



## **Skill measurement for large scale household surveys in developing countries**

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This presentation will report the results of a survey experiment that aims at improving the measurement of the farmers' skills through the design of measurement tools that are usable in field conditions in poor rural settings in the development world. The skills include cognitive functioning, non-cognitive functioning (e.g. openness-to-change, personality, self-control, aspirations), and technical agricultural skills. The study aims to contribute to the design of more efficient ways of measuring skills, given field conditions and time constraints. To do so, we designed and implemented a relatively large survey focused on measuring different types of skills in rural Kenya, and use the data from this survey experiment to shed light on the reliability and consistency of various skill measures, on the potential to capture such skills in shorter instruments. We also study the extent to which the skills measured predict economic decisions related to the adoption of advanced agricultural practices, and thus potentially might be important omitted variables when not included in the analysis of agricultural decisionmaking. We draw recommendations on which skills matter the most for agriculture and how to cost-effectively measure them.