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Deliverable 23

**Proposed new questionnaire module on
life course and decision making**

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1 Introduction

These proposals were developed following evaluation of item and scale quality and review of the items used by other researchers in demography working both within and outside the reasoned action tradition of Fishbein and Ajzen. The principles that guided development of this set of proposals are provided in Appendix 1. Details of item and scale quality and a more complete justification of these proposals, a review of the literature of the social psychology of life course decision making and information about the history of the TPB scales in the GGS are provided in the accompanying GGS deliverable D9 – Report on existing GGS measures on Life Course and Decision Making. The full set of TPB items in the current version of the GGS is provided in Appendix 2. The relationship between each item and intention (Kendall’s tau-b) is reported in Appendix 3.

2 Intention

All intentions questions in the GGS are asked in the form

Do you intend to ... during the next three years?

The response scale is:

1. definitely not
2. probably not
3. probably yes
4. definitely yes

One problem with the GGS wave 1 version of the intention item was a relatively high level of item non-response. Both qualitative and quantitative research on fertility intentions in the REPRO project suggested that this could be related to the fact that no possibility for an ‘unsure’ category was included. It was suggested that it was important to include an ‘unsure’ category to capture the responses of those who were genuinely unsure, a category currently only available by incorporating cases coded as “missing – unsure” when this information is available. Although such a strategy may be preferable from a substantive

point of view, it has the clear disadvantage that longitudinal comparability on the item is jeopardized. However, in a split ballot experiment in the pilot, it could be examined to what extent different response formats will lead to comparable results.

2.1 Proposal

Use a split ballot in the pilot study to test the effect of revising the response scale for intentions. If possible, a split ballot should be applied to all relevant intentions. If this is not feasible, it is suggested to focus on the intention to have a(nother) child (a622), and adjust the response scale for a subset of respondents to:

1. definitely not
2. probably not
3. unsure
4. probably yes
5. definitely yes

To avoid overuse of the “unsure” category, an “unsure” response could be followed up by a question such as “Even though you’re not sure, would you say it is more likely that you will try to ... in the next three years, or more likely that you will not try to ...” (e.g., “Even though you’re not sure, would you say it is more likely that you will try to have a/another child in the next three years, or more likely that you will not try to have a/nother child.” In effect, this would boil down to testing three different versions, viz. (1) the original version with four answer alternatives, (2) the version above without an additional follow-up question, and (3) the version above with an additional follow-up question for those being unsure.

2.1.1. Intention to leave home

A follow up question should be added to ask what is the intended destination after leaving home:

If you leave home, do you expect to

- start living with your partner,
- start living on your own,
- or start living with others (e.g. with a family member or in a student house)?

2.1.2 Intention to form a union

For Rs who are currently in a union but not married, add a question about the intention to “get married to your partner”.

2.1.3 Intention to have a/another child

Given that the decision on having a child is intimately tied up with decisions on childcare and paid employment, it is suggested to add follow up questions on these issues.

a) plans for childcare provision –

Try out two different questions for childcare provision (one to be chosen?)

- *If you have a child, how many hours a week do you expect to make use of formal child care (e.g., in a child care day centre)?*

Number of hours _____

- *Which of the following sources of childcare do you expect to use to care for this child during working hours? (Consider sources that you expect to use at least once a month. Multiple responses permitted.)*
 - A child care or day care centre
 - A carer, other than a relative, who comes to my home
 - One or more of my child’s grandparents

b) work

How many hours a week do you expect to spend in paid work once the child is born?

Number of hours _____

And how many hours a week do you expect your partner to spend in paid work once the child is born?

Number of hours _____

2.1.4 Intention to retire

Revise routing to ask all R in work aged 50 and over who will not be forced by prevailing laws to retire within three years from the date of interview.

Revise the question (currently a8.56) to read: *Do you intend to permanently leave the paid workforce some time during the next three years?*

3 Attitudes

Attitudes are elicited in the following form:

Now, suppose during the next three years you were to ... I would like you to tell me what effect you think this would have on various aspects of your life ... If you were to ... during the next three years, would it be better or worse for ...

The response scale is

- 1 – much better
- 2 – better
- 3 – neither better nor worse
- 4 – worse
- 5 – much worse
- 99 – not applicable

A total of 14 different behavioural beliefs was included in GGS Wave 1 for the five decisions for which full TPB sets of items were developed. Four of these beliefs were common across all decisions and only three were salient in most countries and contexts:

- the possibility to do what you want
- your financial situation
- the joy and satisfaction you get from life
- what people around you think of you (salient for some decisions in some countries)

Two additional beliefs were common to all decisions except the decision to retire, but they were not salient to all decisions or for all subgroups:

- your employment opportunities (only salient for working respondents – no difference between males and females – for fertility decisions)
- your sexual life (only salient for leaving home and forming a union)

3.1 Proposal

Retain item stem and response scale.

We propose a smaller core, to be used for all decisions, with a small number of specific items where necessary to capture important aspects of specific decisions.

3.1.1 Core items

The core items should address both affective (emotional) and material outcomes and positive and negative outcomes. It is recommended to include four items, in order to analyse the statements as a scale and to assess cross-national equivalence (see Deliverable 7). The recommended core items to retain are:

- the freedom to do what you want [revised item: “freedom” replaces “possibility”] (positive or negative, material or emotional – but tending to emotional, depending on respondent and context)

- your financial situation (material, negative or positive depending on decision)
- the possibility to realize other important goals in life [new item] (positive or negative, material or emotional – but tending to material, depending on respondent and context)
- the joy and satisfaction you get from life (emotional, positive)

A split ballot should be used to compare the proposed new form of a) with the old form and to enable estimation of a “backward compatibility” path for researchers who want to use this item from Wave 1 onward.

3.1.2 Specific items for specific decisions

For leaving home and union formation, expected effect on sexual life is correlated with intentions in all countries. This item should be retained, but only for leaving home and union formation:

- my sexual life (leaving home and union formation)

Retirement: Add a specific item for care of/spending time with grandchildren:

- the time I can spend with my grandchildren (only R with grandchildren)

4 Subjective norms

Retain current response scale.

Revise stem to:

I'm going to read out some statements about what other people might think about your ... during the next three years. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with these statements ...

