

# **ICP 2021 Cycle Non-Benchmark Country Estimates**

**International Comparison Program (ICP)  
Technical Advisory Group (TAG)**

# Outline

- 1. Extension of non-benchmark imputation to include Actual Individual Consumption**
- 2. Application of imputation, retro/extrapolation, or interpolation to economies with varying participation status**

# Actual Individual Consumption (AIC)

- Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) covers all consumption expenditures directly benefiting households irrespective of the purchaser of the goods and services
- Following TAG's recommendation, ICP uses AIC as the primary consumption concept to make cross-country comparisons of material living standards
- For benchmark countries, AIC-level PPPs are estimated along with hierarchical headings covering GDP
- However, no estimation for non-benchmark countries has been released so far
- There are demands for PPP estimation for countries that do not participate in ICP benchmarks

# ICP Approach to PPP Imputation for Non-benchmark Economies

- Price level indexes (PLIs) are predicted with a regression model, utilizing benchmark results of participating countries and other macroeconomic and social indicators
- The prediction model of the imputation for country  $i$  is:

$$PLI_i - PLI_{USA} = b^*(X_i - X_{USA}) + e_i \quad \text{where } X \text{ is vector of the below explanatory variables}$$

[Explanatory variables: GDP per capita in US\$, age dependency ratio, share of imports and exports (for GDP)]

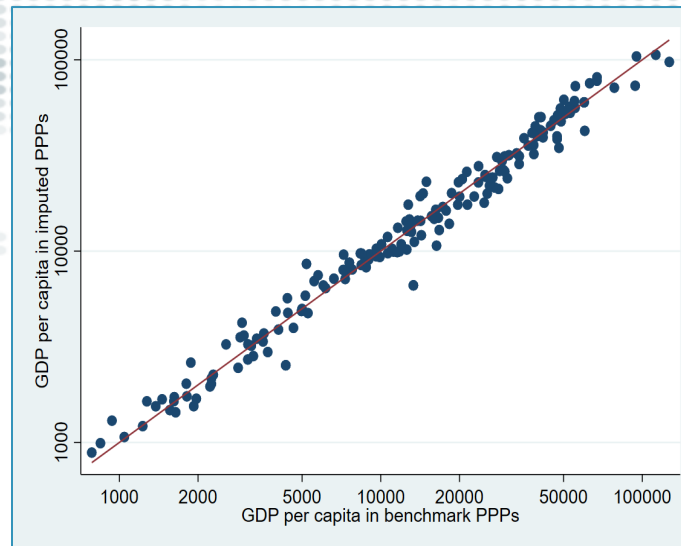
[Dummy variables: Sub-Saharan Africa, OECD, islands, and landlocked developing countries]

- Regressions for GDP and HHC are run together using Seemingly Unrelated Regression (SUR) method
- No change in the regression model from the previous cycles

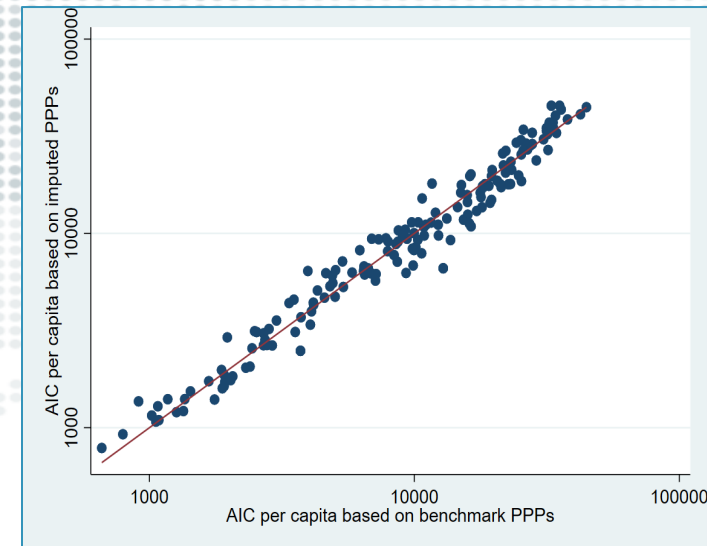
# Inclusion of Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) (1)

