

Timor-Leste - Living Standards Survey, Wave 3 (extension), 2007-2008

National Statistics Directorate

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

TLS_2007-2008_LSS-W3_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

Overview

ABSTRACT

In 2007-2008 a multi-topic household survey, the Timor Leste Living Standards Survey (LSS-2) was conducted in East Timor with the main objectives of developing a system of poverty monitoring and supporting poverty reduction, and to monitor human development indicators and progress toward the Millennium Development Goals. The LSS-3 extension survey was designed to re-visit one third of the households interviewed under the LSS-2 to explore different facets of household welfare and behaviour in the country, while also being able to make use of information collected in the LSS-2 survey for analytic purposes. The four new topics investigated in the extension survey are:

- Risk and Vulnerability: This section is designed to help us understand the dimensions and sources of household-level vulnerability to uninsured risks in Timor Leste, and the efficacy and welfare effects of various risk-management strategies (prevention, mitigation, coping) and mechanisms (private as well as public, formal as well as informal) households do (or do not) have access to. The work in Timor Leste is part of a program of analytic work and policy dialogue throughout the EAP region, more information on which can be found on the World Bank website.
- Land Degradation and Poverty: This section of the questionnaire is designed to identify proximate causes of deforestation through land use patterns and links with poverty; understand strengths and failures of common land resource management institutions (property rights, enforcement); understand the impact of the Siam Weed problem on household welfare.
- Justice for Poor: The Justice for the Poor/Access to Justice (J4P/A2J) module of the survey will serve mainly as an initial diagnostic for project development in the country. The topics we would be interested in covering would be Dispute Processing/Resolution; Social Legal Norms and Perceptions of Efficiency in Government (Local, Sub-District, District and National level).
- Access to Financial Services: The financial service work has the following two objectives: (i) to collect data on access to and use financial services (savings and credit), both formal and informal, and (ii) assess the quality of information on access to financial services obtained from head of households vs. from all adults - i.e. is there a bias introduced by not asking all household members, do the characteristics of the head or the household affect this (gender, age, nuclear family, urban, education levels, wealth, etc.).

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Households

Scope

NOTES

2007-2008 survey:

- Household level data: Housing, Transfers, borrowing and savings, Subjective wellbeing
- Individual level data: Household Roster, Education, Health, Fertility, Employment, Aids, and Anthropometrics
- Housing: Ownership and expenditures
- Access to facilities

- Health: Access to health care providers
- Food and non-food consumption and expenditures
- Durables: consumption & expenditures
- Employment: Jobs
- Self-employment and business
- Farming: Plots, Crops, Farming equipment, Agricultural inputs, Labour, Forestry, Livestock, Fishing
- Transfers, borrowing and savings
- Other income
- Social capital

2008 extension survey:

- Household Information
- Agriculture
- Plots
- Land Management
- Investments
- Forest Use
- Finance
- Individual Financial Information
- Shocks and Vulnerability
- Incidence of Shocks and Household Responses
- Future Shocks
- Preventive Health
- Program Participation
- Household Financial Information
- Justice for the Poor
- Community Trust and Decision Making
- Opinion and Perceptions of the Law
- Local Institutions
- Dispute Resolution

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Health	FAO	

Nutrition	FAO	
Population & Reproductive Health	FAO	
Food (production, crisis)	FAO	
Agriculture & Rural Development	FAO	
Financial Sector	FAO	
Access to Finance	FAO	
Labor	FAO	
Social Development	FAO	
Community Driven Development	FAO	

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
National Statistics Directorate	

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
World Bank	WB	Financial assistance

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Office of Chief Statistician	OCS	Food and Agriculture Organization	Adoption of metadata for FAM
Development Economics Data Group	DECDG	World Bank	Documentation of the DDI

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

TLS_2007-2008_LSS-W3_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_v01

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_TLS_2007-2008_LSS-W3_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_FAO

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

SAMPLE DESIGN FOR THE 2008 EXTENSION SURVEY

Sampling for the LSS-3 Extension survey was a sub-sample of the original LSS-2 sample. The LSS-2 field work was divided into 52 "weeks", with each week being a random subset of the total sample. The sub-sample was chosen by randomly selecting 19 weeks from the original field work schedule. Each week contained seven Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) for a total of 133 PSUs. In each PSU the teams were to interview 12 of the original 15 households, with the remaining three to serve as replacements. The total nominal sample size was thus 1596.

