**Impact Interview Transcription Family 1**

Interviewee: Cleophas Soita [CS]

Interviewer: Michiel Smits [MS]

Observer: Beata Duda [BD]

Social worker: Geoffrey Ngeywa [GN]

*[Group talking]*

MS: I am going to conduct an interview with you to get to know your new housing situation. We are, right now, in your old housing situation, your new house is in the back of where we're sitting. You are Cleophas Wafula *[00:00:22]* Soita living in the village of Sokonginja *[00:00:24]* and for the purpose of our research you have been given number 1, you know you where applicant number 1 of this research.

This interview is voluntary. It will take approximately one and a half to two hours, and can be stopped by you at all time. So, if you just feel like taking a break or you want to continue later on, it's definitely possible. If you have any questions or uncertainties, you are welcome to address during the interview and again, I have written the questions down and printed them to be precise. I am sorry that it feels impersonal but as you know, I have to be concise in compering the results of the family, so I need to ask exactly the same question to every family.

CS: Okay.

MS: Your family has applied for the Rural Housing Studio Project, which has helped you to build a new house for your family. By signing the contract you had committed your family to the project and you were able to abandon the project at all time.

This project is a part of my research at the Delft University And Technology in The Netherlands, and aims at helping rural families to build houses which would increase the level of the family's self-reliance and independence, although we have helped you to construct the new house, we intended to make you independent from external labor and the help of NGOs, which in this case is us as organization, your team Cone and Damien, but also the trust of the fund. In this way you will be able to maintain, extend, or replicate the new house by yourself. This interview is meant to understand how did you build your house, to what extent did you do it yourself, with the help of the community or with hired labor. We are curious if you are more self-reliant with regard to your housing situation after the team has left. Your team has left yesterday, so that's why we are here today.

Do you understand the procedure and what we're going to talk about?

CS: Yes.

MS: Alright.

*[Someone gets in, group hello]*

MS: So we are starting with some open questions, Cleophas, just to get some general idea on how you feel.

How do you think the project went?

CS: The project went on the way even though we had different ideas but reach a consensus.

MS: Okay.

Are you happy with the help you got, in this case, the team?

CS: I am very happy because one thing that *[inaudible 00:02:54]*

MS: And are you happy with the team you worked with, so the people that were in this team?

CS: Yes, I was very happy because they were good listeners and they were also flexible. They accepted ideas, to share ideas.

MS: Okay. Was the project what you have expected before we started this?

CS: I expected... this project, I knew that, according to the quotation I made, I thought the money I had in hand can complete the project, because of the long discussion and also consultation with the family, it made us to go to extra mile because we wanted to accommodate everybody.

**Question 1,** MS: Ehem. Yeah. Okay. The next questions are all about the new house.

Do you have a new house extension?

CS: Yes, I have.

**Question 2,** MS: Alright. Is that house finished?

CS: No.

**Question 2a,** MS: And why is it not finished?

CS: The time came when the team was leaving.

MS: So, it's time mainly.

CS: Ehem.

MS: Okay.

CS: Time, finances...

MS: Okay.

Did you have the whole sum budgeted with the team?

BD: Available.

MS: Sorry?

BD: Just was the whole sum available when you started the building.

MS: Yeah.

CS: Pardon?

MS: So, the whole sum needed for the building, was available from the beginning of the building? Was the money there to build the -

CS: It was there, that's why you saw we put it very fast when we started.

MS: As I understand from your earlier reply, is that there were some decisions made which made the project over budgeted. Because of that you are now in search of funds to finish the house?

CS: Yeah.

MS: So, you spent money on the materials and labor which was not budgeted by the team-

CS: Yes.

MS: ...that's kind of what I...

And could you, a little bit explain, what was that that you spent that wasn't budgeted for but you made those expenses - which were they?

CS: Mainly we expected the community to assist and I gave them food but this one make it very expensive because I was giving the community food. So those things came together and it made it more expensive than expected. Also, most of the comment members because they have their families to, to put their families they need to feed, and they need to be given something before the pay rent, feeding their families. So, it forced me to have expenses.

MS: Okay. We have some questions about that later on, going into more detail.

CS: Okay.

MS: About the time, if the resources, if the materials are available - how much time would you need to finish this house?

CS: We spent a lot of time on research of which I think two months could be better for construction.

MS: Okay. And you spent 6 I think now, 6 weeks.

CS: Yeah.

MS: So you needed like two weeks more.

CS: Yeah, I needed another two weeks more.

MS: Oh, yeah, let me tell you about... we had the evaluation with Damian yesterday and with Corne the day before. And based on their opinion and their insights, we used them to see in order to see what the differences or similarities are between their understanding of the project and yours to see if you are on the same line about the project.

BD: But your answers are not going to them, and the other way around. So, you are all anonymous in this.

MS: Yeah. I kind of hear you're stating that the research took... the research part which is basically the support part, that took a lot of time. Is that the main problem that came out of the support, do you believe? Did consume too much time or do you also think that there were other things that...

CS: You see, researches needed to have time because after doing a research, is where they discovered that we can use bottom soil and caldon and sand to make bricks. That was very good to me and I think we did that from the research as they have  discovered this way to make bricks, the researches needed enough time so that they discovered the quality brick.

MS: So, you suggest that the total project time should have been longer?

CS: Yeah.

MS: So, instead of maybe 4 to 4.5, which maybe have been 5 to 6 months?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 2b,** MS: Ehem. What is not finished on the new house? What still needs to be done?

CS: We need to raise up the roof, as we've reached the lime so, we need to make the roof, then we put on iron sheets.

MS: And in terms of finishes, any finishes or doors, windows?

CS: Also the doors, we need doors, windows...we need to also finish the floor.

BD: And are the walls going to have any finish?

CS: The walls I think I only put the plaster.

