Objectives

- Identify *patterns of change* in the livelihoods of poor rural people.
- Identify what *opportunities* for upward trajectories the poor can access, and how government can support them.
- Identify what *traps* pull people down, and what government can do to minimise these.
- Identify the role of livelihood *diversification* in both upward (accumulation) and downward (coping) strategies, and what government can do to support types of diversification that people find useful.
Semi-arid, socially backward, mainly tank irrigated or rainfed.

Agricultural prosperous, diversified, canal irrigated, cash crops.

Semi-arid, tank and tubewell irrigated, well connected with large cities, horticulture, dairy well developed.
Village Characteristics

MEDAK
- MD – Remote, poor, backward, drought prone, feudal, high migration
- GU – Near Hyderabad, industrialised

KRISHNA
- KO – Canal irrigated delta, unequal land distribution, highly diversified, labour gangs, links abroad
- KA – Canal irrigated, not so diversified, immigrant labour, land distribution more equal

CHITTOOR
- OP- Drought prone, near town,
- VP – Drought prone, trade links with Bangalore
Surveys

- **4647 households for census**
  - Occupations
  - Household structure
  - Assets
  - Participation in local institutions
  - Migration
  - Common Property Resources

- **360 households for longer study (12 months)**
  - Voice/awareness
  - Debt and expenditure
  - Production
  - Marketing
Methods

- **Case histories**
  - Life cycle events and major sources of risk and vulnerability and opportunity

- **Focus group discussions and Key informant Interviews**
  - Transforming processes over time
  - Agrarian relations
  - Social relations including gender relations
  - Power and corruption
  - Access to resources, pro-poor programmes and institutions
  - Access to markets
  - Impacts of globalisation and liberalisation on vulnerable groups
“Traps”

- Ill-health, daughter’s marriages, death
- Reduced access to CPR, esp for STs
- Inadequate functioning of credit and insurance markets (interlocking of informal credit)
- Lack of awareness of rights and entitlements (both supply and demand problems)
- Poor access to information (markets, appropriate crop varieties)
“Traps” options for government?

- Make information on schemes and entitlements more accessible; penalise “privatisation” of information supposed to be in the public domain
- Support more formal social protection (health and disability insurance; old-age pensions...)
- Strengthen awareness campaigns regarding eg dowry
- Can this be done within GoAP’s major programmes (DWCRA; janmabhoomi...)?
Opportunities

- Agriculture – especially access to new opportunities via resource-sharing
- Rural non-farm economy? (but highly variable wage rates)
- Migration (upward trajectories and coping)
- Commuting
“Opportunities” options for GoAP?

- Enhance productivity/stability of traditional and new farm enterprises
- Reduce risks associated with access to groundwater; don’t neglect domestic water
- Support resource-sharing arrangements; remove obstacles; generate awareness
- Support migration
- Figure commuting into transport policy
Thank You