

Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

Department of International Development
Queen Elizabeth House
University of Oxford



MISSING DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY DATA

A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators

INDICATOR SHORTLISTS FOR:
Employment
Empowerment
Safety and Security
Going About Without Shame
Psychological and Subjective Wellbeing

October 2007

CONTENTS

INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT	3
INDICATORS OF EMPOWERMENT	6
INDICATORS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY	8
INDICATORS OF THE ABILITY TO GO ABOUT WITHOUT SHAME	13
INDICATORS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING	17
REFERENCES	20

INTRODUCTION

This document contains the actual survey questions proposed in each of the five papers developed for the May 2007 Workshop on Missing Dimensions of Poverty Data. The proposal is that these questions – or a refinement of them – might be considered a ‘module’ that could be added to nationally representative individual or household surveys

Our intent here is to lay out clearly the dimensions and indicators in outline form to spark discussion and improvement of the specific survey questions.

The full papers also include a discussion of:

- the concepts and definitions in the literature
- why a specific module might be needed
- the reasoning behind the selection of these indicators and questions
- reference to the academic analyses that have used data from these indicators
- the weaknesses and potential biases of these proposed indicators
- lists of other potential indicators that have been used
- the research questions that could be answered were such questions integrated into multi-topic individual or household questionnaires.

The full papers are available on the OPHI website www.ophi.org.uk

The precise web address is:

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/subindex.php?id=publications0>

To comment on the papers or on these questions please email the authors directly, or send your comments to ophi@qeh.ox.ac.uk

INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

María Ana Lugo (maria.lugo@economics.ox.ac.uk)

This module proposes a set of indicators of employment, the first four relating to quality of employment and the last to quantity of employment.

INDICATORS

Protection:	1. Informal employment
Income:	2. Income from employment (including self-employed earnings)
Safety:	3. Occupational hazard (accidents, illnesses, and workplace exposures)
Time:	4. Under/over employed (prefer to work more/less than at present)
	5. Multiple activities (number of income generating jobs)
Quantity: searching)	6. Discouraged unemployed (prefer to work but have stopped

These following questions are to be included in labour questionnaires wherever appropriate.

1. Protection: informal employment¹

For informal employment, we assume that informal sector enterprise questions are already included in the questionnaire, so that we only need to identify informal jobs not in the informal sector.

Q1. How many people altogether work in the same organisation where you do this work? Number			
Q2. (For employers, own-account workers and contributing family workers) Has the enterprise been already registered? 1. Yes 2. Is in the process of being registered 3. No 4. Do not know 5. Do not want to answer			
Q3. Are you employed temporarily or permanently? 1. Temporarily 2. Permanently			
Q4. When you started this job, did you sign a written contract? 1. Yes 2. No			
Q5. For this work ... (a) Will you receive a retirement pension? Are you entitled to ... (b) paid holidays ? (c) paid sick leave? (d) social security benefits ? (e) free or subsidised medical care? (f) maternity leave?	Yes	No	Do not know

¹ Hussmanns 2004.

2. Income from employment

Asked of self-employed (agriculture and non-agriculture)² after soliciting a description of the business:

Q1. In a good month, how much profit does this business/enterprise/ farm normally make (net of costs)? (rupees)
Q2. What is the total value of equipment/stock that is used in the business? (rupees)

Alternatively (or complementarily), the matrix approach aims at computing the quantity and values of inputs and outputs. Questions differ according to the type of activity: non-agriculture (manufacturing, traders and other services) and agriculture. We include the questions in the Appendix to the full paper.³

3. Occupational safety and health⁴

Accident	
Q1. Have you suffered any accidental injury during the past 12 months?	
No	
Yes →	Q1.1. Total number of accidents caused by work with more than 24 hours lost time Q1.2. Total accidents caused by work requiring a medical consultation Q1.3. Does the injury had a ... 1. no permanent effect 2. permanent effect, able to work in the same job 3. permanent effect, able to work, not in the same job 4. permanent effect, not able to work at all
Illness	
Q2.1. Have you stopped working during the past 12 months due to any health problems (illness) related to your work? Yes / No	
Q2.2. Have you stopped working during the past 12 months due to any health problems (illness) that was aggravated by your work? Yes / No	
Q2.3. How would you describe this illness?	
1. Upper respiratory disease (eg throat, nose, sinusitis) 2. Lower respiratory disease (eg asthma, TB, pneumonia) 3. Hearing loss 4. Upper limb disorder (neck, shoulder, arm, wrist, hand) 5. Lower limb disorders (eg legs, foot) 6. Other musculoskeletal (back, hip) 7. Skin diseases	8. Eyes strain, eye problems 9. Headaches 10. Other organ damage (liver, kidney) 11. Cardiovascular disease 12. Stress / depression 13. Other
Workplace exposures (main activity)	
Q3. Indicate with a tick if present or true, a cross if not present and '0' if no answer	
1. Inadequate clean water supplies; 2. Toilets inadequate / dirty 3. Tripping hazards; 4. Machine parts unguarded; 5. Work with cutting/ grinding handtools 6. Noise too loud to talk normally; 7. Exposed to extreme heat source	8. Use red or purple triangle chemicals 9. Mineral dusts in workplace 10. Vegetable dusts in workplace 11. Handling heavy loads 12. Uncomfortable work posture 13. Long hours of standing

