Panel Surveys & Tracking

Heather Moylan

Poverty and Inequality Course
Module 1: Multi-topic Household Surveys
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Longitudinal Surveys & Attrition

• Last 30 years: growth in quantity and quality of household surveys

• Panel surveys: extremely useful, provide insights not available from cross-section surveys

• Attrition: the Achilles heel of longitudinal surveys
  → Major causes: deaths, refusals, inability to locate baseline dwelling, migration

  → Developing country context: mobility (review of 13 panel studies)

• Non-response and attrition limit the contributions to science
Tracking: following respondents when they move...

**Wave 1**
- John (head of household)
- Mary (spouse of head)
- Adam (son 1)
- Bob (son 2)
- Cindy (daughter)

**Wave 2**
- John - left
- Mary - left
- Adam (head of household)
- Bob - left
- Cindy - left

Village A

Village B
Tracking: following respondents when they move not only to nearby locations …
... but even when they move outside the original village, even thousands of miles away

IFLS 4: if only interview stayers and local movers, re-interview rate: 69%.

With tracking: same district 4%, same county 5%, same province 5%, different province 4% → 87% re-interviewed
Why track movers....(1)

Failure to follow results in higher attrition rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study site</th>
<th>% attrition per year</th>
<th>% respondents found through tracking</th>
<th>survey length (years)</th>
<th>% attrition at the end of survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya (Ideational Survey 1994)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>No tracking</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon (IFORD 1978)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>No tracking</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru-National (LSMS 1990)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>No tracking</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia (1996)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>No tracking</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru-Lima (LSMS 1985)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>No tracking</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil (Birth Cohort Study 1982)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa (Birth to Ten 1990)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia (MFLS)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania (KHDS 1991/1994)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia (IFLS 1993)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania (TNPS 2008/09)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why track movers....(2)

Surveys may have specific aims that require tracking

Examples:
- survey that aims to study migration require tracking of respondents who move and migrate
- survey that aims to study marriages may require tracking of young respondents if, for example, marriages and migration decisions are closely linked
Why track movers... (3)

Tracking helps mitigate potential biases in the analysis if attrition caused by migration is selective

- movers are unlikely to be a random subset of the baseline respondents

- movers are likely to have certain characteristics that differ from those who remain in the baseline location
Why track movers… (4)

Tracking helps mitigate potential biases in the analysis if attrition caused by migration is selective

In terms of observables at baseline

– Thomas et al (2010) on IFLS:
  
  o in IFLS, respondents not interviewed are more educated, have parents who are more educated, taller, than those interviewed. Households characteristics at the baseline also differ.
  
  o observables at the baseline are also related to distance of moves: those who move to different villages but stayed within the same district are less educated than those who moved further away

It has often been argued that using observables at the baseline to control for attrition could solve the problem.
Why track movers... (5)

*Tracking helps mitigate potential biases in the analysis if attrition caused by migration is selective*

Attrition is selective due to unobservables at the baseline:

- Thomas et al (2010) on IFLS:
  - stayers had higher returns to education than movers at baseline
  - by 2007, movers have higher returns to education
  - movers and stayers had similar economic status at baseline
  - movers experienced much higher consumption growth than stayers
  - Using only the sample of stayers would underestimate poverty changes in panel households
Why track movers… (6)

Tracking helps mitigate potential biases in the analysis if attrition caused by migration is selective.

Attrition is selective in terms of unobservables at baseline, due to:
- characteristics that are unmeasured at baseline
- changes that occur after baseline

Very difficult to draw conclusions about selectivity based only on baseline characteristics of those who are followed and those who are not followed.

Tracking is crucial for assessing welfare changes among baseline respondents in panel surveys.
Who to Track? .... (1)

- Who to track: depends on the aims of the study and will affect the cost and the length of the survey

  *Important to note that the baseline survey is representative of particular population and the rule on who to track may affect representativeness of the sample*

  - *Methods exist to re-weight the sample to recover some of the representativeness* *(Himelein, 2013)*

Households or individuals?