MS: And plaster.

BD: Good idea.

CS: I need to plaster it.

**Question 2c,** MS: Do you have the knowledge/skills to finish this by yourself?

CS: Yes, I have the knowledge because theoretically I have been given ideas from Damian and Corne. We discussed and they told me how the wall is supposed to stay, and as I am saying I propose cement and they advised me not to use cement.

MS: It works together with adobe.

CS: Yeah. And also they advised me to make a steel door outside, and in the inside will be wooden. And also they made a chimney which I need to finish so that they could see before they fix the typo of the *[inaudible 00:10:56]*

MS: So like a rooftop.

CS: Yeah.

**Question 2c1,** MS: Do you think you need to hire labor for these parts?

CS: I think because I still rely on technicians I need ideas. I need to hire labor.

**Question 2c2,** MS: Do you think you will receive help from the community, people that are coming to volunteer in order to finish the house or not?

CS: I don't think so.

**Question 2d,** MS: Okay. You kind of already answered this, do you have the means to finish the house, or you have the financial means now to buy the materials?

CS: Financial means I have but not enough, because of the school fees. I need to pay for school.

**Question 2e,** MS: Are you planning to finish the house?

CS: I am planning to finish the house, that's why I say probably I need a loan to finish because I don't have enough money to finish it.

**Question 3,** MS: Okay. You kept your old house, but are you planning to keep it?

CS: Yeah, I am planning to keep it.

**Question 4,** MS: What is the size of the new house?

CS: 6.2 meters by 11.2 meters.

**Question 5,** MS: How many rooms does your new house have?

CS: 5 rooms.

MS: Which is -

CS: One toilet and a bathroom.

MS: So, that's 7 in total.

CS: No, no. 6. The toilet is part of the bathroom.

MS: Okay. 6. So, bathroom, you have a kitchen...

CS: Sitting room.

MS: Sitting room, yes.

CS: 3 bedrooms.

**Question 6,** MS: Is the house large enough for the whole family including your old house?

CS: It's enough.

**Question 7,** MS: How did you finance your house, was it out of savings, loan or income?

CS: It was out of savings.

**Question 8,** MS: Ehem. What type of house was built? So, if you would describe this type of house, is it earth, bricks, blocks?

CS: The house during the foundation is started with the natural stones, then after that we used bricks.

**Question 9,** MS: Who decided to build this type of house?

CS: Dutch institution in conjunction with my family.

**Question 10,** MS: And why do you believe so?

CS: I think there was an advertisement where I applied and I was one of the lucky people who was taken, so when they came we sat together, we shared ideas and we decided to put it as a family because part of the family they wanted to know how I live. According to me, I explained to them and they saw that I needed a decent house because that's where we are sitting this house it was constructed long time ago and it's not worth according to this time.

**Question 11,** MS: Okay. We would like to list the materials that were used from foundation to the doors and finishes of the new house? So in the foundation you used natural stones.

CS: We started with murram.

MS: Ah, ja. Sorry.

CS: Then natural stones, sand.

MS: And they were bonded together with mortar?

CS: Yes, mortar.

MS: And then the floor?

CS: For the floor we used murram after that we started with the bricks.

MS: Yeah, the walls.

CS: The mortar was sand and cement.

MS: And the bricks are made out of?

CS: The?

MS: The bricks. What are they made of?

CS: They are made of bottom soil and sand *[inaudible 00:16:32]*

MS: You are planning lime finish inside outside for the house?

CS: Lime, yeah.

MS: And the roof?

CS: Gal sheet.

MS: And the construction roof?

CS: Timber.

MS: You are planning to use Cyprus or...?

CS: Cyprus, soft wood.

MS: And for the doors you already answered. So the front door will be steel, and the interior will be wooden?

CS: Yeah. Windows will be glass windows. The frame will be metal.

**Question 12,** MS: Alright. Who decided to use these materials? So, if you look at the things that you listed we'll go through from foundation to the windows. So, for the foundation, the murram, the stones, the sand and the cement - who decided to use these materials?

CS: We as a family, in conjunction with Corne and...

MS: Okay. And the floor, the murram?

CS: The same.

MS: And the walls, so the damp proof cement?

CS: The damp proof we used it because we wanted to prevent moisture, from down to go up.

MS: And we is, again family and team or...?

CS: No, it was the family, Corne and Damian.

MS: Okay.

CS: We sat as a family and we decided together.

MS: Yeah. Okay. And the bricks? The choice of using adobe blocks?

CS: We decided together. Everything we are doing as a team.

MS: So the cement also, and the walls?

CS: The cement, I think, the family insisted because the family saw that it is using a lot finance putting up the whole and because we just not had been experienced, the family insisted that the mortar of cement should be used because the family was not very sure of mud or if it will last for long. That's the problem *[inaudible 00:19:21]*

MS: And about the lime finish?

CS: The lime finish I saw advisable it doesn't absorb moisture.

MS: And it was a decision again together?

CS: Yeah, we decided together.

MS: And the roof?

CS: The roof also we decided together, maybe the soft wood.

MS: And the galsheet also?

CS: The galsheet I've changed because I've changed alone from the family and they said this is security.

MS: And the doors and the windows, you already explained I guess. So, the steel door was advised by the team -

CS: No, we decided together. We discussed it. Most of the things that happened, we have been discussing together. We were having a meeting, every morning they came. We started the meeting to see what is supposed to be done.

**Question 13,** MS: Why do you believe it was decided to use these materials? So, when you look at the foundation work: the murram, the stones, and the cement-why do you believe this was chosen as a solution for your new house?

CS: I think we decided to use it because according to this place or this area we see that during foundation we needed to have hard cores and murram, and we have seen that in this foundation we are missing hard cores because of the team who keep saying that because the soil is very stable we can use murram and natural stone of which I think it was an advice from the team of which we are great because we believe what they did was good.

