Migrating Out of Poverty

Ghana Household Survey – 2013

User Guide

Acknowledgments

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Data may be used freely. Please acknowledgement your use of the MOOP data by including the following phrase:

"Data for Ghana was collected by the Centre for Migration Studies (CMS), University of Ghana through funding from the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and made available by the Migrating out of Poverty Research Consortium, University of Sussex, UK."

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1. Introduction

The Migrating out of Poverty (MOOP) Research Program Consortium (RPC) conducts research across Asia, Africa and Europe. Our research focuses on the relationship between internal, regional and international migration and poverty. Part of our research relies on a set of comparable household surveys conducted in Ghana, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe between 2013 and 2015.

MOOP is funded by the UK's Department for International Development from 2010-2017 and coordinated by the University of Sussex, Brighton, UK. Core Partners include the Centre for Migration Studies in Ghana; the African Migration and Development Policy Centre (AMADPOC) in Kenya; the African Centre for Migration and Society in South Africa; the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit in Bangladesh, and the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore.

The first wave of surveys was conducted in 2013 covering Indonesia, Bangladesh and Ghana. MOOP is now publishing this data online to facilitate further research by the wider community of academics, researchers and students. Approximately 1200 households were sampled in each country and interviewed using a near-identical questionnaire. The samples consists of households with current migrants and households with no current migrants, defined below.

The Global Survey in Ghana was conducted in the Centre and North of Ghana covering five regions of Brong Ahafo, Northern Region, Upper West, Upper East, and the Volta region. These regions were selected on the basis of data provided from the 2010 Ghana Population and Housing census by the Ghana Statistical Service, which indicated that these regions were the major source areas of internal migration in Ghana. In addition, the Brong Ahafo region was selected because it is both a major source as well as a major destination region (GSS 2010). These regions also represent various ecological zones of Ghana. The Northern, Upper East, Upper West regions are located in the northern savannah zone.

2. Methodology and Sampling

A two-staged stratified sample design was used. At the first stage, a sample size of 1500 migrant and non-migrant households were selected from the five migrant source regions in Ghana. The list of the EAs from the 2010 Population and Housing Census within the five selected regions was used as the sampling frame. Number of EAs selected from each region was proportional to the total number of out-migrants from that region as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Determination of Sample size			
Region	Number of out- migrants	Number of EAs Selected	Total Number of Households (based on number of EAs)
Volta Region	681,833	32	480
Brong Ahafo Region	399,687	19	285
Northern Region	433,121	21	315
Upper East Region	328, 990	16	240
Upper West Region	252,841	12	180
Total	2, 096,472	100	1500

Source: Awumbila et. al. 2014

The Ghana Statistical Service produced a map of each region, showing the boundaries of the selected PSUs. At the second stage, a systematic sampling technique with a random start was used to select migrant and non-migrant households from the selected EAs. A screener survey was used at this stage to determine households which have absent migrants, seasonal migrants and or returned migrants. Field Assistants made a sweep of the PSU to enumerate and list all inhabited domestic addresses. The household records were then complied into an address sampling frame stratified by non-migrant and migrant households. The migrant category was then stratified into the following three groups: seasonal migrants, returned migrants and absent out-migrants. Four households in the non-migrant stratum and 11 households in the migrant stratum (the two categories added up to the required 15 households in each EA) were then randomly selected for interview. The selection procedure thus ensured that about 400(26.7%) of the 1500 households come from non-migrants households (i.e. control group), while the remaining 1100 are selected from migrants households. We selected more people from migrants' households so as to ensure that we have more respondents in the various categories of migrants. In total, 1412 households eventually took part in the research, giving a response rate of 94 percent, though response rates for certain questions (especially those on income of migrants and training at the destination) was much lower.

Data concerning the selected households as units, and individual members of those households, was collected through face-to-face interviews with household members. Respondents answered questions about the household itself and also about themselves, if they have been migrants during the previous ten years. Some household member(s) were also asked to supply certain information about household members who were currently absent as migrants. CSPRO was used to capture the data.

