

# Chronic Poverty Analytics



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## Disaggregating, Sorting and Targeting the Chronically Poor



Data  
Selected Research  
Broad Findings

## Data

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- Three broadly representative panel data sets
  - Kenya: four visits 1997 to 2007 (5<sup>th</sup> 2009 or 2010)
    - N ~ 1300
  - Zambia: three visits 2000 to 2008
    - N ~ 5400
  - Mozambique: two visits, 2002 and 2005
    - N ~ 4900
- \* Detail on income sources and levels, asset holdings
- Detailed food price time series in Mozambique, Zambia, Kenya, Malawi

## Data (2)

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- Panel is crucial for examining poverty dynamics
  - More than 2 visits also very helpful (Kenya, Zambia) due to income variability
- Panel allows identification and sample size allows disaggregation of chronically poor
  - Using income or assets
- Broad geographical scope allows identification of importance of spatial vs. hh-specific factors

## Selected Research

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- Land distribution in ESA
  - Huge disparities, highly correlated with income
- Poverty dynamics in Kenya
  - Asset and income approaches;  $Q^2$
  - Determinants, including spatial vs. hh specific, ag vs. non-ag, public vs. private assets
- Market access in Mozambique, Zambia, Kenya
  - Role of public and private assets
  - Return to road investments

## Selected Research (2)

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- Regional food staple trade
  - Relationship to price stability, willingness to specialize
  - Mapping, implications for choice of resource in emergency response
- Cotton: under what conditions might it reduce poverty?
  - Access to inputs is key, depends on institutions
- Horticultural supply chains
  - Investment priorities in light of slow growth of supermarket channel

## Broad Findings

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- Private assets are key
  - And very unequally distributed
- HH specific factors
  - Location matters, but not as much as hh factors
- Empirical regularity:
  - High income hhs have higher shares from off farm
  - Largest share of income change in those escaping poverty comes from off-farm
- Education, especially higher
- Credit, group membership

## Intervention Priorities

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Building private assets  
Ensuring sustainable access to inputs  
Keeping families together  
Managing emergencies more effectively



## Intervention Priorities

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### □ Building private assets

#### ■ Land

- Important not just in Kenya (high pop density) but in Zambia (low pop density)
- An intractable problem?

#### ■ Animal traction (hugely important in cotton)

#### ■ Education

- At least in Kenya, primary is necessary but not sufficient



## Intervention Priorities (2)

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### □ Ensuring sustainable access to inputs

- E.g., cotton will not reduce poverty without sustained access to inputs and technical assistance
  - Institutional arrangements
  - Credit
  - Group membership



## Intervention Priorities (3)

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- Keeping families together
  - Positive externality of improved agricultural productivity
  - Local off-farm opportunities
  - HIV/AIDS



## Intervention Priorities (4)

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- Managing emergencies more effectively
  - The political economy of food policy in East and Southern Africa turns shocks into crises
    - Rent seeking in management of trade and national stocks
    - Resulting instability increases the vulnerability of poor households, perpetuates poverty