**Baseline Interview Transcription Family 5**

Interviewee: Icarus Wafula [IW]

Interviewer: Michiel Smits [MS]

Observer: Beata Duda [BD]

Social worker: Geoffrey Ngeywa [GN]

MS: If you have any questions or uncertainties, you are welcome to address them during the interview. So, if you need a further explanation you can specifically ask Geoffrey for an explanation, or if it's in English [make the question] to me. I have written the questions down and printed them to be precise. I am sorry if this might feel impersonal but it's essential to take the same interview with the other families too. That's why it is so strictly written out.

Your family has applied for the rural housing studio project, you have signed the contract last night, you have just handed the contract to me, and this project will help you to build a new house for your family.

By signing the contract, you have committed your family to the project and you are able to abandon the project at all time.

This project is a part of my research at the Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands, which aims at helping poor rural families to build houses. Although we are helping you to construct the new house *[MS whispering to someone]*. Sorry, my bad. The only thing that I haven't checked before. So, the questions are checked but not the interaction.

*[MS talking to BD]*

The outcomes of this research will directly influence your living situation; however will not directly influence the community. This interview is meant to understand how did you build your house, to what extend did you do it yourself, with the help of the community or if you hired any labor (any fundi).

So the basic goal of the research is to help you build the house for your family. That is the essence of the project.

Do you understand the procedure? So, that you are part of an interview and that we have this questionnaire as a basis? Do you have any questions about the procedure? Do you have any questions before we start?

IW: No.

**Question 1,** MS: A lot of questions. The questionnaire is divided into two parts: one is about the house you live in right now, and the other part of the questionnaire is about the house that you would like to build. So there are two sections.

I start with the first question:

Do you own the house you are currently living in? Are you renting it or do you own it?

IW: I rent it.

MS: So, this is no. It's rented. Do you pay monthly rent?

IW: Yes.

**Question 2,** MS: We proceed to question two:

Does your house consist of one building or multiple buildings?

IW: One.

**Question 3,** MS: Could you generally give the dimensions of your house?

IW: 16 x 12 feet.

**Question 4,** MS: How many rooms does the house have?

IW: Two.

**Question 5,** MS: Is the house large enough for the whole family?

IW: No.

**Question 5b,** MS: It's not.

Can you explain why not? Can you explain why is not big enough for the family?

IW: It's not big enough, because I have family of 4. And I have one sitting room that severs as children's room. Then I have one bedroom. So I feel that is not enough. When I happen to have visitors then it always causes me a problem, because I have to look for a place somewhere. So, it's not enough.

MS: In terms of bedrooms, there is sufficient space for the whole family?

IW: No.

MS: So is this the main problem, or the size of the room that we are sitting in right now [sitting room]?

Are you lacking bedroom space or living room space?

*[IW not replying]*

IW: I'm lacking living room space.

MS: So living room is where we are right now -

GN: So one extra bedroom or one extra living room?

IW: Oh, yes, extra bedroom.

MS: It's just to be very precise.

So you have one bedroom now, and you would like two bedrooms?

IW: Two bedrooms.

**Question 6,** MS: Do you own this plot?

IW: No.

MS: Do you own a plot?

*[IW not replying]*

GN: Elsewhere.

IW: Yes, I own it elsewhere.

BD: And where?

*[IW not replying]*

MS: Is it close?

IW: Yes. It's 200 m from here.

BD: Is the house going to be built on that plot?

MS: Is the new house going to be built on this plot?

IW: No,

BD: On that one, on yours?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Could you explain to me how did you finance the plot? Was it from family or did you buy the plot?

IW: I buy it.

MS: And could you explain how you financed it, did you have savings, did you save to buy the plot, or did you borrow money from somebody?

GN: A loan?

IW: A loan.

MS: Is this a pending loan, or did you clear it?

IW: Cleared.

MS: That's one burden less, that's good!

*[IW laughing]*

*[To BD:]*

MS: So, the question 7 does not apply?

BD: You did not build this house?

IW: Yeah, I didn't build it.

*[To BD]*

MS: I'm kind of wondering how to proceed with this one.

I would say we can proceed with question 8. It's not owned, but it applies here. Do you agree?

BD: Yes

MS: Because some questions are about if you built your house yourself.

BD: But we can ask if you've built a house before, elsewhere?

IW: Ow, yeah.

GN: Maybe at home, where you come from?

IW: Yeah.

MS: So, you did?

IW: Yeah, I did.

MS: Is it in the same community here?

IW: No.

MS: Could you tell me where?

IW: Bongoma.

**Question 7,** MS: What materials did you use to build the house? If possible, explain per building phase: foundations, floor, walls, roof, finishes which materials did you use.

IW: Foundation, no foundations, just the holes, using the talimbo.

MS: Aha, the talimbo dance!

IW: Then posts.

BD: And walls?

MS *[to GN]*: Let's see if he can answer himself?

MS: So after you put the posts in, you fill in the hole?

IW: Yes, with mud and soil.

MS: And then, what is next?

So you have the posts up.

IW: So after the posts, I fill in the soil.

MS: And does the wall need anything else?

IW: No, nothing else, just soil.

MS: So no sticks, nothing else?

IW: Ow, yeah. Normally we use twigs (branches) after posts.

MS: You do this outside the post, or also inside?

IW: No, on both in and outside.

MS: Then soil.

IW: Yes.

BD: And can you explain what type of soil is it? What do you do with the soil?

IW: Pardon?

MS: Is it just soil that you found around the house?

IW: Yes, from around.

