



## Women's Economic Empowerment: Practical Tools for Gender-responsive Poverty Measurement

Date: March 6, 2018

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 pm (EST)

### SPEAKERS

**Rachel Wells**, PPI Data Analyst, *Innovations for Poverty Action*

**Sharon Bessell**, Professor of Public Policy and Director of Gender Equity and Diversity, *Australian National University*, Lead on the Individual Deprivation Measure

**Erin Markel**, President, *MarketShare Associates*, Lead on the Disadvantage Assessment

### MODERATOR

**Yomna Mustafa**, Egypt Country Director, *Arab Women's Enterprise Fund*

## QUESTIONS

### Rachel's Presentation

#### **Is the PPI a renamed Progress Out of Poverty Index – from Mark Schiner?**

Rachel: It is the same tool – the PPI was renamed from “Progress Out of Poverty Index” to “Poverty Probability Index” upon joining Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA).

Since joining IPA, we have also created a new and improved methodology based on feedback and the latest statistical methods. Mark Schiner is no longer on the team.

#### **How relevant is the PPI to RCA (rapid care analysis)?**

Rachel: RCA evaluates care work; the PPI evaluates monetary poverty level. They are used for different purposes, but can be used together if you are interested in both metrics.

#### **With regards to “sensitive” questions, what steps are taken to ensure data collection and storage is in compliance with regulatory requirements regarding data privacy & protection? Is there any way that respondents can be identified?**

Rachel: At IPA, we follow our research protocols and recommend other organizations dealing with sensitive data do the same.

<http://www.poverty-action.org/researchers/research-resources/research-protocols>

Sharon: This is very important. IDM data are deidentified and it is not possible to reconnect survey response to individuals. Data are collected and stored in line with ethical protocols.

Also, very important is the training of enumerators to ensure that confidentiality is maintained while data is being collected and during the conversation between enumerator and respondent; and also, to ensure that enumerators understand their responsibilities not to share information provided by participants.

**You mentioned that the PPI team is currently working on an updated multidimensional poverty index (MPI) using the same methodology used for PPI. Do you know when that will be ready to be shared for public use?**

Rachel: Can't say for sure – but most likely by the end of 2018. That said, we are only piloting in two countries for now, and it will take many years to make it more widespread. If you are interested in prioritizing and funding a specific country, feel free to reach out to me individually.

## Sharon's Presentation

**Is it possible to use any of the two latter tools in a rapid assessment/humanitarian setting?**

Sharon: We haven't used the IDM as a rapid tool, but as we move forward (and have tested more fully in other contexts) we want to explore a range of possibilities. Our partner - IWDA - used the IDM in Fiji just before cyclone Winston - and we can see that if there is IDM data prior to a natural disaster, it has the potential to be used to track reconstruction and redevelopment

**Thoughts on any differences in responses inter-generationally speaking?**

Sharon: This is one of the things we want to capture through the IDM - our participatory work showed important differences across generations. IDM data can reveal generational differences. This is an important reason for collecting data at the individual level.

## Erin's Presentation

**What type of interventions have used the Disadvantage Assessment so far? Could you share an example or two?**

Erin: The interventions have been market systems interventions focused on working with key market influencers (both private and public sector actors) to enhance employment and income for women in various sub-sectors such as in Ready-Made Garments in Egypt and Dairy in Jordan and Palestine.

**Where can we find documentation on the different tools/methodologies presented?**

Poverty Probability Index: <https://www.povertyindex.org/>

Individual Deprivation Measure: <http://www.individualdeprivationmeasure.org/>

Disadvantage Assessment: <https://seepnetwork.org/Blog-Post/950/Overcoming-Gender-Blindness-in-Market-Systems-Poverty-Measurement-and-Targeting>

**What is the definition of “individual household” level?**

Rachel: One household: The definition of a household varies by country, but usually means people who sleep and eat in the same space. Measuring at “individual household” level means each household is a unit.

Sharon: We use the concept of dwelling, which may have multiple households; and households as people who eat from the same pot. We use 'dwelling' as well as household to ensure we don't miss some people - particularly those who are potentially most vulnerable (ie: domestic servants)

**When moving away from “monetary measures” of poverty, would you say that poverty measures become more like wellbeing measures or more like empowerment measures?**

Sharon: Good question - and something we thought closely about in our conceptual work. The IDM captures some aspects of empowerment, but is designed to focus on poverty rather than empowerment per se. For the IDM, it is more a measure of deprivation (which includes, but is more than, absence of power).