SANGE
Research Center
Kazakhstan

IRIS
Center

USAID Project for Developing Poverty Measurement Tools

Fieldwork technical report

Almaty 2004

The Sange presents this brief Technical Report describing the process of survey implementation and problems that have occurred.

The content of this report is following

Four inter-related survey tools (benchmark, composite, price and community questionnaires) was used to test the accuracy in measuring the level of poverty in Kazakhstan. The Sange collected data from 842 households in 40 clusters in 7 regions (20 HH per cluster plus about 5% - because we expected some refuses on the second stage). The data was collected in face-to-face interviews with adult (over 18 years of age) household members and two interviews per household (with the period between them of 14 days) for 817 households were done.

Sange worked under the constant consulting of two IRIS representatives, professors: Jean-Luc Dubois from France and Manfred Zeller from Germany. Both consultants have visited Almaty. Besides this, Mr. Dubois went to Chilik (rural area, Almaty region) for pretest of tools in August, Karaganda city for meeting with local research team for debrief in November. Mr. Zeller visited Shymkent city (South Kazakhstan) for the training local team before starting fieldworks in September. All their traveling and staying in Kazakhstan were supported by Sange team as was agreed.

The sampling design and training were made with consultants.

Table 1. The timing of the project

Event	Dates DD.MM.YY
Draft translations of the survey tools on Russian	30.07.04
Contract signing	01.08.04
The Sange obtained all necessary sampling frame information. Sampling was reviewed by the IRIS representative.	26.07.04 – 18.08.04
The Sange adopted the research tools to Kazakhstani context, draft	15.08.04
Sange creates training materials	02.08.04 – 08.08.04
Pretest and field exercises was done with the IRIS Representative	08.08.04 – 10.08.04 and 05.09.04 – 06.09.04
Translations of the survey tools on Kazakh	23.08.04
Back translations of the survey tools on English	25.08.04
Sampling issues was completed	06.09.04
Training of interviewers and starting fieldworks in the regions	05.08.04 – 21.09.04
IRIS representative advises on necessary modifications of the SPSS data entry shell by the Subcontractor, and train appropriate staff of the Sange during field visit	10.09.04 – 11.09.04
Interviews was conducted	7.09.04 – 26.10.04
Debrief	29.10.04 – 06.11.04
Data double entering - Composite questionnaire	01.10.04 – 02.11.04
Data double entering - Benchmark questionnaire	02.11.04 – 16.11.04
Cleaning data - Composite questionnaire	07.11.04 – 18.11.04
Cleaning data - Benchmark questionnaire	16.11.04 – 20.11.04
Entering and cleaning data of community and price questionnaires	11.11.04 – 20.11.04
Technical Report writing	02.11.04 –15.11.04
Sending all electronic data and questionnaires by DHL to IRIS	25.11.04

# Training and the team organization for the fieldwork

Because of the size of the country (travel expenditures to Almaty and back for the each team could be very high), Sange trained interviewers locally. Sange has sent two or one headquarters staff to each training sessions for interviewers by regions. The regional supervisors have taken part in local trainings as well. Sange trained interviewers on-site, sending them to some nearby households in urban and/or rural areas so as to try out the interview situation and questionnaire in practice. This really increased the quality of the training. However the period of training practical part should be longer (no one or two interviews, but at least 4 for each interviewer, so maybe not one day practical part of training).

In Almaty the first training was conducted from 5 of August to 10 of August. 12 potential enumerators were presented on it and 3 supervisors. The theoretical part of the research work with the questionnaires was explained during the first two days. Because the short terms it was decided to combine the practical part of first training and pilot test of the tools. So during the next two days the practical training was done in Chilik (rural) and Almaty city (urban). 6 people refused to participate in the research after taking all course by different reasons, so we needed to conduct additional training in Almaty, which was conducted in September, right before starting field work.

Region #	Region name	Q-ty of enumerators	Dates of training in region	Dates of field works
1	Aktobe	4	19.09.04 – 20.09.04	21.09.04 – 10.10.04
2	Almaty	11	05.08.04 – 10.08.04 and 03.09.04 – 05.09.04	07.09.04 – 26.10.04
3	East Kazakhstan	4	15.09.04 – 16.09.04	17.09.04 – 10.10.04
4	Jambyl	5	10.09.2004 – 11.09.04	12.09.04 –09.10.04
5	Karaganda	5	11.09.04 – 27.09.04	13.09.04 – 05.10.04
6	Kostanay	5	19.09.04 – 20.09.04	21.09.04 – 10.10.04
7	South Kazakhstan	7	06.09.04 – 08.09.04	09.09.04 – 05.10.04

Regional teams worked in the 7 regions under the supervision of a regional coordinator. So scheme of the field work management was the following.

