Household Surveys and the World Bank

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Multi-topic Household Surveys
Module 1: Poverty and Inequality Course
January 27-28, 2010
DECPI
The Demand for Data

Performance-based management

1. Is the public sector delivering good services?
2. Are country policies/poverty reduction strategies reducing poverty?
3. Is aid supporting poverty reduction?
4. In the World Bank: “Results-based” Country Partnership Strategies, for example
The Demand for Data

- Performance-based management
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
  - MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
  - MDG 2: Achieve universal primary education
  - MDG 3: Promote gender awareness, empower women
  - MDG 4: Reduce child mortality
  - MDG 5: Improve maternal health
  - MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and others
  - MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
  - MDG 8: Develop a global partnership for development
The Demand for Data

- Performance-based management
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSP), HIPC
  - Measure welfare/poverty
  - Identify problems--magnitude, causes
  - Alternative policies
  - Cost/benefit
  - Monitor
  - Evaluate
The Demand for Data

- Performance-based management
- Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSP), HIPC
- General Demand
  - Poverty and Inequality
  - Benefit Incidence Analysis
  - Public services
  - Determinants of observed outcomes
  - Assessment of alternative policies
  - Impact Evaluation
  - Inputs to Program Design
  - Research
Variety of types of data about and from households:

- Administrative data
- Case studies
- Census of Population and Housing
- Household Surveys
Heterogeneity in Surveys

Purpose of the survey drives the way survey is designed and implemented
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Main Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Censuses</td>
<td>UNFPA, UNDP</td>
<td>Measure basic demographic and housing indicators for country and sub-national units every 10 years. Develop sample frames for all other household surveys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Force Surveys (LFS)</td>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>Measure and monitor employment and unemployment indicators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)</td>
<td>USAID</td>
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<td>Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)</td>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>Measure and monitor health and education indicators.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaires (CWIQ)</td>
<td>UNDP, WB Africa Reg.</td>
<td>Measure and monitor a limited range of welfare indicators.</td>
</tr>
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Heterogeneity in Surveys

Purpose of the survey drives the way survey is designed and implemented

Key dimensions

1. “Representativeness” (sampling)
2. “Directness” of measurement
3. Analytic complexity
4. Respondent Burden
5. Methods
Dimensions: “Representivity”

- Case study
- Purposive selection
- Quota sampling
- Small prob. sample
- Large prob. sample
- Census
Dimensions: Subjective/Objective

- Direct measurement
- Questionnaire (quantitative)
- Questionnaire (Qualitative)
- Structured interview
- Open meetings
- Conversations
- Subjective assessments

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- Direct measurement
- Questionnaire (quantitative)
- Questionnaire (qualitative)
- Structured interview
- Open meetings
- Subjective assessments
- Conversations

- Participatory Poverty Assessments
- Sentinel Site Surveillance
- Participant observation
- Beneficiary Assessment
- Windscreen Survey

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- Household Budget Survey
- LSMS/IS
- CWIQ/PS
- Community Surveys
- Census

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Household Budget Surveys (HBS)

**Purpose:** collect information on household expenditures (and income) to produce or update the weights for consumer price indices as well as to provide inputs for national accounts.

Countries often add modules on income to their HBS in order to facilitate the measurement of national income as well. (then IES)

Restricted set of questions that mimic what is captured in the decennial population and housing census.

Topics include:
- basic demographic information
- education levels
- and employment status
- Agricultural module

Supported by Central Bank, IMF
Labor Force Survey

**Purpose:** Measure and monitor indicators of country’s economic situation and for planning and evaluating many government programs.

Done monthly in many developed countries, quarterly or annually in most developing countries.