- Common approach: track households over time
- BUT conceptually, households split, dissolve, expand, combine
- with tracking there will be “split-off households”, households that originate from the baseline households
- “panel households” a vague concept (although common to compute re-contact rate in terms of households)
“panel household” a vague concept

Wave 1
- John (head of household)
- Mary (spouse of head)
- Adam (son 1)
- Bob (son 2)
- Cindy (daughter)

Village A

Wave 2
- John - left
- Mary - left
- Adam (head of household)
- Bob - left
- Cindy - left

Village A

Wave 2
- John (head of household)
- Mary (spouse of head)
- Bob (son 2)
- Cindy (daughter)

Village B

Wave 2
- John - left
- Mary (head of household)
- Adam - left
- Bob (son 2)
- Cindy (daughter)

Village A

Wave 2
- Adam (head of household)
- Elizabeth (spouse of head)
- John (head of household)

Village A
Who to Track?...(2)

• More useful to view tracking as following the individuals

• …or subset of individuals: may not want to track everyone

• Criteria used in existing surveys:
  – based on relationship to the household head (prioritize HH head, spouse, children over distant relatives, servants)
  – based on certain demographic characteristics (age, sex)

  – may want to interview those not in the baseline
    • IFLS interview spouse and children of movers
    • TNPS/Malawi IHPS interview any new members of movers
In practice...

- Tracking is hard: population are mobile, infrastructure poor, address system/official records may not exist

- Tracking is costly: monetary, time, and also require high capacity of the organization that conduct the survey
  - More complex field logistics, field work becomes highly variable, requires additional training, additional supervision and can require more integration of technology in the survey design

- Need to establish limits: administrative boundaries, geographical boundaries, distance/time limits

- Need to solve trade-offs, often in real time: local vs. long-distance movers; quantity of respondents and quality of information available to find them

When not to track:

- The costs and efforts involved in tracking can be huge – decision whether to track or not has to be informed by the extent of migration expected
Organizing Tracking Operation

- Structuring the phases of field work
  - possibility of 3 phases: pre-field work, main field work, post-field work

- Defining the role of a tracking manager/management team

- Establishing tracking teams
Organizing Tracking Operation

Pre-fieldwork tracking phase

• Visiting at least a subsample of survey EAs and collecting minimal information
  – May help assess extent of migration
  – Help survey planners improve tracking instruments and protocols
  – Experience gained can be useful to both survey planners and interviewers
  – May inform survey planners whether it is at all feasible to conduct another round of the survey

*Lower cost, improved questionnaire design, potentially lower attrition*
Organizing Tracking Operation

Main survey phase
- teams go to assigned sample EAs
  - Possibly local tracking (movers who live near sample EAs)
  - Respondents from other teams (especially in urban areas)

Post-field work tracking phase
- teams go outside sample EAs
  - Smaller teams
  - More places, longer distance
  - Implication of deviations from original timeline
Organizing Tracking Operation

Tracking management team/tracking manager

- Important to have a group of people/someone responsible for the following:
  - Managing the information system
  - Solving conflicting information
  - Evaluating quality of information (completeness of tracking forms)
  - Prioritizing tracking cases
    - Evaluating trade-offs between cases e.g. 5 persons close by or 2 far away?
  - Assigning cases to teams
  - Keep track of the extent of mobility/migration: may need to have a break after a few weeks to assess mobility
Organizing Tracking Operation

Dedicated tracking teams

– In specific areas known to be destination areas for migrant (e.g. urban, industrial centers)

– Tracking teams:
  • Higher quality interviewers
    – if no supervisors for small teams (e.g. 2 people)
  • Mobile, persistent

– Have knowledge of the areas
Implementation for Tracking

Target households from baseline
Implementation for Tracking

At the original household location...

• find the household intact and residing in the original dwelling
• find some of the members in original dwelling and other moved out
• do not find any of the original members in dwelling

what you end up with...
Protocols for Tracking

- Key Elements in a tracking operation
  - Adequate information of target households / respondents given to field staff
  - Requires this information to be integrated into the baseline survey
    - Detailed description of respondent location
    - Maps
    - GPS Coordinates rarely used in field tracking but are good to confirm location in hq case management.
Pre-filled Household Roster

From Preston Shoprite go 1 km North to Abby Trent Bakery, The HH is located directly behind the bakery.
Implementation for Tracking

The challenge then is to collect and record enough information from key informants that will allow you or another individual/team to locate either the target respondent(s) or other key informants.