A common core of four items should be used for all decisions:

- my partner (only for R with partner)
- my parents (only for R with one or both parents alive)
- my friends
- my relatives (only for R with no partner and no living parents) other relatives of mine (for R with a partner and/or at least one living parent)

Retirement – Replace my partner with

- my children (only for R with living children)

5 Perceived behavioural control

This scale needs to be completely revised. Neither the items nor the response scale were satisfactory. Assuming the existing items are salient, the existing items can be translated according to the following table:

Existing item	Concept	Revised form
Stem: <i>How much would your decision to ... depend upon</i>		Stem: <i>Would you say that</i>
Response scale: 1 – not at all 2 – a little 3 – quite a lot 4 – a great deal		Response scale: 1 – definitely yes 2 – probably yes 3 – probably not 4 – definitely not
Common core items		
... your financial situation	Financial capacity	you can financially afford to ... during the next three years?
... your work	<i>Salient only for having a child</i>	<i>Omit from core</i>
... your housing condition	Suitability of housing	you will have access to suitable housing to

(not used for retirement)		allow you to ... during the next three years? (omit for retirement)
... your health	Good enough health	you will be healthy enough to ... during the next three years? (omit for retirement)
<i>new</i>	Developmental readiness	you feel ready to ... during the next three years
Specific items for having a child		
you having a suitable partner	Suitability of partner	you will have a suitable partner with whom to have a/another child during the next 3 years?
your partner's/spouse's work	Work-family balance	you (your partner for male R) will be able to balance your (her) work and family life if you have a/another child during the next 3 years? [only for female R who works or male R whose female partner works]
your partner's/spouse's health	Female in good enough health	your partner will be healthy enough to have a/another child during the next 3 years? [male R only]
availability of childcare	Childcare (if needed)	you will have access to satisfactory childcare if you have a child during the next 3 years?
your opportunity to go on parental leave or care leave	Sufficient parental leave	you will have access to sufficient parental leave if you have a child during the next 3 years?
Specific items for retirement (a)		
		you will be able to adjust well to a life without work if you retire during the next three years?
		you have access to enough information to help you plan for successful retirement from the workforce during the next three years?

a. Use one item if core contains five items, two items if core is four items.

Appendix 1. Principles for TPB item revision

New and revised TPB items can be judged by the following set of principles.

Salience (relevance)

The item should be relevant to the behaviour/decision of interest, for each country of interest and for each sub-sample of interest.

Emphasis on generations and gender

A subset of relevance: Because GGS concerns generations and gender, issues and items that help understand the relationships between generations and genders should be favoured over those that do not.

Conceptual validity

The item should accurately reflect the concept as defined in the TPB:

- *Behavioural beliefs (to measure Attitude)* are beliefs about the outcomes of performing the behaviour.
- *Normative beliefs (to measure Subjective Norm)* are the respondent's beliefs about what "significant others" want them to do in relation to the behaviour.
- *Control beliefs (to measure Perceived Behavioural Control)* are the respondent's beliefs about the ease or difficulty of performing the behaviour and whether or not they feel they have the ability to do so. Relevant beliefs typically address skills, personal context and beliefs about resources that might be influenced by external factors such as policies or employment practice. A good set of items will measure *inter alia* the perceptions expected to arise from relevant actual control factors (not just policy, but personal factors such as health and material support from friends and family).

Compatibility

Each item must be compatible with the behaviour/decision (intention) of interest in terms of:

- *Target* – the item refers explicitly and accurately to the object of the behaviour/decision/goal
- *Action* - the item refers explicitly and accurately to the behaviour or action that is to be performed
- *Context* – the item refers to the context within which the behaviour is to be performed (or the decision is to be made/the intention to be formed). (In a population survey such as GGS, the context is embedded to some extent in the context of the individual respondent, e.g., the context of an intention to have (action) a child (target) during the next three years (time) varies depending on whether a person has a partner or not, or if they already have a child and if so, the age of the child.)
- *Time* – the item refers to the same time frame as the intention

Comparability

As far as possible, the same item should be used for all life course decisions included in the GGS.

Salience, Validity, and Compatibility before Comparability

While we should attempt to maintain comparable item sets across all life course decisions, conceptual validity, salience and compatibility should not be sacrificed just to obtain comparability.

Asymmetry

Asymmetry (in many domains, different beliefs are associated with the intention TO do something and the intention NOT TO do it). We should have items directed at both.

Note: This seems to be most important in relation to attitudes, where our factor analyses often identify two attitudes factors, one

which groups beliefs about positive outcomes and another which groups beliefs about negative outcomes.

Sufficiency and internal consistency

While some researchers will use individual items, others are likely to want to use the sets of TPB items as multivariate or composite scales. Each set of items should therefore contain sufficient items to permit cross-national comparison. In addition, each set of items should reliably form a scale; Cronbach's alpha can be used as an indicator of adequate reliability.

Notes: 1. Joop Hox indicated at the May 2010 meeting that the minimum number of items in a scale to permit cross-national comparison is *four*. Because GGS respondents include people in different stages of their life course, not all respondents have parents or a partner. If sufficiency is to be reached with a parsimonious set of items, items should not be parent- or partner- specific unless necessary. Any parent- and partner- specific items should be excluded from counts of sufficiency. 2. If items are salient and valid, they should form a reliable scale. If they don't form a reliable scale under these conditions, it is likely that one or more items have not been written clearly and should be revised.

Operational feasibility

With only very rare and explicit exceptions, it must be possible to ask the question in all GGS participating countries and to obtain answers from the relevant sub-sample of the population.

Continuity

An item should only be changed or omitted if it has been shown to be clearly deficient in its current form.

Appendix 2. TPB item sets in GGS Wave 1

Item	Leaving home	Union formation	Having a(nother) child	Union dissolution	Retirement
Intention	a5118	a327, a332	a622	a411 (RU, BU, GE only)	a849, a854, a856
Attitudes				BU, GE only	
freedom	a5119_a	a328_a	a627_a	a412_a	a857_a
work	a5119_b	a328_b	a627_b	a412_b	
finances	a5119_c	a328_c	a627_c	a412_c	a857_b
sex life	a5119_d	a328_d	a627_d	a412_d	
image	a5119_e	a328_e	a627_e	a412_e	a857_c
satisfaction	a5119_f	a328_f	a627_f	a412_f	a857_d
health					a857_e
closeness with partner			a627_g		a857_f
partner's work			a627_h		
care in old age			a627_i		
certainty			a627_j		
closeness with parents			a627_k		
welfare of children				a412_g	
closeness with grand/children				a412_h	a857_g
Norms				RU, BU, GE	
friends	a5122_a	a331_a	a629_a	a415_a	a859_c
parents	a5122_b	a331_b	a629_b	a415_b	
children	a5122_d	a331_c		a415_c	a859_b
(other) relatives	a5122_c	a331_d	a629_c	a415_d	a859_d
partner	a5121			a414	a859_a
PBC				BU, GE only	
finances	a5120_a	a329_a	a628_a	a413_a	a858_a
work	a5120_b	a329_b	a628_b	a413_b	a858_b
housing	a5120_c	a329_c	a628_c	a413_c	
health	a5120_d	a329_d	a628_d	a413_d	a858_c

parents' health	a5120_e				
having a partner	a5120_f		a628_e		
family life					a858_d
partner's work			a628_f		
partner's health			a628_g		
childcare			a628_h		
parental leave			a628_i		

Countries are: BU, RU, GE, DE, FR, HU, RO unless otherwise stated. Not all items are available in all countries. TPB data are not available for NL.