MS: And then, there wasn't murram slab to give it sufficient stability that was quarry stone foundation and cement to make it strong in the base, because there are different ways of making foundation works, right?! And this is heavy quarry stone with cement, and why you believe this type of foundation was used, although they removed the hard core because it's a stable underground, if you ask a person you would say this is quite a severe strong heavy foundation. Why do you believe that was chosen for your project?

CS: I think according to the soil texture, we sat together and they said because this soil is good, it cannot crack, we just use murram instead of mixing the mortar with hard core. And I believe because we used a lot murram the house will be very stable and I agreed to that because the *[inaudible 00:23:02]* for that centimeter of murram we used in foundation was good enough to sustain the weight of the house.

MS: Okay. Clear. And what about the floor? Why it was decided to use these materials as a floor?

CS: The floor, we used murram *[inaudible 00:23:28]* because that murram it is. If *we [inaudible 00:23:34]* it will be more stable.

MS: And will this floor have a finish?

CS: No.

MS: No. So, it will be murram floor?

CS: I think I used murram to finish the floor.

MS: Okay. And it will remain like that?

CS: What?

MS: It will stay like that, the whole floor of the new house it will remain murram?

CS: No, I used the modern cement.

MS: So, there will be a screed of cement on top of the murram.

CS: Yeah.

MS: And why did you choose for this finish?

CS: I think I wanted the floor to be very good, when we do mopping...

MS: For cleaning.

CS: Yeah.

MS: And what about the walls? So the damp line you already explained, this is to prevent moist to go up. The adobe bricks, why these developed as a solution for your project?

CS: We decided because it was a material which we ourselves made from this place, and it was found locally available even though we transported the sand to mix it but bricks who are made local so it's like the material is local.

MS: And is that the only reason you bought it, that is locally or there are also other reasons why this brick was developed?

CS: The brick, I think most of... to me, it's also easy for me to construct the house. And the tools, one method of telling the community which I come from that we can even use our soil to make bricks, to construct permanent house.

MS: And in relation to other materials, to regular brick, what are the other advantages, besides that it's locally available and we can offer this to the community?

CS: Yeah. Another advantage it can provide income to the community because they can make it the same.

MS: Timo.

CS: Timo?!

MS: We met with him in the hotel just now. Okay. Clear.

And lime, you already explained, so this is because the lime is not extracting moisture from the other bricks.

CS: Yeah. So, I explained that the lime prevent... won't absorb moisture to the wall because the bricks have not been done so we use lime to avoid absorption of moisture to the wall.

MS: And the roof? So, the galsheets you already explained so that is a decision that you made and the soft wood why was that decision made?

CS: The soft wood first of all, it's very easy for somebody to make if it's heating the nail, is easy for the nail to get in and also easy for me to make a choice when joining.

MS: It's easier to handle *[soft wood].*

The steel door and the windows, why were they used as a solution?

CS: The steel door I used it because of the security, because it's outside and it's something which is very stable.

MS: Yeah. And the wooden doors inside?

CS: Wooden doors I think it's safe to be inside because they will be closing the rooms.

MS: Okay. And the windows? So the steel with glass windows? Why did you choose those?

CS: I just need metal windows, glass windows because of the nature of the house.

**Question 14,** MS: Are those materials locally available? So, are they in walking distance from your house or by using your own means? So, I'll just list them and you can say if they are locally available or not.

CS: Okay.

MS: Murram?

CS: Murram not locally available. It's within but I hired transport.

MS: Yeah. I understand. The quarry stone?

CS: I also hired transport.

MS: Okay. The sand?

CS: I hired...

MS: Hired someone to get it for you?

CS: Yeah.

MS: Okay. The cement?

CS: I bought from *[inaudible 00:29:12]* transport.

MS: The damp lime?

CS: I bought it from *[inaudible 00:29:18]*

MS: The adobe blocks you kind of explained that the soil is local but you mixed it with sand, which is not local. You had to buy that.

CS: Yeah.

MS: *[inaudible 00:29:29]* inside there. Is that locally available?

CS: That was locally

MS: And there's also cement and again that's the same.

The lime?

CS: The lime we bought from *[inaudible 00:29:42]*

MS: Okay. The Cyprus is it locally available?

CS: It is locally.

MS: The galsheets?

CS: *[inaudible 00:29:56]*

MS: The steel door?

CS: Also not locally available.

MS: Ehem. And the windows?

CS: Wooden doors are made from my place, because that's why I say locally available because the timber is made from here.

BD: The next one is answered.

MS: Yeah, right.

BD: Ehem.

**Question 14a,** MS: So, in the cases that you were moving materials, you were mainly hiring other people to transport for you?

CS: Yeah.

**Question 15,** MS: I know this is kind of a rhetorical question; I'll just go through it really quickly, because I know that you know this absolutely well. If you are aware what is a natural resource and what is a produced resource. Murram?

CS: It is...

MS: Is it a natural resource or is it being produced?

CS: Murram is natural resource.

MS: The quarry stone?

CS: Natural resource.

MS: The sand?

CS: Natural.

MS: Cement?

CS: Not natural.

MS: The damp lime?

CS: Produced?

MS: The adobe block?

CS: Also...

MS: Yeah, it's a bit of a confusion. The materials inside are natural materials, we talk about *[inaudible 00:31:30]* sand and murram.

CS: Yeah. That one is a bit confusing because soil is natural, sand is natural, *[inaudible 00:31:45]* is not natural.

MS: Being produced by cows.

*[Laughter]*

MS: And the block is made by hand, but it consists of natural resources.

CS: Yeah.

MS: The lime?

CS: The lime is not natural.

MS: Cyprus?

CS: Cyprus is not... that one I cannot tell if it's natural.