Key Information to collect

- All target household/Individual Identification Information
- Information on the Informant including name, location, phone, relationship to tracking target
- Informants previous contact with target
- Current location and contact information of tracking target
- Date and reason for moving
- Contact information for school/work of tracking target in new location
- Contact information for other potential informants (in either location)
- Detailed description & maps of new location
# Household Tracking Form

**INTEGRATED HOUSEHOLD PANEL SURVEY**

**MALAWI 2013**

**T1 FORM FOR NEW LOCATION OF HOUSEHOLD**

1. NAME OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD FROM IHS3:

2. HOUSEHOLD ID:

3. FULL HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFICATION FROM IHS3:

**INTERVIEWER INFORMATION**

4. NAME OF INTERVIEWER:

5. INTERVIEWER ID:

6. DATE OF INTERVIEW:

7. FORM T-1

8. NUMBER OF

9. OF

**CURRENT LOCATION OF TARGET HOUSEHOLD**

21. ADDRESS:

22. LOCATION NOTE:

23. PHONE NUMBER 1:

24. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:

25. PHONE NUMBER 2:

26. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:

27. DISTRICT:

28. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:

29. GVH:

30. PLACE/VILLAGE:

31. WHEN DID THE HOUSEHOLD MOVE TO THIS LOCATION?

32. WHY DID THE HOUSEHOLD MOVE?

**INFORMANT IDENTIFICATION**

8. NAME OF INFORMANT:

9. ADDRESS:

10. LOCATION NOTE:

11. PHONE NUMBER 1:

12. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:

13. PHONE NUMBER 2:

14. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:

15. DISTRICT:

16. TA, STA, TOWN:

17. EA:

18. GVH:

19. PLACE/VILLAGE:

20. RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF TARGET HOUSEHOLD:

- Relative: 1
- Friend: 2
- Neighbor: 3
- Employer: 4
- Other, specify: 5

**CURRENT LOCATION OF OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

33. Does any former household member live separately from those listed above?

34. Name of former household member:

35. ADDRESS:

36. LOCATION NOTE:

37. PHONE NUMBER 1:

38. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:

39. PHONE NUMBER 2:

40. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:

41. DISTRICT:

42. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:

43. GVH:

44. PLACE/VILLAGE:
# Household Tracking Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION OF WORK PLACE IN NEW LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45. Do you know the workplace of any of the members of this household?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46. NAME OF FORMER HH MEMBER:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47. NAME &amp; ADDRESS OF WORK:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48. LOCATION NOTE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49. PHONE NUMBER 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51. PHONE NUMBER 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
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<tr>
<td>53. DISTRICT:</td>
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<tr>
<td>54. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:</td>
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<tr>
<td>55. GVH:</td>
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<tr>
<td>56. PLACE/VILLAGE:</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION OF WORK PLACE IN NEW LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61. PHONE NUMBER 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63. PHONE NUMBER 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66. GVH:</td>
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<tr>
<td>67. PLACE/VILLAGE:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PLACE OF WORSHIP OR OTHER FREQUENTED PLACES IN NEW LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70. Do you know other places e.g. mosque, church, trading centres, social clubs, etc. where any of the members of this household frequently or occasionally go to?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71. NAME OF HH MEMBER:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72. NAME OF PLACE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73. ADDRESS:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74. LOCATION NOTE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75. PHONE NUMBER 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
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<tr>
<td>77. PHONE NUMBER 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
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<tr>
<td>79. DISTRICT:</td>
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<tr>
<td>80. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:</td>
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<tr>
<td>81. GVH:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82. PLACE/VILLAGE:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL IN NEW LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57. Do you know the school where any of the members of this household go to?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58. NAME OF FORMER HH MEMBER:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. NAME OF SCHOOL:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60. ADDRESS:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61. LOCATION NOTE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62. PHONE NUMBER 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
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<tr>
<td>64. PHONE NUMBER 2:</td>
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<tr>
<td>65. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
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<tr>
<td>66. DISTRICT:</td>
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<tr>
<td>67. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68. GVH:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69. PLACE/VILLAGE:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION OF INFORMANTS IN ORIGINAL LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>84. NAME OF INFORMANT:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85. ADDRESS:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86. LOCATION NOTE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87. PHONE NUMBER 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89. PHONE NUMBER 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91. DISTRICT:</td>
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<tr>
<td>92. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:</td>
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<tr>
<td>93. GVH:</td>
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<tr>
<td>94. PLACE/VILLAGE:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Household Tracking Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT INFORMATION OF INFORMANTS IN ORIGINAL LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95. Do you know anyone in the new location of this household who might have further information? YES..1 NO...2 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96. NAME OF INFORMANT: ______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97. ADDRESS:______________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98. LOCATION NOTE:_______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99. PHONE NUMBER 1: _______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100. HAS PHONE NUMBER 1 BEEN VERIFIED: YES..1 NO...2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101. PHONE NUMBER 2: _______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102. HAS PHONE NUMBER 2 BEEN VERIFIED: YES..1 NO...2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103. DISTRICT:____________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104. TA, STA, TOWNWARD:__________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105. GVH:_______________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106. PLACE/VILLAGE:______________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP AND DIRECTIONS TO NEW LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>107. Please draw a map to the new household.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

108. Please provide directions to the new location. If possible, please also provide a description of the new location. Include things such as TA, STA, TOWN, GVH, Church, Mosque, Places/ Village, School, Trading Center, near by landmarks etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERVISOR ONLY:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>109. Is the information provided in this form T-1 sufficient to track the household in their new location?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMATION ABOUT NEW LOCATION IS SUFFICIENT AND HH CAN BE CONTACTED...1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMATION IS SUFFICIENT BUT HH CANNOT BE CONTACTED..........................2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMATION ABOUT NEW LOCATION IS NOT SUFFICIENT.............................3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUPERVISOR NAME _______________________________  
SUPERVISOR PHONE NUMBER ___________________________
Individual Tracking Form

41. When did [TRACKING TARGET] move out of the old location? MONTH: YEAR:
42. When did [TRACKING TARGET] move into the new residence? MONTH: YEAR:
43. What other places did [TRACKING TARGET] live before moving into the current residence?
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 
   d. 

TRACKING TARGET IDENTIFICATION
44. Details of places frequently visited (e.g., church/mosque, trading/entertainment centers, restaurant, bar, sports club, hairdresser/barber):
45. Nicknames/aliases:
46. Other relevant information:
47. When was the last time [TRACKING TARGET] visited this village/town? MONTH: YEAR:
48. What was the purpose of the visit and/or persons who [TRACKING TARGET] met?
49. When is [TRACKING TARGET] expected to visit this village/town again? MONTH: YEAR:
50. What will be the purpose of the visit and/or persons who [TRACKING TARGET] will meet? YES: NO: 2>>54
52. Name of spouse:

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL / WORK IN NEW LOCATION
54. Is [TRACKING TARGET] in school? YES: NO: 2>>60
55. Name of school:
56. Name of teacher/principal:
57. Phone number:
58. Has phone number been verified? YES: NO: 2>>61
59. Address/Location of school:
60. Is [TRACKING TARGET] working? YES: NO: 2>>63
61. Current profession:
62. Name of workplace:
63. Name of supervisor (if any):
64. Phone number:
65. Has phone number been verified? YES: NO: 2>>64
67. Address/Location of workplace:

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL INFORMANTS
68. Is there any influential or well known person in the new location who knows [TRACKING TARGET] who can lead us to him/her? YES: NO: 2>>67
69. Name of potential informant:
70. Address:
71. Location note:
72. Phone number 1:
73. Has phone number 1 been verified? YES: NO: 2>>73
74. Phone number 2:
75. Has phone number 2 been verified? YES: NO: 2>>75
76. Where does this potential informant spend most of his/her time?
77. Can anyone in this village/living nearby give us more information on [TARGET]? YES: NO: 2>>77
78. Name of potential informant:
79. Address:
80. Location note:
81. Phone number 1:
82. Has phone number 1 been verified? YES: NO: 2>>82
83. Phone number 2:
84. Has phone number 2 been verified? YES: NO: 2>>84
85. Work place:
86. Where does this potential informant spend most of his/her time?
87. Can anyone else give us more information about [TARGET]? YES: NO: 2>>87
88. Name of potential informant:
89. Address:
90. Location note:
91. Phone number 1:
92. Has phone number 1 been verified? YES: NO: 2>>92
93. Phone number 2:
94. Has phone number 2 been verified? YES: NO: 2>>94
95. Work place:
96. Where does this potential informant spend most of his/her time?
Individual Tracking Form

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS MOVING WITH TARGET

97. Did any household members from the IHS3 household move with [TARGET] to the new location?
   YES...1
   NO...2

98. Which household members of the IHS3 household moved together with [TARGET] to the new location?
   a. Name: ___________________________  PERSON ID FROM IHS3: __________  PHONE NUMBER: __________  VERIFIED?
   b. Name: ___________________________  PERSON ID FROM IHS3: __________  PHONE NUMBER: __________  VERIFIED?
   c. Name: ___________________________  PERSON ID FROM IHS3: __________  PHONE NUMBER: __________  VERIFIED?
   d. Name: ___________________________  PERSON ID FROM IHS3: __________  PHONE NUMBER: __________  VERIFIED?
   e. Name: ___________________________  PERSON ID FROM IHS3: __________  PHONE NUMBER: __________  VERIFIED?