² Aslam *et al.* 2006 (Pakistan RECOUP 2006).

³ Ghana GLSS 4 – Part B.

⁴ Loewenson 1997 (Survey of occupational risks and health impacts in the informal sector in Zimbabwe).

4. Time-related under- and over-employment⁵

Q1. What is the main reason for which you worked less than 40 hours? 1. It is your normal schedule 2. The work schedule was reduced due to low production or sales 3. Lack of credit or financing 4. Household work, caring for children 5. Family or personal reasons, sickness or accident 6. There is no more work 7. Other (specify)
Q2. Considering the total number of hours worked last week, would you like to work more hours to obtain additional income? 1. Yes 2. No
Q3. (if the person is working more than 45 hours per week) Considering the total number of hours worked last week, would you like to work fewer hours at the expense of a reduction in income? 1. Yes 2. No

5. Multiple jobs⁶

Following a question on how many hours the person worked in the past week (in all activities):

Q4. During the past 12 months did you do any other work besides 'main occupation'? 1. Yes 2. No (if 'yes') Q5. What kind of work? (from code list). List up to four occupations.

6. Discouraged Unemployment⁷

Should follow standard question about job search such as "Have you made any effort within the past ... months to find work, established a business or an enterprise?" and answered "No"

Q1. Which is the main reason why you did not look for work? 1. Awaiting reply to earlier enquiries 2. Waiting to start arranged job, business or agricultural 3. Off season in agriculture 4. Have a temporary / occasional work 5. Got tired of searching 6. Thought no work available 7. Other (specify)

If the respondent answers "5" or "6", then she or he will be considered discouraged unemployed.

⁵ Nicaragua EMNV' 01.

⁶ Ghana GLSS.

⁷ Nicaragua EMNV' 01 and Ghana GLSS.

INDICATORS OF EMPOWERMENT

Solava Ibrahim (sssmi2@cam.ac.uk) and Sabina Alkire (sabina.alkire@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

To capture the four elements of empowerment identified in the paper’s conceptual framework – control, choice, change and community – the following indicators are recommended to measure empowerment:

- Indicator 1- ‘Power Over/Control’: *Control over personal decisions*
- Indicator 2- ‘Power To/Choice’: *Household decision-making and domain-specific autonomy*
- Indicator 3 - ‘Power From Within/Change’: *Changing aspects in one’s life [Individual Level]*
- Indicator 4- ‘Power With/ Community’: *Changing aspects in one’s life [Communal Level]*

Indicator 1- ‘Power Over/ Control’: Control over Personal Decisions

Q1.- How much control do you feel you have in making personal decisions that affect your everyday activities?

Control over all decisions [5] Control over most decisions [4]
 Control over some decisions [3] Control over very few decisions [2]
 No control at all [1]

Source: World Bank *Moving out of Poverty* survey (Narayan and Petesch, Forthcoming).

Indicator 2- ‘Power To/Choice’: Household Decision-making and Domain-specific autonomy

Indicators of household decision-making

Q1.- When decisions are made regarding the following aspects of household life, who is it that normally takes the decision?

a) Minor Household Expenditures	
b) What to do if you have a serious health problem	
c) How to protect yourself from violence	
d) Whether and how to express religious faith	
e) What kind of tasks you will do	

Use following Codes: Respondent [1] Spouse [2] respondent and spouse jointly [3] someone else [4] Jointly with someone else [5] other [6]

Q2.- *If answer in any of Q1 is different than respondent1 => (Using this same table)* To what extent do you feel you can make your own personal decisions regarding these issues if you want to?

a) Minor Household Expenditures	
b) What to do if you have a serious health problem	
c) How to protect yourself from violence	
d) Whether and how to express religious faith	
e) What kind of tasks you will do	

Codes: To a high extent [4] medium extent [3] small extent [2] Not at all [1]

Source: For question 1, see Ibrahim and Alkire (2007), Table 1. For question 2, see R. Alsop et al. (2006).

