

APPENDIX. Standard questionnaire used to interview community leaders and fisherpersons.

General

1. How does your community use the river?
2. What is most important to you about the river?
3. Have you heard about a dam on the Patuca? If so, what are your concerns?

Hydrology and geomorphology (could be paired with cross sections to aid in marking elevations of river flows, i.e., ask these questions in the field along a transect that has been, or could be, surveyed).

1. Describe what the river does during the year (the pattern of rise and fall)
2. In most years (i.e., average year) how high does the water get (ask for actual indication of this along the river channel/bank/floodplain).
3. In most years (i.e., average year) how low does the water get (ask for actual indication of this along the river channel/bank/floodplain).
4. What is the highest the river has been in the past 10 years? What is the highest you've ever seen the river?
5. What do the floods do?
6. What is the lowest the river has been in the past 10 years? What is the lowest you've ever seen the river? Does the river every go dry?
7. If the survey takes place near side channels or off-channel water bodies or other floodplain/riparian features, can ask whether these features ever connect to the river and, if so, when, how often, and for how long?
8. Does the location of the channel move? (e.g., meander migration, avulsion).
9. When and where does the river deposit sediment? (e.g., when do the sand bars grow higher?)
10. Is the sediment important to your community? If yes, in what way?
11. Have you noticed any changes in the amount of sediment moving in the river or being deposited?

Fish

1. What are the most important fish to your community?
2. For each fish species:
 - a. How do you catch them?
 - b. Where do you catch them (looking for riverine habitat descriptions, like channel margins, side channels, etc.)
 - c. At what time of year do you catch them? If a specific time of year: what is the river like at that time?
 - d. Do you know when they reproduce? Or when do fish have eggs in their body cavities?
 - e. Do you know what this type of fish eats?

- f. Do these fish use floodplain/riparian features during high flows?
- g. Do these fish migrate up or downstream? If so, when?
- h. Has the number of fish changed over the years? Has the size of individuals that you catch changed over the years?
- i. Do you notice any relationship between the number of fish and the amount of water in the river (both within a year and between years; could also say 'what happens to the fish catch during very dry years and during very wet years).

Other biology

1. What other animals are important to your community? Do they use the river and, if so, how?
2. What tree species are particularly valuable? Where do these trees grow in relation to the river? Where do the seedlings occur?