

D I A L

Développement et insertion internationale

1

THE

2

SURVEY

3

A POVERTY
MONITORING
T O O L

A poverty monitoring tool

DIAL has developed a tool designed to monitor trends in poverty: the 1-2-3 Survey. The mechanism was introduced in Madagascar via the MADIO project (MAdagascar-Dial-Instat-Orstom), in the context of DIAL's support to the local statistical authorities.

OBJECTIVES REACHED

- To provide indicators on poverty levels and trends
- To take into account the different facets of poverty or deprivation, voicelessness, vulnerability)
- To help assess policies, programmes or projects
- To take into account the heterogeneous nature of poverty
- To build a tool to help draw up policies to fight against poverty
- To take into account poor people's aspirations
- To promote democratic debate and civil society

STRONG POINTS

- Reliable information
- Regular monitoring
- Comparability over time
- Low costs
- Appropriation by nationals

KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Light, modular mechanism
- Economies of scale
- Re-usable methodology
- Quality control at each stage
- Capacity building: training competent executives
- Inclusion in national statistical system
- Rapid dissemination of results
- Publication in the media

Costs and features of the survey in Madagascar (in the Antananarivo agglomeration, 1998)

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Number of households ⁽¹⁾ surveyed	3 000	1 049	562
Number of persons surveyed	13 442	-	-
Length of interview per person	< 14 mins	1 hr 11 mins	Several visits
Survey team (number of persons)	60	60	40
Length of operation ⁽²⁾	6 months	6 months	6 months
Cost ⁽³⁾ (US\$/household)	6	10	18

⁽¹⁾ For phase 2, the units surveyed were informal companies, not households.

⁽²⁾ Length of operation: from conception to publication of results. ⁽³⁾ Costs: Include all field work, from identification of households through to publication of the final results.

Valuable results for drafting and assessing policies

A few examples from the Antananarivo agglomeration

TRADITIONAL INDICATORS OF MONETARY POVERTY

• Growth reduces poverty

	1995	1998
Per capita consumption (1 000 Fmg 1998)	1 350	1 751
Incidence of poverty (1\$ 1985 PPA)	39.1%	30.1%

• Large families and low human capital

1998	Poor	Non poor
Per capita consumption (1 000 Fmg)	571	2 305
Average size of household	6.5	4.5
Average years of schooling	4.7	8.9

... AND LESS TRADITIONAL ONES

• Persistence in poverty

	Never poor	Sometimes poor	Always poor	Total
1997-1998 Panel	57%	25%	18%	100%
1998-1999 Panel	58%	26%	16%	100%

• Poor people purchase more from the informal sector

% total consumption supplied by informal sector	Poor	Non poor
1995	92	75
1998	90	70

THE MANY FACETS OF POVERTY

Considering the most disadvantaged third for each approach:

• Four objective approaches:

monetary, material conditions of existence, human capital, exclusion (social capital).

• Three subjective approaches:

general perception, satisfaction of basic needs, financial situation.

▼
Cumulating all of the forms of poverty:
2% de population.

▼
Presenting at least one form of poverty:
78% de population.

LABOUR MARKET AND POVERTY

• Employment: primary source of income for the poor

1998	Poor	Non poor	Total
Income from employment / Total	95%	89%	90%

• Difficult integration of the poor in the labour market

1999	Poor	Non poor
Unemployment rate	9.4%	4.8%
Rate of under-employment	78.9%	39.3%
% of informal employment	78.6%	49.8%

• Discrimination of gender and caste

For the same work:

• Men earned **34%** more than women in 1999

• Descendants of high caste earned **20%** more than descendants of slaves in 1997

Original results

Taken from thematic modules

HEALTH AND POVERTY

• Poor people's health is more precarious

1997	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
Infant-juvenile mortality (- 5 years)	95‰	58‰
Synthetic fertility index	4.1	2
Self-medication (in cases of serious illness)	27%	8%

EDUCATION AND POVERTY

• Poor households are restricted in their educational strategies

1997	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
Net rate of primary schooling	78%	93%
Diploma at end of primary education	53%	82%
Not provided with schooling for financial reasons	45%	0%
School books at home	31%	76%

HOUSEHOLD TRANSFERS AND POVERTY

• Transfers are not sufficient to reduce the incidence of poverty

1997/98	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
Monetary transfers received (net)/primary income	0.5%	0.2%
Expenditure due to solidarity calls/primary income	2.8%	1.1%

THE VOICE OF THE POOR

• Poor people are more attached to state schools

1996	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
In favour of state schools for all	37%	20%
Private schools are a factor of inequality	30%	18%
State schools should remain free of charge	85%	74%

• The need for State intervention: poor people are afraid of liberalisation

1995/98	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
In favour of a managed economy	61%	44%
Have confidence in the public authorities	37%	22%
Subsidies for essential goods	31%	22%

• Declining corruption benefits the poor

	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile	Total
Victim of corruption in 1995	42%	39%	42%
Victim of corruption in 1998	26%	34%	29%

• The poor are cut off from democracy and social debate

	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
Rate of abstention in 1996	29%	22%
Political freedom favours development	28%	35%
Have heard of civil service reform	24%	43%
Have heard of privatisation	47%	77%

• Consensus on development priorities

	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
Corruption: the main problem	93%	96%
Inequality rich/poor: 1 st source of injustice	94%	93%
Base wages on merit	96%	92%
In favour of decentralisation	89%	88%

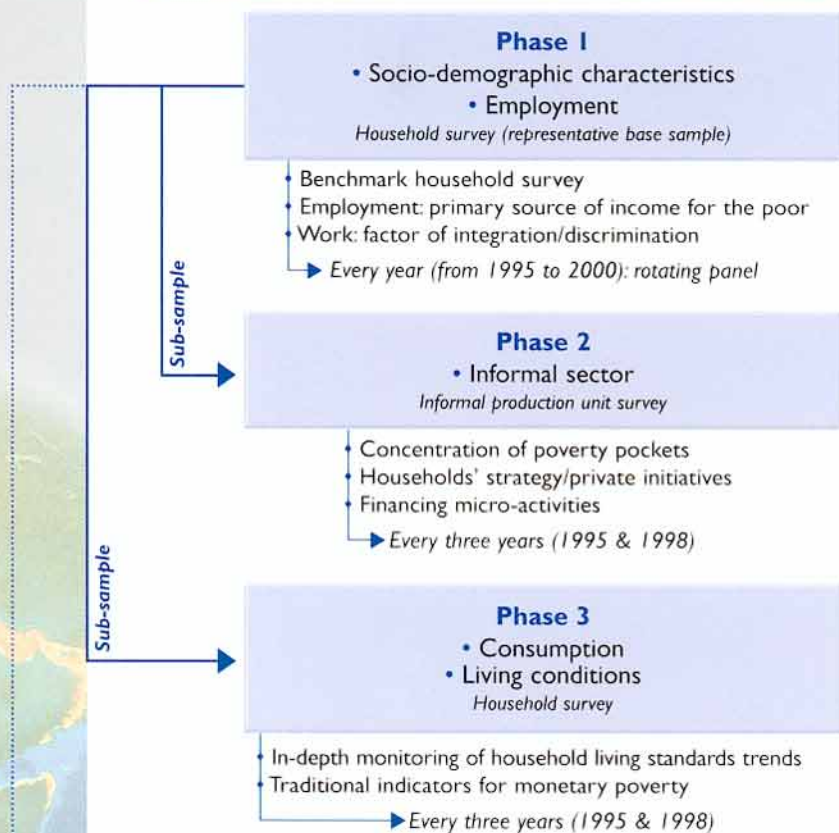
• Privatisation, an idea that is gaining ground

	Poor Quartile	Rich Quartile
Against any privatisation in 1995	52%	34%
Against any privatisation in 1998	32%	12%

