



*LSMS-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture:  
main features, trade offs and lessons learned*

Gero Carletto

Development Economics Research Group

The World Bank

# MOTIVATION

Importance of agriculture for poverty reduction, yet:

- § Poor data: low quality, inadequate periodicity and comparability, lack of policy relevance
- § Failure to address high levels of diversification, linkages to non-farm, poverty, health, ...
- § Institutional constraints in agricultural data production and analysis
- § Lack of analytical capacity
- § Poor dissemination of data and findings
- § Overall, too little attention to agriculture and agricultural statistics

# OBJECTIVE

Improve the availability, quality and relevance of agricultural data for policy and research in Sub-Saharan Africa

# COMPONENTS



§ Household survey data production

§ Methodological validation/research

§ Capacity building

§ Dissemination

# COUNTRIES

§ Tanzania

§ Uganda

§ Malawi

§ Nigeria

§ Niger

§ Ethiopia

# MAIN FEATURES

- Panel
  - Frequency
  - Tracking of movers
  - Tracking of split-offs
- Sample design
  - Population-based frame
  - Sample size
    - Relatively small at baseline
    - Domains of inference

# MAIN FEATURES (cont'd)



- Integrated approach
  - § Multi-topic survey instrument
    - § Agriculture plus non-farm, poverty, nutrition, *inter alia*
  - § Build on existing/planned surveys
    - § National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)
    - § [Countries examples](#)
  - § Improved links to other data sources
    - § Small area estimation
    - § Geo-referencing
- § From Centralized to Field-based to CAPI data entry

# METHODOLOGY

- Recall vs. Diary (vs. crop cutting)
- Use of mobile phones
- Plot measurement
- Income sources
  - Agriculture (FAO/RIGA)
  - Livestock (ARD, ILRI)
  - Fishery (WFC)
  - Non-farm enterprises (KCP; FAO/RIGA)
- Sourcebooks

# LESSONS LEARNED

- Standardization with customization
- Integration with existing/planned surveys comes at a price but ...
  - Sustainability and country ownership
  - Medium-term horizon
- Tracking “grossly underestimated”
- Concurrent data entry is not about technology

# CHALLENGES

- Integration
- Institutional framework
- Analytical capacity
- Level of representativeness (sampling)
- Burden on respondents
- Donor coordination
- Managing expectations

*“In handling innovations,  
patience is a virtue”*

*Anonymous*

# UGANDA NPS

- UBoS
- On-going government plan: 1st wave funded (Netherlands), combined with UNHS, no agriculture
- Two panel visits (as in 2005/06)
- GPS plot measurement
- Field-based data entry, moving to CAPI in wave 2
- Crop cards

# MALAWI IHS3



- NSO
- Survey schedule: 1997/98, 2002/03 ... 2009?
- Multi-donor effort: DFID, Norway, Irish Aid, MCC, GTZ
- Sample:
  - 12,000 households, of which 3,000 panel
  - Main regions, main crops
- Two panel visits
- Field-based data entry

# ETHIOPIA AgSS



- CSA
- AgSS: 60,000 households, 2,000 resident enumerators; crop cutting at cluster level
- Crop estimate: highly controversial
- Subsample of AgSS (8,000 households)
- Extra layer of supervision
- Field-based DE, CAPI on subset
- Linking crop cutting to households?
- Pastoralist?

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