Indicator of domain-specific autonomy

Now I am going to describe three reasons why you do these activities, and ask you to tell me how true each one is.

Q1.-How true would it be to say that your actions with respect to _____ [*the domain from the left hand column*] are motivated by a desire to avoid punishment or to gain reward?

Q2.- How true would it be to say that your actions with respect to _____ [*the domain from the left hand column*] are motivated by a desire to avoid blame, or so that other people speak well of you?

Q3.- How true would it be to say that your actions with respect to _____ [*the domain from the left hand column*] are motivated by and reflect your own values and/or interests?

Domain	Q1	Q2	Q3
a) Minor Household Expenditures			
b) Serious health problems for yourself			
c) Avoiding violence to yourself			
d) Religious expression			
e) Your tasks			

Codes: Completely True [4] Somewhat true [3] not very true [2] Not at all true [1]

Source: Ryan and Deci (various), see <http://www.psych.rochester.edu/SDT/measures/index.html>.

Indicator 3 - *Power From Within/Change*: Changing Aspects in one’s Life [Individual Level]

Q1.- Would you like to change anything in your life? Yes [1] No [0]

Q2.- What three thing(s) would you most like to change?

A:
B:
C:

Q3.- Who do you think will contribute most to any change in your own life?
 [*Enumerator: list up to 2 reasons*]

Myself [1] My family [2] Our Group [3] Our Community [4]
 The local government [5] The state government [6] Other (specify) _____

Source: Alsop *et al.* 2006.

Indicator 4- *Power With/Community*: Changing Aspects in Communal Life [Communal Level]

Q1.- Do you feel that people like yourself can generally change things in your community if they want to?

Yes, very easily [5] Yes, fairly easily [4] Yes, but with a little difficulty [3]
 Yes, but with a great deal of difficulty [2] No, not at all. [1]

Source: Alsop *et al.* 2006.

INDICATORS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

Rachael Diprose (rachael.diprose@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

The proposed module covers three important areas:

- 1) Incidence and frequency of both general violent crime and conflict-related violence against property (and incidents of theft, which indicates people's safety and security).
- 2) Incidence and frequency of both general violent crime and conflict-related violence against person.
- 3) Perceptions of threat(s) to security and safety, both now and in the future.

For the first two areas, questions seek to measure injury and death rates; the victims and perpetrators of violence; the location where incidents take place; and avenues for recourse from incidents of violence and satisfaction with these.⁸

The comprehensive set of recommended questions is followed by a 'quick module' which could be used in the case of time constraints.

⁸ These indicators do not cover: domestic violence – recommended to be addressed in health surveys such as Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS); why people are dissatisfied; costs of violence; suicide rates; violence against children or the elderly in the household; whether people sought health care; drug-related incidents; and violence perpetrated by the state.

Indicators of violence, physical safety, and security: comprehensive module

Part 1: Indicators of incidents of threats to physical safety and security: against property

<p>1. In the past 5 years, have you or any members of you household been the victim of or experienced the following?</p>	<p>i) 0. No 1. Yes 88. Not applicable 99. Don't know (Not applicable is used for people that don't own the category of property mentioned, ie crops and animals)</p>	<p>ii) If yes, how many times in the last five years did this happen to you or another member of your household? 1. Once 2. Twice 3. Three times 4. More than three times (LSMS Malawi)</p>	<p>iii) The last time this happened was the perpetrator (s) an individual household member, another relative, a neighbour who you know, a close friend of you or the family, a person/group of people you only know by sight, a stranger/group of strangers, or you don't know/didn't see the offender? 1. Household member 2. Other relative 3. Neighbour who you know 4. Close friend of you or the family 5. Person you know by sight only 6. Group of people who you know by sight only 7. Individual stranger 8. Group of strangers 99. Did not see offender/don't know 77. Refused to answer (Adapted from ICVS, conflict survey questions, and barometer surveys)</p>	<p>iv) Who did you report this to (if more than one person/institution, choose the one person/institution which was most important to you)? 1. Police 2. Military 3. Religious leader/Traditional leaders /elders /chiefs/ village heads 4. Government officials 5. NGO/CSO 6. Local armed gangs 7. Media 8. Political party 9. Doctor, health official 10. Other household member 11. Other (specify) 12. Did not report it 77. Refused to answer 99. Don't know (Adapted from Barometers/ICVS)</p>	<p>v) If you reported this incident, how satisfied were you with the way they dealt with this problem? 1. Very satisfied 2. Somewhat satisfied 3. Somewhat dissatisfied 4. Very dissatisfied 99. Don't know 88. N/A (For those who did not report it) (Barometer surveys)</p>
<p>A. Someone actually got into your house, flat, or dwelling, without permission and stole or tried to steal something? (ICVS)</p>					
<p>B. Someone took something from you or a member of your household (on your person), by using force, or threatening you? Or did anyone try to do so? (Adapted from ICVS)</p>					
<p>C. Someone stole something you own (not stored in the dwelling) such as vehicles, parts or contents of vehicles, motorbikes, mopeds, scooters, machinery, pumps, bicycles, store property and so on? (Combined from ICVS)</p>					
<p>D. Animals or crops were stolen from you or a member of your household? (LSMS Malawi)</p>					
<p>E. Someone deliberately destroyed or damaged your home, shop, or any other property that you or a member of your household owns? (additional question)</p>					