The scheme of the fieldwork management
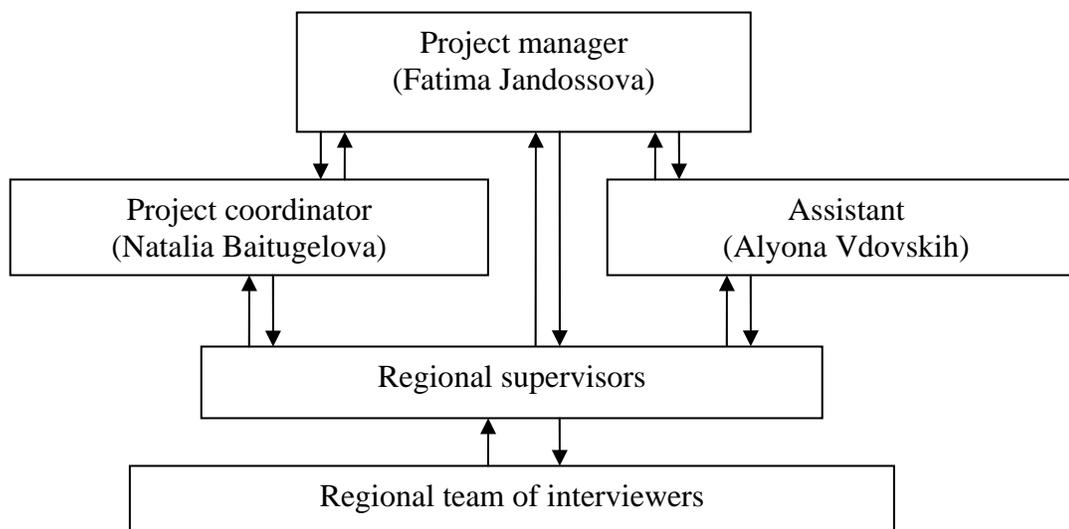
Coding system

Sange applied the follow coding system for better communication for team checking and control in the research:

1. The number of region was given according to the alphabetic position of the region in sampling. Cluster number was given to each cluster according the region and cluster list (Table 3). In principle in the current scheme of the project implementation in CIS, it seems that the coding of district, city district, village inside the rayon and oblast is redundant, because if you know region and cluster number, you know exactly, where this place is, according to the sampling design.
2. The number of questionnaire consist 5 numbers and had this form: 7-37-14, which means that this questionnaire is from 7th region (South Kz), 37th cluster (Saryagash), 14 – is the current number of the HH in this cluster. This numeration was easy for controlling and referring of clusters, regions. We added the extra field for one more number, which was appropriated by control manager.
3. Each supervisor had his own number related to the number of the region and contained two digits, for example "**7**1". If in some region (Almaty and Shymkent) there were more than one supervisors, they had current number like "21", "22", "23" in Almaty. The same principle was applied to interviewers coding. So this was useful to keep the numeration of supervisors and enumerators unique, clear and easy to find the region. Only for the Almaty region where the quantity of interviewers were more than 10, the number "66" was appropriated as vacant. (Table 4).

Table 3. Codes of regions and clusters

Regions and cluster number	Rayons	Name	Urban or rural
1. Aktobe	3 clusters		2 urban, 1 rural
1.01	Aktobe	Aktobe city	Urban
1.02	Hobbin Rayon	Kobda aul town	Urban
1.03	Martuk rayon	Pervomaika	Rural
2. Almaty	11 clusters		6 urban, 5 rural
2.04	Almaty city	Auezov district	Urban
2.05	Almaty city	Bostandyk district	Urban
2.06	Almaty city	Almaly	Urban
2.07	Almaty city	Medeo	Urban
2.08	Almaty city	Turksib	Urban
2.09	Karasai	Kaskelen town	Urban
2.10	Iliy	Otegen Batyr	Rural
2.11	Enbeskshikazakh	Boltabai, Enbek villages	Rural
2.12	Talgar	Belbulak, KyzylKairat	Rural
2.13	Iliy	Janatalap	Rural
2.14	Eskeldin	Zarya Kommunizma, Enbek	Rural
3 East Kazakhstan	6 clusters		3 urban, 3 rural
3.15	Ust Kamenogorsk	Ust Kamenogorsk c.	Urban
3.16	Semi Palatinsk	Semi Palatinsk c.	Urban
3.17	Ayagoz	Ayagoz city	Urban
3.18	Jarmin	Auezov town	Rural
3.19	Glubokov	Belokamenka	Rural
3.20	Shemonaiha	Konevka	Rural
4. Jambyl	4 clusters		2 urban, 2 rural
4.21	Taraz	Taraz city	Urban
4.22	Talas	Karatau city	Urban
4.23	Jambyl	Ilich (Assa)	Rural
4.24	Jualyn	Ryspek Batyr (Boralday)	Rural
5. Karaganda	5 clusters		4 urban, 1 rural
5.25	Karaganda	Karaganda city	Urban
5.26	Jezkazgan	Jezkazgan city	Urban
5.27	Saran	Saran city	Urban
5.28	Bukhar-Jyrau	Kushoky town	Urban
5.29	Abai	Kurminka	Rural
6. Kostanay	3 clusters		2 urban, 1 rural
6.30	Kostanay	Kostanay city	Urban
6.31	Taranov	Tobol town	Urban
6.32	Denisovskii	Grishenka	Rural
7. South Kazakhstan	8 clusters		3 urban, 5 rural
7.33	Shymkent	Shymkent city	Urban
7.34	Shymkent	Shymkent city	Urban
7.35	Ordybasy	Spataevo (Tortkol)	Rural
7.36	Turkestan c.a.	Yulgili (Babaikurgan)	Rural
7.37	Saryagash	Saryagash city	Urban
7.38	Shymkent c.a.	Aktas	Rural
7.39	Sairam	Kyzyl Kazakhstan (Kyzylkishlak)	Rural
7.40	Saryagash	Janatalap	Rural