MS: Because you have to -

CS: To plant.

MS: Yeah. And the galsheets?

CS: That one is not natural.

MS: Steel door?

CS: Not natural.

MS: And the windows?

CS: No.

**Question 16,** MS: Okay. Just to get an idea your understanding on how expensive you consider those materials to be. We will go through them again, and you can list that they're very cheap, cheap, affordable, expensive or very expensive in relation to your new house.

CS: Okay.

MS: Murram?

CS: Murram, affordable.

MS: The stone, the quarry stone?

CS: Was expensive.

MS: Expensive. Sand?

CS: Affordable.

MS: Cement?

CS: Expensive.

MS: Then the adobe blocks?

CS: Those are bricks, those are affordable.

MS: Damp lime?

CS: Affordable?

MS: The lime? You haven't bought it yet but -

CS: I think is affordable.

MS: It's cheaper than cement. The Cyprus?

CS: The Cyprus is affordable.

MS: It comes from your own shamba.

CS: I only hire labor.

MS: Ah, ja. Okay. The galsheets?

CS: It's expensive.

MS: Steel door?

CS: Expensive.

MS: And the wooden doors?

CS: Not expensive.

**Question 17,** MS: Alright! Where you at the construction site every day or you kind of already answered, I guess.

CS: I was not there every day. I was there only morning and hours in the night. I left because of some personal duties, which I needed to pay.

**Question 17a,** MS: Where there other family members on the site every day?

CS: Some.

MS: Some.

CS: Not all.

**Question 18,** MS: What phases of the building were you directly involved in? Please explain what you did per construction phase. First one is the ordering of materials. So, where you directly involved in this phase?

CS: Ordering materials?

MS: Yes.

CS: Was over there.

MS: Measuring in all the phases or foundation, floor, walls...?

CS: All phases. As I looked the equipment to assist measuring.

MS: Ehem. So, you were involved... and in terms of building? Either digging or mixing or...

*[Interruption in the background]*

CS: All the procedures on this house I was involved because... Every morning we are meeting and discussing.

**Question 19,** MS: Do you think you were involved enough into the project of building your house?

CS: Yes, I was involved enough because I was providing everything, because I was the sole provider of everything.

**Question 20,** MS: What phases were your family members involved in?

CS: First of all in measuring, making bricks...

MS: Anything else?

CS: Construction.

MS: Of?

CS: Foundation.

MS: Do you think that they're still gonna be involved in parts of making the roof or the doors?

CS: Yeah, they'll be involved because *[inaudible 00:36:36]* even making food they are involved. Those people also needed food. If you are not in the kitchen, you are in the site.

**Question 21,** MS: Did you have help from your family, friends and community members? This is around... other people, not your direct family.

CS: Yes, but not always.

**Question 21a,** MS: From who?

CS: From Philip.

MS: Ah, Philip. *[Chuckles]*

CS: Also Samuel.

MS: Ah, ja?!

BD: Is he a community member, friend?

CS: Philip?

BD: Samuel, sorry.

CS: Samuel is a neighbor.

MS: Philip is a friend, eh?!

CS: Yeah, he's a friend. Samuel is a neighbor.

MS: Anybody else?

CS: Pastalena, also Timo.

MS: Ah ja.

CS: There are so many people.

MS: Yeah, there were a lot of people around.

CS: Sometimes I forget.

MS: But you consider these the people to be... that were helping you from the community friends.

CS: Yeah.

**Question 21b,** MS: Alright! And what did they help you with? So Philip, which parts of the-

CS: During foundation, he tried to do that.

MS: Anything else?

CS: During measuring.

MS: Ehem. And Samuel?

CS: Samuel also during foundation.

MS: Anything else?

CS: Making the bricks.

MS: What about Timothy?

CS: Timothy making the bricks.

MS: Anything else?

CS: Constructing the wall.

MS: And was he also involved in the foundation works?

CS: Yeah, yeah.

MS: Do you think Timothy will be involved in the things that are to come?

CS: I think he will be involved.

MS: Okay.

BD: And Leonard?

MS: *[inaudible 00:39:36]*

GN: Next session.

MS: Ehem. In which parts was he involved?

CS: Who?

MS: Leonard, the *[inaudible 00:39:44]*

CS: Making bricks.

MS: Anything else?

CS: Making bricks.

**Question 21c,** MS: Okay. Would you consider this a small or substantial help?

CS: I think it was substantial because other people are not willing to assist because when it's *[inaudible 00:40:09]*

MS: Yeah. And if you consider the whole project, the whole house and there were involvement as a part of it, is it still substantial or if you consider mainly it was higher so the contribution was small.

CS: The contribution I think it was small, because most of the work *[inaudible 00:40:43]*

MS: Which you consider-

CS: Before we continue, these people they don't work for long, they came for 20 minutes, one hour.

**Question 21c1,** MS: Casually. The people that helped you from the community, would you say that these are mainly skilled or unskilled tasks?

CS: They are not skilled.

**Question 21c2,** MS: Did the team teach the community member new skills in your point of view?

CS: *[inaudible 00:41:24]*

BD: We already know. [To MS]

**Question 21c3,** MS: Yeah. But maybe the next is important to stay that officially in what way they were compensated. In your perception, the people that came and helped voluntarily or paid how did you compensate them? It's kind of an obvious thing but how did you compensate them for the work that they've done?

CS: People that were assisting me, they were sometimes, if during the breakfast they were given breakfast, if they were here during lunch time they were given lunch. Two meals.

**Question 21d1,** MS: Okay. And also... there were also people that were hired for labor. Would you consider the people that you hired for some of the works or for most of the works?

CS: For some of the works it made me to hire because I wanted the work to go very fast.

**Question 21d2,** BD: And were they unskilled workers or fundis?

CS: Who?

MS: The people that you hired, were they skilled or unskilled or both?

CS: About the payment?

GN: The quality

CS: Sorry. Some had the idea of construction, others didn't.

MS: So, like -

BD: Next one?!

**Question 21c,** MS: Ehem. I am still wondering if you consider the people that, in the end if you look at the whole project till now, the people that you hired, if you look at the total work, small portion of it or if it's really most of it?

CS: Yeah, those people I hired have done a lot of work in collaboration with Corne and Damian, because they were working according to the instruction from Corne and Damian.

MS: Yeah.

CS: So they did most of the work, they assisted.

**Question 22,** MS: Okay, okay. To what extent do you have the knowledge to build in the way that they new house was built, and we'll just go through different phases of the house and you can state five different levels that you think you are aware how to build that? So, you either are unknowing, you are a beginner, you are familiar, proficient, expert or teacher. So you have 5 levels: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. *[Laughing]* So, it's up to you. When we talk about the foundation, knowledge to build in this way, where would you rank yourself?

CS: I think I am familiar, or I know what is supposed to be done from the foundation. I think before we sat the foundation we need to be measurement. You cannot dig foundation before you studied measurement. We measure, we dig the foundation, we find the level using the level tool, after finding according to how it looks, how the ground behaves. After putting the murram, we put 15 centimeters murram, then we combat it after then we start putting the mortar of sand plus cement. After putting the mortar we start constructing with natural stones. So we did three layers of natural stones. After finishing those layers, we started with the walls.

MS: Where would you, in the wall making, position yourself?

CS: I think I was just involved in posts, everywhere, because I know how -

MS: You are familiar or -

GN: Knowing familiar, beginner...

MS: It's all about where you rank yourself. When we talk about the foundations-

CS: I think I have enough experience.

MS: Okay. Enough as I don't need fundis, I can do this myself.

CS: This time I need to, I can do it myself.

MS: And would that be familiar, proficient?

CS: I think I am proficient, because I have enough skills.

MS: Did the team-

BD *[to MS]*: Roof.

MS: Oh yeah, the roof and other things to come obviously. The roof making because that will be done without the team being here. Are you going to do this yourself or you are going to get people in?

CS: I think I will do it myself. I just hired *[someone]* to assist me because I know the measurements of timber which is needed. Like now we need to cut 50 feet of timber of which 4 by 2 might be, I needed like 550 and that would be 3 by 2 of which I know the measurements. It is just the matter of joining, joins...

MS: You have done it before. You are aware of carpentry.

CS: No, no.

*[Laughter]*

CS: Because of sitting together and discussing.

MS: I understand.

CS: And I was looking at the terrace of the house, maybe to see how to do.

MS: Okay. So, you would also position yourself where when it comes to roofing?

CS: Yeah.

MS: Like on which level?

CS: Expert.

MS: And the doors and the windows?

CS: I have skills.

MS: Proficient or expert?

CS: I am expert because even though I've been having people to assist me, but I've been also directing how to fit.

**Question 23,** MS: Okay. Did the team train you or your other family members to build this phase? So, if you look at the house, did the team train you how to build this way?

CS: Yeah, the team has trained me and one of my family members, like my daughter. She knows how to measure; she knows how to levelize...

MS: And what about yourself?

CS: I also know. I have experience.

MS: So, about the foundation. You already stated like all the processes that are necessary in making the foundation. So you clearly know in terms of process what is needed for that, but did they also train you not only in terms of processes but also how to do that, so how to mix the mortar..

CS: Yes, I am trained and I have skills of mixing the mortar.

MS: And in terms of the setting the quarry blocks?

CS: Also I know. I have experience.

BD: 24.

**Question 24,** MS: Yeah?! Do you know how to repair the house when it's finished?

CS: Yes, I know.

**Question 24a,** MS: Do you believe if you would lose your income, you could still afford the repairs to this house? If the wall cracks, if something falls off, or breaks?

CS: Yes, I can afford.

MS: Even though that your income would... you would lose your income, you still believe that you could afford to make the repairs to that house?

CS: Yes, I will do.

**Question 25,** MS: Could you extend or duplicate the house by yourself with your family or the community. Do you believe that you could extend this house or make another one by yourself now?

CS: Yes, I can make another one by myself.

**Question 26,** MS: Are you satisfied with your new house?

CS: Very much satisfied.

**Question 26a,** MS: What do you like about the house?

CS: The house is *[inaudible 00:51:19]*

MS: Anything else, like whatever pops up. If you compare it to this house...

CS: I think the house can accommodate most of my family members and it is also secure.

MS: Oh yeah. Okay. I don't have to force yourself to come with... just the main what you like about this...

CS: It is spacious. Just enough space. Enough ventilation.

**Question 26b,** MS: What do you believe that makes your house special?

CS: *[inaudible 00: 52: 17]* I've never stayed inside the house.

MS: What don't you like about the house? Are there things that you don't like about the new house?

BD: No. Cleophas know, so we don't have to ask.

MS: Again?

BD: We don't have to ask those... 27.

**Question 27,** MS: Ah, sorry. What would you say that your house have in common with other houses in the community? Any similarities?

CS: The similarity of the house... That house?

MS: Yeah.

CS: It's not similar with the houses in this community because... a little bit different, the other thing, it has been made with local materials, brick, which is made from the local soil... the soil from the Commando which has not been... it is the first time for us to use bricks from these soil. Yeah. Another one, engineers have been from abroad institution not in Kenya. That's why is special.

**Question 28,** MS: How much did the whole house cost including the roof and the things that are still to come, the lime, the doors..?

CS: It's going to cost 450.000. That is the minimum.

MS: *[sigh]*

CS: It could have cost more.