Definition of Migrants

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) defines a migrant as a person who has moved and stayed at his/her current place of residence for at least a year (GSS 2008). This definition does not

capture seasonal migrants, who tend to stay at their places of residence for less than a year (Awumbila et al. 2014a). Following Bilsborrow et al (1984, 146), the following definitions were adopted:

- an internal migrant is anyone who used to live in the household and left to go away in the past 10 years to another location within the country, and with a duration of absence, or intended absence, of at least 3 months (definition adapted from Bilsborrow 1984:146).
- an international migrant is anyone who used to live in the household and left to go away in the past 10 years, to another country and with a duration of absence, or intended absence, of at least 3 months.
- a seasonal migrant is a sub-set of either an internal migrant or international migrant who stays away for a few months but less than a year.
- a returned migrant is an individual who had been away for at least 3 months over the
 past 10 years, and who has lived in his/her native place for the last 12 consecutive
 months. The use of 12 months would automatically exclude from the definition all
 seasonal migrants who tend to migrate every year for a limited number of months.

3. Household Questionnaire

The questionnaire was designed by the University of Sussex in consultation with the core partners and IPPR. CMS further fine-tuned the questionnaire to ensure that the questions are relevant to the local context. The questionnaire was completed by the Main Respondent. The Main Respondent is defined as the individual who identifies himself or herself as the person best able to answer questions about family background AND management and allocation of finances for the study household.

This questionnaire consists of the following sections:

- 1. Household Grid,
- 2. Migration History Absent and Returned Migrants (Information related to all persons 10 years or older),
- 3. Migration Experiences at Destination (for absent and return migrants 10 years and older),
- 4. Remittances from absent migrants (for absent and return migrants 10 years and older),
- 5. Other remittances (For both migrant and non-migrant households),
- 6. Questions about returned migrants, and
- 7. Household Assets and wellbeing.

The variable names correspond to the question numbers in the questionnaire, for example, the variable q5 corresponds to question 5 in the questionnaire. Codes for categorical variables are contained in the following tables.

Section 1: Household Roster

Q3, Q4, Q9, Q13, Q23, Q24, Q26, Q30, Q43, Q52, Q53, Q55, Q64, Q65, Q74, Q76, Q78, Q82, Q83, Q84, Q85, Q87, Q89, Q91, Q95, Q97

- 1. Yes
- No 2.

Q5, Q56 Household Relations

- 1. Head
- 8. Son/daughter in law 2. Spouse/Partner 9. Brother/sister in law 3. Child/adopted child 10. Father/Mother In-law 11. Grandparent
- 4. Grandchild
- 5. Niece/nephew 12. Other relative (specify) 6. Father/mother 13. Not related (specify)
- 7. Sister/brother

Q6 Gender

- 1. Male
- 2. Female

Q8 Marital status

- 1. Single 4. Separated Divorced 2. Married 3. Living With Partner 6. Widowed
- Q12 Ethnic Group
- 1. Akan Mole-Dagbon
- Ga-Dangme 6. Gruni Grussi Ewe 7.
- Guan Other_(specify)

Q14, Q19 Level of Education

- 1. Primary 8. Professional/Technical
- 9. Tertiary 2. Middle 3. JSS/JHS 10. Koranic 4. Commercial / Vocational 11. A'Level 5. O'Level 12. Other_ 6. SSS/SHS 13. None 7. Training College 99. Don't know

Q16, Q31 Activities

- 1. In school/education 5. Unemployed, n/looking Paid employee 6. Doing unpaid work
- 3. Paid work for self 7. Retired
- Unemployed, looking 8. Other (specify)

Section 2: Absent migrant grid [PERSONS	7. Declining yields in agriculture
10 YEARS OR OLDER]	8. Civil conflict/war
TO TEARS ON OLDER)	9. Family dispute
	10. Drought
Q18 Reason for leaving	11. Flood
Job transfer/opportunity	12. To join friends
2. Seek work/better job	13. For medical treatment
3. Study/training	14. Other, Specify
4. To get married	
5. To accompany family	
6. To join family	
Q20 Who was involved	5. Relatives
	6. Community members specify
1. Self 2. Father	7. Recruitment agent
3. Mother	8. Other specify
4. Siblings	,
4. Sibilings	
Q21 Skills	
1. Apprenticeship	
2. Vocational	
3. Technical	
4. Others	
Q 28 Financing Migration	6. Sale of assets
1. Savings	7. Government schemes
2. Formal loan	8. Scholarship
3. Loan from family	9. Remittances from other migrants in
4. Borrowing from moneylender.	the household
5. Advance from recruitment agent	10. Other
Q32, Q38 Work	10. Cleaning
	11. Electrician
Farming Chainsaw operation	12. Plumbing
3. Fishing	13. Trading
4. Mining and quarrying	14. Carving
5. Masonry	15. Self-employed
6. Driving	16. Others
7. Carpentry	17. Administrative staff
8. Teaching	18. Service worker
9. Manufacturing	

