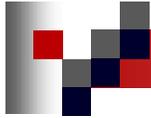


Measures, trends and determinants of economic well-being in India

Presented by: Protap Mukherjee (Young Lives India)

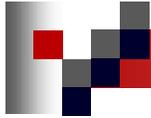
Discussant: H. Xavier Jara (University of Essex)

IARIW-BOK 2017 Special conference
Seoul, 26th April 2017



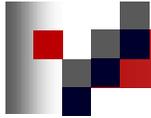
Summary

- Uses three waves of Young Lives longitudinal survey:
 - 951x3 households
- Examines economic well-being in India using three measures:
 - Wealth index
 - Composite index 1 (wealth, education, paid and unpaid work)
 - Composite index 2 (wealth, education, paid and unpaid work, health, subjective well-being)
- Analyses the determinants of the three measures:
 - Pooled OLS and random effects
 - Gender, education, caste, religion, area and region present significant effects



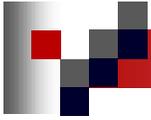
Main comments

- Need to define the concept of “economic” well-being
 - There is a mix of different types of dimensions
 - Economic: wealth, work
 - Non-economic: education, health, subjective well-being
- Overall vs economic/financial subjective well-being
 - Overall: Happiness, Life satisfaction
 - Specific: Financial satisfaction
- Individuals vs Households
 - Analysis is done at the household level. Why not at the individual level?
 - Only socio-demographic characteristics of the head of the household used explored as determinants
 - Are children’s BMI and subjective well-being used in the index?



Specific comments

- Categorization of continuous variables:
 - Robustness checks
- Enrolment in school, % of children not engaged in unpaid or paid work worsens over time
 - Effect of ageing of the cohort of children surveyed and legal school leaving age?
- Are there other larger surveys (panel or cross section) to replicate the analysis?



Thank you