

Developing multi-faceted indicators for a longitudinal study of risk and resilience in Uganda



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Outline



- Objectives and approach of a longitudinal study of risk and resilience in Uganda
- Conceptual framework
- Principles of indicator development
- Case study: developing a scale for assessing quality of child-parent relationship

Objectives of a longitudinal study

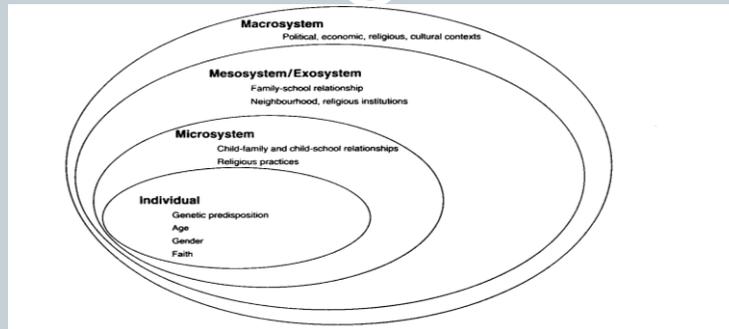
- Develop an evidence-base to inform policy and programming on children's well-being in Uganda
- Develop evidence base on 'surviving and thriving'
- Lifecourse approach
 - Track different cohorts (infants, 5-7, adolescents)
 - Change in absence of focus on specific intervention
- Map interventions, services

Conceptual framework

- Adverse childhood experiences



Social-ecological framework



- Multi-level influences on well-being
 - Risk and resilience factors interact and influence each other
 - Integrated view of domains vs. sector-specific approach

Levels of risk and resilience

- Individual level
 - Cognitive, socio-emotional, developmental and health outcomes
 - Relationships – peers, caregivers, social support
 - Behaviors – future orientation, self-efficacy, sexual risk
- Household level
 - Household economic strength (i.e. source of income, migration, food security and nutrition, access to basic services (health, water source, sanitation and shelter))
 - Household efficacy (i.e. Reporting, solving children's problems, social support, etc)
 - Household structure (family members, relationships)
 - Parental behaviors (discipline, violence), knowledge and beliefs, stress

Levels of risk and resilience

- **School and other institutions**
 - Physical safety
 - Peer relationships
 - Educational outcomes – literacy and numeracy
- **Community**
 - Safety and security, violence
 - Communal norms
 - Collective efficacy

Principles of indicator development

- Relevant to context
- Building on previous research and measurement
- Adapted to local, cultural norms

Relevance to context in Uganda



- **Adverse childhood events**
 - National Violence Against Children study
- **Explore specific vulnerabilities**
 - Vulnerabilities associated with disability and violence in schools (Devries et al., 2014)
 - Children living with non-biological caregivers – potential for discrimination, abuse and neglect at household level (DHS data)
- **Explore key relevant policy and data questions**
 - Relationship between stunting and income

Building on previous research and measurement



- **Study design and instrument selection**
 - Birth to 20 cohort study
 - Young Lives study
- **Programmatic tools in Uganda**
 - Orphans and Vulnerable Children Vulnerability Index – household health status, orphan status of children, adverse economic events
- **Review available data and adopt measures/ definitions**
 - Child labor

Adapted to local, cultural norms



- Guided by ethnographic research
 - ‘A Ugandan Childhood: through the eyes of children and parents’
 - Defines children’s and parents’ perspectives on the meaning of a child ‘doing well’
 - Existing qualitative data sheds light on expressions of emotional distress (Akello et al., 2010), social consequences of HIV status for young children (Cheney, 2015), care relationship between children and older carers in context of HIV (Rutakumwa, 2015).

Case study: developing a scale for assessing quality of child-parent relationships



- Qualitative research
 - 3 districts; free-list interviews exploring caregiver and child perceptions of parenting
 - Emerging categories: positive disciplinary methods, provision of basic needs, co-operation between parents, offers children advice
- Review of relevant scales
- Identification of appropriate scale, adaptation based on qualitative data

Summary



- Study design and indicators based on conceptual and theoretical frameworks
- Principles for indicator selection, adaptation and development
- Initial steps in one domain