ULTRA POVERTY ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTIONS AMONG PEOPLE WITH LEPROSY RELATED DISABILITIES IN NORTH WEST BANGLADESH
Outline

• Poverty definitions
• Challenges of disability and poverty
• Targeted Ultra-poverty program
Problem of Poverty & Disability

Disproportionate percentage of people with disabilities live in poverty (double?)

Poverty

Less access to health care

Environmental effects

Poor nutrition

Disability

Stigma & Discrimination

Less access to education
Poverty Definitions

– Extreme poverty: 1$ a day per person

– Absolute poverty: poor by calorie intake and not just relative to neighbor

– Ultra-poverty: < $0.50 per day OR < 80% Calories needed > 80% of income spent on food
Micro-finance?

• Several recent publications have cautioned that micro-finance does not work well for the Ultra-poor
  • Less economically active and considered poor risk in micro finance groups
  • No reserves, so the risk of being made poorer is great
North-West Bangladesh

- Large group based CBR intervention
- Complementary project to identify people with leprosy related disability below the poverty line and prepare them to participate in the CBR groups.
  - Market price of 583g rice per person (Vitamins: B-12, E)
  - Survey, Personal plans, assist
Survey results

2393 people with disability from leprosy

– **1278** under the EPL (53%)
– 2345 access to clean water (97%)
– 1448 own access to water (60%)
– 1376 have access to a latrine (57%)
## Survey results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Household Income (USD)</td>
<td>US$ 37.16</td>
<td>US$ 25.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Personal Income (USD)</td>
<td>US$ 17.60</td>
<td>US$ 9.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Per Capita Income (USD)</td>
<td>US$ 0.27</td>
<td>US$ 0.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land ownership (m²)</td>
<td>1416</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Meals per day</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years of education</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=2403
Present in pictures: 2nd year of 2010

Expected help

Dream after 05 yrs:
- land
- business running
- living house
- school
- medical care
Inputs

• Plans commonly include inputs in the following areas:
  – Latrines
  – Help with children’s education
  – Assistance to access government safety nets
  – Grants in kind
  – Food (short term)
  – Community based vocational training (apprentice)
  – Mobility aids
  – Old Age stipends
### Baseline and follow-up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Follow-up</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>n=693</strong> 3 year average follow-up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Monthly Household Income (USD)</td>
<td>US$ 18.91</td>
<td>US$ 35.08</td>
<td>US$ 16.17</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Personal income (USD)</td>
<td>US$ 8.76</td>
<td>US$ 15.76</td>
<td>US$ 7.00</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Per Cap income (USD)</td>
<td>US$ 0.16</td>
<td>US$ 0.29</td>
<td>US$ 0.13</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land owned (m$^2$)</td>
<td>320 m$^2$</td>
<td>353 m$^2$</td>
<td>33 m$^2$</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of days with no food per month</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>-0.98</td>
<td>-84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number with latrine</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of meals per day</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions

• We believe there are limits to group based poverty interventions and micro-finance
• Ultra-poverty is very common in the area we have surveyed, and may be common elsewhere
• Targeted ultra-poverty approach
• A participatory, non-literate approach may be more successful than a pre-defined approach
The END

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