

Contents

<i>Foreword</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>ix</i>
Chapter 1: Listening to the Voices of the Poor	2
Introduction	3
Conceptual Framework: Examining Poverty Through Institutions	8
Defining Institutions	8
Poverty amid Plenty: Institutions and Access	11
Approaches to Poverty Assessment	13
What Is a Participatory Poverty Assessment?	15
Methodology of the Study	16
Issues Addressed	16
The Data Set	17
Systematic Content Analysis	18
Limitations of the Study	19
Some Final Thoughts on Method	25
Notes	27
Chapter 2: Definitions of Poverty	30
Poverty Is Multidimensional	32
Material Well-Being	35
Food Security	35
Employment	36
Psychological Well-Being	37
Power and Voice	39
Cultural and Social Norms	42
State-Provided Infrastructure	45
The Assets of the Poor	48
Physical Capital	50
Human Capital	52
Social Capital	55
Environmental Assets: Decline and Shocks	57
Assets and Vulnerability	60
Vulnerability within the Household and on the Job	61
Conclusions	64
Case Study 2.1: Focus on Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union	65
Institutional Collapse, Sudden Poverty	65
Humiliation and Shame	68
Coming to Terms with Poverty	71
Rural and Urban Areas: Different Assets, Different Needs	73

Vulnerability and Despair . . . . .	.74
Attitudes toward Government . . . . .	.78
Notes . . . . .	.80
Chapter 3: State Institutions . . . . .	.82
Understanding Institutions . . . . .	.84
Effectiveness and Relevance . . . . .	.85
Corruption and Distrust . . . . .	.92
Disempowerment and Humiliation . . . . .	.97
Vulnerability to Collapse of the State . . . . .	.100
Barriers to Access: Rules, Regulations, and Information . . . . .	.101
The Role of Local Officials and Community Elite . . . . .	.107
Conclusions . . . . .	.109
Case Study 3.1: Access to Health Care . . . . .	.110
Costs and Corruption . . . . .	.111
Gender and Health . . . . .	.114
Children and Health . . . . .	.115
Poverty, Gender, and Sexually Transmitted Diseases . . . . .	.117
Case Study 3.2: Education . . . . .	.119
Relevance . . . . .	.119
Class Bias . . . . .	.122
Corruption . . . . .	.124
Children in Institutions, Former Soviet Union . . . . .	.125
Notes . . . . .	.126
Chapter 4: Civil Society Institutions . . . . .	.128
Nongovernmental Organizations . . . . .	.132
NGOs: Resources for Poor Communities . . . . .	.133
Limitations of NGOs . . . . .	.136
NGO-State Links . . . . .	.141
Community-Based Organizations . . . . .	.143
Bonding and Bridging Organizations . . . . .	.144
Differences among Networks . . . . .	.151
Building New Partnerships . . . . .	.160
Neighborhood and Kinship Networks . . . . .	.163
Costs and Limits to Reciprocity . . . . .	.164
Conclusions . . . . .	.165
Case Study 4.1: Financial Services . . . . .	.166
Access to Credit . . . . .	.166
Cycles of Indebtedness . . . . .	.168
Case Study 4.2: Indonesia—Community Capacity and Village Government . . . . .	.168
Notes . . . . .	.171

Chapter 5: Changing Gender Relations in the Household	174
Roots of Gender Inequality	177
Traditional Gender Norms	178
Gender Identity	180
From Breadwinner to Burden: The Changing Roles of Poor Men	182
Women: The New Breadwinners	184
Trade: A Growth Opportunity for Women	188
Domestic Workers and Maids	189
Female Migrant Labor	190
Migration and Sex Work	192
Consequences and Coping	194
Alcohol Abuse	194
Violence	195
Children: Vulnerable Inside and Outside the Home	197
Family Break-Up	198
Cooperation	200
Female-Headed Households	201
Conclusions	203
Case Study 5.1: Gender and Education	206
Household Literacy	206
Distance and Transportation	206
Direct and Indirect Costs	207
Family Security	208
Marriage	209
Sexual Harassment and Abuse	210
Case Study 5.2: Gender and Property Rights	211
Women as Property	211
Security of Home, Land, and Inheritance	212
Control over Other Assets	214
Environment and Common Property	214
Notes	215
 Chapter 6: Social Fragmentation	 218
Social Cohesion	220
Why Is Social Cohesion Declining?	222
Economic Difficulties	222
Migration	224
Lawlessness	225
Crime and Violence	227
Social Exclusion	229
How Are People Excluded?	230
Who Are the Excluded?	237
Conclusions	249
Case Study 6.1: The Poor and the Police	249
Police Activities	251

Coping Strategies	252
Consequences for the Poor	254
Conclusion	255
Case Study 6.2: Widows	255
How and Why Are Widows Excluded?	255
How Do Widows Cope?	258
Conclusion	261
Chapter 7: Conclusions—The Way Forward	264
Institutions and Power	265
Findings	266
Powerlessness and Poverty	266
Relations within the Household	268
Relations with the State	269
Relations with the Elite	270
Relations with NGOs	271
Networks and Associations of the Poor	271
Organizations of the Poor	272
Social Fragmentation	273
Elements of a Strategy for Change	273
1. Start with Poor People’s Realities	274
2. Invest in the Organizational Capacity of the Poor	276
3. Change Social Norms	278
4. Support Development Entrepreneurs	280
The Voices of the Poor	282
Notes	283
Appendix 1 — Regions and Countries of PPA Reports	287
Appendix 2 — List of PPA Authors	289
Appendix 3 — Systematic Content Analysis Using QSR	
NUD*IST	294
Appendix 4 — “Consultations with the Poor” Index Tree	296
Appendix 5 — Sample Analysis Procedure: Institutions	304
Appendix 6 — Listing of Poverty Assessment Reports Analyzed	
for this Research	309
Appendix 7 — Tables and Figures	326
References	334