

FOREST SWIFT

High-frequency data collection for forests

WHAT IS SWIFT?

SWIFT (Survey of Wellbeing via Instant and Frequent Tracking) is a set of new survey tools that collects information about who the poor are and where they live.

SWIFT combines the latest statistical methods with in-person interviews using smart phones or tablets, and also functions offline where mobile coverage or technology is limited. Survey data is collected on a central server, where it can be rapidly accessed, analyzed, and used to design more effective projects or policies.

With SWIFT, data on poverty and wellbeing can be collected **early, often, and in a more precise and comprehensive way. It is also:**

USER-FRIENDLY

Helps non-specialists
monitor poverty

FAST

Monitors indicators in
real time

COST-EFFECTIVE

Minimizes survey
implementation costs

INNOVATIVE

SWIFT goes beyond monetary poverty to include subjective wellbeing, consumer sentiment, and multidimensional poverty indicators.

WHY DO WE NEED FOREST-SWIFT?

Around 1.3 billion people – most of them living on less than \$1.25 a day - **rely on forests for some part of their livelihood.** However, detailed, country-specific data is still lacking when it comes to forests' socio-economic contributions and their role in poverty alleviation. Without this information, forests may be overlooked in national development strategies.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF FOREST-SWIFT?

- Timely and accurate data on forest income, poverty and governance
- Complementary to the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) Forestry Module, which is carried out every three years; Forest-SWIFT will be carried out in the interim two years, to create a rich and comprehensive knowledge base on forests and poverty.
- Improved monitoring of forest projects
- Better targeting of beneficiaries of forest interventions
- More effective programs and policies that help to reduce poverty and enhance the economic, social and environmental benefits derived from forests.

WHERE IS FOREST-SWIFT BEING TESTED?

Turkey

Argentina

Mozambique

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

FOREST-SWIFT is supported by the Program on Forests (PROFOR), based at the World Bank.

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Photo: Lauren Persha