MAP AND DIRECTIONS TO NEW LOCATION

99. Please draw a map to the new household.

100. Please provide directions to the new location. If possible, please also provide a description of the new location. Include things such as TA, STA, TOWN, GWH, Church, Mosque, Places/Village/School, Trading Center, near by landmarks etc.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERVISOR ONLY:

Is the information provided in this T-2 form sufficient to track the [TARGET] in their new location?

- INFORMATION ABOUT NEW LOCATION IS SUFFICIENT AND HE CAN BE CONTACTED...1  SCHEDULE TO CONTACT THE PERSON AND CONDUCT INTERVIEW
- INFORMATION IS SUFFICIENT BUT PERSON CANNOT BE CONTACTED...2  CONTACT HEADQUARTERS
- INFORMATION ABOUT NEW LOCATION IS NOT SUFFICIENT...3  CONTACT AND INTERVIEW ADDITIONAL INFORMANTS, COMPLETE NEW T-2 FORMS

SUPERVISOR NAME: ___________________________  SUPERVISOR PHONE NUMBER: __________
Finding the targets

• **Additional information to use:**
  - Official/unofficial records (birth, marriage, death)
  - Information from previous rounds (take advantage of other modules – schooling, place of employment, healthcare providers)
  - Use of mobile phones (confirm location, make appointments, remember – AIRTIME)
  - Photographs of respondents (individual or household photos with IDs – must guarantee privacy)
  - Use of CAPI (pre-loading information, saves time)
  - GPS backtracking
  - Gifts/Incentives to respondents (can increase response rates)
  - Incentives to tracking teams (# of cases solved, difficulty of work…)

LSMS
Living Standards Measurement Study
Implementation for Tracking

Once adequate information on tracking target is collected…

- Go find and interview the tracking target
  - Information reveals that tracking target is near by and can be easily found in area and interviewed

- Relay collected information to another team that can locate and interview
  - Data must be collected, organized and disseminated rapidly
    - Requires robust information tools and management
  - Field work design must take into account predictable and unpredictable migration
    - Urban vs rural
    - Teams / resident enumerators vs tracking teams
Conducting interviews with tracked respondents

Linking Individuals and Surveys across rounds

- Assigning household and individual IDs:
  - very critical but could be overlooked
  - HH and individual IDs have to uniquely identify households and individuals within round, but also allow for different rounds/waves to be linked correctly

Several options:
- Original HHs get the same ID, others get new IDs
- All HHs get new IDs by adding 01, 02, 03,…to the old HHID
- Assign new HHID to all households by using the old HHID and adding to that the roster number of the tracked respondents in that household (01, 02, 03,…up to however many members were in baseline)
Conducting interviews with tracked respondents

Linking Individuals and Surveys across rounds

• Completing household rosters:
  • Which information should be fed-forward to the new roster: age, sex, birth date, etc.
  • What to do with conflicting information

• Collect basic information about those who are still not found (very valuable):
  Birth date (can be preloaded and confirmed during the interview)
  Sex
  Date when they left
  Village/City/Region where they moved to
  Reason they left
  Highest education known by informant
  Working status, marriage status, and other key information
Conducting interview with tracked respondents

And finally…
* CONDUCT THE INTERVIEW *

(But make sure that your enumerators are as qualified and highly trained as possible so they collect the best information and all the efforts put into tracking were worthwhile)
Other things to think about…

• “Tracking” of agricultural land – linking pieces of land over time

• Tracking across visits in a multiple visit structure

• Ethical Concerns
Conclusion

• Costs of not tracking: higher rates of attrition
• Attrition selected on observed characteristics
  ….and on unobserved characteristics: which complicate inferences
• Costs of tracking: vary with design, boundaries
• Can be minimized with careful planning and well managed implementation
References


