











## The Five Whys – Instructions

The Five Whys begin with a need, challenge or problem. This need, challenge or problem should begin with disaggregated data that can identify root causes for specific populations, as the “why” will be different for different populations and communities. The need, challenge or problem could be something identified by the team during brainstorming. The team asks “why” this need or challenge is present and records their responses. The team will continue to ask why, recording responses for each round. By asking “why” at least five times, the team should get at the root cause for the identified need or challenge. In some cases, the team may generate more than one answer when asking, “why?” The team can either prioritise one response to follow or consider following through the Five Whys with multiple responses. For the latter, use a separate worksheet for each new response as needed.

## Five Whys – Template

Problem Statement		
	<i>Why? (1)</i>	
		
	<i>Why? (2)</i>	
		
	<i>Why? (3)</i>	
		
	<i>Why? (4)</i>	
		
	<i>Why? (5)</i>	
Root Cause		
Structural Contributors		