Researchers
Dean Karlan
Northwestern University
Christopher Udry
Northwestern University

Date
May 18, 2023

Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey:
Providing publicly available data to investigate the long-run processes of social and economic development

The Challenge
A major constraint in the understanding of development is the absence of long-term, representative, rich and high-quality data. Most data-collection efforts are carried out at a single point in time and focus only on a few variables of interest, relevant to particular policy questions or in-sample evaluation. Panel studies can offer rich, comparable, and representative data for repeat tracking of individuals over an extended period of time with a wide array of questions to capture both the natural and man-made environment in which they live. However, strong survey methods, and experienced personnel ensuring high quality standards of the data collected.

The survey instrument will encompass over 500 questions covering household demographics, education, health, economic and social outcomes, and others. By randomly selecting barangays in rural Western Visayas and households within those 10 barangays, the panel will form as a representative sample of rural households in the region.

We are partnering with researchers and organizations to run rigorous impact evaluations on the panel sample, as away of leveraging data collection efforts and infrastructure already in place. Our priority is to run evaluations with high policy relevance for which long-run data will be important, as well as simple light-touch interventions with high-expected impact. For which independent data collection would not be practical otherwise.

Socioeconomic Panel
Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) and the Philippines Institute for Development Studies and the University of the Philippines School of Economics have partnered at Northwestern University to develop a twenty year panel survey, tracking a sample of rural households in Western Visayas.

The objective is to provide publicly available data for government actors, researchers, and practitioners to better understand the long-run processes of social and economic development. Most importantly, the panel will serve as a unique platform for enabling rigorous impact evaluations that test specific programs and policies designed to alleviate poverty.

PSPS at a Glance
- Location: Rural Western Visayas (Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Iloilo, Negros, Guimaras)
- Scope:
  - 1,600 households across 750 barangays
  - 2013: First wave of data collection in August
  - Regular data collection: every four years
  - 2013: Various interventions take place over twenty year time frame

PSPS Brochure
IPA Launches Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS)

Thursday, May 18, 2023, | UPSE Diliman Campus Auditorium | 2:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) and the University of the Philippines School of Economics (UPSE) are delighted to invite you to the launch event of the Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey on the 18th of May 2023. The event will bring together national policymakers, local NGOs, international funders and the private sector to speak about leveraging panel data for evidence-based programming.

The Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS)

This year, IPA and the Global Poverty Research Lab (GPRL) at Northwestern University, are launching the Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS) in partnership with the Philippine Institute for Development Studies and the UPSE. The PSPS is a 20-year panel survey
that will shed light on the long-run processes of socioeconomic development by providing publicly available data for government actors and the Philippine public.

**Beyond the Snapshot**

Join us in welcoming Dean Karlan and Chris Udry, lead academic researchers for the PSPS, to share insights on their motivation behind starting this twenty-year evidence-generation initiative and how it could be used for the wider public. Engage with actors through a high-level forum of central and local government, the private sector, and NGOs to explore the use of long-run data and rigorous impact evaluation in their respective fields.

**Schedule**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>14:30</td>
<td>Arrival and registration</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
<td>Dr. Joy Abrenica, Dean, UP School of Economics</td>
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<td>15:05</td>
<td>Introducing IPA Philippines</td>
<td>Aftab Opel, Country Director, IPA Philippines</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
<td>The Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey</td>
<td>Dean Karlan, Founder of IPA, Professor of Economics and Finance at Northwestern University</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>What can we Evaluate?</td>
<td>Christopher Udry, Co-Founder of GPRL, Professor of Economics at Northwestern University</td>
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<td>15:45</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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| 16:00| **A Message from East Africa: The Kenya Life Panel Survey** | **Michael Kremer**, Professor of Economics and Public Policy, University of Chicago  
Eric Ochieng, Research Manager at IPA Kenya |
| 16:10| **Beyond the Snapshot: Leveraging Panel Data**            | Moderator: **Dr. Karl Jandoc**, Associate Professor, UP School of Economics  
Panelists from national government, local government, NGOs, and the private sector |
| 16:45| **General Q&A**                                          |                                                                         |
| 17:00| **Closing Remarks**                                      | **Dr. Aniceto Orbeta**, President, PIDS                                 |
| 17:05| **Reception**                                            |                                                                         |

**Related Content**

Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS)

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