

Data Collection In Developing Countries

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Fragile countries face a triple data challenge. Up-to-date information is needed to deal with rapidly changing circumstances and to design adequate responses. Yet, fragile countries are among the most data deprived, while collecting new information in such circumstances is very challenging. This open access book presents innovations in data collection developed with decision makers in fragile countries in mind. Looking at innovations in Africa from mobile phone surveys monitoring the Ebola crisis, to tracking displaced people in Mali, this collection highlights the challenges in data collection researchers face and how they can be overcome.

Data Collection in Developing Countries

Household survey data are very useful for monitoring living conditions of citizens of any country. In developing countries, a lot of this data are collected through "traditional" face-to-face household surveys. Due to the remote and dispersed nature of many populations in developing countries, but also because of the complex nature of many survey questionnaires, collection of timely welfare data has often proved expensive and logistically challenging. Yet, there is a need for faster, cheaper to collect, lighter, more nimble data collection methods to address data gaps between big household surveys. The recent proliferation of mobile phone networks has opened new possibilities. By combining baseline data from a traditional household survey with subsequent interviews of selected respondents using mobile phones, this facilitates welfare monitoring and opinion polling almost real time. The purpose of this handbook is to contribute to the development of the new field of mobile phone data collection in developing countries. The handbook documents how this innovative approach to data collection works, its advantages and challenges. The handbook draws primarily from the authors' first-hand experiences with mobile phone surveys in Africa and also benefits from experiences elsewhere. It is intended to serve a diverse audience including those involved in collecting (representative) data using mobile phones, and those using data collected through this approach. For those who will be implementing a mobile phone panel survey, the different chapters guide them through every stage of the implementation process. For potential users of the data collected via mobile phone technology, the handbook presents a new approach to data collection which they can use for monitoring programs and facilitate almost real time decision-making. A further purpose of this book is to contribute to the debate regarding the advantages of the method as well as the challenges associated with it.

Data Collection in Fragile States

This book fills the gap between social science methodology books and the realities of conducting social research under Third World conditions. It focuses on social impact assessment methods and cost effective social analyses for development projects and programs in US and Third World countries.

Mobile Phone Panel Surveys in Developing Countries

Longitudinal data collection and analysis are critical to social, demographic, and health research, policy, and practice. They are regularly used to address questions of demographic and health trends, policy and program evaluation, and causality. Panel studies, cohort studies, and longitudinal community studies have proved particularly important in developing countries that lack vital registration systems and comprehensive sources of information on the demographic and health situation of their populations. Research using data from such studies has led to scientific advances and improvements in the well-being of individuals in developing countries. Yet questions remain about the usefulness of these studies relative to their expense (and relative to cross-sectional surveys) and about the appropriate choice of alternative longitudinal strategies in different contexts. For these reasons, the Committee on Population convened a workshop to examine the comparative strengths and weaknesses of various longitudinal approaches in addressing demographic and health questions in developing countries and to

consider ways to strengthen longitudinal data collection and analysis. This report summarizes the discussion and opinions voiced at that workshop.

Methods For Social Analysis In Developing Countries

Delivers key information on social research methods in developing countries, dealing with the particular problems of carrying out social surveys and censuses in the Third World.

Leveraging Longitudinal Data in Developing Countries

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Fragile countries face a triple data challenge. Up-to-date information is needed to deal with rapidly changing circumstances and to design adequate responses. Yet, fragile countries are among the most data deprived, while collecting new information in such circumstances is very challenging. This open access book presents innovations in data collection developed with decision makers in fragile countries in mind. Looking at innovations in Africa from mobile phone surveys monitoring the Ebola crisis, to tracking displaced people in Mali, this collection highlights the challenges in data collection researchers face and how they can be overcome.

Data Priorities for Population and Health in Developing Countries

This volume is an effort to enhance, both directly and indirectly, the benefits of information for poverty alleviation through more informed food policy. This volume resulted from a multidisciplinary workshop held at the International Food Policy Research Institute in September 1992. It is divided into three parts: food policy issues and new challenges for data; strengths and weaknesses of different survey approaches for food policy design; and data quality and design of survey modules.

