## Annex 2 Investigation of Potential Sources of Contamination

### Example Protocol for Investigation of Potential Sources of Contamination

Sanitary Survey Checklist (UNICEF, 2013) (USAID, 2009)

|  | Question | Yes | No | Remarks |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Is there a latrine, waste dump or obviously contaminated surface water within 30 meters of the well? |  |  |  |
| 2 | Is the latrine at higher elevation than the well? |  |  |  |
| 3 | Is there any other source of pollution within 10 meters? |  |  |  |
| 4 | Is there ponding/stagnating water around the well? |  |  |  |
| 5 | Is the drainage channel broken/cracked or overflowing within 2 meters of the apron? |  |  |  |
| 6 | Is there adequate fencing around the well (preventing animals from approaching the well)? |  |  |  |
| 7 | Is the apron radius less than 1 meter around the well? |  |  |  |
| 8 | Is there ponding/stagnating water at the apron? |  |  |  |
| 9 | Are there any cracks in the well apron? |  |  |  |
| 10 | Is the hand pump loose at the point of attachment? |  |  |  |
| 11 | Is the well likely to be properly sealed (lined) within the first 3 meters below ground level? Is the above ground well casing cracked or shows signs of fatigue? |  |  |  |
| 12 | If there is a cover on the well? Is it properly sealed so that no water can flow into the well? |  |  |  |
| 13 | Is the hand pump broken? |  |  |  |
| Other Important Issues to Review: | | | | |
|  | Do nearby surface waters show evidence of being abnormally low for the season? |  |  |  |
|  | Are nearby surface waters overgrown with aquatic plants/algae? |  |  |  |
|  | Are children getting water‐borne illnesses more frequently and/or more severely than in the past, and are these children drinking from a USAID‐provided water source? |  |  |  |
|  | Taste the water. Does it taste bad or salty? Are users complaining of a bad taste? |  |  |  |
|  | Look at and smell the water. Is it off‐color? Is there sediment? Does it smell bad? Are users complaining of any these issues? |  |  |  |
|  | Are wells going dry (seasonally) at the inspection site or in the surrounding area that did not in the past? |  |  |  |
|  | Is water leaking from tanks/pipes/supply points? |  |  |  |

Please see also the Water Supply Visual Guide (December 2009) at:

<http://www.usaidgems.org/Documents/VisualFieldGuides/ENCAPVslFldGuide--WaterSupply_1Dec09.pdf>

Another excellent reference is the World Health Organization *Water Safety Plan Managing Drinking-Water Quality from Catchment to Consumer[[1]](#footnote-1)* (2005). Appendix C of this document provides Sanitary Inspection Forms for several types of water facilities, from piped systems to rainwater collection systems.

Figure 1: Map of Potential Sources of Contamination (UNICEF, 2013)



1. World Health Organization, 2005. *Water Safety Plan Managing Drinking-Water Quality from Catchment to Consumer,* (http://www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/publications/wsp0506/en/) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)