Global Poverty Monitoring:

Introduction to World Bank's tool and products for poverty monitoring

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World Bank's mandate: the Twin Goals

End Extreme Poverty (SDG 1.1)

- Indicator - The proportion of **population living below $1.90 per capita**
- Target – It will become below 3 percent by 2030

Promote Shared Prosperity (SDG 10.1)

- Indicator – Growth rates of mean expenditure of **the poorest 40 percent of population**

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Our team's mandate

How to improve global poverty monitoring?

Timeliness

Consistency

Transparency
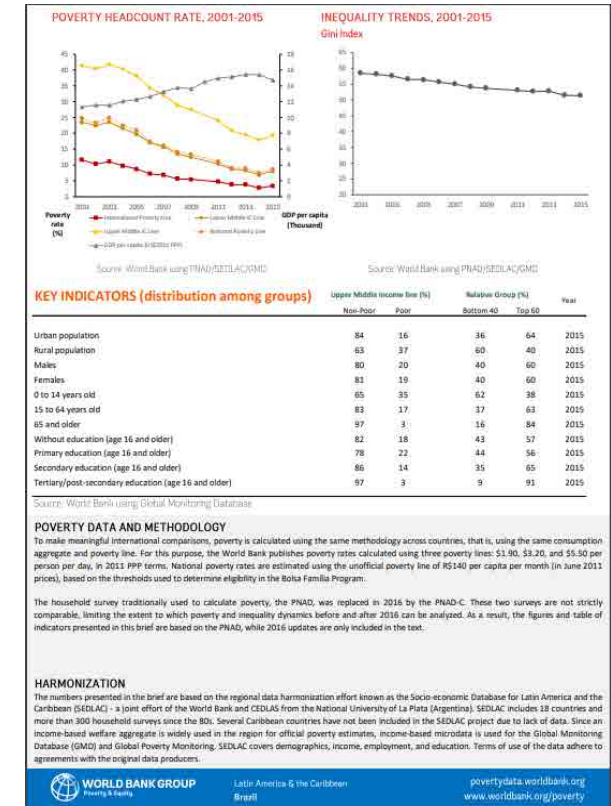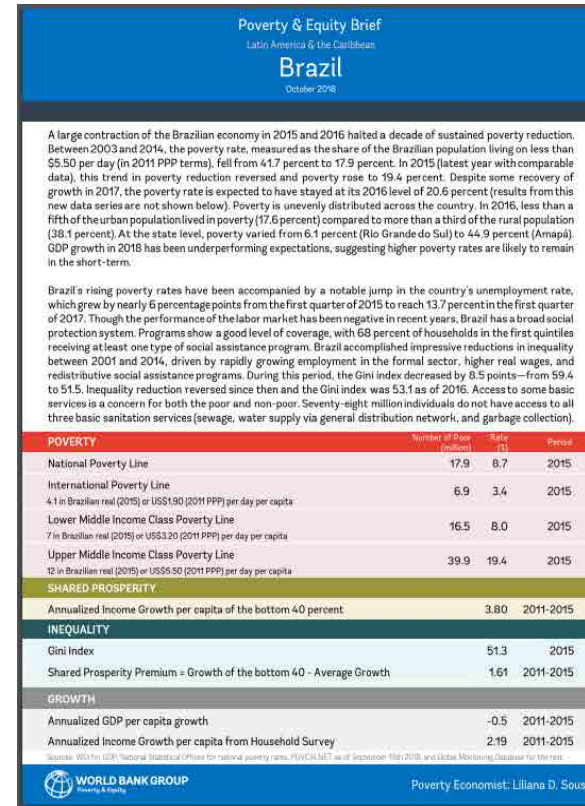
Poverty and Equity Brief

- 116 countries
- National and international poverty lines
- Inequality
- Poverty and shared prosperity trends
- Methodological notes
- Download: http://povertydata.worldbank.org

