SURVEYS FOR URBAN EQUITY (SUE): GETTING, AND USING, THE DATA TO RESPOND TO NCDS IN URBAN AREAS

(APR 2017 - MAR 2019)

This is a multi-country and multi-method study that aimed to test the feasibility, cost and appropriateness of three novel survey and visualisation methods (WorldPop data, gridded sampling and OpenStreeMap). The focus of the project was on two neglected non-communicable diseases (NCDs) namely mental ill-health and injuries. The purpose of using these novel techniques was to appropriately represent all wealth groups in urban areas, and allow planners to see an unbiased picture of distributions of NCDs, which they can use for equitable planning and monitoring in urban areas. We also identified and tested questions to assess mental ill-health and injuries – and developed urban-appropriate definitions of a household and measures of wealth. We worked with municipal governments to improve – with the use of the visualization tool – the use of resultant survey data in urban planning. Throughout we worked closely with governments to understand data needs and co-produce appropriate data visualisation tools to enable use of data generated for equitable planning and monitoring in urban areas.

OBJECTIVES

Advancements in knowledge on novel survey methods to improve representation of 'hidden' populations, on measuring injury and mental ill-health, understanding urban poverty and ranking wealth is expected within this foundation stage.

METHODOLOGY EMPLOYED

The methodology that we employed was a mixed-method study, both qualitative and quantitative approaches to collect and analyze data. The following methods were as follows:

1. **Participatory methods with the urban poor:** This method was a combination of approaches, tools, attitudes and behaviors that allowed local participants to take an active role in the production of knowledge.
2. **Data for decision-making:** It covers information to be collected through in-depth interviews, non-participant observations and document reviews related to urban health planning.
3. **Survey methods:** Gridsample, openstreetmap: Gridsample helpede to use pre-loaded datasets to generate primary sample units (PSUs) also called clusters for the survey. Openstreetmap allows us to visualize PSU boundaries and allow easy editing of road lines and building areas from a desktop computer.
4. **Communities of practice:** this method helped to see how the community people and decision-makers identify appropriate ways of visualizing data and using data in the planning process.
5. **Focus group discussion with enumerators:** is a method to identify any issues and challenges that the interviewers face identifying households and individuals to answer the questionnaires and any challenges with the questions within the questionnaire.