



WFP EVALUATION

Measuring Impact on Social Cohesion

STRENGTHENING SOCIAL COHESION: ADVANCING OPERATIONS, PROGRAMMING AND EVIDENCE

Kristen McCollum

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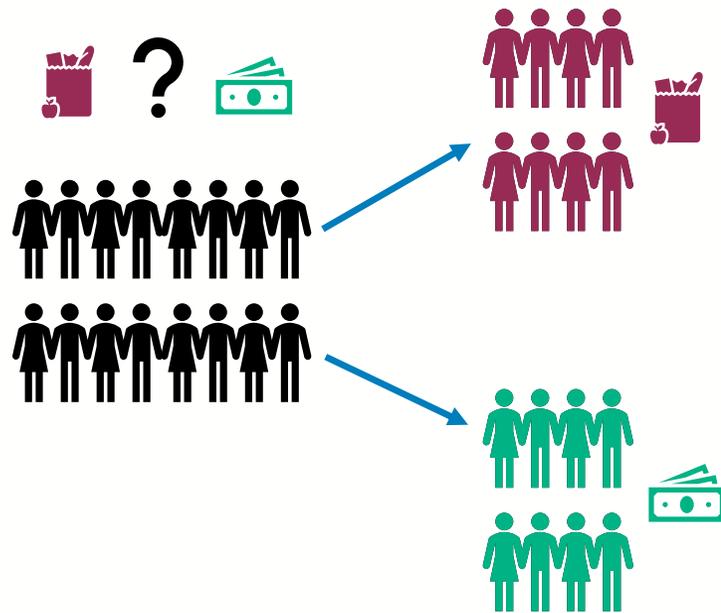


World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Context

How WFP measures impact on social cohesion as one of its focus areas in our [humanitarian](#) [workstream](#).



Challenges:

- ▣ Need 'large N'
- ▣ Contexts with difficult access
- ▣ Need to measure quickly

Social cohesion is:

- Multi-dimensional
- Context-specific
- Relational

Measurement Strategies

Key decision points:

- Source of data
- Dimension (and indicator)
- Approach

Measurement Strategies

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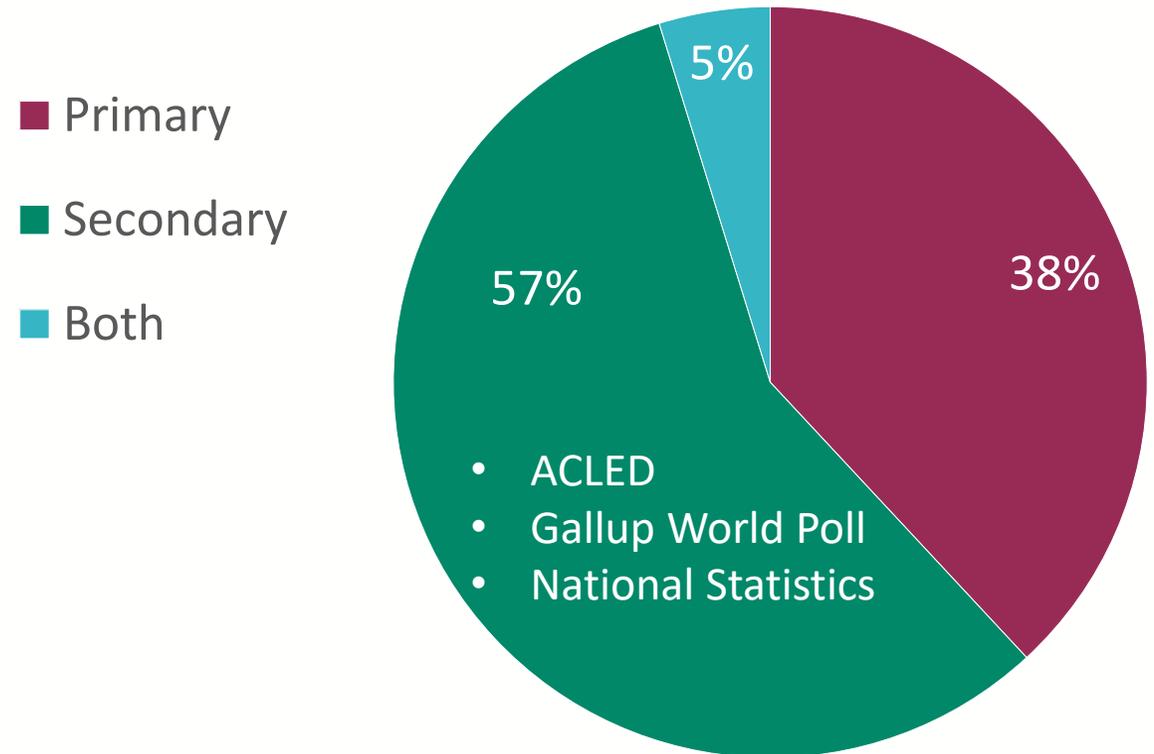
- **Source of data**
- Dimension (and indicator)
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Case study:

Review of 26 papers commissioned by UNHCR, World Bank, FCDO in 2022

[Papers](#) | [Blog](#)

Studies by source of data



Measurement Strategies

Key decision points:

- Source of data
- **Dimension (and indicator)**
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Case study:

Systematic Review of 24 studies: *Strengthening intergroup social cohesion in fragile settings* with 3ie and BMZ/GIZ, 2021

[Report](#) | [Brief](#)



Measurement Strategies

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- **Dimension (and indicator)**
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Case study:

Valli, E., Peterman, A., Hidrobo, M. 2019.
Economic Transfers and Social Cohesion in a Refugee-Hosting Setting. JDS 55(S1) 128-146.

[Paper](#)



| Dimension | Wording | Options |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Trust | "I can rely on my neighbour to take care of my house if I am away" | Likert scale; 1 = strongly disagree 4 = strongly agree |
| Attitudes accepting diversity | "Cultural diversity is good" | Likert scale; 1 = strongly disagree 4 = strongly agree |
| Social Participation | Household participates in [X] (ag union, religious group, NGOs, etc.) | Binary; 0 = No 1 = Yes |
| Willingness to help* | Number of people who would lend US\$10 in time of need | Integer |

*categorized as *trust* in paper

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[Gilligan, Pasquale, Samii \(2013\)](#)

[Ferguson et al. \(2022\)](#)

[Allen, Ruiz, Carlos \(2022\)](#)

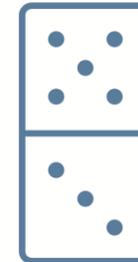
[Walk, Garimella, Christia \(2022\)](#)

[COALESCE Lab](#)



Direct questioning

Survey experiments/
Lab-in-field



Network approaches

Big take-aways:

1

Secondary data exists, but will likely be focused on incidents of violence/conflict or opinions on diversity

2

Collecting primary data requires thought into **which dimensions are relevant** for your intervention; can be simple direct questions

But...

3

There is still room for tackling the challenges of measuring social cohesion and using innovative tools



Thank you!



wfp.org/impact-evaluation



oev.impactevaluation@wfp.org



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via Giulio Cesare Viola 68, Rome - Italy