MS: What is the next step? You have the walls - roof?

IW: I used mabati *[iron sheets]*

MS: But first you have to put like branches?

IW: Ow yeah, just branches. Same type.

MS: So branches for construction and mabati.

MS: Was it new mabati?

IW: Yeah.

BD: Was it circular or square house?

IW: Rectangular.

MS *[to IW and GN]*: You see she's very important.

MS: Did you do any finishes? Smearing?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Is it soil smearing?

IW: We mix soil with cow dung.

BD: Is it inside and outside?

IW: No, only inside.

BD: And for the outside?

IW: Just soil.

MS: Is there a reason why you didn't smear the outside?

IW: No reason.

MS: And what did you use for the floor?

IW: Soil floor.

MS: So not mixed with marram?

IW: No.

MS: Was there any finish on top?

IW: No.

MS: And for the doors and windows? What type of doors and windows?

IW: Timber.

MS: So the same as this one *[pointing at the door]*, not mabati or anything else, just timber?

IW: Yes.

MS: And also the frames were made out of timber?

IW: Yes.

MS: Do you remember what type of wood? Is it blue gum, cypress, eucalyptus?

IW: Soft wood, cypress.

**Question 8a,** MS: That was very detailed, very important for us to know.

So you used iron sheets - mabati, how would you describe that the roof behaves when it rains?

IW: It's ok.

MS: It's ok. Is it leaking?

IW: No, it's not leaking.

BD: Can you hear other people talk, when it rains?

MS: When there's a big rain?

IW: When there's a big rain, I don't hear when someone is talking.

MS: Is that a problem? If it rains hard and you can't hear another person, do you find it as a problem?

GN: Is it ok, or you would prefer not to have it?

IW: Ow, I would prefer not to have it.

GN [to MS]: Michael, would you prefer to move this table closer to you?

MS: Thank you, I would be nice.

BD: I'm writing everything down.

**Question 8b,** MS: Thank you. How would you describe the temperature inside during the midday (12 - 13) under the roofing sheet? So is it cold or hot?

IW: Hot.

MS: Do you like this heat?

IW: No.

**Question 8c,** MS: How much did the iron sheet roof cost? Maybe per iron sheet.

IW: 750.

MS: So, for the whole roof?

IW: 750 times 20.

**Question 8d,** MS: He has the calculations in his mind. It's really nice.

Would you consider this as expensive roof, acceptable or cheap roof?

IW: Rather cheap. In between. Moderate.

**Question 8d1,** MS: Are there in your point of you cheaper alternatives for mabati?

Are there cheaper, other materials for roof?

IW: Apart from mabati? I don't think so. We have been using thatched roof but nowadays we don't have grass. So I don't see there is any cheaper method.

MS: So you say the grass could be, but because it's not there, it is actually expensive?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 8d1,** MS: Are there any other alternatives?

IW: No.

**Question 8d2,** MS: If you look at the grass, how would you describe that it behaves when it rains?

IW: It leaks.

MS: You were describing previously that the mabati roof was making a lot of noise, does the grass behave in the same way?

IW: No.

**Question 8d3,** MS: How does it behave when the sun I shining? At noon 12 o'clock?

IW: The temperature is not high. It's cold.

MS: If you look at when it rains *[grass]*: it leaks, it doesn't make noise, when it's sunny it is not warm. Would you say that some of the characteristics of the grass are better than mabati roof?

Although the grass leaks it might have better qualities than mabati, or not?

IW: They have their own disadvantages. For example: if it is dry season, you live under the risk that thatch will catch fire. So I don't think it's better than mabati. Because, if it burns, everything is gone.

MS: And mabati wouldn't have that issue?

IW: No.

MS: Is there any other alternative besides grass that you would consider for roofing?

IW: Besides grass? No.

**Question 9,** MS: In your former house, why did you choose the mabati roof?

IW: I choose mabati: 1 - because of risk assessment of fire, then 2 - I choose mabati because there was no grass.

**Question 10,** MS: If you look at the materials that you built your house [old house] from, the posts, the soil, the twigs, roof timber and mabati. Are those materials locally available? This means: you can get those materials within walking distance?

IW: By then they were available, but nowadays, you would have rough time getting it.

Soil is available but it causing much time to get it.

**Question 10a,** MS: When you built the house, did you have to pay for all the materials?

Did you have to pay for the posts?

IW: No, I just got them.

MS: The twigs (fito's)

IW: Also.

MS: The soil?

IW: Free.

MS: The roof timber?

IW: I bought it. I had to buy them.

MS: And the mabati you also had to buy, I assume. And what about the doors and windows?

IW: I had to buy.

**Question 10b,** MS: These materials, of the old house, did you bring those materials yourself? Or did you hire somebody to get it for you? (By donkey, by motorbike, by matatu) Did you get the materials yourself or did people bring it. Starting with posts.

IW: I didn't hire.

MS: So you took it yourself.

IW: Yes.

MS: The branches (the twigs)?

IW: The same.

MS: The soil?

IW: I brought.

MS: The roofing timber. You had to buy it, so this person got it for you. The person that from who you bought it. Was he close by?

IW: Yeah.

MS: He was close by. So he took it from somewhere else, and brought it to you.

And the mabati?

IW: I bought it from someone else and I had to transport it.

MS: A-ha. So you bought it outside and you had to arrange transport to get it in.

IW: Yeah.

MS: So you had double cost. It was not locally available.

IW: Yeah.

MS: Okay. Just a short pause to make sure I am not skipping anything.