Macro Poverty Outlook

- 146 countries

- Recent macro and poverty developments

- Forecasts for major macroeconomic variables

- Critical challenges for economic growth, macro stability, and poverty reduction
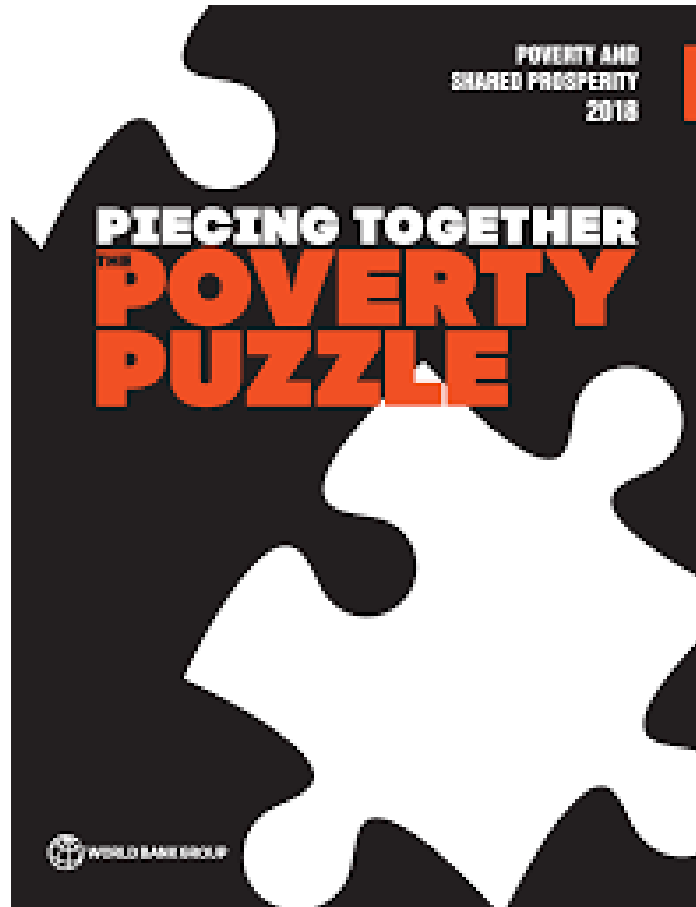
- Download: http://macropovertyoutlook.worldbank.org/mpo files/mpo-sm19.pdf

Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report

POVERTY AND SHARED PROSPERITY 2018

PIECING TOGETHER THE POVERTY PUZZLE
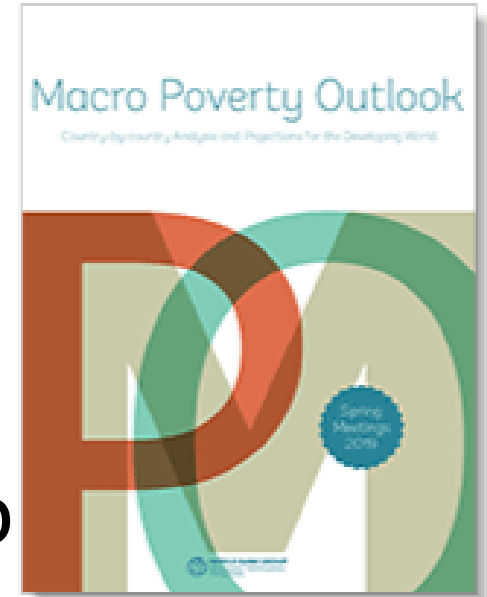
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- Published every two years
- Global and thematic focus
- Poverty and shared prosperity trends
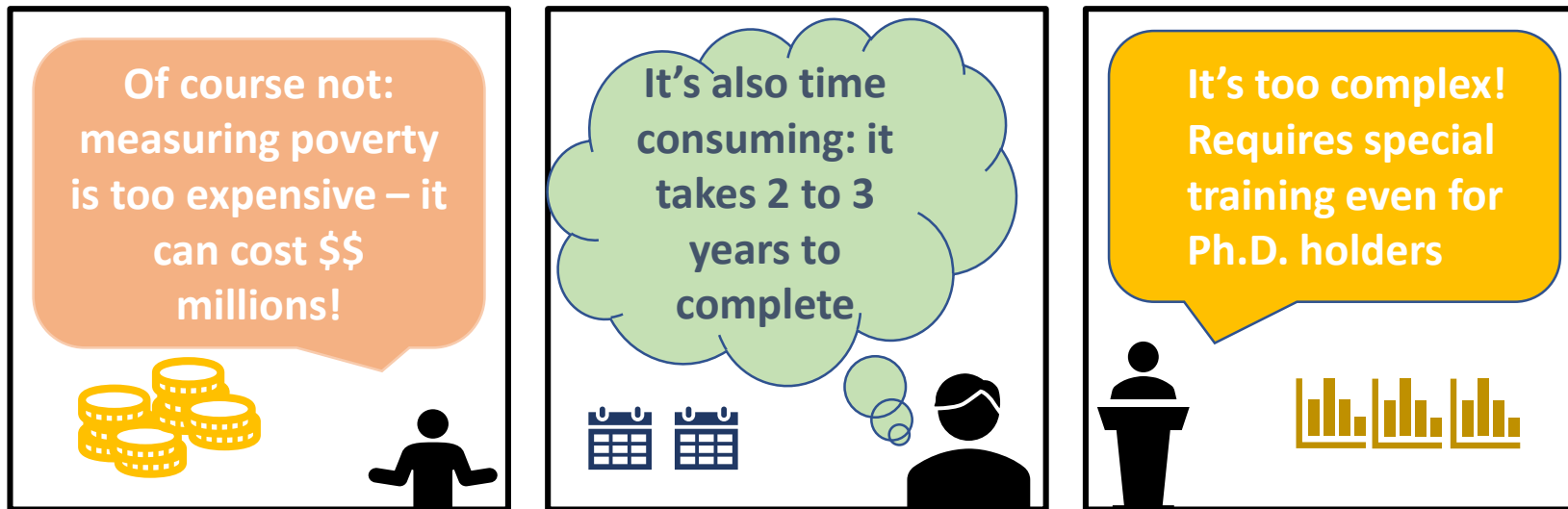- Download: https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30418/9781464813306.pdf

