



# **Measures, trends and determinants of economic well-being in India**

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IARIW-BOK 2017 Special conference  
Seoul, 26th April 2017



# Summary

- Uses three waves of Young Lives longitudinal survey:
  - 951x3 households
- Examines economic well-being in India using three measures:
  - Wealth index
  - Composite index 1 (wealth, education, paid and unpaid work)
  - Composite index 2 (wealth, education, paid and unpaid work, health, subjective well-being)
- Analyses the determinants of the three measures:
  - Pooled OLS and random effects
  - Gender, education, caste, religion, area and region present significant effects



## Main comments

- Need to define the concept of “economic” well-being
  - There is a mix of different types of dimensions
  - Economic: wealth, work
  - Non-economic: education, health, subjective well-being
- Overall vs economic/financial subjective well-being
  - Overall: Happiness, Life satisfaction
  - Specific: Financial satisfaction
- Individuals vs Households
  - Analysis is done at the household level. Why not at the individual level?
  - Only socio-demographic characteristics of the head of the household used explored as determinants
  - Are children’s BMI and subjective well-being used in the index?



## Specific comments

- Categorization of continuous variables:
  - Robustness checks
- Enrolment in school, % of children not engaged in unpaid or paid work worsens over time
  - Effect of ageing of the cohort of children surveyed and legal school leaving age?
- Are there other larger surveys (panel or cross section) to replicate the analysis?



**Thank you**