*[Laughter]*

MS: I think that we covered those... because I went through all the materials [to BD] so for A and B.

BD: *[to MS]* And I think 11 and 12, we can skip because we have the answers.

**Question 12,** MS: Agree. So we should mark that we skipped those. But we didn't ask... because he bought the timber and the roofing posts and he didn't answer if it's cheaper or expensive.

So, question 12: When you bought the roofing construction, was this cheap, acceptable or expensive material?

IW: Not expensive, not cheap.

MS: So moderate.  And for the mabati you already answered. What about the timber? For the doors and windows?

IW: Acceptable.

MS: Yeah?! Not expensive. Alright! Thank you.

*[To BD]* I should have scaled that by the way. So very cheap -

BD: The answers are affordable.

**Question 13,** MS: But I should have scaled very cheap, cheap, affordable, expensive, very expensive.

Okay. 13: Did you build this house yourself? We are talking still about the past house. Did you build it yourself?

IW: No.

MS: This one? No. The old one? We are talking about the old house. Past one.

IW: I built it?

MS: Yeah. Yes or no?

IW: No.

MS: Because I think you previously answered that the old house in Bongoma, you built that house.

IW: Yeah.

GN: He is saying - Your house in Bongoma, you hired fundi or you built it yourself?

IW: I hired fundi.

MS: I'm surprised by that. So, you hired a fundi.

*[Interruption in the background]*

MS: We continued with question 13 and he answered that he didn't build it himself -

GN: He's saying he got the materials himself but now he counts to have built it.

MS: Yeah. Exactly.

Were the workers for all or some of the works? The fundis that you hired did you only hired fundis or did you also hired unskilled?

IW: No.

**Question 13i,** MS: Only fundis.

Did you hire the fundis for all of the work or some?

IW: For all.

MS: For all.

IW: Yeah.

**Question 13j,** MS: Could you explain why you hired them?

IW: I didn't have the skills.

**Question 13j1,** MS: Would you have built a house yourself if you would have had the skills?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 14,** MS: This is already very interesting. Really interesting.

*[Laughing]*

So we are continuing to question 14: To what extent do you have the knowledge ... I am not sure *[to BD]*

BD: I can rephrase it. Where there elements of that house that you know how to build? So, for example, you know how to make walls? This you could have done yourself.

MS: Or digging of the holes.

IW: The holes I can do for myself.

MS: But you didn't do for that house?

IW: What?

MS: In Bongoma.

IW: It was a skilled person who had to do this thing. Then had to keep instructions. I dig the holes by his instruction.

MS: You did the holes on his instruction?

IW: Yeah:

MS: A-ha. He was kind of instructing you in a way.

IW: In a way... he was like an unskilled labor.

MS: Which other things did you help the fundi with doing?

IW: Filling the soil.

MS: Filling. Okay. That's for the walls, I guess.

IW: Yeah.

MS: For the floor?

IW: For the floor, I did myself.

MS: And for the roof - did you do anything on the roof?

IW: No.

MS: No. Okay. Great. *[To BD]* We can continue to question 15.

BD: Yeah.

**Question 15,** MS: The things that you did, you did do yourself. So this is the digging and the filling of the walls and the floor. How and when were you trained? Did you get the explanation to do that?

IW: *[inaudible 00:31:51]*

BD: Did the fundi or someone else explain to you earlier or you just got the knowledge when he was there?

IW: No, fundi explained.

MS: When it comes to mixing of the soil, did he explain to you how to mix the soil.

IW: The soil no.

MS: You did yourself.

IW: Yeah.

MS: So, my question is how and when did you learn to mix the soil?

IW: From the family members.

*[Laughter]*

MS: This is exactly what I was looking for.

BD: And when?

IW: Yeah.

BD: When was that when your family told -

IW: Oh, when I was young.

MS: And how did you... when you were young how did you learn? Did somebody explain to you?

IW: No explanation. I just watched my parents when they were working. So, I learnt from them.

MS: And the same counts for digging the holes?

IW: No.

MS: No. The fundi explained this.

IW: Yeah.

MS: When it comes to the twigs, the branches around to put the soil in. So the twigs, you have a different name for it. I am sorry.

GN: Fito.

MS: Fito. I just need to remember that one. Did you put the fito on?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Did you know how to put the fito on?

IW: I did not.

MS: He didn't. So, again, the fundi explained to you...

IW: Explained, yeah.

MS: A-ha. And the rest was all done by the fundi.

GN: *[inaudible 00:33:55]*

MS: So, yeah. Did you use nails or -

IW: Nails.

MS: Okay.

BD: Just one question. Why did you use nails?

IW: Why nails?

MS: Yeah.

IW: They have better stability.

**Question 16,** MS: Okay. After finishing the house in Bongoma, do you think you will be able to extend or duplicate this house by yourself?

IW: No.

MS: Could you maybe explain why? You think you need a fundi again to help?

IW: I just need a fundi.

MS: And why would you need a fundi? It's very detailed..

BD: Maybe for what for.

MS: Yeah, but we already kind of know.

GN: After seeing what fundi took you through -

IW: Some parts I can do it, some parts I can't.

MS: Could you explain which parts you would be able to do without him?

IW: Digging holes, I can do myself. When it comes to the twigs, I can do it for myself but when it comes to roof, that I can't do.

MS: And what could be the reason why you can't do the roof? You didn't help make the roof -

IW: Yeah.

MS: He made the whole roof.

IW: Yeah, he made the whole roof.