**Question 29,** MS: Looking back at the project and realized house, could you realized this house without the help of the team? Please explain why. That you needed the team or not.

CS: Pardon?

MS: Looking back at the project, the house that was built, could you have realized, could you have finished/built this house without the help, do you think?

CS: Without the team I don't think I could have such a house.

MS: Okay. Alright.

CS: The first initiative.

MS: The following questions are questions about the house you desired, this is not the house that was built but it's the house you had in mind before we started all of this.

CS: Yes.

**Question 30,** MS: What do you think about that, would you have liked/preferred a different house than this one?

CS: No.

MS: You can be honest about it, eh?! *[Chuckles]*

CS: I think I could not have to prefer another house like this one because that house I think it is good.

MS: Clear.

CS: I am content with it.

MS: Good. *[To BD]* We can skip the page 13, right?!

BD: No. The question 33. It's little bit of repetition but I think it's important.

**Question 33,** MS: Would have preferred your house differently? If you look at this house, anything about what you desired, would you have liked to build it differently, even if it's slightly differently?

CS: According to the new house, if I call it something which I desired, there's no way I can decide to say that I look for another design in that house.

MS: But in terms of the materials or anything, or the looks of it, the color or anything that you would have said 'Okay, I would have preferred it differently'?

CS: I think the materials are good. I prefer using the same materials.

BD *[to MS]:* Next section.

MS *[to BD]*: Page 13, eh?!

The last part of the interview will be about the team and the research process.

CS: Okay.

**Question 45,** MS: The team will not be notified about what you are saying, so it's between us. Just to know what's your perception is on the team and how the communication and all that.

How would you describe the communication with your team?

CS: The communication was very good.

MS: That's it. It's very good.

CS: Excellent.

**Question 46,** MS: *[chuckles]*

Did you like the ideas the team presented to you?

CS: Of course.

**Question 47,** MS: Did the team incorporate your ideas into the design of the house?

CS: Yes.

MS: What would you say were your ideas that you...?

CS: First of all, we sat together in this house, then they asked the family how do you think... are you content with this house and we said 'no'. And they said what type of house you need. We said we wanted a circular house. They said how many rooms. Initially we wanted seven rooms but according the finance we tried to minimize the rooms. We agreed that we are going to make five rooms plus one bathroom, and we did so. After having several meetings we did.

**Question 48,** MS: Clear. Who was mainly making the final decisions about the new house?

CS: We as a team. We decided as a team, not one person.

MS: And as a team you mean?

CS: My family plus Corne and Damian.

**Question 49 & 50,** MS: Okay. Do you feel you were forced into any decisions by... Neither.

Did you force any decisions on the team?

CS: Ja. During the mortar of bricks on the house. And they are not for cement and sand. They wanted to use the soil. I decided not. As I said, I wanted something which very *[inaudible 00:59:40]* I believed it was just clear and I did not want to hear some things to try. I thought about experimenting, I said if I am putting money, why I experiment the model of mud. That's why we fight and I said, I don't want to hear about the model of mud. But we came together and they agreed, that one made me not agree with them because I wanted to see something that is *[inaudible 01:00:27]*

MS: Are there any other decisions that you would say that were forced on the team?

CS: No, no, no.

MS: Okay.

CS: Only that one. There is also *[inaudible 01:00:38]* for the reinforcement of the wall. I just bought it without the ideas because I knew wall pass was very important when making walls.

**Question 51,** MS: Okay. Do you believe the team had substantial influence in making decisions or they mainly advising and the family made the final decisions?

CS: We were just making decisions as a team.

MS: Okay.

CS: They didn't make decisions alone.

**Question 52,** MS: Do you think the team would have preferred to build the house differently?

CS: No.

BD: 54.

MS: Ehem. Why were these ideas...

BD: No, sorry.

**Question 55,** MS: 55. Were you feeling comfortable talking to the team members about your wishes and ideas?

CS: Because they are good listeners they were cooperating and they were sharing ideas with me.

MS: And the same counts for the rest of the family?

CS: Also the rest of the family enjoyed their company.

**Question 56,** MS: Were there any conflicts between you and the team?

CS: I didn't have any conflict. We have different ideas...

**Question 57,** MS: Yeah, I know. Conflict is more *[multiple people talking]*. It's totally something else.

What types of buildings did the team propose to you as a new house solution?

CS: The type of the house was the permanent house.

MS: I assume that they gave you alternatives to select.

GN: Other alternatives, cause there are more than one, two, three..

CS: Yeah, there were alternatives they wanted to ask me if I accept to make timber permanent house. And I said, timber with this weather, no.

MS: Okay. Any other alternatives that they proposed?

CS: No, it was only these two.

MS: Bricks and timber.

CS: Also, they wanted to make from the natural stones alone. So, they saw that natural stones, as we said, was very expensive.

MS: Very expensive.

CS: Yeah.

**Question 58,** MS: Why in the end, did you choose this one?

CS: I saw this one was a little bit cheaper.

MS: And in terms of the timber, more suitable for this area?

CS: It's not very suitable.

**Question 59,** MS: Okay. Were you convinced and comfortable with this choice? So, you agreed to make the decision on the solution.

CS: You see the solution we came up with the discussions, long discussions. We agreed together, then we decide that as a team not me alone.

MS: You were comfortable in making the decision together?

CS: Yeah, we are very comfortable in the family.

**Question 60,** MS: Did the team explain why they advise you on that type of building?

CS: Yes, they explained very well. One way to use the money, which was in hand.

MS: Were there any other arguments besides money that they came up with?

CS: No, they didn't give it to me.

**Question 61,** MS: Okay. Do you think the team is happy with the result of the project?

CS: I think they are happy, even though the project is not finished, but the team is very happy.

**Question 62,** MS: The closing questions are open questions, just to... that you can share what you feel and what you think about the project.