- ICP Global Office tested an extension of non-benchmark imputation to include AIC
  - The same regression model as HHC
  - Inclusion of AIC in the SUR method, in addition to GDP and HHC
- Results exhibit:
  - The model returns results in line with GDP and HHC estimation
  - Degree of differences between benchmark and imputed AIC PPPs is similar as those for GDP

Benchmark PPPs (x-axis) vs Imputed PPPs (y-axis), plotted with GDP/AIC per capita



GDP

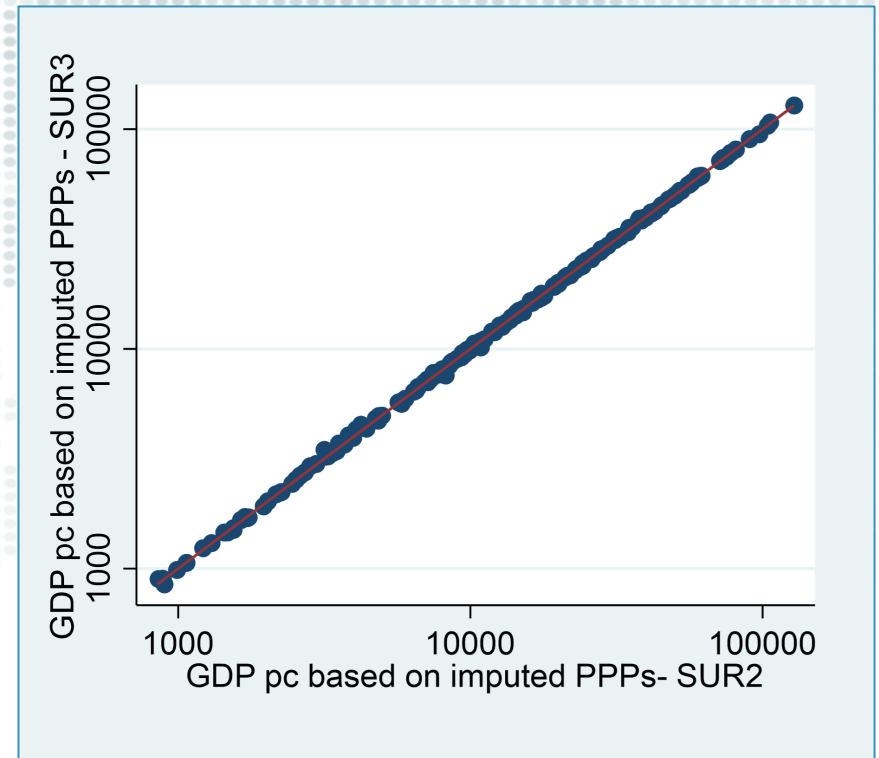


AIC

# Inclusion of Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) (2)

- Results exhibit (cont'd):
  - The inclusion of the third equation for AIC in the SUR method has negligible impacts on the estimation of GDP and HHC
- Therefore, it is recommended to impute AIC PPPs for non-benchmark economies along with GDP and HHC PPPs

GDP PPPs from SUR 2 (GDP + HHC) method (x-axis) vs GDP PPPs from SUR 3 (GDP + HHC + AIC) (y-axis), plotted with GDP per capita



# Economies with Varying Participation Status over ICP Cycles

- **Long-term Extrapolations vs Imputation**
  - If a country joined either of the two most recent cycles, TAG recommended using benchmark data (extrapolation or retropolation) and not using imputation by the regression model
  - The status of participation of some countries varies across cycles, and treatment of results for three subsequent ICP benchmarks would require additional consideration

# Interpolation, extrapolation, and retropolation

- Different scenarios may need to be reviewed:

2011	2017	2021	Revised 2017	2021	Countries
P	P	N	Benchmark	Extrapolation	Myanmar, Haiti, Bahamas, Barbados, Sint Maarten, Iran
P	N	P	Retropolation or interpolation?	Benchmark	Guatemala
P	N	N	Imputation or Extrapolation?	Imputation or Extrapolation?	Pacific Islands (20), Macao,
P	N*	N	Imputation or Extrapolation?	Imputation or Extrapolation?	Cuba, Venezuela, Yemen
N	P	N	Benchmark	Extrapolation	--
N	N	P	Retropolation	Benchmark	South Sudan, Somalia, Uzbekistan, Lebanon, Syria

P = Participating; N = Non-participating;

N\* = Non-participating and no imputation or extrapolation were made in ICP 2017 due to data availability or data reliability issues



