



REPUBLIC OF
**THE
GAMBIA**



9TH SESSION OF OIC STATISTICAL COMMISSION

Monitoring and Reporting SDG #1 (No Poverty) Indicators.

30th September 2020



- Introduction
 - Past poverty studies and poverty lines in The Gambia.
- How do we measure monetary poverty?
 - Questionnaire/field work
 - Welfare indicator
 - Poverty Line
 - Comparability with previous surveys
- Recent poverty level and trend

Introduction

- The Gambia, like many other countries demonstrated its commitment to the implementation of Agenda 2030 by mainstreaming the SDGs into the National Development Plan 2018 – 2021;
- Providing an opportunity to align and address its development priorities with SDG targets and indicators.
- The Government has aligned the institutional arrangements for the SDGs and the NDP to enhance effective and efficient coordination among stakeholders.

Past poverty studies.

- There are six poverty studies conducted by the government of the Gambia and developing partners. These studies were conducted in 1992, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2010 and 2015/16.
- All these studies used consumption based poverty line
- However, The 2008 poverty assessment was a poverty simulation exercise based on the 2003 poverty profile.

How do we measure monetary poverty?

- Eradicating poverty is one of the main goals of every government and many international organisations and that's why it's important to track it over time to ascertain whether the set goals/targets are met.
- There are many ways of measuring poverty as the definitions of poverty.

How do we measure monetary poverty?

- The way poverty is define or measured by a country is very important because it determines the type of poverty reduction strategies adopted by it (Sekhampu, 2013).
- There are two most popular ways used by countries to measure monetary poverty: household consumption or income approach (World Bank, 2005).

How do we measure monetary poverty?

- Evidence has shown that consumption is a better way of measuring poverty because consumption is less affected by seasonal patterns than income and in developed countries, income of people are not consistent, but their consumption remain stable (Goodman and Oldfield, 2004).
- The household consumption on food and non-food was aggregated based on guidelines provided in Deaton and Zaidi (2002).
- The welfare indicator was based on **consumption per**

How do we measure monetary poverty?

- Design of the questionnaire to capture consumption
- Construction of a welfare aggregate
- Construction of the poverty line:

Design of the questionnaire to capture consumption

- The survey collects sufficient information to estimate total consumption comprising food and non-food items (including housing) of each household.
- Commodities included in food and non-food consumption may be explicitly purchased by households or acquired through other means (own production activities or gifts).

Design of the questionnaire to capture consumption

- The IHS collects information for 12 months to cater for seasonality
- The household consumption measure takes into account all these sources in the different modules of the questionnaires and these expenditures include:
 - Food and non-food expenditure in the last seven days prior to the date of interview.

Design of the questionnaire to capture consumption

- Non-food expenditure in the last 1, 3 and 12 months
- Assets ownership
- A price survey is also conducted concurrently during the survey 12-month period to cater for the price variation by rural-urban in each local government areas.

Construction of a welfare aggregate

- Annual household consumption: Food vs non-food
- Food:
 - Purchase
 - Own-produce
 - Gifts

Non-food:

- Education, health, clothing, housing, recreation, etc.
- Imputed rent
- Durable goods

Construction of a welfare aggregate

- Lumpy non-food categories are excluded from the household consumption aggregate. These included spending on:
- Ceremonies, contribution to merry-go-round or self-help projects
- Gifts given or received in cash and taxes paid during the past 12 months

Construction of a welfare aggregate

- Taxes, indirect taxes, pension and social security contributions
- Transfers (food, cash, in-kind)
- Spatial adjustment of household consumption to cater for regional differences in cost of living

Construction of a welfare aggregate

- Welfare aggregate = Annual household consumption / Household size
- On average Gambian spend D13,420 on a monthly basic per capita in 2015/16
- Food accounted for 58.7 percent of total expenditures

Construction of the poverty ~~line~~

- Cost of basic needs approach
- Food basket of the sub-group of the population between 30 to 50% poorest percentiles
- The food poverty line is the cost of 2400 calories given the country's food basket
- Food poverty line is estimated at D982.89 per month

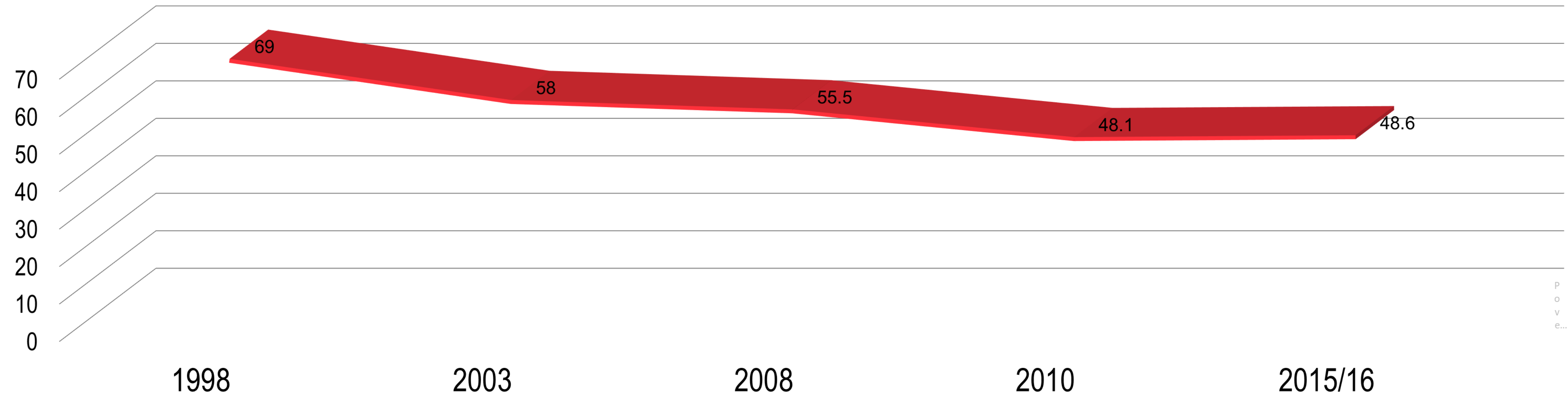
Construction of the poverty line

- Non-food poverty line is the cost of essential non-food needs based on non-food expenditures of the 30 to 50% poorest percentiles
- Non-Food poverty line is estimated at D520.44 per month
- Absolute poverty line $D1,503.33 = \text{food poverty line} + \text{non food poverty line}$

Comparability with previous surveys

- Previous survey were not comparable to the 2015 survey due to large differences in the survey instrument;
- Number of food items in 2015 was four times more than those of 2010;
- The non-food items more than tripled in 2015;
- Change in recall period;
- Change in sampling;
- Survey-to-survey imputation techniques of consumption data was applied to allow comparability.

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■ Poverty Rate

Poverty has decreased from 69.0% in 1998 to 48.6% in 2015/16 but the number of people living below the poverty line has increase.

Current Poverty Study

Currently, The Gambia is conducting an Integrated Household. This survey began in February 2020 and expected to end in January 2021;

Like in the past surveys, it's expected to provide the needed SDG poverty indicator.



Thank You