Appendix 3. Correlations between items and intentions for Wave 1 TPB batteries

Tables report Kendall's tau-b with *p* value in italics below the value. Values above |.2| are highlighted.

a5118 Intention to live separately from parents during the next 3 years													
		Bulgaria		Russia		Georgia		Germany		France		Romania	
		Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N
a5119 Effect living separately from parents (1 much better; 2 better; 3 neither better nor worse; 4 worse; 5 much worse)	a	-0.382	3139	-0.319	1621	-0.350	2993	-0.296	398			-0.269	1616
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
	b	-0.272	3122	-0.211	1399	-0.307	2993	-0.199	397			-0.211	1616
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
	c	-0.191	3136	-0.232	1615	-0.259	2993	-0.064	402			-0.174	1616
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.146				0.000	
	d	-0.368	3117	-0.323	1514	-0.346	2993	-0.353	373			-0.398	1616
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
	e	-0.328	3131	-0.234	1595	-0.360	2993	-0.238	382			-0.336	1616
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
	f	-0.458	3134	-0.368	1612	-0.421	2993	-0.307	395			-0.391	1616
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
a5120 Decision living separately from parents depends on (1 not at all; 2 a little; 3 quite a lot; 4 a great deal)	a	0.126	2992	0.096	1602	0.208	2993	0.042	394	0.161	538	0.146	1574
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.347		0.000		0.000	
	b	0.157	2667	0.119	1338	0.191	2993	0.108	392	0.189	518	0.106	1416
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.013		0.000		0.000	
	c	0.138	2987	0.196	1596	0.175	2993	0.160	391	0.171	524	0.171	1581
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	d	0.049	2955	-0.038	1590	0.012	2993	-0.042	397	0.018	537	0.029	1568
		0.002		0.088		0.488		0.352		0.641		0.193	
	e	-0.026	2988	-0.206	1592	-0.043	2993	-0.076	395			-0.111	1568
		0.107		0.000		0.007		0.087				0.000	
	f	0.187	2723	0.151	1455	0.301	2993	0.109	387	0.162	528	0.298	1237
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.012		0.000		0.000	
a5122 Opinions others (1 strongly agree; 2 agree; 3 neither agree nor disagree; 4 disagree; strongly disagree)	a	-0.370	2956	-0.399	1561	-0.467	2993	-0.330	385	-0.306	506	-0.403	1565
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	b	-0.353	2999	-0.363	1576	-0.411	2993	-0.397	391	-0.267	540	-0.394	1558
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	c	-0.357	2925	-0.368	1545	-0.435	2993	-0.325	375	-0.215	516	-0.373	1558
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	d	-0.426	847	-0.337	628	-0.291	1003	-0.034	28	-0.669	12	-0.364	485
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.529		0.008		0.000	
Does partner/spouse think that R should start living separately from parents (1 yes 2 no)	a5121	-0.360	830	-0.409	415	-0.439	987	-0.220	93	-0.326	190	-0.260	636
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.001		0.000		0.000	

a327 Intention to start living with a partner (next 3 yrs)

		Bulgaria		Russia		Georgia		Germany		France		Hungary		Romania	
		Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N
a328 Effect living with partner next 3 yrs (1 much better; 2 better; 3 neither better nor worse; 4 worse; 5 much worse)	a	-0.369	4031	-0.328	3944	-0.328	3521					-0.237	497	-0.310	3030
		0.000		0.000		0.000						0.000		0.000	
	b	-0.326	3964	-0.253	2803	-0.253	3521			-0.284	2360	-0.177	481	-0.271	2344
		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000		0.000		0.000	
	c	-0.252	4012	-0.198	3935	-0.198	3521			-0.258	3163	-0.110	493	-0.239	2871
		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000		0.000		0.000	
	d	-0.445	3972	-0.340	3356	-0.340	3521			-0.417	3043	-0.196	483	-0.438	2394
		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000		0.000		0.000	
	e	-0.421	4025	-0.315	3923	-0.315	3521			-0.273	2906	-0.129	491	-0.494	2840
		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000		0.001		0.000	
a329 Decision living with your partner depends on (1 not at all; 2 a little; 3 quite a lot; 4 a great deal)	a	0.108	3673	0.079	3876	0.079	3521	0.236	714.000	0.149	3132	-0.001	499	0.015	3201
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.984		0.319	
	b	0.071	3072	0.087	2796	0.087	3521	0.193	708.000	0.156	2437	0.028	386	0.001	2473
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.505		0.963	
	c	0.129	3660	0.142	3892	0.142	3521	0.199	712.000	0.206	3151	0.184	497	0.130	3174
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	d	-0.043	3678	-0.239	3921	-0.239	3521	0.030	709.000	0.012	3169	-0.049	496	-0.139	3187
		0.003		0.000		0.000		0.317		0.459		0.226		0.000	
	e	-0.449	3614	-0.408	3818	-0.408	3521	-0.435	654.000	-0.308	3004			-0.451	3208
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
a331 Opinions others (1 strongly agree; 2 agree; 3 neither agree nor disagree; 4 disagree; strongly disagree)	b	-0.390	3030	-0.349	2494	-0.349	2442	-0.329	87.000	-0.209	2187			-0.387	1814
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	
	c	-0.442	1353	-0.394	2461	-0.394	1438	-0.304	44.000	-0.353	1404			-0.380	1676
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.014		0.000				0.000	
	d	-0.428	3544	-0.416	3627	-0.416	3521	-0.393	651.000	-0.285	2902			-0.434	3176
		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000		0.000				0.000	

