Improving Gender-Relevant Data on Non-Farm Income-Generating Activities

The World Bank
Status in Employment

The 13th Conference of Labour Statisticians (1992) defined employment as comprising two broad categories:

• Paid employment
• Self employment

The focus of this discussion is paid employment, i.e. any employment that generates off-farm income
Definition

Persons in paid employment include those who, during the reference period, were either:

• At work, i.e., performed some work for wage or salary, in cash or in kind; or

• Had an enterprise, such as a business or commercial enterprise, a farm or service undertaking, but were temporarily not at work for any specific reason
The ideal module on non-farm income-generating activities...

- Collects data from both women and men
- Identifies paid and unpaid work
- Identifies formal and informal work (if relevant)
- Collects information on:
  - Time spent in each activity
  - Seasonal and location characteristics of each activity
  - Business assets and inputs used for each activity
  - Other people working in each activity: paid or unpaid, time spent
  - Earnings from each activity
  - Control over income from each activity (for women)
What can we do with this data?

• Supplement employment modules to produce more accurate labor statistics:
  – Labor force participation
    • Include women who operate HH enterprises or undertake income-generating activities
    • Include women doing unpaid and subsistence work in HH enterprises or activities operated by others
  – (Un)Employment/Underemployment rates

• Describe women’s and men’s productive activities both paid and unpaid
What can we do with this data?

• Produce a gender-disaggregated profile of household entrepreneurs and own-account workers
  – Number of enterprises
  – Distribution by location, sector, size, gender
  – Income and employment they generate

• Estimate the gender pay gap in sectors of the economy
What are we missing?

• Standard multi-purpose surveys (e.g. Morocco LSMS 1991) include a module on non-farm/HH enterprises

• However, women’s contributions are often underreported (or missing) because:
  – In some contexts, women are reluctant to admit to working
  – Focus is on most important enterprise in the HH; women’s activities overlooked when there are multiple activities
  – Small-scale, survivalist activities not viewed by respondents as “work” or “employment”
  – Part-time, sporadic, or seasonal activities not currently operating are overlooked
What can we do?

• Ask women directly whether they have been engaged in non-farm income-generating activities
  – Probing is necessary to ensure all activities are accounted for
• Broaden language of enterprise module to ensure that even small-scale and part-time activities are clearly included in the definition
• To capture seasonal activities, emphasize that all activities performed in the last 12 months are included, even if it is no longer operating
• Accommodate multiple activities/enterprises
Examples

• Pakistan Rural Household Survey (2004)
  – Collected by Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Islamabad in collaboration with World Bank’s Development Economics Research Group (DECRG)

• Tanzania Virtual Business Incubator Project Baseline Survey (2010)
  – Collected by Research for Poverty Alleviation (REPOA), Dar es Salaam, May-June 2010
How are women’s activities included?

**Tanzania**
- Head gives info on each member

In the last 12 months, at any time did [name] do work of any type for pay, profit, barter, or home use (consumption)?
Yes=1, No=2 → Q19

**Pakistan**
- Women respond for themselves

During the past 12 months, apart from work in family enterprises managed by males, did you engage in income earning activities at home such as tailoring, handicrafts, carpet weaving, embroidery, crochet work making footballs, basket weaving etc.?
Yes.....1, No....2 (>>Part 5)
Respondents provide info on women

Tanzania
• Head gives info on each member (including women)

Pakistan
• Women respond for themselves

In the last 12 months, at any time did [name] do work of any type for pay, profit, barter, or home use (consumption)? Yes=1, No=2 → Q19

During the past 12 months, apart from work in family enterprises managed by males, did you engage in income earning activities at home such as tailoring, handicrafts, carpet weaving, embroidery, crochet work making footballs, basket weaving etc.? Yes.....1, No....2 (>>Part 5)
Income generating activities are broadly defined

Tanzania
• Head gives info on each member

Pakistan
• Women respond for themselves

In the last 12 months, at any time did [name] do work of any type for pay, profit, barter, or home use (consumption)?
Yes=1, No=2 → Q19

Still need probing to ensure that activities that respondents do not consider “work” are accounted for

During the past 12 months, apart from work in family enterprises managed by males, did you engage in income earning activities at home such as tailoring, handicrafts, carpet weaving, embroidery, crochet work making footballs, basket weaving etc.?
Yes.....1, No....2 (>>Part 5)
Captures seasonality

