

Applied Econometrics for Development - Class Assignment

The goal of this assignment is to make you ask a relevant economic question and plan a convincing identification strategy to address it.

PART 1

Search for a dataset for a developing country. We strongly recommend browsing through the World Bank's Open Data website, the BREAD website (Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development) and the Minnesota IPUMS website (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series), which are well-designed sources of data and documentation for many countries.

Choose one dataset from one of the above websites. Alternatively, choose another dataset you know and want to work with. Describe and discuss one interesting empirical question that you can answer using this dataset.

PART 2

Describe your empirical strategy to answer the question in Part 1. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of this strategy. Even though your strategy will have limitations (as all possible empirical strategies one can devise), you should make a convincing argument that your equations will give interesting results.

Remark 1: This is not supposed to be a replication of a paper. We would like you to think of new ideas. If you take ideas from another project, you should acknowledge your source and state in what ways your proposal goes further than the ideas already provided in the source.

Remark 2: In the next assignment, you will be asked to use the dataset you chose and implement your strategy using the statistical software of your choice (Stata, Matlab, SAS, R or any other you found suitable). Hence, make sure you have a feasible empirical project.

Maximum: 3 pages

Groups of 2 students (if you are alone we will help you complete the group)

Due date: February 5th 2019

Please send us your assignment by email