Social Research in Developing Countries

April 1998 In the quantitative-qualitative debate, analysts often fail to make a clear distinction between methods of data collection used and types of data generated. Using characteristic information needs for health planning derived from data on the use of health services, this paper shows that each combination of method (contextual or noncontextual) and data (quantitative or qualitative) is a unique primary source of information. Hentschel examines the role of different data collection methods-including the types of data they produce-in the analysis of social phenomena in developing countries. He points out that one confusing factor in the quantitative-qualitative debate is that a distinction is not clearly made between methods of data collection used and types of data generated. He maintains the divide between quantitative and qualitative types of data but analyzes methods according to their contextuality: the degree to which they try to understand human behavior in the social, cultural, economic, and political environment of a given place. He emphasizes that it is most fruitful to think of both methods and data as lying on a continuum stretching from more to less contextual methodology and from more to less qualitative data output. Using characteristic information needs for health planning derived from data on the use of health services, he shows that each combination of method (more or less contextual) and data (more or less qualitative) is a unique primary source that can fulfill different information requirements. He concludes that: * Certain information about health utilization can be obtained only through contextual methods-in which case strict statistical representability must give way to inductive conclusions, assessments of internal validity, and replicability of results. * Often contextual methods are needed to design appropriate noncontextual data collection tools. * Even where noncontextual data collection methods are needed, contextual methods can play an important role in assessing the validity of the results at the local level. * In cases where different data collection methods can be used to probe general results, the methods can-and need to be-formally linked. This paper-a product of the Poverty Group, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network-is part of a larger effort in the network to combine research methods from different disciplines in the design of poverty reduction strategies. The author may be contacted at jhentschel@worldbank.org.

Data Collection in Developing Countries

This book discusses the advantages and disadvantages of a variety of available research methods, and explains how to decide on the best approaches to suit individual circumstances.

Data Collection in Fragile States

This paper is an account of the World Bank's effort to collect household-level data on poverty in developing countries and what that data says about the effects of government policies on living conditions of the poor. The main objective of the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) surveys is to provide household-level data for evaluating the population's living conditions. This paper gives a history of LSMS and shows general trends that emerged in studies for which LSMS data are available: (a) most of the poor are in rural areas; (b) most of the poor are in households in which the head works in agriculture; and (c) the heads of poor households have low levels of education. Selected results of studies on the persistence of poverty, the effects on the poor, structural adjustment, food stamps and food subsidies, and raising user fees for health care and education are presented.

Data Needs for Food Policy in Developing Countries

This book provides a comprehensive guide to collecting and managing farm-level agricultural data in developing countries. Many development workers face the need to collect data for planning, monitoring or evaluation of a project, or to use data collected by other people. The book explains how to plan, design and manage a survey, and introduces basic analysis and report writing. Unlike other books in this field, the authors deal with the statistical aspects of practical sample designs, and give worked examples to help the reader. The techniques and practical advice will help readers who are collecting data to improve the quality of their surveys and will help people who have to use data assess how reliable those data are.

distinguishing between types of data and methods of collecting them

'A sure-footed and self-confident book, ambitious in scope, authoritative in execution and practical in its implications' - Simon Maxwell, Director, Overseas Development Institute, London 'At last, a development studies text that encourages self-reflection from within the discipline. Highly recommended' - Professor Ray Kiely, Chair in International Politics, Queen Mary University of London 'This is the book that academics, development researchers and practitioners have been seeking for a long time. [It] addresses the most important issues which development researchers and practitioners cope with each and every day' - Dr Tran Tuan, Director, Research and Training Centre for Community Development, Hanoi, Vietnam. 'An insightful book for both development practitioners and researchers alike' - Professor K.N. Nair, Director Centre for Development Studies, Kerala, India This book is about working professionally in Development Studies as a student, researcher or practitioner. It introduces and addresses the fundamental questions that everyone engaged with development must ask: \" What is 'development' and why do we wish to study it? \" How do the many theoretical, methodological and epistemological approaches relate to research and practical studies in development? \" How are development research and practice linked? Accessibly written, with extensive use of case study material, this book is an essential primer for students of development studies who require a concise, penetrating overview of its foundations. It is also core reading for students and practitioners concerned with the design of studies in the course of policy analysis, sector reviews, or project formulation, management and evaluation.

Choosing Research Methods

The measurement of food consumption and expenditure is a fundamental component of any analysis of poverty and food security, and hence the importance and timeliness of devoting attention to the topic cannot be overemphasized as the international development community confronts the challenges of monitoring progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 2014, the International Household Survey Network published a desk review of the reliability and relevance of survey questions as included in 100 household surveys from low- and middle-income countries. The report was presented in March 2014 at the forty-fifth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), in a seminar organized by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Statistics (IAEG-AG). The assessment painted a bleak picture in terms of heterogeneity in survey design and overall relevance and reliability of the data being collected. On the positive side, it pointed to many areas in which even marginal changes to survey and questionnaire design could lead to a significant increase in reliability and consequently, great improvements in measurement accuracy. The report, which sparked a lot of interest from development partners and UNSC member countries, prompted IAEG-AG to pursue this area of work with the ultimate objective of developing, validating, and promoting scalable standards for the measurement of

