Assessing and monitoring the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 & Economic Crises

Round 2 of web surveys (after the Beirut blast) – Preliminary Results

November 2020
The explosion occurred at a time when the country was already facing:

- an economic crisis with inflation, spiraling unemployment and exodus;
- increasing COVID-19 cases, reaching 83,697 people as of 2 November 2020; and
- Country-wide protests have led the government to step-down in August 2020.
Objectives

- **Monitor the situation** and essential needs of Lebanese and Syrian refugees who have been impacted by the multiple crises in Lebanon

- Understand **who are the most vulnerable and most affected population groups** to help inform targeting and prioritization decisions and adjustments

- Triangulate results to other sources and surveys such as mVAM
NEW DIGITAL TOOLS: WEB SURVEYS

INTERNET USERS IN TOTAL POPULATION (0-99)

GLOBAL

59% are connected to the internet in 2020, a 7% increase from 2019

MIDDLE EAST

70% are connected to the internet in 2020, a 14% increase from 2019

LEBANON

78% are connected to the internet in 2020 and 95% literacy rate
Scope and coverage

• Geographic coverage:
  ▪ Lebanese: representative at national level and administrative level in Beirut
  ▪ Syrians: representative at national level

• Target: 1,920 surveys in total
  ▪ Lebanese: 1,440
    ✓ Beirut: 480 surveys
    ✓ Other governorates: 960 surveys
  ▪ Syrian refugees: 480 surveys

• Completed surveys: 2,169 surveys in total
  ▪ Lebanese: 1,697 surveys
    ✓ Beirut: 524 surveys
    ✓ Other governorates: 1,173 surveys
  ▪ Syrian refugees: 472 surveys
    ✓ Beirut: 186 surveys
    ✓ Other governorates: 284 surveys

• Duration of data collection: 21 August to 16 September

Round 1 of web-surveys (20 April to 18 May)

• Lebanese: 1,947 completed surveys
  ✓ Beirut: 242 surveys
  ✓ Other governorates: 1,705 surveys

• Syrian refugees: 887 completed surveys
  ✓ Beirut: 379
  ✓ Other governorates: 508
Gender of respondents

Unweighted

Lebanese
56% MALE
44% FEMALE

Syrians
61% MALE
39% FEMALE

Weighted

Lebanese
50% MALE
50% FEMALE

Syrians
49% MALE
51% FEMALE
Education of respondents (weighted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Primary not completed</th>
<th>Primary completed</th>
<th>Secondary completed</th>
<th>Vocational training</th>
<th>University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syrian Refugees</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanese</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary findings
Impact of the explosion

• In Beirut, at least half of respondents experienced damage to their homes.

• In Beirut, 58% of Lebanese respondents reported some sort of damage, against 41% of Syrian respondents.

• Achrafieh, Beirut Central District and Marfaa were the neighborhoods most impacted in Beirut.

Beirut Only - Have you experienced damage to your home due to explosion?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Syrians</th>
<th>Lebanese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, fully destroyed</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, major damage and I can't live there anymore</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, major damage but I can still live there</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, minor damage but I can still live there</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No damage</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Impact of the explosion

Beirut only - Where are you currently staying?

- In my usual house/apartment: 68% (Lebanese), 43% (Syrians)
- With family/friends in Beirut: 15% (Lebanese), 19% (Syrians)
- With family/friends outside Beirut: 6% (Lebanese), 4% (Syrians)
- In hotel or rented apartment: 6% (Lebanese), 13% (Syrians)
- No place to stay: 5% (Lebanese), 18% (Syrians)
- Temporary shelter provided by NGO/charity: 1% (Lebanese), 2% (Syrians)

- Across the country, 23% of all respondents reported hosting someone impacted by the explosion.
- On average, hosts said to be accommodating 3 people.
- In Beirut, 24% of Lebanese and 36% of Syrians are hosting at least one affected person.
Impact on livelihoods – Lebanese HH income losses

HH income change over the past year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced or completely lost income</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No change</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resorted to alternative income resources to maintain previous level</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Governorates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced or completely lost income</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No change</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resorted to alternative income resources to maintain previous level</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When did the major change to your household income take place?