Section 3: Absent Migrants Q37 If (NAME) did not already have a job, who helped (NAME) to find one? 1. Nobody 2. Family member	3. Friend4. Agent at origin5. Agent at destination6. Other, specify
Q39 How frequently do you usually have contact with (NAME)? 1. More than once a week 2. Weekly 3. More than once a month 4. Monthly	 More than once every three months More than once every six months More than once a year Less than once a year I don't have contact with them anymore

Q40 How does/did [name] communicate with the household while they are/were away?

- 1. In person, he/she came to visit us
- 2. In person, we went to visit him/her
- 3. By phone

Q41 From what you know of (NAME)'s life abroad, would you say that overall (NAME) is wealthier than when (NAME) was living here?

- 1. Yes, they are much wealthier
- 2. Yes, they are slightly wealthier
- 3. Their standard of living is about the same
- 4. No, they are somewhat poorer than when they lived here
- 5. No, they are much poorer than when they lived here
- 99. Don't know

Q42 Would you say that after emigration was experienced by a member of your household, the overall life of your household has...

- 1. Improved a lot
- 2. Somewhat improved
- 3. Remained the same

Section 4: Remittances from absent migrants	4. Every couple of months
Q45 Frequency of money sent	5. Every six months
1. Weekly	6. Every year
2. Fortnightly	7. Only on special occasions or emergencies
3. Monthly	
Q46 Main method used send money to household	7. Credit Union
1. Licensed money transfer agencies (e.g.	8. Travel Agency
Western Union, Money Gram)	9. Informal Individual Agent
2. Other money transfer operator (MTO)	10. Formal Mobile Phone Transfer
3. Postal money order	11. With a traveller
4. Direct transfer to a bank account	12. With a friend or relative
5. Bank as paying agent for MTO	13. Brought back by him/herself during visit
6. Foreign Exchange Bureau	
Q49 Goods received	6. Computers, accessories
1. Food	7. Other electronic appliances
2. Clothing	8. Agricultural inputs specify
3. Jewellery	9. Items for other business, specify
4. Medicines	10. Bicycles and motorcycles
5. School items	11. Others
Q50 Purpose for assistance	10. Child support
1. Education	11. Savings
2. Medical costs	12. Pay off debts
3. Wedding	13. Given to others
4. Funeral	14. Help others migrate
5. Religion	15. Com. Dev. Fund
6. Business	16. House improvement
7. HH goods	17. Utility Bill
8. Agriculture	18. Other
9. Land	
Q51 Main method to send goods	4. Purchased directly (e.g. bought goods online)
	5. Freight forwarders
1. Sent by post	6. Courier
2. Sent with a friend or relative	7. Other (specify)
3. Brought back on a visit	

Section 5 – Other remittances

	1
Q 60 Frequency of money sent 1. Weekly 2. Fortnightly 3. Monthly Q61 Main method used send money to household 1. Licensed money transfer agencies (e.g. Western Union, Money Gram) 2. Other money transfer operator (MTO) 3. Postal money order 4. Direct transfer to a bank account 5. Bank as paying agent for MTO 6. Foreign Exchange Bureau	 Every couple of months Every six months Every year Only on special occasions or emergencies Credit Union Travel Agency Informal Individual Agent Formal Mobile Phone Transfer With a traveller With a friend or relative Brought back him/herself during visit
Q62 Who decides how money is spent? 1. Remitter 2. Head of receiving household 3. Other member of receiving household	
Q66 Goods received 1. Food 2. Clothing 3. Jewellery 4. Medicines 5. School items	 6. Computers, accessories 7. Other electronic appliances 8. Agricultural inputs specify 9. Items for other business, specify 10. Bicycles and motorcycles 11. Others

Section 6: Questions about return migrants

6a: Migration history

Q70 What were the reasons that you left the village for three months or more?