Measuring poverty at project level - SWIFT

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Little to no data available at project level

- Most countries can't monitor poverty and shared prosperity regularly
- Almost no project can do that!

Of course not: measuring poverty is too expensive – it can cost $$ millions!

It's also time consuming: it takes 2 to 3 years to complete

It's too complex! Requires special training even for Ph.D. holders

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Why SWIFT?

End Extreme Poverty (SDG 1.1)

- Indicator - The proportion of population living below $1.90 per capita
- Target – It will become below 3 percent by 2030

Promote Shared Prosperity (SDG 10.1)

- Indicator – Growth rates of mean expenditure of the poorest 40 percent of population

Both indicators need a welfare indicator (cons/inc) to measure
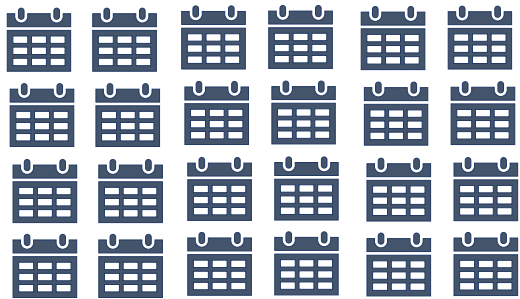
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What is SWIFT?

- SWIFT: Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking

- A new tool for measuring World Bank Group's Twin Goals (SDGs 1 and 10) in a cost-effective, timely, and user-friendly manner

The advantages of SWIFT

Traditional survey

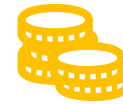**SWIFT survey**

Cost effective!

$1million

< $100k

Timely!

1-2 years

< 2 months

User friendly!

500 questions

~ 15 questions

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How does SWIFT work?