MS: Do you think that if you would have helped making the roof, then you would be able also to make the roof without a fundi?

IW: But it would be partially.

MS: Partially.

IW: Because you have to *[00:36:33]*

MS: And then to repeat.

IW: Yeah.

**Question 17,** MS: In the time you were in Bongoma, did you help any other community members constructing their house? Did you ever help a neighbor or another family member or friend to build a house?

IW: Yeah. As an unskilled labor.

MS: As a skilled labor?

IW: Yeah. Not skilled, unskilled labor.

MS: A-ha. I'm kind of missing the question here... Did other community members help you build your house?

IW: They did.

**Question 17a,** MS: Did the people that you help, as unskilled, where the same people that helped you?

IW: Yes.

**Question 17b,** MS: Could you explain what would you will help them with? So it was unskilled labor, what type of things would that be? When you helped the other community members -

IW: I helped them digging holes.

MS: Digging. Yeah.

IW: Putting twigs.

MS: So the fito.

IW: That was the end.

MS: So never with roof, door, windows?

IW: No.

MS: Okay. Did the community members that helped you, did you pay them?

IW: No.

MS: No. Did you offer them anything, like food, drinks?

IW: Yeah.

MS: When you helped them, did you get paid?

IW: No.

MS: Did you receive any -

IW: No.

MS: Any food or drinks?

IW: Food yes.

MS: Always. So, this is what is common when you help somebody..

IW: Yeah.

MS: That's one meal... So, if you help a day you get food once?

IW: Once.

MS: Question 18. *[To BD]* Would it be about the Bongoma house or this one right now?

BD: They are, no way similar, so I think it can be about the current house.

**Question 18,** MS: The question 18: Are you satisfied with this house, with your current house?

IW: No.

**Question 18c,** MS: Not. What don't you like about this house?

IW: Space.

MS: Space. Is that the only thing? Is it only space or...

IW: Space and even construction materials, especially walls and the floors.

**Question 18c1,** MS: Could you explain why you don't like them? Why don't you like the floors? The space we know. You are lacking space, this is already explained. So, why don't you like the construction, the walls and the floors?

IW: The floors are dusty.

MS: Dusty.

IW: It makes me to dislike it.

MS: Okay. Is there anything more?

*[Interruption in the background]*

Unknown: Are you ready?

MS: We are at 18 C.

Unknown: Okay, fine.

MS: *[to IW]* So, it's dusty - is there anything else?

IW: Dusty and in *[inaudible 00:40:43]*

MS: Anything else. Because it's really important to think about you do not like this type of floor, this type of wall, this type of roof. So, anything that you can describe that you don't like is very important.

IW: I said: one - dusty, two - encourages insects.

MS: Is there anything... maybe with water, or sound.

IW: Sound?

MS: That you can hear the neighbor... Is there anything that you dislike about -

IW: No, my neighbor I can hear.

**Question 18c2,** MS: *[to BD]* I think we should leave it there.

What could you change to make this house more likable? What would you change to make this house more suitable for what you prefer? What would you change?

IW: I would have make the floor mended, then the walls to make them of modern materials.

MS: And what would be modern materials?

IW: The materials Greece.

MS: Anything more? So, Greek wall. Any finishes or - ? Is there anything you could describe to make it more likable for you?

IW: *[double check at 00:42:17]* Brick walls to have nails, the floors to be cemented... suitable for me.

MS: Anything about the roof that you would change?

IW: The roof not really, but to reduce the warm temperature, and to have the ceiling.

MS: Okay. So you would put a ceiling. Is there anything outside the house that you would like differently?

IW: Outside no.

MS: Like gutters or anything to the house, like gutters to the roof, down, a sidewalk you can have or these kind of things?

IW: I would like to have a gutter.

MS: That's too suggestive I guess.

**Question 19**, MS: What does your house have in common with other houses in the community? The one that you are living right now. What is the same you would say?

GN: Similarities.

IW: Direction is similar. I mean the majority of the houses they're just made of soil, twigs and posts. The shape is rectangular. They look similar. Even the roof itself looks similar cause are used the local mabati, just similar...

**Question 20,** MS: Did this house already need repairs? You are renting this house, but does it need repairs?

IW: Yeah. The walls need repairs.

MS: And you do these repairs?

IW: I do myself.

MS: Is this the only thing that you need to repair - the walls?

IW: Who?

**Question 21,** MS: Are the walls the only thing that you need to repair on this house or are there other things you need to repair?

IW: The walls.

MS: Only the walls?

IW: Only the walls.

MS: Not the floor?

BD: This is the following question.

MS: Sorry. Okay.

**Question 22,** MS: This is about maintenance to make repairs about the whole house. How frequently do you need to repair the house, we are talking about parts of the house.  You just said two walls need -

IW: Once in the year.

**Question 22a,** MS: Once in the year.

Are there any other things you need... the floor or the roof that needs repairs?

IW: No, it's just the walls.

**Question 22c,** MS: It's just the walls.

If you think about the maintenance/repairs on the house, which parts of the house would you not be able to repair yourself?

IW: Roof.

MS: Roof. So, everything else, doors, windows, floor you can all repair yourself.

IW: I can do it.

*[Pause]*

MS: Sorry. I think I already asked the question. *[To BD]* Yeah, right?! That's A eh?! 23 A we covered the B, not really.

BD: Ehem.

**Question 23b,** MS: In case that you lose your job, your income - would you still be able to afford the repairs that you need to make on this house? You stated that you need to repair the walls - could you still afford to repair those even when you wouldn't have money?

IW: No.