- **Public unrest**: 46% in Beirut, 45% in Other Governorates
- **Covid-19**: 29% in Beirut, 34% in Other Governorates
- **Explosion in Beirut**: 13% in Beirut, 6% in Other Governorates
- **Other events**: 13% in Beirut, 16% in Other Governorates

Legend:
- Reduced or completely lost income
- No change
- Resorted to alternative income resources to maintain previous level
- Increased
Impact on livelihoods – Syrian refugee HH income losses

Syrian refugee HH income change over the past year

- **Beirut**
  - Apr-May: 65% Reduced or completely lost income, 13% No change, 9% Resorted to alternative income resources, 14% Increased
  - Aug-Sept: 69% Reduced or completely lost income, 18% No change, 10% Resorted to alternative income resources, 3% Increased

- **Other Governorates**
  - Apr-May: 66% Reduced or completely lost income, 18% No change, 11% Resorted to alternative income resources, 5% Increased
  - Aug-Sept: 65% Reduced or completely lost income, 18% No change, 9% Resorted to alternative income resources, 8% Increased

When did the major change to your household income take place?

- **Beirut**
  - 24% Reduced or completely lost income due to Public unrest, 52% Reduced or completely lost income due to Covid-19, 16% Resorted to alternative income resources due to Explosion in Beirut, 7% Increased due to Other events

- **Other Governorates**
  - 36% Reduced or completely lost income due to Public unrest, 49% Reduced or completely lost income due to Covid-19, 3% Resorted to alternative income resources due to Explosion in Beirut, 12% Increased due to Other events

Legend:
- Reduced or completely lost income
- No change
- Resorted to alternative income resources to maintain previous level
- Increased

Public unrest, Covid-19, Explosion in Beirut, Other events
Out of those Lebanese respondents who worked prior to events:

- Beirut
  - Apr-May: 29% Yes, I lost my job, 27% Yes, my salary was reduced, 30% No, not affected, 9% No, already lost my job before, 5% No, salary already reduced before
  - Aug-Sept: 34% Yes, I lost my job, 23% Yes, my salary was reduced, 25% No, not affected, 9% No, already lost my job before, 9% No, salary already reduced before

- Other Governorates
  - Apr-May: 29% Yes, I lost my job, 23% Yes, my salary was reduced, 30% No, not affected, 10% No, already lost my job before, 8% No, salary already reduced before
  - Aug-Sept: 26% Yes, I lost my job, 19% Yes, my salary was reduced, 35% No, not affected, 11% No, already lost my job before, 9% No, salary already reduced before

Out of those Syrian refugees who worked prior to events:

- Beirut
  - Apr-May: 54% Yes, I lost my job, 17% Yes, my salary was reduced, 12% No, not affected, 10% No, already lost my job before, 7% No, salary already reduced before
  - Aug-Sept: 35% Yes, I lost my job, 29% Yes, my salary was reduced, 20% No, not affected, 5% No, already lost my job before, 11% No, salary already reduced before

- Other Governorates
  - Apr-May: 51% Yes, I lost my job, 20% Yes, my salary was reduced, 11% No, not affected, 13% No, already lost my job before, 5% No, salary already reduced before
  - Aug-Sept: 34% Yes, I lost my job, 22% Yes, my salary was reduced, 29% No, not affected, 10% No, already lost my job before, 4% No, salary already reduced before
Debt – Lebanese respondents

Did you borrow/take money on credit in the past 30 days?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Governorates</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Out of those with debt, main reasons are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Governorates</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Debt – Syrian refugees

Did you borrow/take money on credit in the past 30 days?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Governorates</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Out of those with debt, main reasons are:

- **Apr-May**
  - Beirut: Rent (24%), Medical care (29%), Food (28%), Other reasons (35%)
  - Other Governorates: Rent (62%), Medical care (54%), Food (55%), Other reasons (43%)

- **Aug-Sept**
  - Beirut: Rent (11%), Medical care (8%), Other reasons (16%)
  - Other Governorates: Rent (8%), Medical care (9%), Other reasons (6%)
Concerns over having enough food to eat – Lebanese respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other governorates</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concerns over having enough food to eat – Syrian refugees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other governorates</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food consumption

Number of meals consumed in the previous day – Lebanese respondents

- Beirut:
  - Apr-May: 22%
  - Aug-Sept: 19%

- Other governorates:
  - Apr-May: 57%
  - Aug-Sept: 58%

Number of meals consumed in the previous day – Syrian refugees

- Beirut:
  - Apr-May: 44%
  - Aug-Sept: 35%

- Other governorates:
  - Apr-May: 54%
  - Aug-Sept: 63%
Use of food-based negative coping strategies