- 1. I hoped it would be easier to get a steady job
- 2. I intended to study and get qualifications
- 3. I hoped to learn to speak another language that would be useful to me. I thought I would learn other useful new skills
- 4. I thought I would be able to earn more money than I can earn here
- 5. I thought I would be able to save money and send it back to this household
- 6. I didn't feel safe living in this country
- 7. I thought I would have more freedom to do what I wanted than I have here
- 8. I left with other family members who decided to go and live abroad
- 9. I left to get married
- 10. I went to go and live with family members who already lived there
- 11. Other (specify)

6b: Work before departure

Q71 What was last occupation before return?	10. Cleaning
1. Farming 2. Chainsaw operation 3. Fishing 4. Mining and quarrying 5. Masonry 6. Driving 7. Carpentry	11. Electrician 12. Plumbing 13. Trading 14. Carving 15. Self-employed 16. Others 17. Administrative staff
8. Teaching	18. Service worker
9. Manufacturing	

Q73 How did you find your first job in the destination?

- 1. The job was organised by the government (e.g. farm work scheme)
- 2. My employer sent me to another location
- 3. The job was arranged by a private agent
- 4. A relative found me a job through his/her contacts
- 5. I already knew the employer because I'd worked for them before
- 6. A friend helped me find the job
- 7. Other (specify)

Q75 Would you say that overall you were wealthier whilst you were away than before you left this village?

- 1. Yes, I was much wealthier
- 2. Yes, I was slightly wealthier
- 3. My standard of living was about the same
- 4. No, I was somewhat poorer
- 5. No, I was much poorer

6c: Experiences at destination

Q77 What was the highest level qualification that you received whilst you were living away? 1. None 2. Primary 3. Junior High School 4. High School	5. College6. First degree7. Postgraduate8. Other (specify)
Q81 Exposure to danger and risk 1. Risk of physical injury 2. Exposure to hazardous chemicals 3. Exposure to unhygienic conditions/disease Q86 How did belonging to an association help? 1. To settle on arrival 2. Accommodation 3. Job	 4. Other specify 5. Don't know 6. No 4. Finding a partner 5. Sharing of information 6. Counselling and advice 7. Others
6d: Finances on return Q 140 Reason for borrowing money 1. To buy food 2. Health 3. To pay the rent	 Education Funeral Wedding House Construction/Renovation Other specify

6e: Reasons for return

Q92 Reason for return after last period abroad

- 1. I went to try to earn a certain amount of money and I managed to, so I came back
- 2. I went to do a particular contract/job and I always intended to come home after I had finished it
- 3. I went to study, and the course completed
- 4. I came back because I was bonded to come back
- 5. I came back because the person I went to live with also came home
- 6. My relationship in the destination ended so I came back
- 7. I came back voluntarily because I wasn't legally allowed to stay in the country
- 8. I came back because I was deported
- 9. I came back because my life wasn't as I hoped it would be in the destination
- 10. I came back to retire
- 11. I came back because someone in my family needed me to be here
- 12. I came back to be with my family here
- 13. I came back because I feel I belong here
- 14. I came back because I missed the way of life here
- 15. I came back to set up a new business or to start a new job
- 16. I came back because of government schemes that made it attractive to come back
- 17. I came down because an organisation assisted me to come back to settle at home (specify organization)
- 18. Other (specify)

Section 7: Household assets and well being	5. Tractor / other agricultural machinery
Q93 In the last 5 years has the household been able to acquire any of the following assets 1. New house 2. Agricultural land 3. Non-agricultural land 4. Livestock	 6. Household electronic goods (TV, video) 7. Household white goods (fridge, washing machine) 8. Generator 9. Car

Q94 In the last 5 years has the household been able to make any of the following improvements to your assets

- 1. Refurbishment of house
- 2. Improvement to agricultural land
- 3. Development of non-agricultural land

