

Working in Groups: Normative Issues in Multidimensional Poverty Measurement

Objective

To understand the set of normative decisions required in the construction and implementation of a multidimensional poverty measure. The process implies to tailor the AF methodology to the context, values and level of development of the country.

Methodology:

You will work in predesigned groups. However, you may change groups with a participant in another group if there is a compelling reason to do so. It should, however, be done only after consulting with both concerned groups.

Exercises:

You have been hired by the National Government of XXX to propose and develop a multidimensional poverty measure. You and your team should design a national multidimensional poverty measure following the capability approach in such a way that it is meaningful and relevant for the country. The measure should reflect people's capabilities or functionings as much as possible.

Together with this document you will receive a set of documents trying to describe the current conditions of the country (among other DHS, MDG & WB Reports, additionally for some countries, voices of the poor, NGOs reports and National development plans are also available). Feel free to look for more information in the web.

Based on the information of the country, the session on Normative Issues by SA and the International experience, select and justify in detail and very carefully:

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1. The purpose of the measure
2. The Unit of the Measure
3. The Possible Dimensions
4. The Indicators and Deprivation cut-offs
5. The indicators' weights

Note: At this stage, you could imagine that you are preparing an instrument (survey), so, you might propose a set of dimensions & indicators currently unavailable. Tomorrow, you and you team will have to adapt your normative decisions to the available data.