

OVERHEADS: Session 1: The WeD Conceptual Framework

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- I. Background to the ESRC Wellbeing in Developing Countries Research Programme
 - Five years, four countries
 - Aim 1 to develop a multi-disciplinary conceptual and methodological framework for understanding the construction of inequality, poverty and subjective quality of life in specific societies
 - Bringing together the 'universal' and the 'local': the framework to be developed through an interaction between 'universal' (social science cultural) and 'local' (community cultural) ways of understanding
 - The framework to involve research at five inter-penetrating levels: people, households, communities, regions/countries and beyond (picture)
 - In all countries fieldwork for developing the framework at people, household and community levels to be intensive in 4 to 6 communities over a period of a year; fieldwork in more sites intended in Ethiopia
 - Framework for the other two levels to be developed using secondary sources
 - Aim 2 to demonstrate the use of the framework in four country studies: Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Peru, Thailand

- II. The WeD research framework
 - Theory of Human Need, Quality of Life, Resource Profiles and In/security regimes
 - Actors – relations - structures
 - Five universal domains
 - Five levels of study
 - Table handout

- III. Current Development Policy Research and Proposed WeD Research contribution
 - A means for bringing together parallel work from different disciplines
 - A theoretically-grounded approach to the 'multi-dimensionality' of poverty and inequality
 - A focus on the subjective experience of poor social actors and on culture
 - An interest in how things 'work' at grass-root levels, including local policy regimes (e.g. food aid, coffee prices, ADLI, education, health services....)