food consumption in household surveys. The work started with an expert workshop that took place in Rome in November 2014. Successive versions of the guidelines were drafted and discussed at various IAEG-AG meetings, and in another expert workshop organized in November 2016 in Rome. The guidelines were put together by a joint FAO-World Bank team, with inputs and comments received from representatives of national statistical offices, international organizations, survey practitioners, academics, and experts in different disciplines (statistics, economics, nutrition, food security, and analysis). A list of the main contributors is included in the acknowledgment section. In December 2017 a draft of the guidelines was circulated to 148 National Statistical Offices from low- to high-income countries for comments. The document was revised following that consultation and submitted to UNSC, which endorsed it at its forty-ninth session in March 2018 (under item 3(j) of the agenda, agricultural and rural statistics. The version presented here reflects what was endorsed by the Commission, edited for language. The process received support from the Global Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics. The document is intended to be a reference document for National Statistical Offices, survey practitioners, and national and international agencies designing household surveys that involve the collection of food consumption and expenditure data.

Report of the Expert Group on Social Statistics and a System of Social and Demographic Statistics for Developing Countries

Today's unprecedented growth of data and their ubiquity in our lives are signs that the data revolution is transforming the world. And yet much of the value of data remains untapped. Data collected for one purpose have the potential to generate economic and social value in applications far beyond those originally anticipated. But many barriers stand in the way, ranging from misaligned incentives and incompatible data systems to a fundamental lack of trust. World Development Report 2021: Data for Better Lives explores the tremendous potential of the changing data landscape to improve the lives of poor people, while also acknowledging its potential to open back doors that can harm individuals, businesses, and societies. To address this tension between the helpful and harmful potential of data, this Report calls for a new social contract that enables the use and reuse of data to create economic and social value, ensures equitable access to that value, and fosters trust that data will not be misused in harmful ways. This Report begins by assessing how better use and reuse of data can enhance the design of public policies, programs, and service delivery, as well as improve market efficiency and job creation through private sector growth. Because better data governance is key to realizing this value, the Report then looks at how infrastructure policy, data regulation, economic policies, and institutional capabilities enable the sharing of data for their economic and social benefits, while safeguarding against harmful outcomes. The Report concludes by pulling together the pieces and offering an aspirational vision of an integrated national data system that would deliver on the promise of producing high-quality data and making them accessible in a way that promotes their safe use and reuse. By examining these opportunities and challenges, the Report shows how data can benefit the lives of all people, particularly poor people in low- and middle-income countries. .

Recent Trends in the Methodology of Demographic Surveys in Developing Countries

This Working Paper reviews a number of aspects of the collection and use of panel data from households in developing countries. Sampling issues are discussed in Section 1. The authors conclude that there are likely to be real, if modest, benefits from incorporating some panel element into household survey data collection in developing countries. The recognition that panel data are likely to be subject to substantial errors of measurement does not invalidate this conclusion. Section 2 discusses the measurement of income dynamics, an issue that cannot be addressed without panel data. Recent research using U.S. data is reviewed to show that comparable work for developing countries would add an important dimension to discussions of poverty, inequality, and development. It is in the third area of review, that of econometric analysis, that the real benefits of panel data appear most fragile. While it is true that panel data offer the unique ability to deal with the contamination of econometric relationships by unobservable fixed effects, the presence of measurement error can compromise the quality of the estimates to the point where it is unclear whether cross-section or panel estimators are superior.

Improving Data on Poverty in the Third World

Comprehensive and informative document on the design, implementation, and use of household surveys in developing countries.

Data for Agrarian Development

This innovative book provides students and researchers alike with an indispensable introduction to the key theoretical issues and practical methods needed for data collection. It uses clear definitions, relevant interdisciplinary examples from around the world and up-to-date suggestions for further reading to demonstrate how to usefully gather and use qualitative,

quantitative, and mixed data sets. The book is divided into seven critical parts: • Data Collection: An Introduction to Research Practices • Collecting Qualitative Data • Observation and Informed Methods • Experimental and Systematic Data Collection • Survey Methods for Data Collection • The Case Study Method of Data Collection • Concluding Suggestions for Data Collection Groups A stimulating, practical guide which can be read as individual concepts or as a whole this will be an important resource for students and research professionals. Wendy Olsen is Senior Lecturer at Manchester University, Institute for Development Policy & Management and Cathie Marsh Centre for Census & Survey Research

The Collection and Analysis of Micro-economic Data in Developing Countries

Thousands of surveys on rural livelihoods in developing countries are being done every year. Unfortunately, many suffer from weaknesses in methods and problems in implementation. Quantifying households' dependence on multiple environmental resources (forests, bush, grasslands and rivers) is particularly difficult and often simply ignored in the surveys. The results therefore do not reflect rural realities. In particular, 'the hidden harvest' from natural resources is generally too important to livelihoods for development research, policies and practice to ignore. Fieldwork using state-of-the-art methods, and in particular well-designed household questionnaires, thus becomes an imperative to adequately capture key dimensions of rural welfare. This book describes how to do a better job when designing and implementing household and village surveys for quantitative assessment of rural livelihoods in developing countries. It covers the entire research process from planning to sharing research results. It draws on the experiences from a large global-comparative project, the Poverty Environment Network (PEN), to develop more robust and validated methods, enriched by numerous practical examples from the field. The book will provide an invaluable guide to methods and a practical handbook for students and professionals.