Topics include those related to labor:
- employment,
- unemployment,
- earnings,
- hours of work,
- occupation, industry, and class of worker.
- Supplemental questions-- income, previous work experience, health, employee benefits, and work schedules

Supported by Ministry of Labor, ILO definitions
Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)

- **Purpose**: collect data on health, primarily maternal and infant health but not limited to this, and demography.
- **Started in 1984** (continuation of the World Fertility Survey and the Contraceptive Prevalence Surveys that had been done previously.)
- **Done in 80 countries** (approximately 200 standard DHS done)
- **Topics usually covered by the surveys include**,
  - basic characteristics of the household and the respondents,
  - child health, education,
  - family planning, fertility and fertility preferences,
  - HIV/AIDS knowledge, attitudes and behavior,
  - infant and child mortality,
  - maternal health,
  - nutrition, and
  - socio-economic indicators based on asset ownership.
- **Supported by USAID**
The Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)

- **Purpose:** Monitor progress on the 1990 World Summit for Children Goals
- Assessing progress on HIV/AIDS and malaria reduction
- First wave, 1995, second wave 2000, third wave 2005-06
- Over 100 countries implemented the MICS in this third round.
- The fourth round is planned for 2009-10, change frequency to 3 yrs
- **Main topics covered**
  - MDGs
  - nutrition,
  - child health and mortality,
  - water and sanitation,
  - housing,
  - reproductive health and contraceptive use,
  - literacy, child protection,
  - labor,
  - domestic violence
- **Supported by UN**
Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire (CWIQ)

- **Purpose:** Measure and monitor a limited range of human development indicators, on access, utilization and satisfaction with social services
- **Mainly done in Africa region although expanding now (20+ countries)**
- **Topics- indicators:**
  - Roster
  - Education-use
  - Health-use
  - Sanitation
  - Correlates of poverty
- **Supported by World Bank**
Living Standards Measurement Study Surveys (LSMS)

Purpose: Study household behavior, welfare, interactions with government policies: determinants of outcomes, and linkages among assets/characteristics of households and actions of the government.

Started in 1980s by WB + academia + practitioners, surveys been done in over 40 countries

Topics include *(inter alia)*
- Hhld composition
- Education
- Health
- Labor
- Migration
- Credit Use

- Consumption
- Agriculture
- Hhld enterprises
- Community characteristics
- Facility characteristics

Supported by World Bank, UN agencies, IADB, bilaterals, governments
Dimensions: Analytic Complexity

- Simplest- Monitoring Indicators
  - MICs, CWIQs, (IES/HBS), DHS

- In depth on one topic:
  - LFS, Agricultural Surveys, IES/HBS, DHS

- Most complex
  - Multi-topic: LSMS, IS, FLS
Dimensions

Respondent Burden:

- Function of questionnaire length, number of respondents, recall or diary
- Least burden, short questionnaires: CWIQ, MICS one respondent
- Medium: LFS, Ag. Surveys, one respondent
- Medium to long: LSMS, FLS, Long questionnaire but multiple respondents
- Greatest Burden: diary-based IES/HBS, long questionnaire, mostly answered by one person
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Sample - hhlds</th>
<th>Geographic desegregation</th>
<th>Freq. data collection</th>
<th>Period of data collection</th>
<th>No., visits</th>
<th>Interview Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Censuses</td>
<td>All hhlds in country</td>
<td>Any level</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>1 day to 1 month</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>½ hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income / Expenditure Surveys (IES)</td>
<td>2,000-20,000</td>
<td>3-10 regions Urban/rural</td>
<td>1-5-10 years</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>1-2 hours per visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Force Surveys (LFS)</td>
<td>5,000-50,000</td>
<td>5-20 regions Urban/rural</td>
<td>Month --5 yrs</td>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30 minutes per active hh member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)</td>
<td>5,000-20,000</td>
<td>5-20 regions Urban/rural</td>
<td>5-10 years</td>
<td>3-4 months</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2-4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)</td>
<td>2,000-15,000</td>
<td>&lt;5 regions Urban/rural</td>
<td>3-5 years</td>
<td>3 months or less</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaires (CWIQ)</td>
<td>5,000-15,000</td>
<td>5-20 regions Urban/rural</td>
<td>Once or twice</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>&lt; 1 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated, Multi-Topic Surveys (LSMS/IS/FLS)</td>
<td>2,000-5,000</td>
<td>3-8 regions Urban/rural</td>
<td>3-5 years</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>1-2 hours per visit</td>
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Driving Ideas for LSMS surveys