Do you have any regrets about the project? Looking back at your whole period, do you have any regrets?

CS: Regrets you cannot miss because of huge finance which was been put there.

MS: So that will be your regret that it's really a lot of money that you have to put in there?

CS: Which I didn't expect.

MS: Yeah.

CS: That I would say I regret.

**Question 63,** MS: That's definitely understandable looking at the sum.

What would you have done differently in the project, not just general? Would have been something that you would have done differently in the project?

CS: I could have considered the semi-permanent house according to the expenses that we just *[implying high expenses]*

**Question 64,** MS: Yeah. Did the project influence the well-being of the family? So, if you look at how much finance it took, and still takes, do you believe, you already referring that school fees have to be paid this month, do you believe the project has influenced the well-being of the family?

CS: Yeah, we are the people that influenced the project, after having long discussion, so this is what the project *[inaudible 01:06:25]* the family, because we didn't know that it would cost to such extent but we accepted it as a family, because we needed the project.

**Question 65,** MS: Would you say that this project has influenced your position within the community?

CS: It just has done because bricks have been made from this local soil, which has never happened. I have never met a brick who has sand has bottom soil, caldom, so it was an introduction. So, it will make some community members to *[noise adjusting the recorder]*

MS: Would they somehow *[inaudible 01:07:28]* responsible into using that idea into the community?

CS: Yes, I am responsible I am introducing. Maybe they're coming and I'll show them what we have been doing here.

MS: But not only the *[inaudible 01:07:41]* apparently because you were also part on that.

CS: I am part of that but it is the first time for you to come in the community to cooperate with the community to start doing such a research.

MS: And would you say that this is positive or negative change of your position.

CS: It's positive.

**Question 66,** MS: Did your relationship with your friends, community members changed because of this project?

CS: Yeah, they have changed.

MS: It is positively or negatively changed?

CS: Positively. In fact they are telling me to look for finance, to put the roof so that they can see, when -

MS: When it's finished. Yeah. That's easier said than done, no?! They can tell you to go get the funds and finish it, eh?!

CS: They are telling me, why your family members have not finished the house, we have lived without finishing the house.

MS: You were building for 6 weeks. I am not sure what they expected, that you are a superman or something that can finish it.

CS: Even you came two days, you saw how hard was.

BD: Very hard.

MS: They cannot go any faster than this, ey. They can't.

BD: 67 we already know.

**Question 67 & 68,** MS: Yeah, we already know, so that was how the project benefited the community.

How would you describe the current state of the team? So, if you look at Damian and Corne.

CS: I think, according to me they did the work which was expected because when making bricks, they were making tirelessly.

MS: And do you think they are happy or disappointed.

CS: They are not disappointed, they are happy because we cooperated.

**Question 69,** MS: Would you advice other community members to participate in this project in the future?

CS: My advice to the community, I say yes. They very keen on how to put up the community because sometimes some come in the community they do assumptions. Most of people have been supplied after the team has left; because they wanted to get idea and they saw that was the team was doing was not working. After seeing the putting, where they discovered that the team was doing something which is very constructive.

GN: And valid.

CS: Yeah.

MS: The community had a doubt, that what's you are saying.

CS: In the first round the community had doubts.

MS: That was in the first months, a lot of research, so there wasn't much to see. So it's also difficult to judge what is going on, what is happening and they are here for two and a half months.

CS: Yeah. And also I was very worried because of guarantee. If you are giving us guarantee when the roof will leak, one month or two month you would be responsible but after two months you are not responsible. It was very nice you were because the time frame you are giving guarantee is like 'this is going to last for one month'

*[Laughter]*

MS: But that's because I am from a different country and I have organized this project and I can't take on responsibility of making repairs when I am on the other side of the world. I can also not punch this guy 'Geoffrey, you need to go and help Cleophas because his roof is leaking'.

CS: In Kenya even if we buy this one is very cheap, it's only 5000 but giving me guaranty of one month but the it made me not to understand what I am doing.

MS: And how would you... which change should we make to that, to the guarantee. Do you think that we should guarantee people that we guarantee for a year?

CS: You seem what did must help you are part of my family and you bring idea and you want us -

*[Phone ringing, CS picks up the phone]*

CS: Pardon.

BD & MS: It's okay.

BD: We only have one question left.

MS: But what you were saying about the guarantee?

CS: So the guarantee was very short. I think if we build the house for some thousands of money, you could give the guarantee to even two years. Because we need to walk together. I need you to come and supervise. I need you to leave here the legacy of what you have done, and I need you to come back in a very big meeting and to say the Dutch community was here, and the Dutch community visited this place. Because like now I working since yesterday, it's unfortunate that all the team, there's not team that completed the house. And I saw that this team which was here did something. Even though the house is not finished.

MS: The team?

CS: This team of -

GN & CS: Corne and Damian.

MS: Ah sorry.

CS: They have done a good work. As I was moving around, I found myself being cooperative to the team, because the three team, the fast teams, Musa, was the fastest.

MS: Not Philip?

CS: Forget about Philip.

*[Laughter]*

MS: I'll tell him, I'll tell him that you said.

BD: Privacy secured.

MS: And we have Icarus obviously.

CS: No, that one was private.

MS: Yeah.

CS: And what you did to Icarus we expect to do to us. You cannot treat all *[inaudible 01:15:35]* But according to your team there is no house that has gone up. I know Musa's also has gone up. But according to me visited the old team. I was very much cooperative. And I was very much involved. You see what has been done to that Team of Musa's. That team was also the hard-working. But it's the only what planned Musa, with room because of finance Because if we could have advised the team to start with natural stones during the foundation that wouldn't have last for long. They have done a very good job. That has is very good even though it's one room, but I am only worried about the foundation. The way they started it. If I come there, Musa with me, this one is more stable but I don't want to criticize...