Part 2: Indicators of incidents of threats to physical safety and security: against person

2. Apart from the previous incidents, in the past five years, have you or any members of you household been the victim of or experienced the following?	i) 0. No 1. Yes 99. Don't know	ii) If yes, how many times in the last five years did this happen to you or another member of your household? 1. Once 2. Twice 3. Three times 4. More than three times (LSMS Malawi)	iii) Did anyone die in any of these incidents? 0. No 1. Yes 99. Don't know iv) If yes, how many people?	v) If anyone died in any of these incidents, what was their age and gender (choose most recent 2): 1. Female aged 10 years old or younger? 2. Male aged 10 years old or younger? 3. Female aged between 11 – 18 years old 4. Male aged between 11-18 years old 5. Female aged between 19 – 30 years old 6. Male aged between 19-30 years old? 7. Female aged over 30? 8. Male aged over 30? 99. Don't know 88. Not applicable 77. Refuses to say	v) Victim 1	v) Victim 2	vi) vii)	viii) If anyone was injured in the most recent incident what was their age and gender (if more than one person choose the most severely injured)? 1. Female aged 10 years old or younger? 2. Male aged 10 years old or younger? 3. Female aged between 11 – 18 years old 4. Male aged between 11-18 years old 5. Female aged between 19 – 30 years old 6. Male aged between 19-30 years old? 7. Female aged over 30? 8. Male aged over 30? 99. Don't know 88. Not applicable 77. Refuses to say (adapted from WHO guidelines)	ix) The last time this happened, where did this happen (if more than one incident choose the most recent death, or if no deaths occurred, the most recent injury)? 1. Home 2. On street near own home 3. In a public area near a government office/building 4. At school 5. At work 6. On a Street/ highway not near own home 7. Residential institution 8. Sports and athletic area 9. Industrial or construction site 10. Farm (excluding home) 11. Commercial area (shop, store, hotel, bar, office) 12. Countryside 13. Nursing home 14. Place of worship 15. Other (specify) 99. Unknown (ICVS/WHO)	x) The last time this happened was the perpetrator (s) an individual household member, another relative, a neighbour who you know, a close friend of you or the family, a person/group of people you only know by sight, someone else (specify), a stranger/group of strangers, or you don't know/didn't see the offender? 1. HH member 2. Other relative 3. Neighbour who you know 4. Close friend of you or the family 5. Person you know by sight only 6. Group of people who you know by sight only 7. Individual stranger 8. Group of strangers 9. Other please specify 99. Did not see offender/don't know 77. Refuses to say (ICVS and WHO)	xi) Who did you report this to (if more than one person/institution, choose the one person/institution which was most important to you)? 1. Police 2. Military 3. Religious leader/ Traditional leaders /elders /chiefs/ village heads 4. Government officials 5. NGO/CSO 6. Women's organisation 7. Local armed gangs 8. Media 9. Political party 10. Doctor, health official 11. Other household member 12. Other (specify) 13. Did not report it 77. Refuses to answer 99. Don't know	xii) If you reported this incident, how satisfied were you with the way they dealt with this problem? 1. Very satisfied 2. Somewhat satisfied 3. Somewhat dissatisfied 4. Very dissatisfied 99) Don't know 88. N/A (for those who did not report it or refuse to answer, or don't know)
A. You or a member of your household were assaulted (hit, slapped, shoved, punched, pushed, or kicked) without any weapon either inside or outside the home? (WHO)	i)	ii)	iii) iv)	v) Victim 1	v) Victim 2	vi) vii)	viii)	ix)	x)	xi)	xii)	
B. You or a member of your household were assaulted (beaten, stabbed, burnt, throttled, or otherwise attacked) with a weapon (eg. Bottle, glass, knife, club, hot liquid, rope) not including being shot by a gun or firearm? (WHO)												
C. Someone shot you or a member of your household with a firearm or gun? (WHO)												
D. You or a member of your household were kidnapped (taken and held against your will)? (additional)												
E. You or a member of your household was injured by a bomb, Molotov cocktail, landmine or other explosive device? (additional)												
F. I know this is a difficult question for you, so please take a moment to think about it. Have you or a member of your household experienced a sex act against your will involving either vaginal, oral or anal penetration, or attempts to do so? (WHO)												