a622 Intention to have a child within the next 3 yrs

		Bulgaria		Russia		Georgia		Germany		France		Hungary		Italy		Romania		
		Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	
a627 Effect having a child (1 much better; 2 better; 3 neither better nor worse; 4 worse; 5 much worse)	a	-0.326 0.000	7683	-0.267 0.000	5399	-0.324 0.000	5171	-0.193 0.000	3770	-0.445 0.000	4422	-0.098 0.000	5002	-0.201 0.000	5006	-0.271 0.000	5630	
	b	-0.265 0.000	7175	-0.244 0.000	5026	-0.270 0.000	5171	-0.115 0.000	3780	-0.302 0.000	4282	-0.178 0.000	5012	-0.140 0.000	5002	-0.254 0.000	5252	
	c	-0.314 0.000	7672	-0.293 0.000	5410	-0.265 0.000	5171	-0.143 0.000	3813	-0.263 0.000	4417	-0.212 0.000	5102	-0.175 0.000	5008	-0.297 0.000	5651	
	d	-0.262 0.000	7504	-0.178 0.000	5237	-0.251 0.000	5171	-0.096 0.000	3362	-0.233 0.000	4236	-0.125 0.000	4725	-0.113 0.000	4978	-0.187 0.000	5514	
	e	-0.399 0.000	7520	-0.298 0.000	5288	-0.332 0.000	5171	-0.198 0.000	3473	-0.335 0.000	3835	-0.273 0.000	4895	-0.231 0.000	4987	-0.393 0.000	5445	
	f	-0.483 0.000	7642	-0.416 0.000	5356	-0.424 0.000	5171	-0.404 0.000	3657	-0.503 0.000	4420	-0.517 0.000	4953	-0.356 0.000	4999	-0.424 0.000	5623	
	g	-0.450 0.000	6814	-0.343 0.000	5025	-0.359 0.000	4776	-0.334 0.000	2782	-0.378 0.000	3205	-0.391 0.000	4743	-0.337 0.000	4998	-0.408 0.000	5073	
	h	-0.145 0.000	6382	-0.131 0.000	4757	-0.145 0.000	4729	-0.047 0.000	2865	-0.244 0.000	3101	-0.051 0.000	4728	-0.090 0.000	4990	-0.131 0.000	4687	
	i	-0.316 0.000	7538	-0.263 0.000	5295	-0.339 0.000	5171	-0.216 0.000	3547	-0.217 0.000	3904	-0.324 0.000	4765			-0.280 0.000	5597	
	j	-0.436 0.000	7641	-0.384 0.000	5373	-0.346 0.000	5171	-0.220 0.000	3647	-0.468 0.000	4265			-0.321 0.000	5002	-0.319 0.000	5591	
	k	-0.374 0.000	7152	-0.327 0.000	4778	-0.246 0.000	4642	-0.214 0.000	3619	-0.287 0.000	3963	-0.294 0.000	4881	-0.275 0.000	4965	-0.325 0.000	4821	
	a628 Decision having a child depends on (1not at all; 2 a little; 3 quite a lot; 4 a great deal)	a	-0.035 0.001	7520	-0.151 0.000	5386	0.013 0.272	5188	0.028 0.041	3817	0.101 0.000	3436	-0.151 0.000	5153	-0.034 0.005	4984	-0.170 0.000	5602
		b	-0.040 0.000	6928	-0.124 0.000	4926	0.028 0.020	5188	-0.021 0.129	3809	0.043 0.004	3351	-0.140 0.000	4293	-0.002 0.837	4972	-0.144 0.000	5180
		c	0.022 0.027	7514	-0.035 0.003	5376	0.002 0.864	5188	0.024 0.088	3837	0.124 0.000	3458	-0.025 0.047	5157	-0.028 0.023	4978	-0.058 0.000	5575
		d	0.020 0.043	7488	-0.158 0.000	5345	0.019 0.118	5188	0.020 0.186	3792	0.043 0.005	3444	-0.076 0.000	5130	0.016 0.189	4968	-0.072 0.000	5563
		e	0.201 0.000	6795	-0.008 0.000	5112	0.185 0.000	5188	0.089 0.000	3723	0.154 0.000	3267	0.097 0.000	5091	0.108 0.000	5104		
f		0.015 0.167	6653	-0.050 0.000	4645	0.061 0.000	5188	0.049 0.002	3177	0.058 0.000	3372	-0.052 0.000	4297	-0.010 0.436	4947	-0.064 0.000	4652	
g		0.089 0.000	6960	-0.053 0.000	4842	0.132 0.000	5188	0.096 0.000	3176	0.108 0.000	3444	-0.003 0.843	4613			0.003 0.832	5016	
h		-0.001 0.948	7525	-0.115 0.000	5274	-0.002 0.851	5188	0.001 0.947	3753	0.052 0.001	3424	-0.022 0.096	5119	-0.001 0.907	4968	-0.016 0.186	5449	
i		0.008 0.476	6700	-0.083 0.000	4725	0.030 0.013	5188	0.083 0.000	3625	0.149 0.000	3303	0.034 0.009	5064			0.038 0.002	4758	
a629 Opinions others (1 strongly agree; 2 agree; 3 neither agree nor disagree; 4 disagree; strongly disagree)		a	-0.525 0.000	7441	-0.476 0.000	5142	-0.565 0.000	5188	-0.438 0.000	3528	-0.437 0.000	3239	-0.433 0.000	4840	-0.396 0.000	4441	-0.464 0.000	5504
		b	-0.537 0.000	7095	-0.484 0.000	4692	-0.563 0.000	4658	-0.475 0.000	3557	-0.428 0.000	3102	-0.487 0.000	4757	-0.455 0.000	4400	-0.509 0.000	4956
		c	-0.534 0.000	7364	-0.504 0.000	5118	-0.560 0.000	5188	-0.485 0.000	3523	-0.434 0.000	3263	-0.469 0.000	4957			-0.479 0.000	5498

a856 Intention to retire within the next 3 yrs
(Not available for Italy)

		Bulgaria		Russia		Georgia		France		Hungary		Romania	
		Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N
a857 Effect retiring (1 much better; 2 better; 3 neither better nor worse; 4 worse; 5 much worse)	a	-0.190	1360	-0.152	485	-0.006	75	-0.279	705	0.054	2031	-0.159	1667
		0.000		0.000		0.949		0.000		0.009		0.000	
	b	-0.190	1360	-0.152	485	-0.006	75	-0.279	705	0.054	2031	-0.159	1667
		0.000		0.000		0.949		0.000		0.009		0.000	
	c	-0.149	1361	-0.169	483	0.052	75	-0.223	705	-0.013	2019	-0.152	1692
		0.000		0.000		0.605		0.000		0.538		0.000	
	d	-0.103	1355	-0.100	476	-0.107	75	-0.172	705	0.001	1906	-0.115	1591
		0.000		0.022		0.311		0.000		0.979		0.000	
	e	-0.222	1360	-0.198	483	-0.002	75	-0.232	705	0.044	1956	-0.191	1671
		0.000		0.000		0.987		0.000		0.040		0.000	
a858 Decision to retire depends on (1 not at all; 2 a little; 3 quite a lot; 4 a great deal)	a	-0.055	1233	-0.146	463	-0.089	75	-0.359	692			-0.129	1442
		0.026		0.000		0.391		0.000				0.000	
	b	0.040	1235	-0.049	463	0.087	75	-0.058	686			-0.084	1415
		0.100		0.227		0.390		0.081				0.000	
	c	0.061	1246	0.025	467	-0.001	75	-0.063	694			0.019	1417
		0.013		0.546		0.996		0.054				0.419	
a859 Opinions others (1 strongly agree; 2 agree; 3 neither agree nor disagree; 4 disagree; strongly disagree)	a	-0.409	1091	-0.276	363	-0.265	58	-0.478	470			-0.337	1356
		0.000		0.000		0.016		0.000				0.000	
	b	-0.388	1162	-0.223	436	-0.249	70	-0.383	559			-0.325	1391
		0.000		0.000		0.013		0.000				0.000	
	c	-0.381	1225	-0.265	448	-0.144	75	-0.429	630			-0.274	1589
		0.000		0.000		0.150		0.000				0.000	
	d	-0.373	1202	-0.268	447	-0.150	75	-0.442	613			-0.264	1593
		0.000		0.000		0.130		0.000				0.000	

a411 Intention of breaking up during next 3 yr Intention of breaking partnership during next 3 yrs

