Participatory Methods and Tools for Extension

Wellbeing Ranking Analysis



Wealth, ranking and wellbeing



Wellbeing ranking is based on local people's perception of wealth, ranking, and wellbeing with regard to income and assets and their views on socioeconomic disparities between households (HH). Wellbeing ranking can be done in different ways, including the Card Sorting Method combined with the Social Map method (see *Participatory Methods and Tools for Extension: Social Map*). The ranking helps understand local people's evaluation of what it means to have a high quality of life, as it is largely culture-specific. It is not a measured assessment of wealth and wellbeing as much as a tool for exploring how local people perceive wealth in relation to wellbeing.

Card Sorting Method

- 1. Gather a list of HHs in the selected locality and write names of the head of HHs on small cards one HH per card.
- 2. Explain the purpose of the exercise to the participants. Ask them to rank the HHs based on each HHs' wellbeing.
- 3. While dealing with small villages with HHs ranging from 30-40, encourage participants to arrange the HHs in descending order (higher-lower) of wellbeing.
- 4. For larger communities, have participants sort HHs into representative categories of wellbeing.
- 5. During the sorting, ask them: "Why have you placed the cards in that particular order?" This helps you determine the criteria participants are using to rank wellbeing.
- 6. Explore characteristic of each category. Encourage them to name the categories and depict them with visuals or symbols.
- Note the numbers and names of the head of the HHs falling under each category. Add necessary basic details on each HH card. Prepare a category-wise list of the HHs with details of the assets, income, occupation, etc.
- 8. Have participants rank HH wellbeing on a social map: If participants name five categories, they use five different colors or symbols to classify them directly on the map.

Objectives

- Identify and classify HHs/groups based on relative wellbeing in the areas of income, wealth, assets, status
- Check whether programs are reaching the target groups.
- Explore issues relates to livelihood, vulnerability, constraints to development as people see them; design intervention strategies in line with people's aspirations.
- Study inter-HH and inter-group socio-economic disparities; understand how local people view them.
- Understand people's criteria and indicators for wealth, the good life, wellbeing, development successes, etc.

Study the impact of interventions or wellbeing programs on different group/HHs and to develop a baseline for monitoring and evaluation.

Using the Social Map Method

Houses in the social map are ranked on factors of wellbeing using symbols or color codes. For example, if participants name five categories of wellbeing, they can directly classify houses on the map using the different colors.

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Example of Wellbeing Ranking Analysis: Card sorting method of wealth ranking

As shown in figure 1, the card sorting method requires participants to make a list of households. The names of the heads of the households are written on separate cards. A group of key informants with good knowledge of the village are asked to rank the households, ranking each household individually based on his/her own criteria of wealth. The households are thus ranked based on wealth. Later, composite index is determined using statistical wellbeing methods that rely more on the local people themselves finalizing the wellbeing ranking.

Figure 1. Pair wise ranking with visuals: Problem prioritization.

Problem	Drinking water	Medical facility	Lack of transport facility	Lock of veterinary facility	Lock of middle school	Lock of fodder	Priority frequency
Drinking water	×	\Box	\Box	\Box		\Box	5
Medical facility		x	ÅÄ	Å Å	ÅÄ	ÅÅ	4
Lack of transport facility			×	Charles of the same		學達	1
Lack of veterinary facility				×	Commo Commo	27 - D	3
Lack of middle school				1111	×	张 秦	0
Lack of fodder Participants: Mirga, Udi, Sh	arhati Begaray	lat Sumanagar	and Premanar			х	2

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