

Timeline

April-September 2020

Study Type

Other

Article Link

<https://www.povertyactionlab.org/initiative-project/using-mobile-phone-and-sate...>

Research Implemented by IPA

No

Using Mobile Phone and Satellite Data to Target Togo's Emergency Cash Transfer Program

Researchers

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Abstract

The Government of Togo has launched an ambitious cash transfer program to provide immediate cash support to poor households that are impacted by COVID-19. The project will assist the government response by improving geographic targeting by building high-resolution poverty maps using a combination of satellite imagery, multiple nationally-representative survey data, and machine learning. The team will also leverage data from mobile phone companies to help the government better target the response to the country's most vulnerable individuals and households. This assistance will greatly expand the set of options the government has for targeting poor individuals who are currently excluded from the program. This approach also has the potential to scale beyond Togo; the researchers are exploring designing similar strategies to improve the targeting of cash support in Bangladesh and Nigeria.

Project Outcomes of Interest

Poverty maps, targeting

Partners

Ministry of the Digital Economy, Government of Togo, [Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab \(J-PAL\)](#), [Center for Effective Global Action \(CEGA\)](#)

Key Findings

Please visit the summary page, ["Using Mobile Phone and Satellite Data to Target Emergency Cash Transfers in Togo"](#) for the research summary.

Impact Goals

- Build resilience and protect the financial health of families and individuals
- Improve social-safety net responses

Results Status

Results