		Bulgaria		Russia		Georgia	
		Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N	Kendall's tau-b	N
a412 Effect breaking partnership (1 much better; 2 better; 3 neither better nor worse; 4 worse; 5 much worse)	a	-0.182	8312			-0.138	4570
		0.000				0.000	
	b	-0.116	6714			-0.120	4570
		0.000				0.000	
	c	-0.159	8343			-0.105	4570
		0.000				0.000	
	d	-0.144	7733			-0.047	4570
		0.000				0.000	
	e	-0.141	8056			-0.133	4570
		0.000				0.000	
	f	-0.222	8370			-0.147	4570
		0.000				0.000	
a413 Decision breaking partnership depends on (1not at all; 2 a little; 3 quite a lot; 4 a great deal)	g	-0.094	7325			-0.102	4312
		0.000				0.000	
	h	-0.099	7257			-0.089	4312
		0.000				0.000	
	a	0.125	7836			0.041	4570
		0.000				0.008	
	b	0.130	6713			0.017	4570
		0.000				0.269	
a415 Opinions friends (1 strongly agree; 2 agree; 3 neither agree nor disagree; 4 disagree; strongly disagree)	c	0.121	7846			0.040	4570
		0.000				0.011	
	d	0.076	7844			0.021	4570
		0.000				0.171	
	a	-0.235	8149	-0.386	1292	-0.141	4570
		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	b	-0.238	6723	-0.353	1077	-0.136	3312
		0.000		0.000		0.000	
Partner thinks partnership should be broken up (1 yes 2 no)	c	-0.161	7035	-0.349	898	-0.131	4312
		0.000		0.000		0.000	
	d	-0.233	8077	-0.352	1232	-0.147	4570
		0.000		0.000		0.000	
a414		0.221	8991	0.056	1174	0.096	4471
		0.000		0.038		0.034	

Appendix 4: Item by Item recommendations for WP9

Note: Item numbers are those in the data file not the printed questionnaire.

Item no.	Issue	Proposal for GGS2	Notes
a146	Move from current dwelling	Omit.	WP7 recommended omit. This item was used in Wave 1 for PBC work associated with housing, but will not be needed after PBC is revised. The item refers to ‘migration’ which is not per se a generations and gender issue.
a152	Resume education	Revise: <i>Do you intend to return to any form of formal education within the next 3 years?</i> Clarification: “By formal education, I mean a course designed to lead to a nationally recognised certificate such as a school certificate, a trade’s certificate or a university degree.”	WP7 said omit, but this question enables tracking of lifelong learning, so should be retained but made less ambiguous. From the context, it seems to refer to full-time, formal education that leads to a recognised qualification. The suggested revision specifies “formal” education, but allows part-time. If the required meaning is full-time education, “full-time” should also be specified within the question. Note: The OECD definition of “formal learning” also includes structured workplace learning which is excluded here.
a327 (Intention)	Union formation: start living “with a/your partner”	Retain.	
a328 (Attitudes)	Now, suppose that during the next 3 years you were to start living with someone/your partner. I would like you to tell me what effect this would have on various aspects of your life... If you were to start living together	What effect would you say that living with someone/your partner would have on your life during the next 3 years? If you were to start living together with a/your partner, do you think this would be better or worse for ...	Revised introduction poses a direct question, not hypothetical, which is relevant whether a person answers yes or no to the preceding intention question. This should reduce the quite substantial proportion of R who respond to the intention question but for whom the other TPB responses are totally or largely missing. In addition, the 3 year time period clearly refers to the anticipated effects, not just the behaviour.

with a/your partner, do you think
this would be better or worse for ...

- a. the possibility to do what you want
- b. your employment opportunities
- c. your financial situation
- d. your sexual life
- e. what people around you think about you
- f. the joy and satisfaction you get from life

Insert new item a. *“the possibility for you to realise other important goals in life”*

old a. Revise wording and re-number b. *“your freedom to do what you want”*

old b. Retain, but re-number f.

c. Retain

old d. Retain, but re-number e.

old e. Omit.

f. Retain, but re-number d.

New numbering:

Items a to d are core attitudes

Items e on are specific to the decision.

Items a and b are candidates for cognitive testing to see if R distinguish between a and b. If not, revise rather than remove items to ensure sufficient core items are available for reliable cross-national comparison.

(For complete new scale – see new “Attitudes to getting married after a332.)

A split ballot should be used to compare the proposed revision to item a with the old form and to enable estimation of a backward compatibility path for researchers who want to use this item from wave 1 onward.

Retain current response scale, but replace missing value

99 – not applicable

The effect of a revised introduction and stem might be usefully tested in a split ballot.

with

96 – not applicable

97 – unsure

98 – refused to answer

99 – other missing

See separate document for more information.

a329 ... How much would your decision
(PBC) depend on ...?

Completely replace this question with:

The original question identified important constraints but did not measure perceived *control*, e.g., the ability to overcome

a. financial situation	Would you say that	constraints in order to perform the behaviour/achieve the outcome.
b. work		
c. housing conditions	a. you will feel ready to start living with a/your partner some time during the next 3 years?	The whole question bank – including the order of items and use of “some time during the next 3 years” for PBC rather than “during the next 3 years” (used for attitudes and SN) – should be tested, preferably with both cognitive testing and field testing.
d. health	b. you will be able to financially afford to start living with a/your partner some time during the next 3 years?	
	c. you will have access to suitable housing to allow you to start living with a/your partner some time during the next 3 years?	a329 only:
	d. you will be healthy enough to start living with a/your partner some time during the next 3 years?	Item d (drawn from the proposed PBC core items – see separate document) might be of low salience and may need to be replaced with a more relevant concept.
	Response scale:	
	1 – definitely yes	
	2 – probably yes	
	3 – probably no	
	4 – definitely no	
	Replace missing value	
	99 – not applicable	
	with	
	97 – unsure	
	98 – refused to answer	
	99 – other missing	
a330	Partner norm	Omit in this form and insert instead into revised a331

a331 (Subjective norms)	I'm going to read out some statements about what other people might think about your starting to live with a/your partner during the next 3 years. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with these statements....	1. The introduction is shorter and removes the hypothetical opening statement. The aim is to reduce the relatively high proportion of cases for whom SN is totally missing, even when responses are provided for attitudes and PBC.
a. friends	a. Most of your friends think that you should start living together with a/your partner during the next 3 years.	2. In TPB research, these statements normally use the third person, e.g., "My partner thinks that we should start living together", but the third person form has been retained here for consistency with GGS1 where they mostly performed well for those normative referents included in that version.
b. parents	b. Your parents (mother/father/step-parents...) think that you should start living together with a/your partner during the next 3 years. [only R with at least one living parent/step-parent]	3. b, "Most of your friends ..." retains the form used in GGS1 where, while it performed quite well in most countries for most decisions, it was not as consistent as other items The usual form of this statement would be either "Your (my) <i>closest</i> friends", or "Most of your (my) closest friends" if the opinions of close friends might vary (as perhaps in this case).
c. children	c. Your partner thinks you should start living together with him/her during the next 3 years. [Only R with partner]	4. GGS1 items do not include the timing. Added here is "during the next 3 years" which is consistent with the GGS1 instructions. A simpler and more direct alternative would be "within 3 years", but this might differ too greatly from GGS1. Another option would be "some time during the next 3 years".
d. other relatives	d. Most of your (other) relatives think that you should start living together with a/your partner during the next 3 years. [Omit "other" for R with no living parent or step-parent]	
	Clarification: "Living together" includes co-habitation in all forms, including (but not limited to) marriage.	
	Replace missing value 99 – not applicable	
	with 96 – not applicable	Cognitive testing might investigate the effects of using the different forms described in 1 to 4 above.
	97 – unsure	5. 331 only: Reference to "children" (a331c) is replaced in this