Table 4. Cording list of supervisors & interviewers

REGION	NAME	№	FUNCTION
AKTOBE	Inzhu Azhaipova	**11**	**supervisor**
	Indira Galeeva	12	interviewer
	Asel Kurmasheva	13	interviewer
	Almagul Utarbaeva	14	interviewer
	Kuralay Zhumasheva	15	interviewer
ALMATY	Anar Auganbaeva	**21**	**supervisor**
	Pavel Berg	**22**	**supervisor**
	Gapar Duysebaev	**23**	**supervisor**
	Beknaz Akezhanov	20	interviewer
	Natalya Kharagoyshina	21	interviewer
	Larisa Naydenova	22	interviewer
	Marzhan Mombekova	23	interviewer
	Arystan Mombekov	24	interviewer
	Shaymerden Rozyev	25	interviewer
	Sveta Timbakova	26	interviewer
	Anar Kulataeva	27	interviewer
	Larisa Alimzhanjva	28	interviewer
	Adylgazy Mombekov	29	interviewer
	Natalya Gabisonya	66	interviewer
EAST KAZAKHSTAN	Zhanna Kaleeva	**31**	**supervisor**
	Dinara Dusupova	32	interviewer
	Layla Bolatova	33	interviewer
	Saya Bolatova	34	interviewer
	Saule Demegenova	35	interviewer
Jambyl	Yelena Ilyichova	**41**	**supervisor**
	Nurtai Almabekov	41	interviewer
	Olesya Marchenko	42	interviewer
	Nadezhda Dorofeeva	43	interviewer
	Tatyana Nazarova	45	interviewer
	Vera Kornilova	44	interviewer
Karaganda	Akbota Japparova	**51**	**supervisor**
	Ermek Isin	51	interviewer
	Vitaly Bogdanov	55	interviewer
	Vladimir Veryovkin	54	interviewer
	Galya Mazhynova	53	interviewer
	Baglan Japparova	52	interviewer
Kostanay	Irina Markova	**66**	**supervisor**
	Nabirkina	61	interviewer
	Zhykenova	62	interviewer
	Nurmagambetova	63	interviewer
	Alexander Markov	64	interviewer
	Irina Markova	65	interviewer
South Kazakhstan	Aygul Essimova	**71**	**supervisor**
	Nazym	**72**	**supervisor**
	Makpal Anlamasova	71	interviewer
	Gulkhan Botabekova	72	interviewer
	Azamat Janpaizov	73	interviewer
	Alma Kenzhekhanova	74	interviewer
	Makpal Mynbaeva	75	interviewer
	Elvira Ortaeva	76	interviewer
	Elmira Tursynkulova	77	interviewer

Sampling procedure

The sampling design was done with using of random method among 14 regions of the Kazakhstan and them in series into the regions, urban and rural areas according to the size of settlements (Census 2001) as was described in the report on sampling design before.

Realization of the sampling design

The first step of the sampling was done by Jean-Luc Dubois. 14 regions of Kazakhstan were ranged in descending order by size and then 7 were selected randomly. Sange was asked about logistical preferences among the several different sampling sets. Inside each chosen regions Jean-Luc made the sampling again on the random basis and with taking into account the distribution of 40 clusters according to the size of the regions. But at that moment we did not have detailed data on small villages by regions, so the sampling was done for the urban and rural areas in principle (percentage according government statistics) and we could select only cities, towns and large villages. The final sampling design and sampling procedure inside the cities and among small villages was done later. Now the data on this sampling is in attached file smallVilages_claster_and_city_sampling.xls

For urban area – sampling inside big cities
The map of a city (in Almaty – city district map) was divided geographically by squares, which were numerated from 1 to N, where N – is the number of populated squares on the city map. Then for this number N the random-number generator was used as MS Excel function to get some number, which correspond to the square on the map with the same number. So the center of the random walk in the four directions was determined by this procedure. All sampling of the urban clusters is on the sheet "City_district_sampling" of the mentioned file.

