

# **Tobacco, Poverty, and Socioeconomic Status in Cambodia**



---

**Sopha Ear**  
**Lead Investigator**  
**Joint Econ & Epi Research Team**  
**Cambodia**



## *Description*

---

- *Econometric analysis will be applied to household consumption data to determine the relationship among tobacco consumption, food (and other expenditures, like health care, etc.), and socioeconomic indicators.*
- *The analysis will segregate different expenditure groups to determine whether tobacco consumption takes a greater share of income for the poor than the non-poor.*



## *Specific Aims*

---

- 1. Among those who consume tobacco, estimate the relationship between tobacco consumption and food, health, education, and housing expenditures, controlling for all other consumption.*
- 2. Determine key differences between tobacco consuming households and non-tobacco consuming households across these and other socioeconomic indicators.*



# Hypotheses

---

1. *Among households that consume tobacco, those households below the poverty line consume more, as a share of per capita consumption, on tobacco products than non-poor households*
2. *Households that consume tobacco differ in key ways from households that do not consume tobacco: they tend to consume less per capita, receive less income, and have lower educational attainment.*



## *Data & Methods*

---

- *Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey 1999, a survey of 6,000 nationally representative households*
- *Least squares regression and other estimation methods will be applied to alternative functional forms and transformations (linear, log-linear, and log-log) of a model explaining food, health, education, and housing expenditure.*



# Model

<i>Dependent Variables:</i>	<i>Independent Variables:</i>
Food expenditure per capita = Health expenditure p.c. = Education expenditure p.c. = Housing expenditure p.c. =	$b_0 + b_1 * (\text{tobacco consumption per capita}) +$ $b_2 * (\text{total expenditure p.c.} - \text{food} - \text{tobacco}) +$ $b_3 * (\text{interaction term: tobacco consumption p.c.} * \text{total expenditure p.c.}; \text{dummy variable for non-poor/poor} = 0/1 * \text{tobacco consumption p.c.}) +$ $b_4 * (\text{dummy for urban/rural}) + \dots$

*Human Subject Issues: None*



# *Policy Relevance*

---

- *Findings from this study will provide evidence of how tobacco consumption impacts food, health, education, and housing expenditures.*
- *Poverty status and other socioeconomic differences between tobacco consuming households and non-tobacco consuming households will demonstrate the importance of adopting poverty reduction strategies that take tobacco control policies into account.*
- *The work will also highlight the importance of increasing tobacco-related questions on future socioeconomic surveys.*