

## Researchers

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## 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 on only a few variables of interest, relevant to a particular policy question or impact evaluation.

Panel studies can offer rich, comparable, and representative data by regularly tracking individuals over an extensive period of time with a wide array of questions to capture both the natural and man-made environment in which they live. This relies on strong survey infrastructure, and experienced personnel ensuring high quality standards of the data collected.

### Socioeconomic Panel

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Philippines and the Global Poverty Research Lab (GPRL) at Northwestern University have partnered with the Philippine Institute for Development Studies and the University of the Philippines School of Economics to launch a twenty-year panel survey, tracking a sample of rural households 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.

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 these barangays, the panel will create 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 a way 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.

### PSPS at a Glance

	Location: Rural Western Visayas (Aklan, Antipus, Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental)
	Scope: ~16,500 households across 750 barangays
	2023: 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

The image shows a flyer for the Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS) launch event. At the top, it features the logos for ipa (Innovations for Poverty Action) and the University of the Philippines School of Economics. The title is "Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS)". Below the title is the "Launch Event Agenda" for 18th of May, 2:30pm - 6pm, at the University of the Philippines School of Economics Auditorium. The agenda is presented in a table with columns for Time, Item, and Speaker. The items include arrival and registration, opening remarks by Dr. Joy Abrenica, an introduction by Aftab Opel, a presentation by Dean Karlan, a talk by Christopher Udry, a coffee break, a message from East Africa by Michael Kramer and Eric Ochiong, a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Karl Jandoc, a general Q&A, closing remarks by Dr. Aniceto Orbeta, and a reception. At the bottom of the flyer are logos for Northwestern University and PIDS.

Time	Item	Speaker
14:30	Arrival and registration	
15:00	Opening Remarks	Dr. Joy Abrenica, Dean, UP School of Economics
15:05	Introducing IPA Philippines	Aftab Opel, Country Director, IPA Philippines
15:15	The Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey	Dean Karlan, Founder of IPA, Professor of Economics and Finance at Northwestern University
15:30	What can we Evaluate?	Christopher Udry, Co-Founder of GPRL, Professor of Economics at Northwestern University
15:45	Coffee Break	
16:00	A Message from East Africa: The Kenya Life Panel Survey	Michael Kramer, Professor of Economics and Public Policy, University of Chicago Eric Ochiong, 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	

# 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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Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey (PSPS)

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