For the rural area – sampling among small villages
Selection of the small village was made in the same way randomly and proportional to size. The full list of small villages of the certain selected rayon was ranged by size. And then again a random-number generator (as function of the total number of the population size) was used to produce 6 numbers. Local supervisors were asked by project manager to choose among them the most appropriate for the research.

For Almaty region macro sampling of the rayons and cities was formed as everywhere (random sampling), but the sampling of the small villages were made by map in Almaty region. When Jean-Luc was in Almaty it was decided to choose in the selected rayon two villages: one is quite big and small one is next to big. It seemed reasonable and logical because of structure of the Community questionnaire, where it was needed to take several hamlets inside one area, one cluster. So the sampling procedure for the 3 rural rayons of Almaty region was the different, comparing with other selected regions of Kazakhstan. They are Enbekshikazakhsky rayon, Eskeldensky rayon, Talgarsky rayon. We started the research later in the Iliysky rayon, so we could change the sampling procedure in it. Thus, the sampling of certain settlements in rural area in Almaty was made mostly by logistical reasons, not on the standard basic of the settlement size. However the proportion of the rural and urban population is kept. Random sampling on the level of rayons inside the region was done correctly.

Routs of interviewers
After arriving to the certain place and meeting with authorities, supervisor and his team stood in the center of the community (near the school, administrative office, post office, etc.) Then he(she) set the enumerators on the four different directions along the streets. If there were one or two enumerators per cluster (as was for example in Jambyl) in the one village, they have taken all four directions one by one.

In rural (or one-floor urban) area each enumerator should take each fifth HH. In a case of

refusing or absence of potential respondents he (she) could take next-door HH.

In urban area (high-rise buildings) they went to the first entrance, first door on the left side. After conducting interview they should take next building, next entrance, and next floor. In a case of refusing or absence of potential respondents he (she) could take next-door HH, like in rural area. But during the fieldworks in urban areas there was too hard to follow this instruction. It could be about 20 refusing before consent.

Quality control of the fieldworks and data entering

The quality control was done at the following steps:

1. Sampling design – the way of the sampling design made by Jean-Luc excluded a wrong sampling.
2. Training of interviewers – each interviewer passed "practical test" to be in the project.
3. Each interviewer and local supervisor was provided with the same instruction on questionnaires, sampling and route. They marked their routs in the certain forms, which helped us to control data collection.
4. Each day the supervisors checked the quality of the work done by their enumerators by looking precisely at the already filled in questionnaires.
5. The regional coordinators randomly check the work of their supervisors and some enumerators in the middle of the survey in the each region.
6. Each questionnaire was inspected by control manager in the central Sange office, so numbering and final manual control were made before data entering for the each questionnaire. It was very helpful for standardization of every question and options. Already after starting the field works some changes were suggested by Manfred Zeller, and so they were not in written instruction, but were in the training. However some misunderstanding could occur and in this controlling it was cleaned.
7. Double entering helped to find typing mistakes and it improved the quality and accuracy of the final database.

Obstacles by tools and regions

Refusing and readiness to participate among respondents

People refusing to answer were traced by the "Rout sheet", which was filled by each interviewer. Mostly those were people who are rich or very suspicious. And people who refused to participate on the second stage, IRIS team can calculate from the comparing two databases: benchmark and composite. Some qualitative issues describe the situation by regions.

Obstacles by regions concerning sampling, responsiveness and route

The largest obstacle in this project was an election race in Kazakhstan Parliament. Especially it influenced negatively on the local authorities' loyalty to our supervisors. Of course, the responsiveness of citizens also was affected by voting. The first voting was on 18th of September and second stage was on 3rd of October. Administration of the Iliyskiy rayon said that did not permit to conduct survey on their territory till the end of the election.

Below the remarks of regional supervisors concerning the tools, problems and obstacles .

1. Aktobe

The most problems were on the first stage. In this area people were very suspicious, especially men. Especially with the refusing and filling of the community questionnaire in the urban area, because there were not non-formal leaders and condominiums in chosen clusters. People are mostly isolated, separate, in rare communications. Many people recently moved from the rural area.

As said our local supervisor, composite q-ry is very subjective, depends on living standard level of interviewers. But as I understand, it is positive estimation of this tool.