GN: Maybe plastering the walls you can still afford them. Can you must have money to do it or you can do it just for free?

IW: But it depends. For example, sometimes you *[00:47:59]* and at a time you'll be unable. Why am I saying so? So, for example, in this area you'll have to look for soil somewhere then you have to mix the gauda then you do your *[00:48:22].* So, if I lose my job, to get that soil, to mix it with gauda *[00:48:27]*, I think it would be a problem, because I'll have to look soil in another place.

MS: And why do you need to find soil at the other place? There's no soil around here-

IW: It's better *[00:48:42]*

MS: It's a specific soil you need for the... But you explained earlier that the outside of the house is not plastered, it's not with the caldon, right?!

IW: Yeah.

MS: It's the floor and the inside?!

IW: Yeah.

MS: So if you would need to repair the walls on the inside with caldon then you need the soil from the outside.

IW: Yeah.

BD: And for this soil you have to pay?

IW: I have to pay.

MS: And the caldon?

IW: Caldon no.

MS: No. Very interesting.

The same counts for the floor? If there would be a need to repair the floor, you would also need the same type of soil?

IW: Yeah.

MS: And what about the roof? If the roof would collapse or start to leak and you would lose the job - would you be able to repair? It's the same scenario - you lost your job, you don't have money - would you be able to repair the roof?

To get new mabati or to patch it up -

IW: It depends from the extent of the damage. So, if it was just one mabati i can afford it, but if it went beyond one mabati, let's say 4 to 3, then it will take time, but I can do it.

MS: And the same is for the walls? If you look at the cost to get the soil. You would still... Maybe I phrased the question wrong, because it's in the case when the income got smaller, not when you lose the money.

BD: But this is the same consequence - if you have less money, would you still do it?

MS: Yeah

GN: *[inaudible 00:50:56]*

MS: Yeah. Exactly. So, it's in the case where you are left with less money, if you would be able to make repairs to the house?

IW: *[inaudible 00:51:30]*

MS: Is that sufficient? *[To BD]*

BD: Yeah. 31 is going to be tricky.

MS: Yeah. This is about the Bongoma house, then?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 24,** MS: So, how much this house, if you would say, the house in Bongoma - how much it would have cost?

IW: Fifty-nine.

MS: Fifty-nine thousand.

IW: Fifty-nine.

BD: That's a great memory.

*[Laughter]*

MS: That's actually a lot.

BD: Could you tell us, if you remember, how much of this sum was hiring fundi and how much was the material?

IW: For fundi seven thousand.

MS: And the mabati was twenty times seven fifty.

IW: Yeah.

**Question 25,** MS: Would have preferred to build that house differently in Bongoma? Would you have preferred to build it differently than you built it at that time?

IW: I had no preference because I didn't have money...

*[Laugher]*

*[Multiple talking]*

IW: But in case I could, eh, it would happen.

**Question 26,** MS: What would you have done differently? If you could have, in case that you would have the money? What would you have preferred?

IW: A modern house.

MS: Modern house.

And could you describe it a little bit?

IW: Bricks, and of course the brick wall, *[inaudible 00:53:35]*, spacious enough, and even I would use corrugated mabati, but since I...

*[Laugher]*

**Question 27,** MS: Okay. Good to know.

And why didn't you build your house like that? You already kind of give the answer to that but still, just to be sure. So why didn't you build that house?

IW: Insufficient funds.

MS: And that's the only reason.

IW: Yeah.

BD: Would you know how to build this modern house yourself?

IW: No. Even if there are funds, I tried...

**Question 27a,** MS: Yeah, but you couldn't do it by yourself. A-ha.

Ehem, insufficient funds. What is the cost of such a high price? Why is it so costly? You said I had the desired house; I didn't have money to buy it or to build that desired house. What are the main reasons that this house is so expensive, that you wouldn't be able to buy it? What makes it so expensive?

IW: The walls.

MS: The walls.

IW: Yeah.

MS: And is that only material? Is it only because of the material or is there more?

IW: Walls, timber. Timber is costly.

MS: And you just said about that you would need to hire fundi?

IW: Yeah.

MS: So, this will also be considered costly.

IW: Yeah.

MS: So, for most of the house you will need to hire fundi.

IW: Yeah.

MS: Okay. Ehem. *[To BD]* I leave it there.

BD: Ehem.

MS: Question 28. *[To BD]* Sorry?

BD: 29 already answered.

**Question 28,** MS: It's just maybe to check.

Would you say that you would have the knowledge how to build all the elements of the house that you wanted to build? So, besides the funds, forget about the funds, would you have the knowledge how to build that house? It's kind of just to recheck.

IW: If I know it?

MS: Yeah. Do you have the knowledge to build that house?

IW: No.

**Question 28b,** MS: No.

Is there anybody in the community that could have taught you to build that house for free?

IW: No.

MS: Or is it so complicated you need to hire skilled labor to do it for you?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 29,** MS: Would you prefer to build a house that you know how to build, you have sufficient knowledge to build? Would you prefer to know how to build a house yourself? So, instead of hiring somebody that has the knowledge would you prefer to have the knowledge yourself?

IW: I prefer.

**Question 30,** MS: So these two questions are very similar to each other. This was about knowledge - if you would like to have the knowledge how to build the house yourself. And the next question if you would like to build the house by yourself or would you prefer to hire labor?

IW: This might come handy.

**Question 30a,** MS: Okay. Do you think that you would need the knowledge or help of an engineer... Sorry! Do you think that you would need the knowledge or help of the engineer and the students that have come in?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 30b,** MS: For which aspects would you need the knowledge and help of the engineer and the student? Which parts would you need the help for?