Additional interviews:

Following the collection and initial analysis of the data, it was determined that data from one district, Manatuto, and partially from another district, Oecussi, were of insufficient quality in certain modules. Therefore, it was decided to repeat the survey in another 25 PSUs of these two districts - six in Manatuto, and 19 in Oecussi. The additional PSUs chosen were randomly selected within the two districts from the remaining non-panel PSUs in the original LSS-2 sample.

Weighting

The sample weights for the extension survey are indirect weights based on the original probability weights calculated for the LSS-2. The LSS-2 weights were calculated by Juan Muñoz of Sistemas Integrals. These weights were based on each household's selection probability, and then scaled by an adjustment factor, intended to match the demographic projections for the population of urban and rural areas in the five major regions of Timor Leste in mid-2007.

Questionnaires

No content available

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2007-01-09	2008-01-22	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Data Processing

Data Editing

DATA CLEANING

The LSS-3 had a significant number of responses in which the response is "other". In general, if the response clearly fit into a pre-coded response category, it was recoded into that category during the cleaning and compilation process. Some responses where additional information was provided were not recoded even though they clearly fit into pre-coded categories. For example, "agriculture project" would be recoded into the "agriculture" category, while "community garden" would not. Data users can either use the additional information, or re-code into categories as they see fit. Potential Data Quality Issues in 2008 Extension survey

Data Appraisal

Other forms of Data Appraisal

Potential Data Quality Issues in 2008 Extension survey

Agriculture:

Similarly, to the individual roster of the previous section, the plots listed in the previous survey are listed on the pre-printed cover page and all changes noted. The agricultural section, similarly, to the other sections, suffers from problems with open-ended questions. This is particularly the case for the question asking what community restrictions are placed on the clearing of forest land (section 2d). The translation from the original question was vague (using the Tetun word for "boundary" for "restriction,") and therefore many of the responses relate to physical boundaries on the land, such as stone walls and tree lines. Additionally, the translation of all answers from Tetun into English is imperfect, and those wishing to use this information for analytical purposes are advised to also refer to the original Tetun. Analysts should be careful in using the data from the open ended questions because of translation problems. Also, it was noted during the training and field work that many interviewers had significant difficulties understanding definitions with some of the land management and investment questions. In general, however, all agricultural data may be used for analysis, sampling weights w3.

Finance:

It should be noted that the quality of the data for the finance experiment (comparing the knowledge of the household head to that of other household members) was not sufficient for the experiment to be deemed a success. Subsequent spot-checking revealed that in many cases, interviewers asked the household head about the financial activities of various household members instead of asking them directly. Therefore, this data should only be used to measure the access to finance at the household level. The finance sections were not repeated during the additional interviews in the replacement PSUs. Sampling weights w1 should be used when doing any analysis with this data.

Shocks and Vulnerability:

It was determined following the initial round of data collection that the shocks and vulnerability module had some issues with uneven interview quality. Two reasons were listed as potential causes of the data quality issues: (1) fundamental inability to adequately translate both the word and concept of a "shock" into the Timorese context, and (2) incomplete / questionable responses to the health shock questions in particular. Analysis for health shocks should drop the "questionable" households and use the "re-interview" households, sampling weights w2.

Justice for the Poor:

Similar to the shocks and vulnerability module, the justice module included a long series of follow up questions if the household indicated having experienced a dispute during the recall period. Again, the number of disputes experienced by the household seemed extremely low compared to expectations. This was particularly a problem with the Manatuto district in which no disputes were recorded during the first set of TLALS2-X interviews. Analysis for the disputes section of the justice module should drop the "questionable" households and use the "re-interview" households, sampling weights w2. The justice model also has a number of instances in which the specifications for "other" were not recorded. Every effort was made to ensure this data was as complete as possible, but gaps do remain. Also, data users should use caution when using the imputed rank variable in section 5D. The rank in terms of importance was not explicitly captured in the data entry software, and the rankings therefore had to be imputed from the order they were listed in the original data entry. Inconsistencies may exist in this variable.