		98 – refused to answer 99 – other missing	revised bank by reference to “partner” (formerly in a330). “Children” is relevant to too small a subgroup, while partner is a critical referent.
a332	Get married “to somebody/your partner”	Revise: <i>Do you intend to get married to somebody [R with no partner]/your partner [R with partner] during the next 3 years?</i>	
new (Attitudes to getting married)		Ask only of R living with partner: <i>What effect would you say that getting married would have on your life during the next 3 years?</i> If you were to get married to your partner during the next 3 years, do you think this would be better or worse for ... a. the possibility for you to realise other important goals in life b. your freedom to do what you want c. your financial situation d. the joy and satisfaction you get from life e. your sexual life f. your employment opportunities [all R, including those not currently working] Response scale – see a328	New items, require pre-test. Pay attention to both items and order,
new		Would you say that	The whole question bank – including the order of items and use of

(PBC for getting married)

- a. you will feel ready to get married to your partner some time during the next 3 years?
- b. you will be able to financially afford to get married to your partner some time during the next 3 years?
- c. you will have access to suitable housing to allow you to get married to your partner some time during the next 3 years?
- d. you will be healthy enough to get married to your partner some time during the next 3 years?

Response scale – see a329.

“some time during the next 3 years” rather than “during the next 3 years” for attitudes and SN – should be tested, preferably with both cognitive testing and field testing.

Items c and d (drawn from the proposed PBC core items – see separate document) might be of low salience and may need to be replaced with a more relevant concept.

New
(Subjective norms for getting married)

- I’m going to read out some statements about what other people might think about your getting married during the next 3 years. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with these statements....
- a. Most of your friends think that you should get married to your partner during the next 3 years.
 - b. Your parents (mother/father/step-parents...) think that you should get married to your partner during the next 3 years. [only R with at least one living parent/step-parent]
 - c. Your partner thinks you should get married during the next 3 years.
 - d. Most of your (other) relatives think that you should get married to your partner during the next 3 years. [Omit

See notes against a331.

Although it sounds restrictive, “married to your partner” is compatible with both the behaviour about which the intention is asked (get married to your partner) and the other TPB items for getting married, so “to your partner” should be retained.

“other” for R with no living parent or step-parent]

a410	Have you thought about breaking up your relationship over the past 12 months? (yes, no)	Replace with item a411, intention to break up during the next 3 years (currently only in optional questionnaire).	a410 is retrospective, refers only to the past 12 months, and has only a yes/no response scale. It is inconsistent with the time periods used in other life course items and provides only “thoughts about” breaking up, while a411 refers to an intention that is more likely to be acted upon if the response is definitely or probably yes, and therefore provides more information about possible life course.
a412 to a415	PBC items for breaking up	Omit all.	
a5118	Leave parental home	Retain.	Is it feasible to restrict this to R leaving home for the “first time”?
a5118-add		Add follow-up question to R who answer definitely yes or probably yes: <i>If you leave home, do you expect to</i> 1 – start living with your partner 2 – start living on your own 3 – start living with others (e.g., with a family member, a friend, or in a student house)?	
a5119 (Attitudes)	Now, suppose that during the next 3 years you were to live separately from your parents. I would like you to tell me what effect this would have on various aspects of your life... If you were to start live [sic]	What effect would you say that living separately from your parents would have on your life during the next 3 years? If you were to live separately from your parents, do you	See notes to a328.

	separately from your parents, do you think this would be better or worse for ...	think this would be better or worse for ...	
	a. the possibility to do what you want	a. the possibility for you to realise other important goals in life	See a328 for mapping of current to new items.
	b. your employment opportunities	b. your freedom to do what you want	
	c. your financial situation	c. your financial situation	
	d. your sexual life	d. the joy and satisfaction you get from life	
	e. what people around you think about you	e. your sexual life	
	f. the joy and satisfaction you get from life	f. your employment opportunities [all R, including those not currently working]	
		Response scale – see a328	
a5120 (PBC)	... How much would your decision depend on ...?	Completely replace this question with:	See notes to a329
	a. financial situation	Would you say that	
	b. work	a. you will feel ready to live separately from your parents some time during the next 3 years?	Review:
	c. housing conditions	b. you will be able to financially afford to live separately from your parents some time during the next 3 years?	Should parents' health (e) be retained? GGS1 provided little information, but correlations with intention suggest this item is less important than a to d. On the other, the item itself might form a set with a530 etc. (see next page) and, if so, should be retained.
	d. health	c. you will have access to suitable housing to live separately from your parents some time during the next 3 years?	
	e. parents' health	d. you will be healthy enough to live separately from your parents some time during the next 3 years?	
	f. having a partner		

e. Omit? See note

f. Omit

Response scale – see a329

a5121	Partner norm	Omit – insert in revised a5122	
a5122	a. friends	I'm going to read out some statements about what other	see notes against a331.
(Subjective	b. parents	people might think about your living separately from your	
norms)	c. other relatives	parents during the next 3 years. Please tell me to what	NB: “within” seems a much more appropriate word than “during”
	d. children	extent you agree or disagree with these statements....	for this decision.
		a. Most of your friends think that you should live separately	
		from your parents during the next 3 years.	
		b. Your parents (mother/father/step-parents...) think that	
		you should live separately from your parents during the	
		next 3 years. [only R with at least one living parent/step-	
		parent]	
		c. Your partner thinks you should live separately from your	
		parents during the next 3 years. [Only R with partner]	
		d. Most of your (other) relatives think that you should live	
		separately from your parents during the next 3 years. [Omit	
		“other” for R with no living parent or step-parent]	
		Response scale – see a331	
a530, a556,	Start living with	Ask regardless of whether parent(s) are biological or not.	Only asked about biological parents.
a580, a586, a595	- mother (a530 if living with father;		N/a for FR, HU
	a586 if not living with parent);		

- father (a556 if living with mother;
a580 if not living with parent);
- parents if both alive and living
outside home (a595)

Section 6	Fertility	Repair routing in field administration.	
a601-a603		Retain	
a604	Just before this pregnancy began, did you yourself want to have a/another baby at some time?	If question is designed to identify unplanned pregnancy, it should be revised to “Just before this pregnancy began, did you yourself intend or plan to have a/another baby at some time?” Otherwise, omit.	In current form, measures retrospective ‘desire’. If it was meant to be comparable with a611, it is not because it refers to a different time.
a605	Did this pregnancy occur sooner than you wanted, later than you wanted, or at about the right time?	Retain	But is the phrase “sooner than you wanted” correct here? It suggests a measure of planning. Is “hoped” better?
a606	Couples do not always have the same feelings about the number or timing of children. Just before this pregnancy began, did your partner/spouse want to have a/another baby?	Omit.	The timing in this question is inconsistent with a604 which ends “at some time”, but with which it seems it is to be paired to obtain “partner agreement”. If retained, both items should have the same conclusion. Although not partner agreement, perceived partner’s belief that R should have a child is proposed for revised a629.
a607	infertility treatment (R or partner pregnant)	Simplify to: <i>Did you do any of the things listed on this card to help you (your partner / spouse) get pregnant with your current pregnancy?</i> Response:	Very low response to specific treatments. Retain the show card to prompt for the types of treatment that might be relevant in this category, but do not code for the specific treatment.