Choosing Research Methods

Health facility surveys come in various guises. One dimension in which they vary is their motivation. Some seek to understand better links between households and providers. Others seek to understand better provider behavior and performance. Still others seek to understand the interrelationships between providers, while yet others seek to shed light on the linkages between government and providers. Health facility surveys differ too in the data they collect, in part due to the different motivations. Surveys also vary in the way they collect data, some relying on direct observation, some on record review, and some on interview. Some quality data are collected through clinical vignettes. Facility data have been put to a variety of uses, including planning and budgeting; monitoring, evaluation, and promoting accountability; and research. Lindel and Wagstaff review some of the literature under each heading and offer some conclusions regarding the current state of health facility surveys.

International Development Studies

Doing Development Research is a comprehensive introduction to research in development studies, that provides thorough training for anyone carrying out research in developing countries. It brings together experts with extensive experience of overseas research, presenting an interdisciplinary guide to the core methodologies. Informed by years of research experience, Doing Development Research draws together many strands of action research and participatory methods, demonstrating their diverse applications and showing how they interrelate. The text provides: · an account of the theoretical approaches that underlie development work · an explanation of the practical issues involved in planning development research · a systematic overview of information and data collecting methods in three sub-sections: · methods of social research and associated forms of analysis · using existing knowledge and records · disseminating findings/research Using clear and uncomplicated language – illustrated with appropriate learning features throughout - the text guides the researcher through the choice of appropriate methods, the implementation of the research, and the communication of the findings to a range of audiences. This is the essential A-Z of development research.

Food data collection in Household Consumption and Expenditure Surveys. Guidelines for low and middle income countries

This publication presents tools and techniques for measuring service delivery in health and education and people's experiences from the field in deploying these methods. It begins by providing an introduction to the different methodological tools available for evaluating the performance of the health and education sectors. Country specific experiences are then explored to highlight lessons on the challenges, advantages and disadvantages of using different techniques to measure quality in a variety of different contexts and of using the resulting data to affect change. This book is a valuable resource for those who seek to enhance capacity for the effective measurement of service delivery in order to improve accountability and governance

and enhance the quality of service delivery in developing countries.

Rapid, Low-cost Data Collection Methods for A.I.D.

Agricultural Statistics

World Development Report 2021

Statistical agencies worldwide are increasingly turning to new data sources, including administrative data, to improve statistical coverage. Administrative data can significantly enhance the quality of national statistics and produce synergies with tax administration and other government agencies, supporting better decision making, policy advice, and economic performance. Compared to economic censuses and business surveys, administrative data are less burdensome to collect and produce more timely, detailed, and accurate data with better coverage. This paper specifically explores the use of value added tax and income tax records to enhance the compilation of national accounts statistics.

Collecting Panel Data in Developing Countries

A report based on a workshop held in 1998 at which outside research specialists and World Bank staff discussed the importance of integrating quantitative and qualitative research methods and reviewed experiences in the use of mixed method approaches in Bank research and project design.

Measuring Adult Mortality in Developing Countries

Health interventions that are effective in developed countries may not be as effective in developing countries given the differing social, economic, cultural, and infrastructure factors that may affect a program's implementation and outcomes. This monograph is intended to promote an understanding of why program evaluation is a critical component of any health intervention and to stimulate discussion on ways to make evaluation of health interventions in developing countries more rigorous.

Designing Household Survey Questionnaires for Developing Countries : Lessons from 15 Years of the Living Standards Measurement Study

In September 2015, the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes 17 ambitious goals to ensure a sustainable future for humanity. The Sustainable Development Goals, together with 169 targets that further specify the achievements expected, will guide the actions of Governments and the development community through 2030. Monitoring progress towards the achievement of the goals and targets will be crucial to guiding action. Reliable and timely demographic information is essential for effective monitoring. The present report reviews the current status of demographic evidence and its capacity to support monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals. It focuses on the core systems generating demographic data and describes how the “data revolution” has already improved their performance and the potential for accelerating such improvements. In addition, the report underscores that open access to anonymized micro data and routine use of Geo-referencing in data collection are necessary to expand the use of demographic data. Geo-referencing makes possible the integration of diverse data sets and facilitates disaggregation and the incorporation of big data in analyses and modelling. It also highlights the role of institutions producing consistent and comparable sets of demographic indicators essential for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals globally.

Living Standards Surveys in Developing Countries

Data Collection

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