### Food coping – Lebanese respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Apr-May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Went for a day without eating</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipped meals</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ate less expensive food</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No difficulties eating enough</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased my food intake</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other governorates</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipped meals</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ate less expensive food</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No difficulties eating enough</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased my food intake</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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### Food coping – Syrian refugees

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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other governorates</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>12%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipped meals</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ate less expensive food</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No difficulties eating enough</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased my food intake</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use of livelihood coping strategies over the past month – Lebanese respondents

**Beirut**

- Apr-May: 26% No need, 63% Used at least one coping strategy, 11% No capacity to cope
- Aug-Sept: 21% No need, 68% Used at least one coping strategy, 12% No capacity to cope

**Other governorates**

- Apr-May: 24% No need, 64% Used at least one coping strategy, 12% No capacity to cope
- Aug-Sept: 24% No need, 66% Used at least one coping strategy, 10% No capacity to cope

+5%
Use of livelihood coping strategies over the past month – Syrian refugees

**Beirut**

- Apr-May:
  - No need: 13%
  - Used at least one coping strategy: 65%
  - No capacity to cope: 22%

- Aug-Sept:
  - No need: 15%
  - Used at least one coping strategy: 64%
  - No capacity to cope: 21%

**Other governorates**

- Apr-May:
  - No need: 10%
  - Used at least one coping strategy: 63%
  - No capacity to cope: 27%

- Aug-Sept:
  - No need: 12%
  - Used at least one coping strategy: 70%
  - No capacity to cope: 18%
### Main livelihood coping strategies used - Lebanese

#### Lebanese living in Beirut

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spent less on food</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spent savings</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asked family/friends for help</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spent less on health</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold domestic assets</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowed money using credit</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spent less on education</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold productive assets</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begging/scavenging</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent children to work</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold house/land</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Lebanese living in other governorates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Apr-May</th>
<th>Aug-Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spent less on food</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold house/land</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Main livelihood coping strategies used – Syrian refugees

**Syrians living in Beirut**

- Spent less on food: Apr-May 24%, Aug-Sept 24%
- Asked for help from friends/family: Apr-May 18%, Aug-Sept 15%
- Sold domestic assets: Apr-May 12%, Aug-Sept 13%
- Borrowed money on credit: Apr-May 14%, Aug-Sept 13%
- Spent less on health: Apr-May 12%, Aug-Sept 12%
- Spent savings: Apr-May 11%, Aug-Sept 11%
- Sent children to work: Apr-May 8%, Aug-Sept 6%
- Spent less on education: Apr-May 6%, Aug-Sept 4%
- Sold productive assets: Apr-May 4%, Aug-Sept 4%
- Sold house/land: Apr-May 3%, Aug-Sept 3%
- Begging/scavenging: Apr-May 2%, Aug-Sept 2%

**Syrians living in other governorates**

- Spent less on food: Apr-May 22%, Aug-Sept 24%
- Asked for help from friends/family: Apr-May 19%, Aug-Sept 19%
- Sold domestic assets: Apr-May 12%, Aug-Sept 15%
- Borrowed money on credit: Apr-May 9%, Aug-Sept 12%
- Spent less on health: Apr-May 12%, Aug-Sept 11%
- Spent savings: Apr-May 8%, Aug-Sept 7%
- Sent children to work: Apr-May 6%, Aug-Sept 6%
- Spent less on education: Apr-May 4%, Aug-Sept 3%
- Sold productive assets: Apr-May 6%, Aug-Sept 4%
- Sold house/land: Apr-May 4%, Aug-Sept 4%
- Begging/scavenging: Apr-May 2%, Aug-Sept 2%
Perceived change in healthcare provision

**Lebanese respondents**

- Beirut:
  - Apr-May: 46% (Dont have access), 20% (Have deteriorated)
  - Aug-Sept: 40% (Functioning as usual)

- Other governorates:
  - Apr-May: 33% (Functioning as usual)
  - Aug-Sept: 22% (Functioning as usual)

**Syrian refugees**

- Beirut:
  - Apr-May: 22% (Dont have access), 52% (Have deteriorated)
  - Aug-Sept: 27% (Functioning as usual)