IW: Roof, the design.

MS: Design.

IW: And also the walls. I would say that there parts of the house, I need the knowledge from the students.

MS: Good to hear.

*[Laugher]*

MS: This doesn't apply. [Referring to the questions]

*[To BD]* 31 I can ask or...?

BD: Okay.

**Question 31,** MS: Would you consider alternative materials that are cheaper but have similar characteristics as your preferred materials? For instance for the wall, you gave the example that you would prefer to have a brick wall - would you consider alternative materials to the brick that are cheaper?

GN: Apart from bricks.

MS: Apart from bricks.

IW: That are cheaper?

MS: Ehem.

IW: I really like bricks.

MS: If they would find a material that is similar to brick but it's cheaper - would you consider that material?

IW: Yeah.

GN: *[inaudible 01:00:00]*

**Question 33,** MS: Just to make it clear. Just to make sure.

Would you be interested to learn how to build with the materials/methods yourself?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 33a,** MS: Could you explain why? Could you explain why you would like to learn how to build yourself?

IW: So that in the future, you want to construct, I'll do it for myself. Because this roof, it comes to repair, I will do it by myself.

MS: Alright.

Halfway.

*[Laugher]*

BD: The rest are easy.

MS: These were all questions about the past house, the house in Bongoma and this house. There were some questions about what you would have desired in the past. In the case of Bongoma we have asked questions if you would have liked to build it differently at that time. So, the questions that we will be asking now is about now. This is about what would you desire now. The future.

IW: The future.

**Question 34,** MS: Which parts/elements of the current house would you like to use in the new house? When you look at this one what would you like to take? Anything - shape, materials, anything. What would you like to take to the new house?

IW: Pardon?

MS: Which elements of this house, where you are living right now, would you like to use in the design of the house?

IW: Iron sheets.

*[Laugher]*

MS: Okay. Anything else - shape, type of roof...

IW: I would like the shape to be changed.

MS: Okay.

BD: Any other elements? Anything that you had, it can be furniture, windows, doors -

MS: Partition walls...

IW: Trusses to be changed, walls, then partitioning.

MS: That you would like to take.

Would you like to take the doors? The windows? Do you like them?

IW: I just like it.

MS: The windows too?

IW: Those too.

MS: You like your furniture?

IW: I like it.

*[Laugher]*

MS: The roof construction?

IW: I don't like it.

MS: *[to BD]* That's enough for this.

BD: Yeah.

**Question 35,** MS: Out of what materials would you like to build your house from? The future house. So, you already answered what you would have preferred when you lived in Bongoma, and now we would like to ask you at this time. Of all the materials, everything that you know about the houses around, what you would prefer for your future house? Which materials would you build it from? Please start with the foundation, floor, walls, roof and finishes.

Let's start with the foundation.

IW: Concrete. I'd say foundation in concrete.

MS: Floor? What type of floor?

IW: I feel like concrete is better for the floor.

MS: Okay. The walls?

IW: Bricks.

MS: What type of bricks?

IW: Interlocking ones.

MS: Hmm. Interlocking ones.

*[Laugher]*

And what type of interlocking ones? Cement, soil interlocking brick... I think you have soil based interlocking bricks and cemented based.

IW: Cement.

MS: Any finished inside and out of the walls?

IW: Yeah.

MS: What?

*[Multiple people talking 01:05:32]*

MS: That's fine. Cement finish.

BD: Roof?

MS: What type of roof construction would you prefer?

IW: Timber.

MS: Timber.

Anything else? No.

So, the windows and the doors out of timber or steel or..?

IW: I prefer timber.

**Question 35a,** MS: Okay.

Things that you just described. Could you explain why? We go through again. So you preferred to have concrete foundation and floor. Could you explain why?

IW: I prefer concrete because of the traits that I'm looking in terms of stability or durability.

MS: Okay.

IW: So, this house is *[inaudible 01:07:16]*

MS: The walls? You wanted interlocking cement based bricks with mortar finishes in and outside, Could you explain why?

IW: Interlocking, mortar finish... There isn't big reason. One - it looks smart

*[Laugher]*

To me it looks smart. And if it's mortar sided that means keeping out all insects.

MS: Sorry?

*[Multiple people talking]*

MS: A-ha. Insect proof.

Anything else?

IW: No.

MS: Okay. Then the roof? Why the timber and mabati roof? Could you explain why you prefer those?

IW: Timber is *[inaudible 01:48:47]*

MS: Okay. Sorry?

BD: The finishes.

MS: The walls he already explained because it looks smart but the doors and the windows - why do you prefer wooden doors and windows?

IW: Warmth.

**Question 36,** MS: Warmth. Ah, interesting.

Okay. 26. Of everything that you just mentioned, do you have the knowledge to build all these elements of this house that you want yourself?

IW: No.

**Question 36a,** MS: To what extent do you have the knowledge to build in this way? To what extent do you have the knowledge to build the foundation and the floor out of concrete?

IW: Nothing.

MS: None.

To what extent do you have the knowledge to build walls out of interlocking cement-based brick, plastering with cement?

IW: None.

MS: Making roof construction out of timber? Placing mabati roof?

IW: None.

MS: And making and putting timber doors and windows?

IW: Timber doors I can do it.

MS: Okay. Without any help?

IW: Yeah.

MS: But you are not able to make the roof construction?

IW: No.