Part 3: Perceptions of safety and violence

<p>3. In the next twelve months, what is the likelihood that you will become a victim of one of the forms of violence mentioned above? (HSR-Ipsos-Reid)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Very likely 2. Somewhat likely 3. Somewhat unlikely 4. Very unlikely 	i)	<p>ii) Is it more likely to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Against person 2. Against property 3. Both 4. None 	ii)
<p>4. Compared to five years ago, has the level of violence in the neighbourhood where you live increased, decreased or stayed the same? (adapted from CRISE surveys)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased a lot 2. Increased a little 3. Stayed about the same 4. Decreased a little 5. Decreased a lot 			
<p>5. How safe do you feel walking down the street after dark in the area where you live? (Social Capital, WHO))</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Very safe 2. Moderately safe 3. Neither safe nor unsafe 4. Moderately unsafe 5. Very unsafe 			
<p>6. There are many different potential threats and dangers to people's personal security in today's world. Thinking of all the threats that you might face in your life, which two (ranked) is of the most concern to you now? (HSR – Ipsos-Reid)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Criminal violence 2) Inter-communal violence 3) Armed warfare/conflict 4) Terrorism 5) Death, or incapacitation from natural disasters, health, or economic problems 6) Other 7) None 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (Most important) 2. (Second most important) 		

Quick module on physical safety and security

1. In the past 5 years, have you or any members of your household been the victim of or experienced the following?	i) 0. No 1. Yes 99. Don't know	ii) If yes=> how many times in the last year did this happen to you or another member of your household? 1. Once 2. Twice 3. Three times 4. More than three times	iii) The last time this happened was the perpetrator was 1. HH member 2. Other relative 3. Neighbour who you know 4. Close friend of you or the family 5. Person you know by sight only 6. Group of people who you know by sight only 7. Individual stranger 8. Group of strangers 99. Did not see offender/don't know 77. Refused to answer	iii) Did anyone die in any of these incidents? 0. No 1. Yes 99. Don't know	iv) If yes, how many people? 0. No 1. Yes 99. Don't know	v) In the last (most recent) incident that occurred, aside from those who were killed, was anyone injured (could not continue their normal activities for more than one day)? 0. No 1. Yes 99. Don't know	vi) If yes, how many people were injured in the most recent incident?	iv) The last time it happened it was at 1. Home 2. On street near own home 3. In a public area near a government office/building 4. At school 5. At work 6. On a Street/ highway not near own home 7. Residential institution 8. Sports and athletic area 9. Industrial or construction site 10. Farm (excluding home) 11. Commercial area (shop, store, hotel, bar, office) 12. Countryside 13. Nursing home 14. Place of worship 15. Other (specify) 88. Refuses to answer 99. Don't know	v) Did you report it? 0. No 1. Yes to the police 2. Yes, to the military or other government official (not police) 3. Yes, to informal authorities (traditional leaders, religious leaders, elders, chiefs) 4. Yes, to another household member 5. Yes, to health officials 6. Yes to civil society organisations (including women's organisations) 7. Yes to a gang 7. Yes to the media 8. Yes, to a political party 88. Refuses to answer 99. Don't know
Part 1 – Property									
A. Someone got into your house, flat, or dwelling, without permission and stole or tried to steal something?									
B. Someone stole something you own (not stored in the dwelling) such as vehicles, parts or contents of vehicles, motorbikes, mopeds, scooters, machinery, pumps, bicycles, store property, livestock, and so on? (not stored in the dwelling)									
C. Someone deliberately destroyed or damaged your home, shop, or any other property that you or a member of your household owns?									
Part 2 – Person									
D. You or a member of your household were assaulted (hit, slapped, shoved, punched, pushed, or kicked) without any weapon either inside or outside the home?									
E. You or a member of your household were assaulted (beaten, stabbed, burnt, throttled, or otherwise attacked) with a weapon (eg. Bottle, glass, knife, club, hot liquid, rope) not including being shot by a gun or firearm?									
F. Someone shot you or a member of your household with a firearm or gun?									
G. You or a member of your household was injured by a bomb, Molotov cocktail, landmine or other explosive device?									
2. In the next twelve months, what is the likelihood that you will become a victim of one of the forms of violence mentioned above? (HSR-Ipsos-Reid) 5. Very likely 6. Somewhat likely 7. Somewhat unlikely 8. Very unlikely	i)		ii) Is it more likely to be: 1. Against person 2. Against property 3. Both 4. None				ii)		