- Other governorates:
  - Apr-May: 39% (Functioning as usual)
  - Aug-Sept: 15% (Functioning as usual)

Legend:
- Red: Dont have access
- Orange: No longer functioning
- Green: Functioning as usual
- Yellow: Have deteriorated
Challenges in accessing essential medicines

Out of those Lebanese who needed medicine:

- **Clinics closed**: Apr-May: 6%, Aug-Sept: 9%
- **Clinics ran out of medicine**: Apr-May: 24%, Aug-Sept: 28%
- **Cant afford medicine**: Apr-May: 17%, Aug-Sept: 16%
- **Impossible to reach**: Apr-May: 15%, Aug-Sept: 9%
- **No challenge**: Apr-May: 9%, Aug-Sept: 9%

Out of those Syrian refugees who needed medicine:

- **Clinics closed**: Apr-May: 26%, Aug-Sept: 28%
- **Clinics ran out of medicine**: Apr-May: 33%, Aug-Sept: 49%
- **Cant afford medicine**: Apr-May: 6%, Aug-Sept: 11%
- **Impossible to reach**: Apr-May: 2%, Aug-Sept: 7%
- **No challenge**: Apr-May: 34%, Aug-Sept: 40%
### Safety

- **Do you currently feel safe in your environment?**
  - **Lebanese respondents tend to feel unsafe do to protests and riots**
  - **Syrian refugees are feeling unsafe due to violence in the community and discrimination**

#### If unsafe, what is the main reason?

**Lebanese**
- Beirut: 37% Protests/riots, 26% Violence in community, 15% Discrimination, 14% Theft/burglary, 8% Domestic violence
- Other Governorates: 39% Protests/riots, 22% Violence in community, 14% Discrimination, 20% Theft/burglary, 5% Domestic violence

**Syrian refugees**
- Beirut: 17% Protests/riots, 36% Violence in community, 35% Discrimination, 9% Theft/burglary, 3% Domestic violence
- Other Governorates: 25% Protests/riots, 26% Violence in community, 28% Discrimination, 13% Theft/burglary, 8% Domestic violence
Main unmet needs

Lebanese respondents

- Respect/dignity: 16% Beirut, 15% Other governorates
- Safety: 15% Beirut, 18% Other governorates
- Psychological support: 13% Beirut, 10% Other governorates
- Sufficient food: 13% Beirut, 14% Other governorates
- Access to health services/medicine: 11% Beirut, 14% Other governorates
- Education: 10% Beirut, 9% Other governorates
- Cash to rebuild home: 8% Beirut, 13% Other governorates
- Information about available aid/support: 6% Beirut, 6% Other governorates
- Hygiene items: 4% Beirut, 3% Other governorates
- Place to stay/bedding and blankets: 4% Beirut, 3% Other governorates
- Water and sanitation: 2% Beirut, 3% Other governorates

Syrian refugees

- Sufficient food: 22% Beirut, 23% Other governorates
- Education: 12% Beirut, 14% Other governorates
- Place to stay/bedding and blankets: 10% Beirut, 13% Other governorates
- Respect/dignity: 11% Beirut, 12% Other governorates
- Information about available aid/support: 9% Beirut, 9% Other governorates
- Psychological support: 8% Beirut, 8% Other governorates
- Safety: 7% Beirut, 10% Other governorates
- Access to health services/medicine: 6% Beirut, 6% Other governorates
- Cash to rebuild home: 3% Beirut, 3% Other governorates
- Hygiene items: 3% Beirut, 3% Other governorates
- Water and sanitation: 2% Beirut, 4% Other governorates
Recommendations

• **Reduction in consumption or skipping meals**, impacts to food availability and consumption needs to continued to be **addressed** and assistance needs **to be expanded** to those who are not receiving any support.

• Financial assistance and other resources to vulnerable populations should be expanded along the lines of on-going plans and **actions already underway to mitigate the economic impacts** at the household level.

• **Mitigate the disruptions to livelihoods** and continue to cushion the financial blow, by supporting the government in strengthening their Social Safety Net System.

• **With the beginning of the winter period, nutrition surveys** needs to be conducted to decipher immediately any malnutrition amongst all population cohorts.

• **Investigate how best to connect household and community-support** to cover increased needs.
NEXT STEPS

- Complete analysis
  - Identify most vulnerable groups affected by economic shocks
  - Gender- and age- specific analysis
- Disseminate report