



# OPHI

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**Data, Indicators and Multidimensional Poverty Measures**

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# Motivation of the paper

- Multidimensional Poverty Measures require the selection of, and accurate use and interpretation of, a range of indicators.
- It seems to require a rare expertise across a broad range of indicators.
- The relevant literature on these indicators is dispersed across disciplines and regions.
- A systematic literature review of common indicators could be a useful reference guide.

# Some common challenges:

- Which indicator(s) for which dimensions
  - Sanitation: Health? Housing? Asset?
- Interpretation:
  - Persons per bedroom: outcome/input; resource/functioning (stock/flow)
- Assumption of proxy at indy/hh levels
  - Women's literacy: women's empowerment
- Measurement characteristics
  - Years of Schooling/BMI: cardinal?
- Assumptions of comparability
  - Land (irrigation?); Floor (climate matters)

# Sample Indicators (DHS):

Radio

Television

Telephone

Car/Truck

Motorcycle

Bicycle

Refrigerator

Floor Material

Roof Material

Wall Material

Land

Source of Drinking Water

Sanitation

Access to Electricity

Cooking Fuel

Years of Schooling

Level of Education

School Attendance

Achievement at School

Child Mortality

Malnutrition

Anaemia

Employment category

Women's literacy

Women's decision-making

Women's knowledge of HIV/AIDS

# Selection of indicators in practice

also requires clarity with respect to:

- Purpose of measure
- Data availability
- Policy and parsimony

# Possible dimensions becoming clear

<b>Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi</b>	<b>Bhutan's GNH</b>	<b>Voices of the Poor</b>	<b>Finnis</b>
Health	Health	Bodily Wellbeing	Health & Security
Education	Education	Material Wellbeing	Knowledge
<b>Economic security</b>	Material Std	Social Wellbeing	Work & Play
<b>Personal Security</b>	of living	Security	Agency &
Balance of Time	Time Use	Psychological	empowerment
Political Voice & Governance	Governance	Wellbeing	Relationships
<b>Social Connections</b>	Community		Harmony - Art,
Environmental Conditions	Environment		Religion, Nature
<b>Subjective measures of quality of life</b>	Culture & spirituality		Inner peace
	Emotional Well-being		