- Need to understand living standards, poverty, inequality and the correlates and determinants of these.
- Unit of analysis on the household, as both consuming and producing unit
- Notion that one survey collecting data on a range of topics more powerful tool for policy formulation than a series of single purpose surveys: the sum was greater than the parts.
- Thus: **multi-topic** household questionnaire
Early decisions about when to do

demand driven: implemented in a specific country as needed

priority given to meeting the policy needs of each country

Implications

– no standard set of LSMS questionnaires: content, length and complexity varies by country and, often, over time within a given country.

– Questionnaire development- lengthy process linking data users, stakeholders and data producers

– Capacity building, sustainability
LSMS: Early phases

1980-85
- Evaluation of existing surveys
- First surveys developed, implemented and analyzed
- Very much research projects
  - Ivory Coast (1985 and subsequent)
  - Peru (1985 and subsequent- ongoing)

1987-1993
- 11 more surveys carried out
- Social Dimensions of Adjustment
  - IS, PS (eventually CWIQ)
LSMS Phase III: 1993-2005

- More surveys (total 60 in 40 countries)
- Comprehensive assessment of policy and research usefulness
- Documentation (www.worldbank.org/lsms)
- Decentralization
- MECOVI, SPARC
- Maintain links to research
LSMS Phase IV: 2006 to present

Research for Improving Household Survey Data

- Overall greater demand for data
- New demand -- new topics
- New technologies
- Goal: ensure that the LSMS meets new demands for data and remains at the forefront of survey methodology
- Close cooperation with poverty researchers, social scientists
LSMS IV-Component 1

- Continue stocktaking started in previous phase
- What is the state of the art in household surveys?
  - Migration
  - Gender
  - Proposed work on Climate Change Adaptation, Tracking
LSMS IV- Component 2

- Methodological and technological experiments aimed at increasing current knowledge on survey methodologies.
  - improve the measurement of core indicators in LSMS surveys
  - develop methods for expanding the areas of policy that the LSMS surveys can cover
  - improve the quality of the data that is generated either substantively or by improving its accuracy, relevance, timeliness.

- Experiments done or underway in: finance, labor, consumption, migration, subjective welfare, migration, CAPI, *inter alia*
LSMS IV-Component 3

- Dissemination
  - South-south collaboration
  - CLSP
  - Survey Finder
  - Conferences
  - In progress
Importance of agriculture for poverty reduction, yet:

- Poor data: low quality, inadequate periodicity and comparability, lack of policy relevance
- Institutional constraints in agricultural data production and analysis
- Lack of analytical capacity
- Poor dissemination of data and findings
- Overall, too little attention to agriculture
LSMS-ISA - Project Objectives

1) Improving our understanding of agriculture and non-agriculture in SSA and their role in poverty reduction

2) Monitoring key economic indicators

3) Platform for improving measurements and indicators

4) Facilitating data dissemination and use

5) Strengthening inter-institutional collaboration
LSMS-ISA - Main components

- Production of *high-quality* household survey data
- Methodological validation/research
- Capacity building in data collection
- Dissemination
LSMS-ISA - Key features

- 6+ years
- 6 countries [Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Niger(?)]; phased implementation
- Panel (frequency?)
- Sample: 3-5,000 households
- Integrated approach
  - Multi-topic questionnaire
    - Agriculture plus non-farm, poverty, nutrition, *inter alia*
  - Build on existing/planned surveys
  - Improved links to other data sources
- Add-on, rotating research modules
- Open Data Access Policy
Further information

Further Information on HHId Surveys

- LSMS: http://www.worldbank.org/lsms
- DHS: http://www.measuredhs.com
  http://www.childinfo.org
  http://www.census.gov
- IES/HBS: http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm