Impact Evaluation using a Multidimensional Framework

Abstract: This paper illustrates how a multidimensional poverty measurement framework can be used to assess the impact of poverty alleviation programs that include interventions at different levels (e.g. education, health, etc.) and have several simultaneous objectives (e.g. increase school attendance, reduce child labor, reduce children malnutrition, etc.). First, the paper introduces the Alkire Foster method for multidimensional poverty measurement. Second, it presents a simple example to illustrate the potential benefits of measuring impact using this technique. Third, the paper demonstrates how this framework can be used in practice, using data from the first years of the conditional cash transfer program Progresa (renamed Oportunidades) in the rural areas of Mexico.

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