SWIFT Formula

$\hat{C}=F(X)$ X
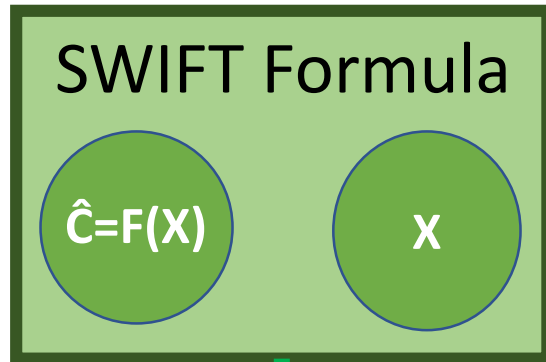
- Uses machine learning to select identify only 15 simple questions (X) and formula ($F(X)$)

- Survey collects responses
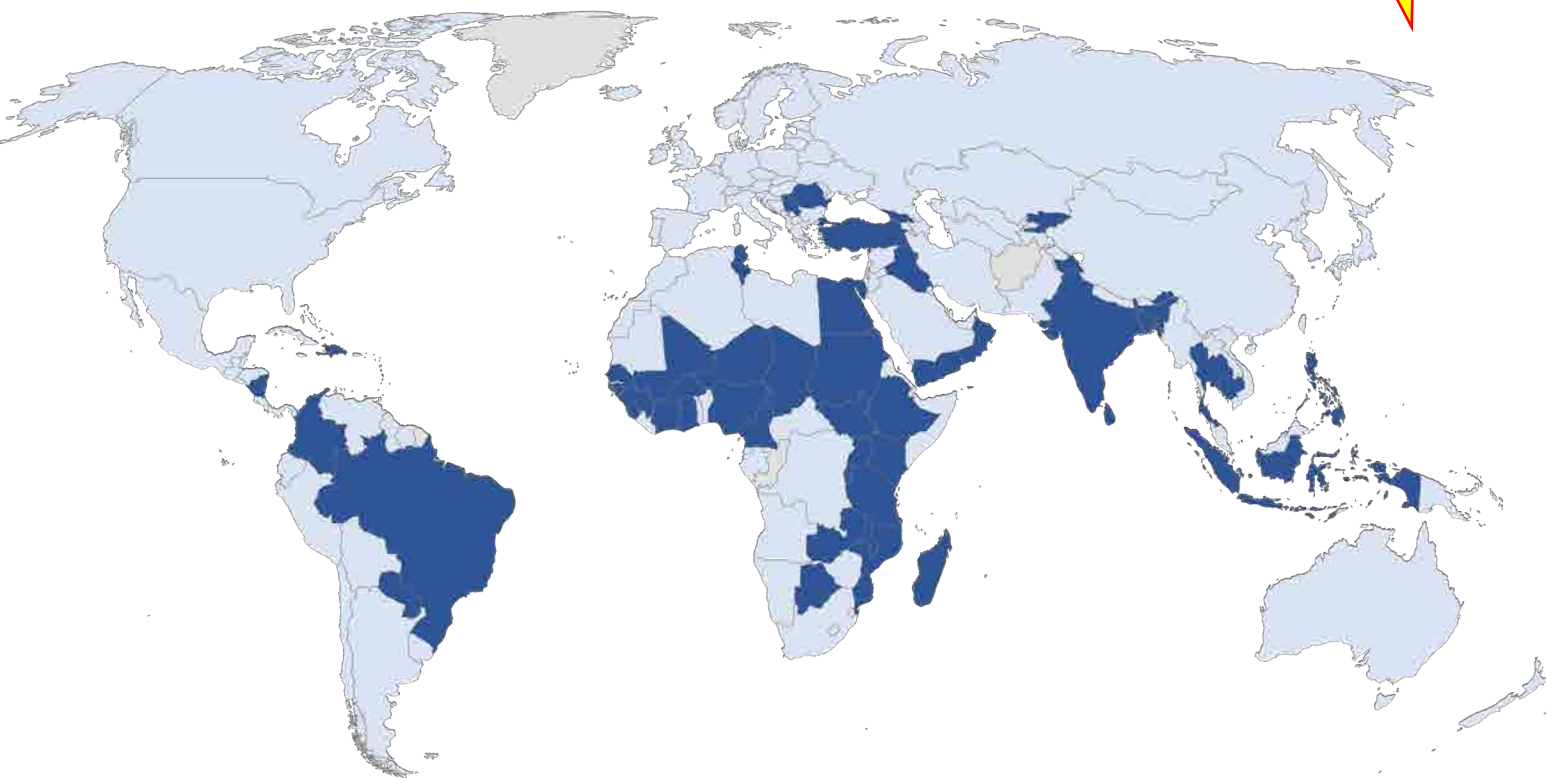
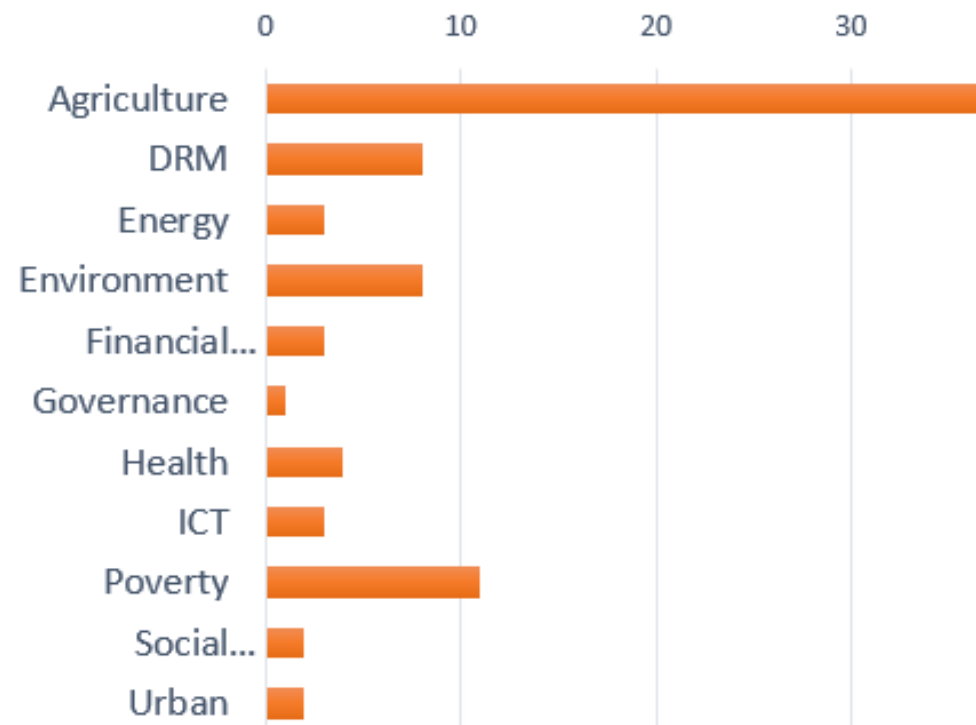- SWIFT estimates household income and poverty

