Seminar
How to prepare and implement household surveys in developing countries

Lecturer: Dr. Elena Groß, elena.gross@uni-bayreuth.de
Participants: max. 25 MA students (PhD Students)
Dates: Seminar: Friday, April 17th 2015, 9:00 am - 4 pm
        Submission term paper: Monday, June 15th 2015
        Presentations: Friday, June 19th, 2015, 9:00 am -4 pm

This course is for Master students interested in international and development economics and for all
students interested in quantitative empirical studies and field work in developing countries. The
course gives an overview on how to conduct and implement empirical household level studies. We
will discuss how to do the sampling, design questionnaires, data entry tools and guarantee data
quality of studies in a practical setting.

On the first day of the seminar, a theoretical guide for scientific studies in developing countries is
given. On the second day, students present topics related to survey methods (for MA students) or
present their own research project according to the theoretical guide of the first day and discuss the
challenges of their study (for PhD students). This course prepares students for own quantitative
empirical work in developing countries.

Below you find a list of papers published in the Journal of Development Economics, 2012, Volume
98, Issue 1. This was a special issue on survey methods. Master students have to write a term paper
of 15 pages discussing one of the articles below by showing the problem related to data collection,
methods and theory behind it using other research articles, books, etc or similar studies on the topic.
The papers are available on elearning.

Registration:

Master students: Please state 2 preferences in the google doc below. The topics will be assigned on
April 20th 2015 and the allocation will be published on elearning.

PhD students: Please register online and submit as preference “Present own topic” in the google doc
as preference 1 and 2.

Please register here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BdcF6iJ44XTFAJ15Gw7TrFDKeHfPehEmGLg-GTOklnQ/viewform?usp=send_form
Outline Seminar

1. Research Design
   a. Choice of Survey Location: conditions and limitations
   b. Sampling and Power Calculations
   c. Clustering & Stratification
   d. Write down hypotheses: Outcomes, Controls, Instruments
   e. Logistical planning & Time Frame
   f. Budgeting and Financial Controlling

2. Preliminary Field Visit
   a. Preparations for Pre-Visit
   b. Stakeholder Meetings / Partner Institutions
   c. Survey Site Visits & Focus Group Discussion
   d. Research Permits and Ethical Clearance
   e. Obtain Sampling Frame: Census Data and alternatives

3. Questionnaire Content
   a. Research Questions, Controls, Instruments
   b. Questionnaire Audience
   c. Structure
   d. Asset Index vs. Consumption Aggregate
   e. IDs and Rosters
   f. Skips and Jumps

4. Questionnaire Design
   a. Software and design issues; PDAs
   b. Piloting (colleagues vs. field; question flow vs. response coding)
   c. Printing and handling
   d. Time and Personnel needs (Time Flow Chart, TORs)

5. Field Work Implementation
   a. Hiring supervisors & enumerators
   b. Questionnaire Training and In-Field Practice
   c. Training and Field Manuals
   d. Data quality control
   e. Responsibilities & Decision making in the field

6. Data Entry and Data Quality Management
   a. Why Quality Management
   b. Types of Data Entry (software, methods, pros & cons, etc.)
   c. In-field vs. in-office data entry / Feedback loops to field work
   d. Time and Personnel needs

7. Data Screening and Data Cleaning
   a. Data Screening and Re-entry
   b. Data Cleaning
Topics for MA Students