2. Almaty

The biggest problem in Almaty was also in finding and contacting HHs in urban area. Interviewers in cities spent more time to find HH which agree to answer. Most people were not at home, because of working or by another reason. In cluster 2.08 there were 4 cases, when respondents on the second stage were not at home, so it was needed to take 3 more HHs.

The people in Talgar rayon live better, than in Enbekshikazahski and Eskeldinski rayons. Many respondents or the members his families work in Almaty. This rayon has good conditions for growing fruits and vegetables. And many condominiums has good market to sale the agriculture products. Commonly, villages of Talgar rayon is comparatively at the good level. The schools are also very good. It had sections for sports and activities, equipped with computer classes.

Enbekshikazahkski rayon is the agriculture region. The population of this rayon also has good communication with Almaty and has possibilities to sale his agriculture products with the good profit. The biggest problem was finding and contacting HHs. Most people were not at home, because of working on the fields. It was a few cases, when respondents on the second stage were not at home, so it was needed to take interviews on the field.

In the Eskeldinski rayon we had the two auls with the different conditions. The first, Zarya village is very close to Taldykorgan (1 km). The most people here are also suspicious, especially men. The many respondents don't trust strange people and the interviewers spent more time to find HH which agree to answer.

Enbek is depressive aul. The most people of this aul are oralmans (repatriates). For many respondents it was important to take money for interviews and they was waiting for the interviewers on the second stage. In the settlement many people don't pay for the electricity and they stole fuel to alive in poverty.

3. East Kazakhstan

There were not a lot of problems at the first stage, except communications with local administration, especially authorities refused to answer in Ayagoz. But people there are kind. Only about 7% of people are Kazakh in Ayagoz and Kazakh people contact with more difficulties.

In rural area (Belokamenka) between two stages people asked local power to explain, if it is normal to answer these questions and authorities said confirmed legality of our research. People thought that their data could be published somewhere, but our team proved that survey is confidential.

Local supervisor said that Semipalatinsk is not so "open" city if compare it with Ust-Kamenogorsk. It may be because the stratification on "poor" and "rich" in Semipalatinsk is bigger.

4. Jambyl

The fieldworks in Jambyl region conducted from 12 of September to 9 of October. In the city Taraz the main problem was a refusing of HH. The most cluster citizens live in multi-store buildings (center of the city, comparative good income) and usually they don't trust strange people.

In Jualyn rayon, Ryspek Batyr village bread is not sold. People give their ground to farmers and in autumn they get wheat as a payment. Then they bring it to mill in the neighbor village to get flour for the bread, which they made themselves. So it was very hard to determine the price of bread produced. Wheat price is about 14 tg per kilogram. In the same aul there is not bank, so pensions and welfare payments people get from the rayon akimat. People don't have accounts in banks. Bus to rayon center cost is 150 tg (almost 1 dollar). It is expensive for the people, so they go to rayon center very rarely. In the Ryspek Batyr there is not drug store, but they have medical aid station where people could get also some medicines. Regarding to the culture center, there is equipment for the cinema but there is no the right (competent) person to show the movies. Some people ill with the radiation sickness, diabetes mellitus, goiter – and they could not get the medical aid only because of the lack of money. Unemployed people could not even register as unemployed only because it is expensive to go to the rayon center.

Jambyl rayon, Akbulym village 30% of the people are Turks. They have big families, large grounds for growing the vegetables. Usually they live better than others. Aul is close to Taraz city and they have good market to sale the products. Commonly this village is comparatively at the good level. The school is also very good, equipped with computer class.

Talass rayon, Karatau town is depressive. Water supply is during only two-three hours per day.

But press of water is so weak that people from upper floors must take water from the lower floors. There is no illumination in nights. There are some professional schools and high schools filial. One case of asthma was in the sampling. The man could not get special status, because they ask him about bribe.

There were not refusing in the rural area in Jambyl region.

K-section: for the rich or middle range people there was problem to answer these questions. With the ladder there was not so much difference between the 15000 and 13000 tg. As supervisor said, respondents did not give the accurate answers in composite, but in benchmark they made estimation more precise. Some remarks were made concerning the quality of the translation of questionnaires on Kazakh.

5. Karaganda

In the beginning of the survey that was a situation with finding the right village with the name Ornyak, as was supposed by sampling design, but after it was advised by Sange office to chose another small village and they selected Kurminka with the size of population less than 1000.

There was 3 refusing and one respondent was not at home on the second stage (benchmark survey). These refusing respondents did not trust, some relatives of the HH members advised to not answer.