99% accuracy!

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SWIFT experience so far

SWIFT Projects by Country

92 surveys!

SWIFT projects by sector

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16

How SWIFT has been used

- **SWIFT questions are added to sector-specific household surveys**

  - Electricity team access to electricity survey (Bangladesh)

  - ICT team survey of mobile phone and internet use (Tanzania)

  - Disaster Risk Management team survey of vulnerability and resilience (Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Brazil, Haiti)

- **With SWIFT, we can see**

  - Poverty rate and mean household expenditures

  - Compare beginning and end of a project:

    - impact on the poor

    - Impact on the poorest 40 percent of population

    - Impact by income levels

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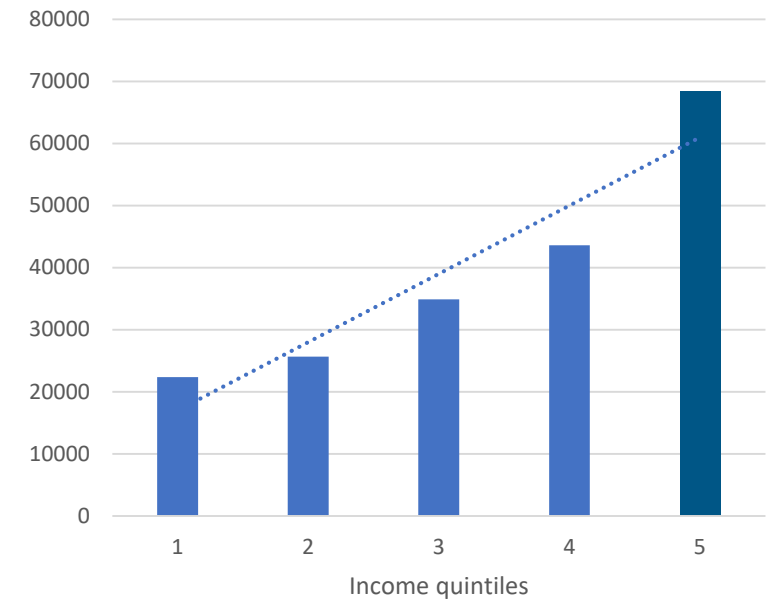
SWIFT use on ICT in Tanzania