INDICATORS OF THE ABILITY TO GO ABOUT WITHOUT SHAME

Diego Zavaleta (diego.zavaleta@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

Based on existing indicators from related fields, the following module suggests eight indicators to measure specific aspects of shame and humiliation that could start an in-depth debate around this topic. The indicators are the following:

Shame

1. Stigma of poverty: whether respondents would feel shame if they were poor
2. Shame proneness

External experience of humiliation

3. Perceptions of respectful treatment,
4. Perceptions of unfair treatment
5. Perceptions of prejudiced treatment
6. Perceptions of ethnic, racial or cultural discrimination affecting respondent's chances of obtaining employment, services and education.
7. Perceptions of whether economic conditions affect respondent's chances of obtaining employment, services and education.

Internal experience of humiliation

8. Levels of accumulated humiliation.

SHAME

Indicator 1. Whether respondents would feel shame if they were poor.

Do you agree/disagree with the following statement:

1. I would be ashamed if I was poor.
2. I would be ashamed if someone in my family was poor.
3. People living in poverty should be ashamed of themselves.
4. People who are not poor make people who are poor feel bad.

How do you think most people in your community would answer the previous questions?

5. I would be ashamed if I was poor.
6. I would be ashamed if someone in my family was poor.
7. People living in poverty should be ashamed of themselves.
8. People who are not poor make people who are poor feel bad.

Source: Adapted from USAID 2006.

Indicator 2. Levels of shame proneness.

For each of the following listed feelings please place a number from 0 to 4, reflecting how common the feeling is for you.

- 4 = you experience the feeling continuously or almost continuously
- 3 = you experience the feeling frequently but not continuously
- 2 = you experience the feeling some of the time
- 1 = you experience the feeling rarely
- 0 = you never experience the feeling

1. Embarrassment
2. Feeling ridiculous
3. Self-consciousness
4. Feeling humiliated
5. Feeling “stupid”
6. Feeling “childish”
7. Feeling helpless, paralyzed
8. Feelings of blushing
9. Feeling laughable
10. Feeling disgusting to others

Source: PFQ2, Harder and Zalma (1990).

HUMILIATION

External experience of humiliation

Indicator 3. People that feel they are treated with respect.

Please circle the rating that best describes your feelings from “Not at all” (0) to “A great deal (6)”, including an option for Don’t know.

- 1) To what extent do you feel that people treat you with respect?

Source: European Social Survey, Round 3 (Personal and Social Wellbeing Module).

Indicator 4. People that feel they are treated unfairly.

Please circle the rating that best describes your feelings from “Not at all” (0) to “A great deal (6)”, including an option for Don’t know.

- 1) To what extent do you feel that people treat you unfairly?

Source: European Social Survey, round 3 (Personal and Social Wellbeing Module).

Indicator 5. Experiences of prejudiced treatment during the past three months due to one or more grounds for discrimination.

1. Have you been treated in a way that you felt was prejudiced during the past three months?
(Response alternatives: No; Yes, occasionally; Yes, on several occasions)
2. Who treated you in a way that you felt was prejudiced?
(Response alternatives: Health care services, School/work, Employment office, Police/judicial system, Social services, Social insurance office, Shops/restaurants, Bank/insurance company, Landlord/local housing office, Close relative, Unknown person in a public place, Other – open question).
3. Why were you treated in a way that you felt was prejudiced?
(Response alternatives: Ethnic or racial background, Gender, Sexual orientation, Age, Disability, Religion, Other – open question, Don't know)

Source: Adapted from the National Institute of Public Health, 2006.

Indicator 6. Whether ethnic, racial, or cultural background affect the chances of getting jobs, services and education.

1. Do you think that someone's ethnic, racial, or cultural background affects their chances of getting: (Response alternatives: No, yes, I don't know)
 - a. Access to public services/infrastructure
 - b. Government jobs
 - c. Government contracts
 - d. Private sector formal jobs
 - e. Public housing
 - f. Educational opportunities at the pre-university level
 - g. Educational opportunities at the university level

Source: Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE) 2006.