		1 – yes 2 – no 3 – unsure	Alternatively, omit card and reference to card. Test?
a608		Omit	
a609	contraception (R or partner pregnant)	Simplify to: <i>Did you or your partner/spouse do anything to prevent pregnancy at the time it occurred?</i> Response: 1 – yes 2 – no 3 – unsure [Methods currently listed on card a609 could be used to prompt.]	Question not asked or unsatisfactory in several countries. Among those countries where sufficient responses were available, it was very difficult to harmonise the many country-specific responses to this question. In addition, most responses had low frequencies. Because the primary role of this question in the GGS is to distinguish between R who did or did not try to prevent pregnancy, it would be better to leave the detail to other surveys.
a610		Omit	
a611	Do you yourself want to have a/another baby now?	Omit – unless, a) <i>timing</i> within the 3 years is important, add a follow-up question immediately after a622 to ask R who answered definitely yes: “When would you most like to have this child?” (Record response in months between 0 (now) and 36). b) agreement in partners’ desires to have a child <i>now</i> is important (see a612)	Question measures current ‘desire’ rather than intention. In REPRO, R who <i>wanted</i> to have a child now did not necessarily <i>intend</i> to have a child during the next 3 years.
a612	Physical ability to have a child	Retain	
a613	Sterilisation	Omit.	If the purpose is to find out if R can have a child, this question is redundant. GGS is unlikely to identify a large enough frequency of a613 = yes for this specific question to be useful.

a614	Date on which discovered unable to have a child	Omit.	Very high missing among valid R in all countries where question was asked.
a615	Couples do not always have the same feelings about the number or timing of children. Does your partner/spouse want to have a/another baby now?	Omit, unless a611 retained.	Perceived current desire of partner. Only asked of R with partner. Revised a629 will measure perceived partner norm for having a child during the next 3 years.
a616	Partner's ability to have a child	Retain	
a617	Partner's sterilisation	Omit.	About partner, not R. Partner's physical ability to have a child is available from a616.
a618	infertility treatment (not pregnant)	Simplify to: <i>Are you (or your partner/spouse) currently doing any of the things listed on this card to help you (your partner/spouse) get pregnant?</i> Response: 1 – yes 2 – no 3 – unsure	Very low response rate in several countries. Even where rr good, very low frequencies for specific treatments. Retain the show card to prompt for the types of treatment that might be relevant in this category, but do not code for the specific treatment. Alternative: Omit card and reference to it (see a607).
a619		Omit	
a620	contraception (not pregnant)	Simplify to: <i>Are you or your partner/spouse currently doing anything to prevent pregnancy?</i> Response: 1 – yes 2 – no 3 – unsure	Quite high missing, although a 0 “did nothing” response category was available. Low frequencies for many methods. It was very difficult to harmonise the many country-specific responses to this question. Because the primary role of this question in the GGS is to distinguish between R who did or did not try to prevent pregnancy, it would be better to leave the detail to other surveys.

		[Methods currently listed on card a609 could be used to prompt.]	
a621		Omit	
a622	Have a(nother) child (a622)	Split ballot revision of response scale – see separate document	
a622-add		Insert follow-up questions for R who response probably yes (3) or definitely yes (4): a) plans for childcare provision b) work plans	See separate document for questions to test.
a623	Adopt, apply for adoption or take a foster child	Retain.	How useful is this question given the 3 different target/actions? (also a631)
a624	Supposing you do not have a/another child during the next 3 years, do you intend to have any (more) children at all?	Retain.	Only for R who answered no or probably no to a622.
a625	Preferred sex of next child	Retain	
a626	How many (more) children in total do you intend to have?	Retain.	a626 for same routing as a624; a630 if R or male R's partner is pregnant
a627 (Attitudes)	Now, suppose that during the next 3 years you were to a/another child. I would like you to tell me what effect this would have on various aspects of your life... If you were to start live [sic] separately from your parents, do	What effect would you say that having a/another child would have on your life during the next 3 years? If you were to have a/another child, do you think this would be better or worse for ...	See notes to a328

	you think this would be better or worse for ...		
	a. the possibility to do what you want	a. the possibility for you to realise other important goals in life	See a328 for mapping of these items to old item numbers.
	b. your employment opportunities	b. your freedom to do what you want	
	c. your financial situation	c. your financial situation	The positive/negative attitude factors found in studies that used the full item set will no longer be (strongly) identifiable, but we do not consider this a sufficiently compelling reason to retain more items in the scale.
	d. your sexual life	d. the joy and satisfaction you get from life	
	e. what people around you think about you	Omit current items:	
	f. the joy and satisfaction you get from life	d	
	g. the closeness between you and your partner/spouse	e	
	h. your partner's/spouse's employment opportunities	g	
	i. the care and security you may get in old age	h	
	j. certainty in your life	i	
	k. the closeness between you and your parents	j	
		k	
		Response scale – see a328	
a628 (PBC)	... How much would your decision depend on ...?	Completely replace this question with:	See notes to a329
	a. financial situation	Would you say that	
	b. work		
	c. housing conditions	a. you will feel ready to have a/another child some time during the next 3 years?	f and g should be asked in all countries, whether or not there is government support for childcare or parental leave.
	d. health		

e. having a suitable partner
f. partner's/spouse's work
g. partner's/spouse's health
h. availability of childcare
i. opportunity to take parental
leave or care leave

b. you will be able to financially afford to have a/another
child some time during the next 3 years?
c. you will have access to suitable housing to have a/another
child some time during the next 3 years?
d. you will be healthy enough to have a/another child during
the next 3 years?
e. you will have a suitable partner with whom to have
a/another child during the next 3 years?
f. you will have access to satisfactory childcare if you have
a/another child during the next 3 years?
g. you will have access to sufficient parental leave if you
have a/another child during the next 3 years?
h. you (your partner for male R) will be able to achieve a
good balance between your (her) work and your family life if
you have a/another child during the next 3 years? [only for
female R who works or male R whose female partner works]
i. your partner will be healthy enough to have a/another
child during the next 3 years? [male R only]

Cognitive test all items, h seems more difficult than others to
express in "common" language.

