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Knowing When You Do Not Know: Simulating the Poverty and Distributional Impacts of an Economic Crisis

By Ambar Narayan, Carolina Sanchez

World Bank Publications. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Knowing When You Do Not Know: Simulating the Poverty and Distributional Impacts of an Economic Crisis, Ambar Narayan, Carolina Sanchez, Economists have long sought to predict how macroeconomic shocks will affect individual welfare. Macroeconomic data and forecasts are easily available when crises strike. But policy action requires not only understanding the magnitude of a macro shock, but also identifying which households or individuals are being hurt by (or benefit from) the crisis. A popular solution is to extrapolate the welfare impact of a shock from the historical response of income or consumption poverty to changes in output, by estimating an 'elasticity' of poverty to growth. Although this method provides an estimate for the aggregate poverty impact of a macro shock, it has limited value for analysts and policymakers alike. Aggregate numbers are useful to capture the attention of policymakers and the international community, but in the absence of any information on who is affected and to what extent, provide little guidance on what actions need to be taken. This volume outlines a more comprehensive approach to the problem, showcasing a microsimulation model, developed in response to demand from World Bank staff...



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