Tanzania
• Head gives info on each member

In the last 12 months, at any time did [name] do work of any type for pay, profit, barter, or home use (consumption)? Yes=1, No=2 → Q19

Pakistan
• Women respond for themselves

During the past 12 months, apart from work in family enterprises managed by males, did you engage in income earning activities at home such as tailoring, handicrafts, carpet weaving, embroidery, crochet work making footballs, basket weaving etc.? Yes.....1, No....2 (>>Part 5)
Pakistan survey accommodates multiple activities per person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PID01</th>
<th>Activity type:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>List each activity done by a respondent on a separate line. Write the respondent's PID01 in column 1 for each activity. Once all activities for a respondent are listed, complete questions 2-10. Finish recording all activities for one respondent before moving to the next respondent. Probing is necessary for all women's employment questions as there is reluctance to admit to working or considering these activities as employment)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How many hours did you spend on this activity during the <strong>last 7 days</strong>? How many days during the <strong>past month</strong>? And how many weeks did you spend during the <strong>past year</strong>?</td>
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**HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE**

**SECTION 5A: EMPLOYMENT**

Ask each question about each household member, retaining the same IDs as in the Household Roster. Choose main work activity by time spent on activity. Full time means 40 or more hours per week when working. Part time work is anything less than 40 hours per week when working. Temporary or casual labor refers to a situation in which an individual does not have a guarantee (written or implicit) of work in the future. Often, these workers are hired for a single day, week, or month.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>S1</th>
<th>S2</th>
<th>S3</th>
<th>S4</th>
<th>S5</th>
<th>S6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>Is [name] 5 years or older? Yes=1, No=2 → Next member</td>
<td>In the last 12 months, at any time did [name] do work of any type for pay, profit, barter, or home use (consumption)? Yes=1, No=2 → Q19</td>
<td>In which sector was [name]'s main work activity in the past 12 months? See List E.</td>
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...but also asks about a secondary activity or business (less detailed)

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<th>Has [name] worked in any other sector prior to the last 12 months? Code sector code from List E. Always worked in same sector=97 Was not working prior to last 12 months=98</th>
<th>Does [name] operate his/her own business (Is [name] self-employed)? Yes=1, No=2 →Next member</th>
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Summary

• There are simple steps that can improve data collection on women’s productive activities
  – Broadening language, probing, extending recall period
• More effective to ask women directly about their activities
  – Alternative to relying on Head’s report but may not always be feasible
• Not an impossible task!
  – As the Pakistan and Tanzania examples demonstrate, small changes in surveys can be powerful in capturing women’s contributions to the economy
Gender Statistics in Lebanon
What did this project try to do?

Look at existing information

• CAS sources
  ▪ *State of the Children in Lebanon 2000*
  ▪ *Lebanon Family Health Survey 2004*
  ▪ *Living Conditions of Households 2004*
  ▪ *Living Conditions of Households 2007*
  ▪ *Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2009*

• Non-CAS sources
  ▪ International reporting
  ▪ NGO studies
  ▪ Academic research
Wealth of data in Lebanon: national and international sources

- CAS surveys
- UNDP Development report
- World Bank GenderStats
- NGOs
- Academic research
- Other ...

but less administrative data available
Lots of Numbers

• Variations in
  ▪ Timeliness
  ▪ Representativeness and coverage
  ▪ Pertinence and relevance
  ▪ Reliability
  ▪ Validity
  ▪ Analysis
  ▪ Presentation
Gender Indicators from CAS Surveys

Some interesting findings

- Education
- Economic Activity
- Health
- Less in Empowerment

More can be mined
Where will that take us?

- Further analysis of existing CAS data
- Strengthen flow of administrative data suitable for gender analysis
- Integrate gender into future survey program

- proposed labor force survey
- upcoming survey of HHLC by
  - addressing gender issues explicitly
  - tabulation plan on gender issues
  - analysis and write-up
  - dissemination
Future steps

Continued user/producer dialogue to build gender indicator and data base

• on needs with respect to data and indicators on gender
• on facilitating data sharing, especially administrative data

Strengthen CAS role as a coordinator of gender statistics
Thank you