A flexible geometry

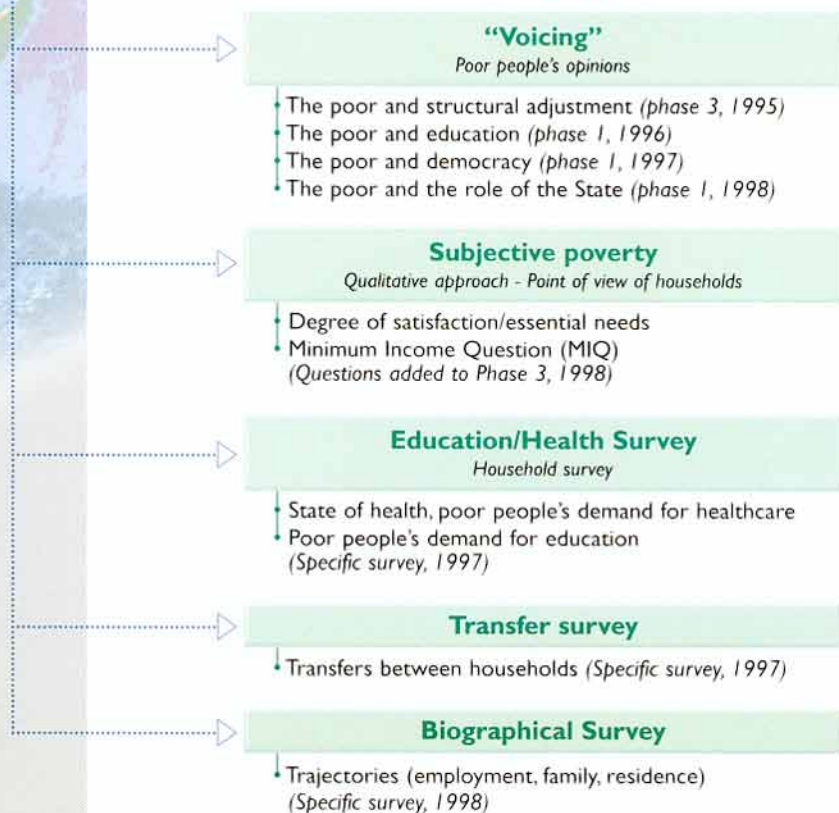
The example of Madagascar

BASIC MECHANISM



VARIABLE THEMATIC MODULES

In the form of extra questions added to one of the three phases or as a specific survey on a sub-sample of phase 1



Results of monitoring over a period of time

Real income of households/month

Employment rate of 10-14 year olds

Share of informal employment

Share of informal employment for the poor

Rate of under-employment

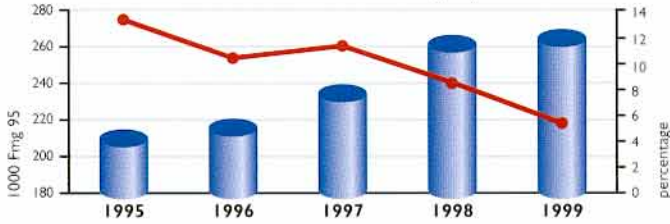
Rate of under-employment for the poor

Average income/month from main employment (right-hand scale)

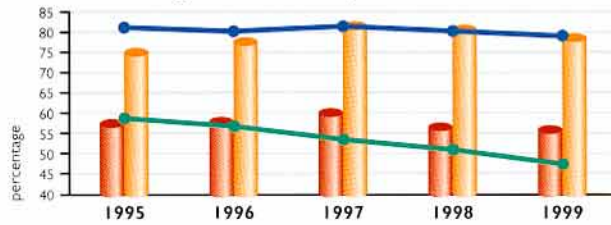
Gross difference in income for men/women (left-hand scale)

Discrimination in income for men/women (left-hand scale)

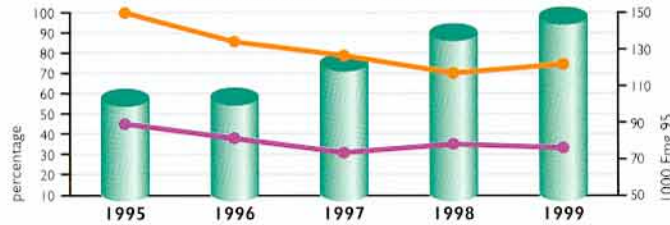
Growth reduces the child employment rate



Difficult integration of the poor in the labour market



Growth reduces gender discrimination



Various publications by the MADIO project team resulting from the 1-2-3 surveys

