

# Measuring Poverty Rapidly Using Statistical Imputation

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# Discussion

- **Congratulations!** The estimates using your rapid poverty measurement are really closed to the full consumption aggregate!
- Do you have a clue (can you test) whether you are improving the quality of the information collected in the core?
- I imagine, particularly for large countries, that dietary habits and consumption shares change from region to region.
  - ▶ At which level would be appropriate to choose core items?

## Discussion - Some Broader Points

- One of the recommendation of the Atkinson Commission on Measuring Poverty was to report **margins of error** alongside point estimates for poverty statistics
  - ▶ Imputation (any kind) in consumption aggregates generate the issue of how to compute standard errors for poverty estimates
- By imputing the total consumption value of food and non-food items, you fail to collect information on **prices**
  - ▶ Household Budget Surveys are used to collect data for the generation of
    - ★ Poverty lines
    - ★ Spatial deflators
- From my own experience, **Shared Prosperity** is the most affected by imputation
  - ▶ How do you think the precision of your poverty estimates will hold?

## Discussion - Some Minor Points

- Why do you measure poverty as share of households?
- I would be curious to know what are food and non-food items included in the core
  - ▶ Imputed Rent?
  - ▶ Durables?
- Would you suggest to recompute poverty line after imputations?
- Percentage difference/Percentage points difference in the definition of the bias
$$E_z E_s | \hat{FGT}_{\alpha, z, s} - FGT_{\alpha, z, s} |$$
- Household Variables include
  - ▶ # household members
  - ▶ # children and proportion of children
  - ▶ # adults and proportion of adults
  - ▶ # seniors and proportion of seniors
  - ▶ Dependency Ratio