaire versions).

### **ESS Round 5 (2010)**

The method for administering the [ESS5 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) was the same as that developed for ESS Round 2. This method was also used in ESS Rounds 3 and 4 (using the same number of supplementary questionnaire versions) and ESS Rounds 6 and 7 (using a different number of supplementary questionnaire versions).

### **ESS Round 6 (2012)**

The method for administering the [ESS6 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) was the same as that developed for ESS Round 2. This method was also used in ESS Rounds 3, 4, 5 and 7 (using a different number of supplementary questionnaire versions).

In ESS Round 6, all countries fielded four versions of the supplementary questionnaire (either face-to-face or self-completion) to different groups of respondents. Respondents were allocated into one of four random sub-groups using a split ballot design. Each version (A, B, C, D) contained the same 21-point Human Values Scale, followed by a different variant of the 9 test questions.

## **ESS Round 7 (2014)**

The method for administering the [ESS7 Supplementary Questionnaire](#) was the same as that developed for ESS Round 2. This method was also used in ESS Rounds 3, 4, 5 and 6 (using a different number of supplementary questionnaire versions).

In ESS Round 7, all countries fielded two versions of the supplementary questionnaire (either face-to-face or self-completion) to different groups of respondents. Respondents were allocated into one of two random sub-groups using a split ballot design. Each version (A and B) contained the same 21-point Human Values Scale, followed by a different variant of the 9 test questions.