HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS
NEW TECHNIQUES AND METHODOLOGIES

Measuring Violent Conflict in Micro-Level Surveys
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Household Surveys

• Multi-topic Integrated Household Surveys (LSMS)
• Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)
• Multiple Cluster Indicator Surveys (MICS)
• Household Income and Expenditures Surveys (HIES)
• Household Budget Survey (HBS)
• Survey of Income and Living Conditions (SILC)
More Demands for Information

• Millennium Development Goals
• Sustainable Development Goals
• Revised definition of employment
  • 19th International Conference of Labor Statisticians
  • Work is to generate income
New Ways of Implementing Surveys

• SWIFT – Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking
  • Estimates income, growth or poverty from 10–15 simple questions
  • Collects data using tablets or smart phones (CAPI)
  • Requires a comprehensive survey to provide the information from which estimates can be made using smaller survey
• Methodologies
  • Cross validation technique
  • Small area estimation technique
  • Multiple imputation formula
High Frequency Survey

- Used in fragile country context (Somalia, South Sudan, Kenya)
- Interviews limited to 60 minutes
- Core consumption items
- Non-core items partitioned into optional modules
- Optional modules assigned randomly to households
- Consumption estimated by imputation
  - Single imputation
  - Multiple imputation
High Frequency Survey (cont’d)

• Limitations
  • Effect of response bias cannot be estimated
  • Questionnaire is complex which may require additional training for enumerators
  • Analysis requires high capacity

• Research is continuing
  • Utz Pape and Johan Mistiaen, Measuring Household Consumption and Poverty in 60 Minutes: The Mogadishu High Frequency Survey
Mobile Phone Data Collection

• Mobile phone usage is increasing even in the poorest countries

• 4 steps
  • Baseline survey
  • Mobile phone survey
  • Data analysis
  • Dissemination

• Data can be used for
  • Welfare monitoring
  • Service delivery
  • Opinion polling
  • Emergency crisis (monitoring and warning signs)
  • Access project implementation
Mobile Phone Data Collection (cont’d)

• Part of the national statistical systems, just like censuses, surveys and administrative data
• Not a replacement for household surveys
• Not right platform for lengthy interviews
• Complements to traditional surveys
• Most suitable for:
  • Monitoring rapidly changing conditions
  • Obtaining feedback from households
Panel Surveys and Tracking

• Why track
  • Failure to follow results in higher attrition rate
  • Help mitigate potential biases in the analysis if attrition caused by migration is selective
  • Survey may have specific aims that require tracking

• Who to track
  • Depends on aims of the study
  • Affects the cost and length of survey
  • Households/individuals
Panel Surveys and Tracking (cont’d)

• Much more expensive
• More complex field logistics
• Requires additional training
• Requires additional supervision
• Can require more integration of technology in the survey design