Improving measurement of children’s well-being: Lifecycle needs and context in focus

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INTRODUCTION
- Assess the adequacy of the most commonly used surveys for measurement of multidimensional child poverty and deprivation in low- and middle-income countries
- Three very different lower-middle and upper-middle-income countries that have experienced continuous growth during the decade with different contexts: Thailand, Morocco, Kosovo
- Start a discussion on the necessary modifications to data collection tools for improved measurement of child well-being
- Policy relevance: Reporting on SDG1.2.: “By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women, and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.
- Due to standardisation, data collection tools are constrained in two ways: (1) Contextualisation and (2) Scarcity of child-level indicators, especially age group 5-14 years

FRAMEWORK – MULTIPLE OVERLAPPING DEPRIVATION ANALYSIS (MODA)
- Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS): Thailand (2015-2016); Kosovo (2013-2014)
- Demographic and Health Survey: Morocco (2003-2004)

DATA COLLECTION TOOLS REVIEWED AND ANALYZED

RESULTS

Life-cycle approach

Rights-based approach, Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRS)

Common list of dimensions used in multidimensional child poverty analysis using DHS and MICS

RESULTS

CONCLUSIONS
- Data collection systems should be sensitive to changes in the lives of children, a revision of indicators is necessary in all three countries analyzed
- Need for integrated data collection systems that pull information from different sources and dimensions of children’s wellbeing, including administrative data sources
- For basic services (like education and healthcare), shift focus from accessibility and availability of services to quality and affordability of quality services
- Risks and vulnerabilities stemming from rural to urban migration must be incorporated in data collection instruments
- For older children (age 5-17), data collection instruments should also include indicators of self-perceived well-being

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