

## **Supplement 1: Interview guide for focus group**

Running order (semi-structured, questions can be asked flexibly)

- 1) Welcome** and information on the purpose of the interview
- 2) Introductory question:** Please think back to the loss of your child, your stillbirth.  
What needs did you experience in this situation?
- 3) Topic 1 - Information on the loss**
  - a. How were you informed of the (potential) loss of your child?
  - b. What needs and requirements did you have at that time?
  - c. Who accompanied you during this phase?
- 4) Topic 2 – Birth**
  - a. What needs (physical/mental/psychological) did you have before and during the birth of your child?
  - b. How did the immediate care after birth take place?
  - c. How were you treated after birth?
- 5) Topic 3 - Dealing with the situation**
  - a. How did you deal with the loss?
  - b. What were you doing/thinking at that moment?
  - c. What did you do to deal with the situation?
  - d. What external support have you received?
- 6) Topic 4 – Expectations** - What expectations did you have of:
  - a. Nurses
  - b. Physicians
  - c. Midwives
  - d. The respective setting (hospital, birth center)
- 7) Topic 5 – Ideal care**
  - a. In your opinion, what would ideal care/support look like before and during the birth of your stillborn child?
  - b. What requirements must be met?
  - c. If you could make one suggestion to the care staff to improve the care/support, what would it be?
- 8) Closing questions**
  - a. What do you remember most positively about the process?
  - b. What situation or gesture was most important and helpful for you?