MS: No, no. It would be interesting to see in two. Right now I am talking to ADC. I am just hanging up with the manager of the ADC to start a project next year in September on ADC, so this will be [name of the places] to also build comparable projects but slightly different, but wouldn't be it interesting to see in half a year or in a year or in two years and compare how your house is doing to that of Musa's and see, okay, is there such a fundamental difference between the two. Because obviously yours is a lot heavier, it is way more permanent that Musa's -

BD: And it needs very strong foundation.

MS: Yeah, but from the other way around, they build that house for 10% of your budget.

CS: Okay. Ja ja.

*[Laughter]*

BD: It's only half smaller.

MS: It's way smaller.

BD: Okay. Three times.

MS: You can't compare. We should also not compare.

CS: I am not comparing.

BD: But we are curios how is going to behave and whether is going to be copied by people in the community.

MS: And to get to your comment about the warranty. I would really like to give people the warranty but if you would know that the budget... my budget for this project was finished seven weeks ago. And I have been paying all the food and drinks and everything from my own savings account, you would know that if I would need to make a repair I can't afford to make a repair. Sadly, you have a good point and I would love to agree on your point but somehow my institutes do not support me in a way that I can give the warranty. If it's not working out, that at least we can help you, assist you on the later moment to make repairs to the house, to make sure that does work. And this is, I would say, indeed a fundamental problem in the project. You want to help, you have very limited resources to help and if you make an intervention or you make an advice to the family you cannot see it through when the house is used and is being worn out by the sun and the rain. So, it's very, for me personally, also very difficult.

BD: However, this is exactly the reason why we insisted so much that the teams are teaching you, the families, how to build this house and how to maintain it.

MS: And to base it in your capacities. That was the key but in your situation, for instance, you went more than 4 times over budget. Right?!

CS: *[Chuckles]*

*[Laughter]*

MS: You can laugh about it but I have -

BD: That's a very big sum of money.

CS: Anyway, anyway, I just wanted to make sure that the project succeeds. That's why I over budgeted and don't see me as I didn't know but because I needed. I saw that in the future I needed such a house and that it was a privilege. So, I just want to use that privilege outside the house.

MS: That's understandable. We have to mediate between what we think is good and what you think is good. And we are doing this experiment from our point of view and you are participating from your point of view. We can't expect you... that's also why we didn't force the team that you have to accept whatever they come up with. You just have to accept that. No, you have a voice, you have an opinion and in the end you are responsible. You together with the team, luckily you make the decisions about.

CS: So, my opinion was this. I knew you wanted us to cope out with the techniques which we'll have to good houses. You could have come with your own materials, and then I give you the ground. You call people, you administrate then people start from there. Because it was my benefit. That's why I had to put more money because I didn't want to do something which is local. And that's why you saw me putting in money in different ideas. So, it is good for me to advice you if you want this community to benefit from you. It is good to ask *[name 01:21:46]* to give you the keys and start showing people what is supposed to be done. In that one you will succeed. But if you say that we ourselves from the family to buy material, it will be very hard to get people to understand. You know, I have been very stubborn sometimes when the team has been talking to me, then we reached a consensus. Being stubborn doesn't mean that I don't want the team, but I know they are wrong, I am right. So we sat down, then we discussed and we agreed *[Chuckle].* I just wanted you to come asking some of the *[inaudible 01:22:35]* and say that we want something to do straight. At one time you did something at [name 01:22:40] place

MS: *[Chuckles]*

GN: 3 years ago.

MS: It was just to understand how it's been done.

CS: The tradition house. Because you just wanted a space to construct that tradition house. And that house is still there.

MS: Everybody is surprised about that, because everybody said, 'a year and it's gone'. Bob and *[name 01:23:05]* 'Man, there's no way man, it's going to come down in a year'.

CS: I did started when I was in primal level, practical we constructed such a house. We did practice. When I was in primal level. You see, some years back when introduction of 844 was done we started constructing such houses. Yeah, of which I am used and I am welcoming *[name 01:23:40]* which is coming today *[inaudible 01:23:42].*

*[Phone ringing, CS picks up the phone]*

*[Group talking 01:24:39]*

MS: But to come back at your idea which I really embrace on, instead of demanding the families to get the materials you introduce the material that has approved affect and you can build with that material. That is actually one of the ideas that I already had many years ago. That's why by accident dropped this idea at our intake interview, which I should have never done but anyways I did, because I told you that I bought the machine, a hand compressed machine to make blocks. It's installed now. I installed it during my stay in now. And I still believe that this a very effective approach to help this community. But my PhD is about just something else because this is about helping engineers or architect who go at this type of context want to help people how should they approach this, and introducing the material right into a family, into the community. That's what they've done with you right. That's how they make the blocks. So, that would be a different approach that could be just as successful. I fully agree with you but it's a different assignment, and for next year I am actually looking if I am going to use that approach. It won't be a test of my support but it will be a test of a different approach just by material. So, not about research.

*[Phone ringing, CS picks up the phone]*

**Question 70,** MS: There is only one question that was left. In the future, would you help a community member in building their house?

CS: If they are willing, I help. You cannot help someone who is not willing.

MS: And what would you expect in return from them if you would help them out?

CS: Because I understand what is supposed to help, I only expect to provide free skills.

MS: Would you request like financial compensation or food or something like that? If you look at what you have done, would you request the same treatment with others?

CS: No, I don't require anything because I understand. You see sometimes *[inaudible 01:31:38]* requesting for so many things. Because I understand the community. But food is optional. It's not bad. We can take it as a social thing which can be -

MS: Up to them.

BD: Thank you. That was it.

MS: Alight. Thank you.

CS: Otherwise will come. I hope you pray for me so that this house finished

MS: Definitely.

*[End of recording]*