% population cannot afford a mobile phone
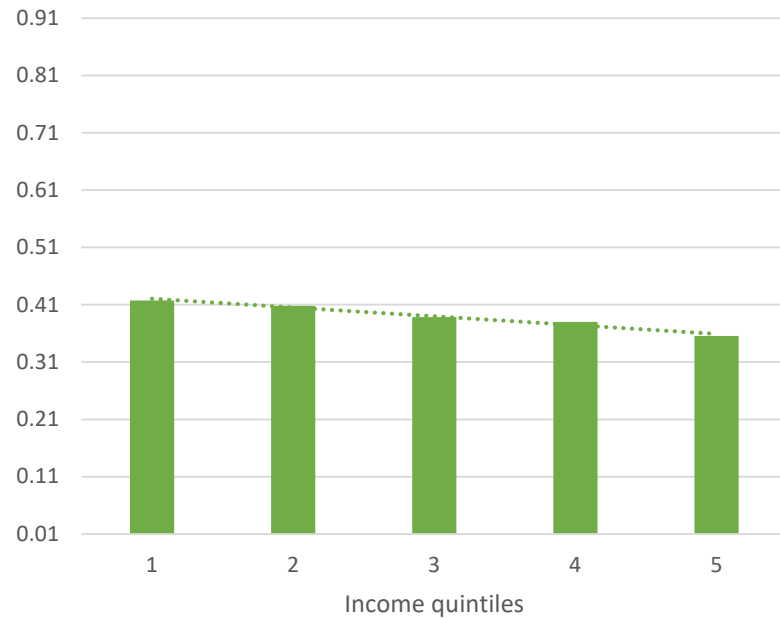
% population agree that mobile money helps save time and transport cost
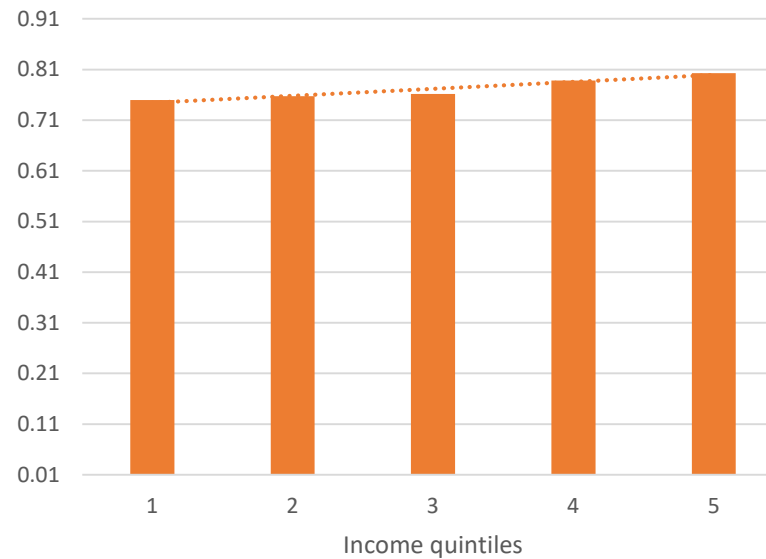
How much do you usually keep stored in your mobile phone?

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Our ambition for the future

- Annual monitoring of SDGs 1 and 10
  → *Even for poorest countries!!*

- Monitor project impact on poverty
  → *Even for small projects!!*

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How we are trying to get there

- Pilot infrastructure for collecting SWIFT data in Somalia, Uganda, Malawi

- Partnership with private sector for cheap devices (mobile phones, tablets)

- Our challenge: lacking resources for scaling up

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ありがとう!

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