**Research Questions**

1. *Profile of institution*
2. Could you briefly describe the history of [insert organisations] and your mandate?
3. Given the evolution of the [organisation] over the decades, do you feel that [organisation] has the authority and resources to carry out your role? Is there anything that would allow [organisation] to do its work more effectively?
4. Which other ministries/departments/units do you work with? How do you find working these other organisations?
5. *Petroleum Law and Regulations*
6. What role does [ORGANISATION] play, if any, in the development of petroleum laws and regulations?
7. Do you have any part in the licensing process?
8. [ORGANISATION] has a role in advising Government and Government agencies on technical matters and public policy. How effective do you feel your advice is in shaping policy. Are there any particular practices or areas that work well, or present barriers?
9. How do you monitor compliance?
10. How would you rate over compliance of international oil companies? Do you face particular issues or problems?
11. Have you seen any trends in compliance over time? Is it improving, for example?
12. How would you rate Chinese oil company compliance relative to other foreign companies?
13. *Revenue management and transparency*
14. In what ways is transparency promoted when awarding contracts? What is your role in this?
15. What are the plans to optimise the proceeds from [country]’s oil?
16. Do you feel that there are measures which would improve Government revenue from oil? If so, what are they?
17. How is [country] preparing for the medium-term oil price outlook of “lower for longer”?
18. *Local content and linkages*
19. Do think that the O&G sector attaches an appropriate level of importance to local content issues?
20. What kind of local content requirements are there at the moment?
21. What is [ORGANISATION]’s involvement with local content policy?
22. What are the challenges facing the implementation of the local content policy? Are there capacity issues, and if so, in what areas?
23. To what extent are the oil companies and other stakeholders implementing local content rules?
24. Do you know of instances where some companies have failed to fulfil the requirements? What kind of companies are these (where are they from)? What were their reasons? Are there penalties (rewards) for flouting (obeying) the rules?
25. Does [ORGANISATION] provide support to local companies operating within the supply chain of the oil and gas sector?
26. How is the downturn in the oil price affecting investment in the local industry? How is it affecting how local companies could benefit from the lead firms? How are you working with the (local) companies to cope with this shock?
27. *Local community impact*
28. Are you involved with oil company operations in relation to local communities? If so, can you explain your role?
29. What are the major concerns or problems that you see local communities facing from the oil and gas sector? How are these issues being addressed?
30. Do you think more could be done? If so what?
31. Has there been any perceived improvement in livelihoods in the local communities hosting these projects? Examples may include factors such as the level of income, wages, inflation, employment opportunities, social amenities/infrastructure etc.

*f. Environmental issues*

1. What are the main environmental problems that arise from the oil and gas sector? Are there particular problems that arise more often such as spillage, excessive gas flaring etc. If there is difference, what do you think accounts for it?
2. Are the companies adhering to the best practice in terms of dealing with environmental issues that usually accompany the implementation of these projects?
3. How would you rate oil company compliance with environmental regulation overall? Are there any particular areas that are problematic?
4. Where physical or economic damage to the environment has occurred, has there been adequate restitution? What are the procedures for addressing such problems?
5. Do you see any difference in how Chinese companies operate and comply with environmental regulations compared to other foreign oil companies. If so, what are the differences?

*g. Chinese players*

1. What is your view of Chinese national oil companies in terms of their business approach?
2. To what extent do you see the Chinese as partners of preference for investment and infrastructure projects in and around oil and gas? How effective and reliable are they?
3. In your view, how successful are Chinese companies’ in acquiring equity holdings in [country]’s oil and gas sector?
4. In regard to [ORGANISATION]s mandate, do you see any differences overall in how Chinese oil companies operate in [country] compared to others?

*h. General questions*

1. How do you see [country] as an oil producing country in 5 to 10 years from now?
2. Do you believe [country] is on course in terms of avoiding the resource curse problem?
3. Are there plans to diversify [country]’s economy in order to avoid being over-reliant on oil?
4. Any other comments