

Comparing SPI Data in SSI Formats

The case of Sri Lanka

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Overview

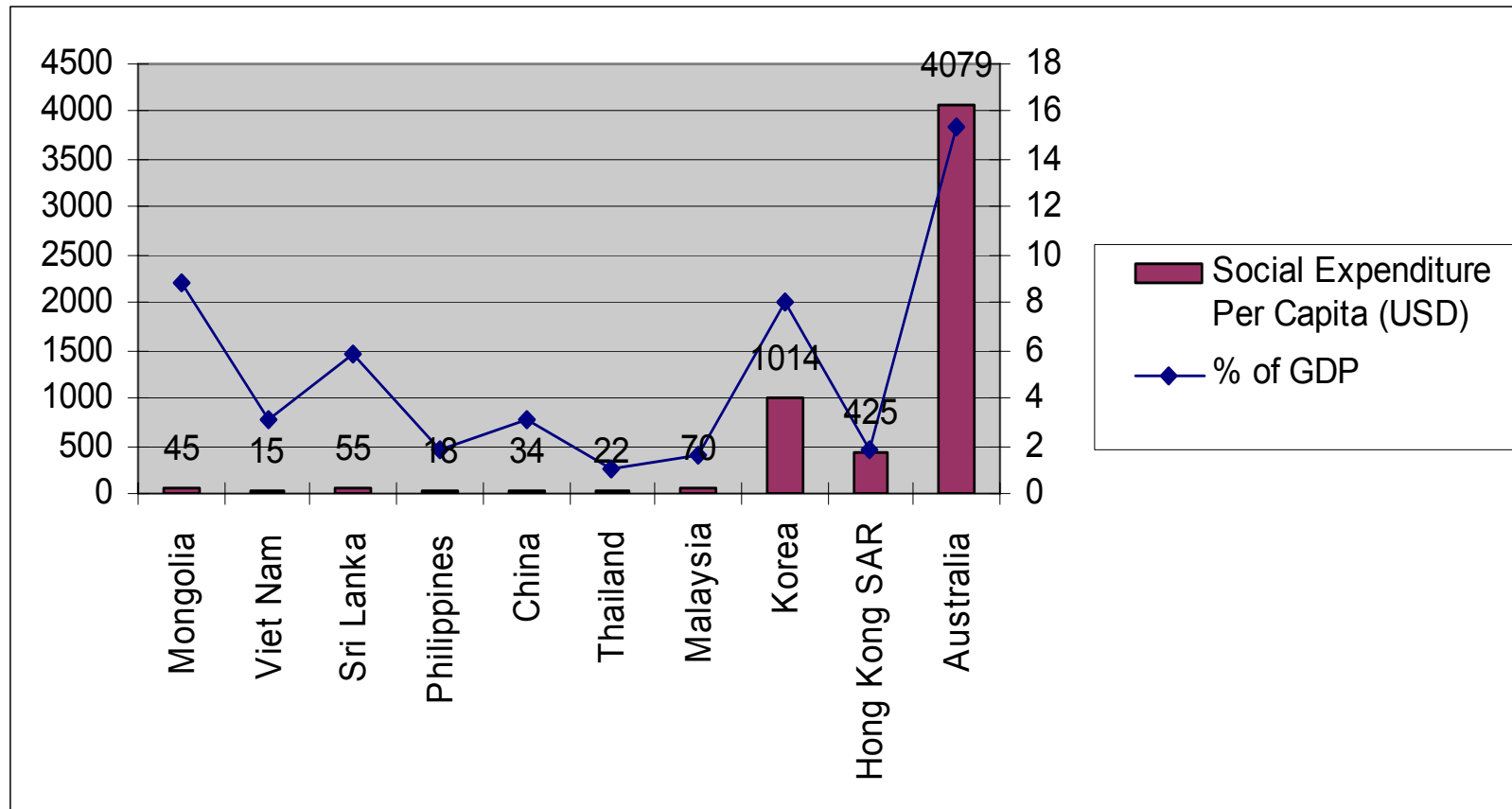
- Key economic indicators
- SPI results in brief
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- Suggestions