Indicator 7. Whether economic conditions affect the chances of getting jobs, services and education.

1. Do you think that someone's economic condition affects their chances of getting: (Response alternatives: No, yes, I don't know)
 - a. Access to public services/infrastructure
 - b. Government jobs
 - c. Government contracts
 - d. Private sector formal jobs
 - e. Public housing
 - f. Educational opportunities at the pre-university level
 - g. Educational opportunities at the university level

Source: Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE) 2006.

Internal experience of humiliation

Indicator 8. Levels of accumulated humiliation.

Please read each item below carefully and circle the rating that best describes your feelings from “Not at all” (1) to Extremely (5)

Throughout your life how seriously have you felt harmed by being...

- 1) ...excluded?
- 2) ...put down?
- 3) ...ridiculed?
- 4) ...discounted?
- 5) ...cruelly criticized?
- 6) ...called names or referred to in derogatory terms?

Source: Adapted from Cumulative Humiliation Subscale, Hartling and Luchetta (1999).

INDICATORS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

Emma Samman (emma.samman@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

This document contains the actual survey questions proposed in the paper *A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators of Psychological and Subjective Wellbeing* (Samman 2007) prepared for the May 2007 Workshop on Missing Dimensions of Poverty Data. The proposal is that these questions – or a refinement of them – might be considered a ‘module’ that could be added to nationally representative individual or household surveys. This module proposes seven indicators of psychological and subjective wellbeing:

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Meaning in life
2. Autonomy
3. Competence
4. Relatedness

SUBJECTIVE

5. Overall life satisfaction
6. Domain-specific life satisfaction

The domains proposed are material wellbeing (food, housing, income), health, productivity (work), security (physical safety); intimacy (relations with friends and family); community (education, neighborhood, actively helping others); and wellbeing from spiritual/religious/philosophical beliefs.

7. Happiness

PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING

MEANING IN LIFE

Please take a moment to think about what makes your life feel important to you. Please respond to the following statements as truthfully and accurately as you can, and also please remember that these are very subjective questions and that there are no right or wrong answers. Please answer according to the scale below.

1	2	3	4
Not at all true	Not very true	Somewhat true	Completely true

STATEMENT	SCORE
My life has a clear sense of purpose	
I have a good sense of what makes my life meaningful	
I have discovered a satisfying life purpose	

SOURCE: Short-form of Steger questionnaire for presence of Meaning in Life (Steger *et al.* 2006). He combines sub-scales to measure the presence of meaning and search for meaning. A short-form of the ‘presence’ subscale only is used here.

If the answer to this question is 3 or 4 => **What makes your life meaningful?**

BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL NEEDS

Please read each of the following items carefully, thinking about how it relates to your life, and then indicate how true it is for you. Use the following scale to respond:

1	2	3	4
Not at all true	Not very true	Somewhat true	Completely true

A) AUTONOMY

STATEMENT	SCORE
I feel like I am free to decide for myself how to live my life.	
I generally feel free to express my ideas and opinions	
I feel like I can pretty much be myself in daily situations ⁹	

B) COMPETENCE

STATEMENT	SCORE
People I know tell me I am competent at what I do.	
Most days I feel a sense of accomplishment from what I do.	
I often feel very capable.	

C) RELATEDNESS

STATEMENT	SCORE
I get along well with people I come into contact with.	
I consider the people I regularly interact with to be my friends.	
People in my life care about me.	

Source: Short-form of Ryan and Deci Basic Psychological Needs scales. (Ryan and Deci 2000, 2001)

⁹ The meaning of this question (for translation) is to act in harmony with who one is.

SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

LIFE SATISFACTION

Overall, how satisfied are you with your life overall/(domain)? Are you...

- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Fairly satisfied
- 3 Not very satisfied
- 4 Not at all satisfied

Domain	Specific item(s)	Satisfaction level
Life Satisfaction overall¹⁰		
Material wellbeing	Food	
	Housing	
	Income	
Health	Health	
Productivity	Work	
Security	Physical safety	
Intimacy	Friends & family	
Community	Education	
	Neighborhood	
	Ability to help others	
Religion/spiritual wellbeing	Wellbeing from spiritual, religious or philosophical beliefs	

The domains used are adapted from The International Wellbeing Group (2006) Personal Wellbeing Index. The 4-scale measure is feasible for enumerator-administered questionnaires in developing countries.

Key reference:
International Wellbeing Group (2006).