6. Kostanay

Kustanay region was the hardest in implementing of the project. Both in urban and rural areas people don't trust, they are very suspicious, so it was hard to contact first time. Maybe this is because "Russian (North Kz)" mentality. For many respondents it was important to know, what their personal profit could be from this research. Our supervisor said that people here used to live well in Soviet time, in rural areas that were a big collective farm with high profit. In Tobol and Grishenka there was no so much problems except rumors, that interviewer could trick them with money. In these settlements many people don't pay for the electricity and they stole fuel to alive in poverty.

In benchmark in 3 part people said that horse and cart (telega) is a transport mean.
Respondents sales men in village Grishenka mixed two types of products: butter and margarine, which named "Butter for tea". Some respondents had a financial aid from relatives from Germany and got money in euro. The supervisor suggested to calculate in tengue by rate 1 euro is 168 tg. The main conclusion as said our supervisor, that "if you don't work, you live in poverty".

7. South Kazakhstan (SK)

SK is the most populated region of Kazakhstan. By statistics, it is on the second place on the level of poverty after Almaty oblast (excluding Almaty city). Supervisor advised next time to send about 80% questionnaires on Kazakh language here (we have sent only 50%). For people the wage 250 tenge is acceptable, especially in the small distant auls.
Usually small auls has a school as a center of whole community.

Many mini-markets, shops don't have license, special authorization to sale, so they contact us with difficulties.

Some issues about tools and suggestions.

Final versions of questionnaires are attached.

Community Survey – for the CIS countries

Community Survey – for the CIS countries must be changed in some sections. It became clear already after whole survey. I think that the idea of this questionnaire needs more time for explaining. For example, it was not clear that % of poor HH must be from official data or should be got from the individual opinion of the community leaders.

There is no cell for "number of questionnaire".
In urban area there is a problem to get people together; there are not communities' leaders at all as a rule. And gathering people worked only for rural area.

In certain cluster it was quite hard to determine the share of poor of middle-level HH. Usually mayor administrative offices have statistics department, but they don't collect this type information, usually they know only the share of people who get the social address assistance (from 0,5 to 5% as a rule). In the urban area there are not non-formal leaders at all. Teachers and doctors could not provide this information. At the level of head of condominium sometimes this info was available; it depends on his experience and professionalism. Supervisors tried to get this data from the different sources, such as City architecture offices or Bureau of technical initialization. Usually in Kazakhstan cities divided by districts and officials know the picture in the whole district, not in some small territory, like a cluster.

There is no necessity to draw a map in the big cities (our supervisors had maps of the cities). But in rural area this is also not so important to select "hamlets" by map. It works only for the settlements with size of 5000-20000 people, or very populated rural area.

Sector B. It was not so much time to precise the list of items, but now I think that for CIS countries the rail road station could be added.

B1a and B1b often was the same in perception of the people.
B5 and B7 is often is absent in many places, so maybe for transition countries these items are not so important. Maybe it should be like "first medical aid point".

Regarding B24 and B25: sometimes village is close to some big city, which is not rayon or oblast center (like Almaty is close to Otegen batyr, while the oblast center is Taldykorgan). So it could influence on its development very much.

Sector D: For local administrations it was hard to give the information about social programs, they don't know statistics well. So often it was very approximate shares.

Price Survey
In spite of its size and surface easiness this questionnaire was extremely hard for all supervisors.

It is not understandable the difference between P4, P5 (because of code P4 was occasionally there), P6, P8 and P9 cells.

So we did the following:
P4 and P9 are the same and they mean: "Preferable units for customers".
P8 is the weight of this product in pointed units.

P5 is the name of brand of the product.
P6 is the answer (1 – Yes, 2 – No) on the question: "Is this brand is preferable for you as for seller?"

In the database if the price of the product did not changed during the last year, we put 88888 in the cell P10.

In Kazakhstan we inserted two additional columns for the determination of year (2003 or 2004), because the price could change namely in the same month but previous year, when the survey is conducted. If you just point month "09" – you can not understand what namely month the price has changed, especially if there is growth of prices as the result for example inflation.

It was a mistake in the electronic file Price_survey*.doc and it was printed with this mistake. Each vendor's products should be numerated from "1" to "24", but in our case numerating continued to "72".

People often borrow money from the local small shops by the salary. In the small villages the share of such people is about 40%.

Composite Survey

In general the time for taking this interview was from 50 to 90 minutes. In some cases interviewers assessed their time in HH about 30-45 minutes.

We think that for Kazakhstan and for Russia for example it is important to put item "Nation" in the Section A.

If the double data entering is using, it's useful to put two strings for typists' code.

Section B. B7. Member of HH could read and write. What should be marked, if he is blind, but is literate? B11. The main occupation of children who don't attend the kindergarten. We supposed as "rest".