**Question 36b,** MS: Ah, interesting.

Do you think that you would be able to learn all the skills that I have just mentioned within the next three to four months?

IW: Yes.

MS: Yeah?!

BD: Three to four months?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 36c,** MS: Is anybody in the community that could teach you these skills for free?

IW: No.

BD: Any of those skills?

MS: So roofing construction...Making of the roof construction nobody can help you for free?

IW: No.

MS: Nobody can help you how to build foundation and the floor out of concrete for free?

IW: No one.

MS: So, nobody can do it for free?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 36d,** MS: Is it so complicated that you need to hire skilled labor to do it for you?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Would you say that the skilled labor that you need to hire is here in the community? Are there people that know how to build the foundation and the floor out of concrete?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Are there people in the community, fundis that know how to build interlocking cement bricks?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Are there people in the community that know how to make wooden-

IW: Yeah.

MS: Are there people in the community that know how to put the mabati on?

IW: Yes.

MS: And also to make the plaster in and outside?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Are there people in the community that could make the design for you? Are there people in the community that... you said that you wanted a design. Are there people in the community that could do this for you?

IW: For designing or -

MS: Yeah, designing.

GN: Coming up with the house that you want, the rooms that you said you want... the shape, the size..

IW: Yeah.

MS: Question 37.

*[Break]*

BD: Okay. Let's continue.

**Question 37,** MS: Could you extend or duplicate the house yourself, the house that you just described? Could you do this by yourself?

IW: No.

**Question 38,** MS: Would you prefer to build the house by yourself and your community or to hire labor? Your future house. You prefer to build it yourself -

IW: Yeah, myself.

MS: Or to hire labor?

IW: Hire.

MS: What do you prefer? *[Chuckle]*

IW: Hiring.

**Question 38a,** MS: Would you have enough money to buy the materials and hire all the labor?

IW: No.

MS: *[to BD]* Are we going to repeat this question?

BD: *[to MS]* We didn't ask about the availability of the new materials. Number 40 now.

MS: *[to BD]* I was looking for the iron sheet.

BD: *[to MS]* We already asked.

**Question 40,** MS: *[to BD]* Right?! Okay.

The materials that we just listed in what you would prefer - would you say that they are locally available? Are they available in the walking distance from where your plot is? For the concrete, cement... They are not locally available?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Timber? Is timber locally available for the roof construction?

IW: I have to transport it.

**Question 40b,** MS: Would you bring these materials yourself or would you need to hire somebody to do it for you to get those materials?

IW: I have to hire.

**Question 41,** MS: Are those materials expensive or cheap? And please use the following scale to answer. When we talk about concrete is it very cheap, cheap, affordable, expensive, very expensive?

IW: Expensive.

MS: Expensive. For the walls? So, for the interlocking cement bricks?

IW: It's expensive.

MS: Also expensive. For the roof?

IW: For timber - expensive.

MS: The iron sheets?

IW: It's also expensive.

MS: The cement finishes?

IW: Expensive.

MS: Okay. So they are not very expensive, they're just expensive?!

IW: Yeah.

MS: Okay. Doors and windows?

IW: I can say they are affordable.

MS: Just to understand? Is there a difference between the timber that you use for the doors and windows and the one that you use for the roof?

IW: Yeah, they are different.

MS: They are different. So the one that you are using for roof is expensive, and the one that you use for doors and windows is not so expensive?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 42,** MS: Okay.

Would you be able to finance this type of house? Everything that you described - do you have the money to build this house?

IW: *[silent]*

MS: *[to BD]* No additional questions to that if the answer is no.

BD: *[to MS]* No, we can ask, I think.

MS: *[to BD]* Could you?

BD: Could you afforded if you take a loan?

IW: *[inaudible 01:20:00]*

MS: Could you afford to build that use if you would take a loan from somebody or is the loan so big that you won't be able to get such a loan?

IW: I get loan to build it.

MS: And you can get this type of loan here in the community?

IW: No.

MS: And where would that be such a loan? Where would you get a loan like that? It's just a question, eh. It's not like this is the real scenario, but just in case... we just want to understand where you would get such a loan, because people often state that getting quite a substantial loan here is very very difficult. That's why the [name] housing was so popular because the loan came with the project. So, if you would need to have the money to build that house, it's quite a lot of money, where would you find such a loan?

IW: I don't understand.

GN: Maybe to... can I *[to MS]*?

MS: Yeah, yeah, sure.

GN: You will get a loan from the bank, from a sako, you know?

MS: Could you get that?

IW: Even if I get a loan from bank, I cannot remember.

GN: He can't remember.

IW: That's why I am stuck on here, because I am not a member to any bank.

**Question 43,** MS: Okay. Would you want to build this house yourself, this new house... I know that there are some repetitions in the question; it's just to check the answers that you are giving are consistent.

Would you prefer to build this house yourself?

IW: No.

MS: No?

IW: No.

**Question 43e,** MS: So, you prefer to hire labor?

Would you need to hire labor, I guess, for one or some of the jobs of the future house?

BD: For one or more.

MS: Yeah. Would you need to hire fundis or labor for one or multiple of the jobs on the new house?

IW: Multiple.

MS: Multiple.

IW: Yeah.

**Question 44,** MS: Would you need to help them as much... That's a wrong question, sorry.

This house needs a lot of repairing, so fixing... do you think that it needs a lot of repairing?

IW: I don't think.

BD: *[to MS]* Skip 45.

MS: Yeah.

*[Interruption]*

Chickens are getting territorial.