Response scale – see a329

a629
(Subjective
norms)

I'm going to read out some statements about what other
people might think about your having a/another child
during the next 3 years. Please tell me to what extent you
agree or disagree with these statements....

see notes against a331.

a. Most of your friends think that you should have

	a. friends	a/another child during the next 3 years.	
	b. parents	b. Your parents (mother/father/step-parents...) think that you should have a/another child during the next 3 years.	
	c. relatives	[only R with at least one living parent/step-parent]	
		c. Your partner thinks you should have a/another child during the next 3 years. [Only R with partner]	
		d. Most of your (other) relatives think that you should have a/another child during the next 3 years. [Omit “other” for R with no living parent or step-parent]	
		Response scale – see a331	
a630	How many (more) children in total do you intend to have?	Retain.	a626 for same routing as a624; a630 if R or male R's partner is pregnant
a631	Adopt, apply for adoption or take a foster child	Retain. Move instruction to <i>Go to 701</i> from before this item to <i>after</i> this item to repair routing error.	How useful is this question given the 3 different target/actions? (also a623)
a807a, a807b	Return to work at end of parental leave	Retain. Follow recommendation of WP7 to add a response category.	a807a – intention for R who is eligible; a807b – desire for R not eligible to return. Low response rate – reflects low % of R on parental leave
a810	Take a job/start a business (unemployed)	Replace with <i>Would you like to take a job or start a business during the next 3 years?</i> If yes, <i>When do you expect that you will begin work/the business?</i> in _____ months time	Low response rate – may reflect low % of R in each activity category although WP7 says: a810 – unclear whether the answer reflects intentions or availability; follow-up question required. a818, a820, a824 – retain a826 – extremely low cell size Item refers to two different decisions – this doesn't matter if the

			issue is returning to the paid workforce, but it would matter if the GGS were to be used by researchers interested in distinguishing between working for others and starting a business.
a814	Finish education	<p>Omit, or rephrase as</p> <p>a) <i>When do you expect to complete your education?</i></p> <p>Month ____</p> <p>Year ____</p> <p>Clarification: “By education, I mean not just your current course of study but also any other course that you intend to enrol in immediately after you complete the current course.”</p> <p>or</p> <p>b) <i>When do you expect to complete your current course of study?</i></p> <p>Month ____</p> <p>Year ____</p>	<p>Similar recommendation to WP7.</p> <p>Form a) is ambiguous and responses would be unreliable without the clarification. Form b) is useful if the issue is completion of current course, but seems less useful for study of the life course.</p> <p>Consider moving this question to after a123, where it might be quicker to present and answer.</p>
a818, a820, a824, a826	Take a job/start a business (a818 – retired; a820 – ill or permanently disabled; a824 – home maker; a826 – military service)	Retain all	
a848	Change company or start a business (employee R)	Omit.	WP7 recommends drop.
a849, a854	Give up paid work	Omit. Concept picked up in revised a856 for R aged 50 and over.	<p>Low response rate for self-employed may reflect low % of self-employed R.</p> <p>No age restriction..</p>
a853	Start a business or take a job (self-	Omit.	WP7 recommends drop.

employed R)			
a856	Retire or take early retirement	Ask R aged 50 and over, who are in paid work (including military service) or have their own business, and who will not be required by law or regulation to retire during the next 3 years.	Currently asked of R aged 45 or over who “are working”. Seems double-barrelled – retire is not the same as take early retirement and the motivations for each differ.
		Revise question: <i>Do you plan to permanently leave the paid workforce some time during the next 3 years?</i>	It is also unclear if R in all countries and employment categories understand “retire” in the same way.
a856pre		New question, prior to a856, only for R aged 50 plus who are working or have their own business: <i>Will you be required, by laws or regulations of your country, your professional body or your employer to retire from the workforce some time during the next 3 years?</i> Response categories: yes, no, unsure	Can this be simplified?
		If yes or unsure, proceed to a856.	
a857 (Attitudes)	Now, suppose that during the next 3 years you were to retire. I would like you to tell me what effect this would have on various aspects of your life... If you were to retire, do you think this would be better or worse for ... a. the possibility to do what you want	What effect would you say that retiring would have on your life during the next 3 years? (By “retire”, I mean permanently leave the paid workforce whether you take advantage of a formal retirement scheme or not.) If you were to retire during the next 3 years, do you think this would be better or worse for ... a. the possibility for you to realise other important goals in	See notes to a328 It will be particularly important to test whether it is possible to define retirement as permanently leaving the paid workforce in this way. Should this question be asked of all working R aged 50 and over, regardless of whether they will be required to retire in the next 3 years or not?

b. your financial situation	life (new item)
c. what people around you think about you	b. your freedom to do what you want (revised wording, currently a)
d. the joy and satisfaction you get from life	c. your financial situation (currently b)
e. your state of health	d. the joy and satisfaction you get from life
f. the closeness between you and your partner/spouse	e. Replace with “ <i>the time you can spend with your grandchildren</i> ” [only R with grandchildren]
g. the closeness between you and your children and grandchildren	Omit current
	c (see replacement above)
	e (see replacement above)
	f
	g (see new item e above)

Response scale – see a328

a858 (PBC)	Completely replace this question with:	See notes to a329
... How much would your decision depend on ...?	Would you say that	you will be able to adjust well to a life without work if you permanently leave the workforce during the next three years?
a. financial situation	a. you will feel ready to retire during the next 3 years?	
b. work	b. you will be able to financially afford to retire during the next 3 years?	Items c and d are completely new and, while drawn from the theoretical and qualitative literature on retirement, need to be fully tested as survey items.
c. health	c. you will be able to adjust well to a life without work if you retire during the next 3 years?	
d. family life	d. you will have access to enough information to help you	Should this question be asked of all working R aged 50 and over,

		plan for successful retirement during the next 3 years?	regardless of whether they will be required to retire in the next 3 years or not? (Item c would need minor revision)
		Response scale – see a329	
a859 (Subjective norms)		I'm going to read out some statements about what other people might think about your permanently leaving the workforce during the next 3 years. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with these statements....	see notes against a331. Items are numbered in this section to best match PBC item numbering in other sections, but this sequence might be better revised for this decision.
	a. partner	a. Most of your friends think that you should retire during the next 3 years.	
	b. children	b. Your children think that you should retire during the next 3 years. [Only R with living children]	Should this question be asked of all working R aged 50 and over, regardless of whether they will be required to retire in the next 3 years or not?
	c. friends	c. Your partner thinks you should retire during the next 3 years. [Only R with partner]	
	d. other relatives	d. Most of your (other) relatives think that you should retire during the next 3 years. [Omit “other” for R with no living parent or step-parent]	
		Response scale – see a331	
a906a, a906b	Partner's return to work at end of parental leave	Omit.	Too distant from R for valid and reliable response. WP7 also recommends omit. (This is probably meant to be the equivalent of a807, but the wording of a906a differs (“want” instead of “intend”).)

Note. n/a = Not available.