Some respondents and interviewers don't understand why the demographic data, like gender, marital status, etc. could be on one page with the illnesses and expenses on clothes. It was suggested to divide this page on two, keeping the same the codes of HH members. Codes B5-B11 could be placed on the right side of the first page. And B13-B14 – on the second page with the related questions B12-B15.

In Code B5 "sister/brother" could be added as option.

As Manfred Zeller advised, in B22-B23 (and the similar questions in other sections) only one digit from 1 to 5 must be as an assessment of HHs comparing to the cluster, not two assessments as we thought before his visit. It was changed in field works.

Section C. C3 and C9: two times of "utilities". – could be double counting. But on training we said about this and interviewers did not take into account utilities in C9.

C13: 1000 is better than 500 tenge, but it also depends on type of settlement (rural or urban), distance to the big city or big farm/big plant.

Some interviewers think that one period like a month is the most appropriate for the respondents

to assess the value of different expenses. But others think that this division on week, month and year is normal.

Section D. Manfred advised to leave out the D1a and D1c question and for all respondents it must be D1b (who is renting, they should guess, think about the price). So we did.

D14.a mostly people said about improvements in house as big reconstruction, not like cosmetic repairing like in C9. Usually people get nervous with the repeating the questions, and they don't mind that before that was about period of 1 year and now for three years. The same is for the education and transport fees. However maybe it is good check.

D18 series is about wages. Answers are also depends on the rural/urban area and region of Kazakhstan. On the south it is acceptable, but for Almaty or East-Kz cities it is small. While in rural area of Almaty region it was normal.

Section E. Some people said that they like potato and flour food and eat it no because they are hungry or starving. Especially in rural area people eat macaroons, bread and potato and don't consider this as food for replacing other food.

Section F1. It was often impossible to assess the price of house separately from the ground. In some settlements they found difficulties in assessing of hayfields. If people have place of residence as long term rent, they could not assess it, but they consider that they possess it.

For some people dacha is one of the opportunities to provide food (vegetables) for the winter time, so maybe adding this new section F1b will help.

Section F2. Many people did not want to assess the value of property because of some superstitions: "if I give the price, so it could disappear, be stolen", etc.

Interviewers and respondents often had difficulties in assessment of the value of ground, property, things, especially if they bought it in soviet time or during the perestroika.

Section G2. In Russian version the option "nowhere" was missed, but on training interviewers were instructed to put code "23" if people don't take part in some organizations. In Kazak version it was.

Section G3. People believe that if you have money you could get any service without problems.

We missed the G5 question to put the next comparing the HH with cluster in Russian version, but this information was collected, because we had a chance to explain this missing on trainings.

Section H. H3-H5, if people don't spend money on this service or don't need this (for example education services), the digit value was "2" as a code.
H8: In rural area on North people believe that if HH has cattle and vegetable garden, 13000 tg is enough.

Questions H7-H9 were asked one more time, after 14 days, as Manfred said, with the sum of 13000 tg. So the second estimation is in the benchmark questionnaire electronic database in the end of the first file hhben1678.

Section I. First of all this section was not tested (in pilot) because it was excluded. But before printing the final files it was out in the questionnaire again. In addition to that, when the survey

already started in Almaty, Manfred asked to out in this section all the accounts, not only credits or micro financing. So in Almaty region the only information about credits or micro financing were collected in this section.

Usually people don't get any credits and do not aware about the possibilities. In rural areas people don't have money and accounts in banks.

Code "Orga" was supplemented with other organizations. At the data entering we added additional code "30" for any organization which is not in the list to simplify the process, and after entering they were changed.

Benchmark Survey
We understand that benchmark tool are used by WB and others, and it will not be used in this research, perhaps. However, we could suggest changing something in it.

Percentage of the questionnaires with the exact data of the second visit is 86,2%.

DAYS between visits	frequency	%
less than 12	4	0,5
12	3	0,4
13	**34**	**4,2**
14	**704**	**86,2**
15	**63**	**7,7**
16	3	0,4
more than 16	6	0,7
Total (not 14 days)	113	*13,8*

Benchmark was worse than composite either by time spent (about 2-2,5 hours) and/or by lengthy and monotone for interviewers and respondents.
In question # 1.3 some respondents had difficulties to value of dinners or breakfasts which they held in other places, not in the cafes (mother's home, weddings, etc).

1.2.9. could be repeated in 3.11. – so it could be double counting.

For the part 2 of the benchmark q-ry the coding table was developed with the next items:

KG 1
Gram.. 2
Liter 3
Piece. 4

Bags:

25 kg 5
50 kg.. 6

Big gas balloon 7
Small gas balloon 8
Cubic meter 9
Ton 10

In the questionnaire 2.94 if the HH uses both types of fuel, they put one in this row, and other in 2.98.