Key Economic Indicators

- Population of 2005 – 19.7 million
- Per capita GDP (PPP\$(2005) – 4595
- Labour force participation (2004/2005) – 48%
- Absolute Poverty Line (2004)– LKR 1709 per month (approx 17USD)
- Percentage of population below the poverty line (2004) – 21.2%
- Population aged 60 and over – approximately 2 million
- Disabled population – approximately 8%
- Literacy rate – 92.5%
- Good health indicators (e.g., IMR, MMR etc) - The country's performance is in general better than some of its counterparts in the region.
- Approx 600,000-800,000 displaced persons.

Source : Various sources including the Department of Census and Statistics of Sri Lanka and IHP Estimates

Sri Lanka in comparison to Australia and other Asia-Pacific countries



Source : ILO SSI database, ADB SPI and WB WDI

SPI Results in brief

SPI component	Indicator *	Sri Lanka	South Asia	Medium HDI	All Asia
Expenditure on SP (SPEXP)	Total SP expenditure as % of GDP	5.7%	3.1%	5.2%	4.8%
	<i>of which:</i>				
	<i>Labour Market programs</i>	1%	7%	3%	7%
	<i>Social Insurance</i>	50%	44%	58%	55%
	<i>Social Assistance</i>	11%	13%	23%	17%
	<i>Area/ Micro-based</i>	36%	26%	10%	13%
	<i>Child Protection</i>	2%	9%	6%	7%
Coverage of SP					
The unemployed/ underemployed (U/U)	Beneficiaries as % of total of U/U	10%	12%	26%	31%
The elderly	Elderly receiving assistance as person of population aged 60+ years	23%	21%	64%	52%
The sick	% of population with health insurance or in receipt of subsidies	7%	6%	23%	22%
The poor/social assistance	population receiving some social assistance/welfare as % of poor population	100%	57%	68%	54%
The poor/micro credit	population receiving micro-credit as % of poor population	100%	29%	16%	18%
The disabled	Disabled beneficiaries as % of disabled population	2%	8%	50%	41%
Children with special needs (CSWN)	CWSN receiving assistance as % of poor children aged 5-14 years	100%	58%	71%	62%
Overall coverage indicator(SPCOV)	Weighted average of coverage sub-components*	41%	23%	38%	35%
Distributional Impact (poverty targeting) (SPDIST)	% of poor population who receive some assistance	85%	55%	63%	57%
SP Impact on incomes (SPIMP)	SP expenditure per poor person as % of annual per capita poverty line income/ expenditure	26%	15%	23%	23%
	Overall SPI Value	0.47	0.28	0.39	0.36

Results continued.....

The overall situation regarding social protection in Sri Lanka.

- Current social protection programs are varied, ranging from formal social insurance to targeted programs, both of which cover substantial numbers of people.
- Total social protection expenditure is high relative to GDP and the coverage rate for the poor as a whole is high.
- Micro-credit programs are also widespread reaching around a third of poor the households.

What happens when health is included

SPSI	Adjustments made	Total Expenditure	'With' health expend.	Base case - 'Without' health expend.
SPEXP	Add total health expenditure	Total SP exp. = Rs. 135 + 36.8 billion	7.3%	5.7%
SPCOV	Health target group coverage ratio is 100% as entire population will be covered.		74%	41%
SPDIST	All poor will be covered by health services		100%	85%
SPIMP	Add total health expenditure going to the poor	Total poor SP exp. = Rs 21.9 + Rs. 7.9 billion*	35%	26%
The Social Protection Index			0.63*	0.47

Use of the Consumer Finances Survey (household) data set

- Calculation of the poverty line and poor population, poor household numbers etc.
- Samurdhi, Pensions and School uniform provision overlaps were easily calculated.
- Poverty targeting of the above programmes were also calculated using this data set.