HAPPINESS

Taking all things together, would you say you are:

- 1 Very happy
- 2 Rather happy
- 3 Not very happy
- 4 Not at all happy

Key reference:
World database of happiness, http://worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl/hap_quer/hqs_fp.htm.
This variant of the 'happiness' question is the most frequently used internationally, having appeared in 190 nationally-representative surveys worldwide.

¹⁰ "How satisfied are you with your life as a whole?"

References

- Alsop, R., Bertelsen, M. and Holland, J. (2006), *Empowerment in Practice: From Analysis to Implementation*, Washington, D.C.: The World Bank.
- Aslam, M., G. Kingdon, J. Sandefur, F. Teal and A. Zeitlin. (2006), *RECOUP Household Survey on Outcomes of Education*, Centre for the Study of African Economies, Department of Economics, Oxford.
- CRISE (2006), *CRISE Perception Survey*, University of Oxford.
- Diprose, Rachael (2007). *A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators of Employment*. OPHI Working Paper 1. Available at <http://www.ophi.org.uk/pubs/DiproseSafety.pdf>. Forthcoming in December 2007 *Oxford Journal of Development Studies*.
- European Social Survey (2006), *Final Source Questionnaire (Round 3, 2006/2007)*, European Social Survey.
- Ghana Statistical Office. (1998-99). *Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS)*.
- Harder, D. W. and Zalma, A. (1990), "Two promising shame and guilt scales: a construct validity comparison", *Journal of Personality Assessment* 55: 3 & 4, p. 729-745.
- Hussmanns, Ralf. (2004), *Measuring the informal economy: from employment in the informal sector to informal employment*. Working Paper 53: Policy Integration Department, Bureau of Statistics, ILO.
- Ibrahim, S. and S. Alkire. (2007), *A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators of Employment*. OPHI Working Paper 4. Available at: http://www.ophi.org.uk/pubs/Ibrahim_Empowerment.pdf. Forthcoming in December 2007 *Oxford Journal of Development Studies*.
- International Wellbeing Group (2006). Personal Wellbeing Index. Melbourne: Australian Centre on Quality of Life, Deakin University.
(http://www.deakin.edu.au/research/acqol/instruments/wellbeing_index.htm).
- Loewenson, Rene. (1997), "Health Impact of Occupational Risks in the Informal Sector in Zimbabwe", *Journal Occupational Environment Health* 4, p. 264–274.
- Lugo, María Ana. (2007). *A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators of Employment*. OPHI Working Paper 2. Available at http://www.ophi.org.uk/pubs/Lugo_Employment.pdf. Forthcoming in December 2007 *Oxford Journal of Development Studies*.
- Narayan, D. and P. Petesch (2008), *Moving out of Poverty: Understanding democracy, freedom and growth from the bottom up*, Washington, D.C., The World Bank.
- Ryan, R. and E. Deci (various), see <http://www.psych.rochester.edu/SDT/measures/index.html>.
- Ryan, R. M. and E.L. Deci (2000), "Self-Determination Theory and the Facilitation of Intrinsic Motivation, Social Development, and Well-Being", *American Psychologist*, 55:1.
- Ryan, R. M. and E.L. Deci (2001), "On Happiness and Human Potentials: A Review of Research on Hedonic and Eudaimonic Well-Being", *Annual Review of Psychology*, 52.

Samman, Emma. (2007). *A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators of Psychological and Subjective Wellbeing*. OPHI Working Paper 5. Available at <http://www.ophi.org.uk/pubs/SammanSWBPaper.pdf>. Forthcoming in December 2007 *Oxford Journal of Development Studies*.

Steger, M., P. Frazier, S. Oishi and M. Kaler (2006), "The Meaning in life questionnaire: Assessing the presence of and search for meaning in life", *Journal of Counseling Psychology* 53, p. 80-93.

Swedish National Institute of Public Health, National Public Health Survey 2006, Stockholm.

USAID (2006), *Can We Measure HIV/AIDS-Related Stigma and Discrimination?* USAID; ICRW; Policy Project.

World Bank. Living Standards Measurement Study of the World Bank. Documentation for the 2001 Nicaragua EMNV Survey. <http://www.worldbank.org/lsmc/country/ni2001/ni01docs.html>.

World database of happiness, http://worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl/hap_quer/hqs_fp.htm

Zavaleta, Diego (2007), *A Proposal for Internationally Comparable Indicators of Shame and Humiliation*. OPHI Working Paper 3. Available at http://www.ophi.org.uk/pubs/Zavaleta_Shame.pdf. Forthcoming in December 2007 *Oxford Journal of Development Studies*.