*[Laugher]*

**Question 45,** MS: So, you just said that, the house wouldn't need a lot of repairing. If there would be any repairing to the house, how frequently do you think the repairing needed to be? For instance, when you need to repair floors, or walls or roof - how often do you think you would need to repair this? Once a week, once a month, once a year, once in two years, once in five years...

IW: I can say for two years.

**Question 46,** MS: Would you consider materials or building methods that are cheaper but have the same durability as the ones that you've mentioned? So, if there would be a cheaper alternative for concrete foundation and floor - would you consider it?

IW: I don't understand.

MS: Sorry. I didn't catch you. What did you say?

IW: You are saying that..?

MS: If there would be a cheaper alternative, so a different material for concrete that is cheaper but it has the same durability - would you consider it?

IW: I consider it.

MS: For the walls?

IW: Yeah.

MS: Same. For the roof?

IW: Yeah.

MS: For the doors and the windows?

IW: Yeah.

*[Pause]*

MS: Okay, sorry. Just, I'm getting a little bit tired, I can tell.

IW: *[inaudible 01:24:48]*

**Question 47,** MS: Yeah, yeah.

*[Laugher]*

Would you want to know how to build or maintain this house by yourself, the future house?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 47a,** MS: Okay. Would you repair this house yourself? Would you make the repairs yourself or would you get somebody else?

IW: *[inaudible due to cow's moo in the background 01:26:10]*

**Question 47b,** MS: Could you afford to make such repairs if you would lose your income? If you have this nice built house with concrete floor, nice walls, nice roof, nice doors and it would break, something would break and you would lose your job - would you be able to make the repairs to this house?

IW: No.

**Question 48,** MS: Would you want to learn how to build or repair your desired house?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 48a,** MS: Would you be willing to help construct or repair a house for one of the community members in order to learn how to build?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 48b,** MS: Would you be willing to help construct or repair a public building like a school or a hospital in order to learn?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 49,** MS: Do you think that you would need help from an NGO, a foundation, after the project is finished? So, when the house is done and you live there, and maybe something breaks down or it needs repairs - do you think that you would need help from an agency?

IW: Yeah, I would need it.

*[Multiple talking]*

**Question 50,** MS: Could you please this to make sure, repeat your name? Just to make sure.

IW: My names?

MS: Your names?

IW: Icarus Wafula.

MS: I'm gonna make it Wafula.

BD: *[name 01:28:19]* Sorry?

IW: *[name 01:28:20]*

MS: And your wife, what is her name?

IW: Christine Nasimiu.

**Question 51,** MS: What is your age? How old are you?

IW: 33.

MS: Hey, same age. 83' you are born?

IW: Hehe, yeah.

MS: And your wife?

IW: 26.

**Question 52,** MS: What is your occupation? What job do you have? Do you have a job if you have a job - what type of job do you have?

IW: I have a job.

MS: Okay. And what is your job?

IW: Junior supervisor.

MS: Of? You are junior supervisor of? Where, which company?

IW: *[name 01:29:34]*

MS: And you're supervisor where? In the green house...

IW: No, in the environmental health issues.

BD: Sorry, where?

MS: Environmental health issues.

And your wife - does she hold a job?

IW: No.

**Question 53,** MS: No job.

How many children do you have?

IW: Four.

**Question 54,** MS: Four children. Could you please give me the names of the children?

IW: Lauren, Steven, Philip, Daisy, Nickesa.

MS: You have quite a seasonal family, I would say.

*[Laugher]*

**Question 55,** MS: It depends on the season if it's a boy or a girl. It's funny.

What is the age of Laura?

IW: 11.

MS: And Steven?

IW: 9.

MS: And Philip?

IW: 6.

MS: And Daisy?

IW: 4.

**Question 56,** MS: What is the occupation of the children? Are they at school?

IW: School.

MS: All of them.

IW: Yeah.

MS: And all in primary?

IW: Primary, yeah.

**Question 57,** MS: Okay. Are there any family members, cousins living with you, here in this house?

IW: No.

**Question 58,** MS: Do you have an income from your job?

IW: Yeah.

**Question 59,** MS: These are really obvious questions.

*[Laugher]*

And how much is your income, if I might ask?

IW: In terms of net pay?

MS: Yeah, per month.

IW: Four.

MS: Four what?

IW: Four net pay.

**Question 60,** MS: Four thousand.

Is this stable or does it fluctuate? Every month -

GN: Two, three, four, ten...

IW: Stable.

**Question 62,** MS: Do you own any means of transport, bicycle, motorbike, donkeys..

IW: Bicycle.

**Question 63,** MS: One bicycle.

Do you have a shamba, the garden? Where you grow maize?

IW: I rent one.

**Question 64,** MS: But you don't own this?

IW: What I own is 1/8 acre.

MS: So this is 1/8 of acre. And are you using this to grow maize..?

IW: Yeah.

MS: And you were saying something about that you are renting also or not really? Are you renting a shamba?

IW: Yeah.

MS: And where is this?

GN: The location of the shamba?

IW: The location of the shamba?

MS: Just general, generally speaking. Where, somewhere?

*[Multiple people speaking]*

IW: *[name 01:34:04]*

MS: Some forest [?]

And what is the size of this shamba?

IW: An acre.

MS: And acre. That's big.

What do you grow there?

IW: Maize.

**Question 65,** MS: Does this generate an income? Or do you use it only for food?

IW: For food.

MS: You do not sell any of this maize?

IW: No.

BD: Thank you.

MS: These originally were first but we put them last -

*[End of recording]*