SSI in brief

- Conducted in 2005 with a larger inventory than the SPI
- Since it was the first inventory compiled, there were many shortcomings in terms of compiling actual numbers
- Made way to identifying numerous smaller schemes available for the Sri Lankan population

Comparing SPI and SSI in General

- SPI is a more quantitative method, which can be used to compare social protection even across countries.
- SPI is aimed more at identifying poverty targeting.
- SSI, though is a more detailed method but can be used to collect more detailed information on each scheme.
- SSI though checks on means-tested benefits, does not necessarily give an idea of the poverty targeting rates etc.
- SSI and SPI deals with recipient ratios – but SSI also derives protection ratios.

Schemes included in SPI and SSI

SPI	Availability of data	SSI	Availability of data
Termination of Employment Act (TEWA)		Termination of Employment Act (TEWA)	
Employment Gratuities		Employment Gratuities	
Government Pension scheme		Government Pension scheme	
Employees' Provident Fund		Employees' Provident Fund	
Employees' Trust Fund		Employees' Trust Fund	
Farmers and Fishermens Pension scheme		Farmers and Fishermens Pension scheme	
Insurance for the Self Employed		Insurance for the Self Employed	
Thriposha National Food Supplement Program		Thriposha National Food Supplement Program	
President's Fund for Health		President's Fund for Health	
Public Allowance and other assistance			
Medical assistance			
Food Stamps for the IDP's (conflict)			
IDP - Food for Education			
IDP - Food for Work/ training			
IDP - Mother and Child Nutrition			
Assistance to the elderly		Assistance to the elderly	
Assistance to the disabled		Assistance to the disabled	
Pensions for the Disabled Soldiers		Pensions for the Disabled Soldiers	
Grants for Affected Children		Grants for Affected Children	
Provision of uniform material		Provision of uniform material	
School Nutrition Program		School Nutrition Program	
Samurdhi Social Security Scheme		Samurdhi Social Security Scheme	
Samurdhi Subsidy Program		Samurdhi Subsidy Program	
Samurdhi Nutrition Program		Samurdhi Nutrition Program	
All Microfinance Programs		Major micro finance programmes	
		APPFs	
		Agrahara	
		Paid leave	
		Health	
		Housing	
		Residential facilities	
		President's Fund for Education	
		Education	

Similarities in SPI and SSI in Sri Lanka

- Both projects could not identify numbers for assistance to the elderly vis-à-vis expenditure or beneficiaries, except the cover through the pensions scheme.
- Both exercises revealed that accurate active contributor numbers etc. are difficult to obtain.

Dissimilarities between SPI and SSI

In terms of Scope

- SSI considers most of the social security schemes in Sri Lanka (provided numbers are available). SPI, however, focuses only on employment protection and promotion, social security insurance programmes and safety nets/social welfare programmes.
- SSI looks deeper into age-sex breakdowns and other details which, in Sri Lanka, is difficult to access due to poor record keeping or due to the fact that there are certain programmes that try not to identify by gender etc.
- In schemes like the EPF and Samurdhi, only certain benefits are included in the SPI but the SSI includes all possible benefits.

Dissimilarities between SPI and SSI continued...

Other minor differences

- SSI is extensive and time consuming and requires more effort.

Weaknesses in SP Programmes in Sri Lanka

Mainly targeting issues

- Coverage of the employed population is only for a third of the population who are not extremely poor anyway – the informal sector (largely the poor) are not protected
- The high levels of non poor beneficiaries in the largest social safety net program
- Coverage levels for the elderly, the unemployed and the disabled are low both in absolute terms and relative to the All Asia and medium HDI averages.
- Weak administration and financial sustainability

Suggestions

Gathering Data

1. Some form of assistance in liaising with the government officials is necessary in order to obtain data.
2. The value of readily available data.
3. Inclusion of other necessary data requests/ income from identified social security schemes etc into a household survey which can be collected periodically.
4. Focus on implementing a simplified version of SSI, to begin to track overall expenditure levels and coverage levels, with exercises such as SPI done from time to time.

Suggestions continued....

Co-ordination – The health accounts experience

- APNHAN network
- OECD-WHO-RCHSP-APNHAN co-ordination mechanism
- The use of a joint questionnaire

Thank you

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