Q98 What is the main source of drinking water for this household? 1. Pipe borne water inside house 2. Pipe borne water outside house 3. Bore hole 4. Dug well Q99 Which is the predominant material of for the floor of this dwelling? 1. Mud	 5. Tanker service 6. Stream/river/lake 7. Rain water 8. Bottled or sachet water 5. Terrazo 6. Floor tile (vinyl, porcelain, marble) 7. Polished wood 8. Other 	
 2. Raw wood, boards 3. Cement/concrete 4. Burnt brick Q100 Five years ago, which is the predominant 	5. Terrazo 6. Floor tile (vinyl, porcelain, marble)	
material of for the floor of this dwelling? 1. Mud 2. Raw wood, boards 3. Cement/concrete 4. Burnt brick	7. Polished wood 8. Other (specify)	
 Q101 Which is the predominant material for the exterior walls of this dwelling? Bamboo or other organic materials Cloth, cardboard, cans Zinc 	 4. Raw wood 5. Mud, adobe, cane wall 6. Block, bricks, stone, prefabricated material, polished wood 7. Other (specify) 	
Q102 Five years ago, what was the predominant material in the household's exterior walls? 8. Bamboo or other organic materials 9. Cloth, cardboard, cans 10. Zinc	11. Raw wood12. Mud, adobe, cane wall13. Block, bricks, stone, prefabricated material, polished wood14. Other (specify)	
Q104 Which of the following public services, private or communal, does this household have access to? 1. Electricity 2. Natural gas 3. Safe drinking water	4. Sewerage system 5. Garbage collection 6. Telephone	
Q105 Five years ago, which of the following public services, private or communal, did it have access to? 1. Electricity 2. Natural gas 3. Safe drinking water	4. Sewerage system5. Garbage collection6. Telephone	
Q106 How much land does this household have access to? UNIT 1. Acre 2. Sq. Km 3. Hectare		
Q107 Five years ago how much land did this household	d have access to? UNIT	

- 1. Acre
- 2. Sq. Km
- 3. Hectare

Q 110 Main source of household income 1. Work in public sector 2. Work in private sector 3. Own business 4. Own farm 5. State/local government benefit	 6. Charitable source 7. Remittances from internal migrants 8. Remittances from regional migrants 9. Remittances from international 10. Other, specify income come from?
 Q111 Would you say that the current financial situation of the household with regard to basic necessities More than adequate Adequate Just adequate Inadequate 	
Q112 Would you say that compared to 5 years ago the current financial situation of the household with regard to basic necessities has 1. Improved a lot 2. Somewhat improved	3. Remained the same4. Somewhat deteriorated5. Deteriorated a lot
Q 113 Event that helped improve household situation over past 5 years 1. New/better job, specify 2. Education, training or skills acquisition 3. New/improved business, specify 4. Gift or inherited money/asset, specify	5. Private loan6. Government loan, specify7. Help from friend, relative, specifyOther, specify
Q 114 Event that deteriorated household situation over past 5 years. 1. Death of the breadwinner 2. Injury 3. Inability to work, specify reason 4. Health emergency, specify 5. Continuing health expenditure	 6. Discontinuing remittances 7. Return of migrant 8. Marital problems 9. Problems faced by migrants at destination 10. Other specify

4. Data Files

Data Files

Ghana Data set contains three types of file. Each file is saved into stata (.dta) and spss (.sav). The details of the files are as follows:

- GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH.dta
- GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH.sav
- GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH_MEMBER.dta
- GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH_MEMBER.sav
- GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH_INCOME.dta
- GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH_INCOME.sav

GHN-PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH file contains data on household level variables for 1,418 households, 69 variables corresponding to the questions 1, and questions 93 to 114.

GHN -PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH_MEMBER file contains data on the individual level of 9,712 individuals with 167 variables corresponding to the questions 3 to 54, and questions 67 to 92.

GHN -PUBLISHED_MIGRANT_NONMIGRANT_HH_INCOME file contains data on other remittances the households receive. The data is on the individual level of the person sending remittances. It contains 288 observations and 19 variables corresponding to the questions 1 and 55 to 65.

Household Identifier

The household identifier (HHID) in the data set is a unique number from 1 up to 1418 and can be used to merge the data. They are located in various districts. The district identifier has one or two characters.

Person Identifier

Individual personal identifier is identified by household ID (HHID) and individuals within the household (ID). So to find an individual person, we need to use both the HHID number and the find the ID number together.

Corrections of 2013 data

Based on inconsistencies between the survey waves 2013 and 2015 the quantitative team of the *RPC Migrating out of Poverty* conducted some corrections of individual characteristics, mainly gender, in the 2013 data with the confirmation of the research partners at the *Centre for Migration Studies (CMS)*, University of Ghana, Accra. For example, in 2013, one individual was female and in 2015, the same person was male. The data includes a variable called 'code' that is equal to 1, if such changes were corrected, 0 otherwise. We conducted such a correction in all cases for which we could confirm that the information had been imported correctly from the original questionnaires in 2015 and the names of the individuals enabled our local experts to identify correctly the gender of individuals. Thus, it must have been important with error in 2013.

References

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