Collecting Rich Paradata to Monitor Data Collection Quality in Challenging Contexts
Beth-Ellen Pennell, Gina Cheung, Patty Maher (University of Michigan, United States of America)
bpennell@umich.edu, qianyang@umich.edu, pmaher@umich.edu

Abstract
This presentation will describe innovative uses of rich paradata to monitor production and quality indicators in household surveys in developing and transitional countries. Technology is increasingly facilitating new approaches to more efficient production and better quality monitoring through the collection and monitoring of rich paradata (process data). This diffusion of technology not only allows for immediate access to the survey and process data (including call records) to monitor field work quality but has also facilitated the use of other applications. These applications include self-administered modes (e.g., audio computer-assisted self-interview [ACASI]), digital audio recordings, global positioning systems (GPS) for collecting contextual information or live tracking of interviewer travel to households, areal photography for sample selection, and the collection of various anthropometric data using digital devices, among other examples. With these innovations come new challenges, however. The presentation will discuss advantages, challenges and lessons learned across a diverse set of projects as well as make recommendations for new developments in this space. The presentation will provide examples from projects in four very different settings: China, Ghana, India, and Nepal.