Section 4. Consultants suggested the following scheme to write line if people have more than one item: In 4.2 we wrote average age of all items, in 4.3 we assessed the most valued, in 4.4 and 4.5 we assessed both things at the moment when it was bought (presented). And in 4.6. we also assessed the common value of all things for the present time.

4.26 and 4.27 – are the same, as we understood after printing questionnaires, so one of this rows is deleted from the database.

Section 6.
6.2.G could be double counting with section 1 question 1.1.4 , if not specified.
The same is for 6.2.F and 1.3. But our interviewers were trained to take into account this.

Section 7. Sometimes people use medical aid but don't pay for it, like in Soviet time. Medicine is free of charge, especially for pensioners and children.

Section 8.
8.2. we considered as payment for the utilities and exploitation (payment for condominiums), and it was the common value (in certain period) of 8.10a-8.10.L.

Section 9. If respondents work for themselves (private business) we didn't consider it here.

Section K (from composite q-ry)
We advise to put K1.1. and K1.2. questions to the end of this section. People prefer to keep in secret these data and become very nervous and don't trust.

Data cleaning and checking

Data cleaning was organized in the Sange central office in Almaty.

Unfortunately, this stage of the project took much time. Sange has sufficient computers, rooms and personnel to complete data entry in two weeks after fieldwork is completed. But problem of delay was neither in the equipment nor field works completed late, but in underestimation of the volume of work for the statistician with preparing right forms for data entering. Recoding, translation, adding new values and options took more time, than we expected. So data entering started on 1st of October, not on the 20th of September as we planned. A lot of work was done in controlling each questionnaire before entering.

Comparing of the double entering was made by statistician. He gave the MS Word files with the variances for example:

```
Warning: Value mismatch for Number of questionnaire =   2.
Variable      Active        Verification
A14             1                  51
F1A2AREA   3,0                 ,0
F1A1UNIT      0                   1
```

Then our controller checked answer in the questionnaire and put right value.

To finalize our work with database we transliterated the "open questions".

There are **recommendations from data entry controller** below.

1. To distribute papers among data typist by clusters:
  – it is easy for checking the data
  – it is comfortable if the concrete cluster will be ready as entire part to be given for double entering
  – it is comfortable to deal with small volume of data for control
  – it the case of loosing data by some computer reason, less data could be lost

2. To accept first data entering more carefully, to check papers and electronic data to avoid possible misunderstanding of people.
it helps to exclude systematic errors of data typists (who could understand some rules wrong)

3. To check DB by each cluster just after data entering (accepting work) by files to avoid missing rows, not in the final files before comparing first and double entering.

The scheme of the data entering management
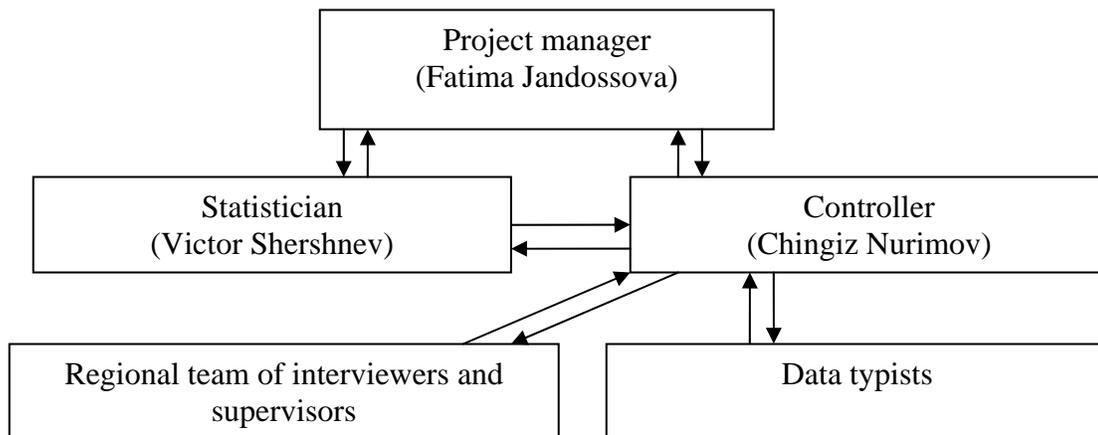
Conclusion

Sange conducted a field work, data entering and database cleaning for IRIS center for developing poverty measurement tools survey. The work was done in 5 months for 7 regions of Kazakhstan.

In general the survey was very interesting for Sange: idea, tools, organization of training, good information support from the IRIS center, working close with professors of big European Universities. It was a great experience for our team. We hope that our further cooperation will continue. The only issue that period of researches must be plan earlier. Sange is ready to work as analytical team in this project as well.

Best regards,
Fatima Jandossova,
Project manager