Write up in response to your request for: "Poverty data/analysis used to select Homa Bay, regions within Homa Bay, and villages within Homa Bay"

See excel files "20160216 100,000 households plan" and "20151005 Rachuonyo S. Villages"

We prepared a "100,000 households plan" in early 2015 as a roadmap to select sub-counties for the next 100,000 households for GiveDirectly to enroll after the households in Ugunja and Ugenya that are a part of the GE study. We wanted to start with households that could be enrolled with operations based out of our Kisumu office and with our current Luo-speaking staff members. In the far right of the "20160216 100,000 households plan", you can see that we calculated a ranking that drew from World Bank and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics poverty data. It weighted a given sub-county's rural poverty, distance from Kisumu, and if the region speaks Luo. The manual adjustments put regions we were already operating in at the top. In the same exercise we determined whether thatch was prevalent enough to be used as a targeting criteria, but the thatch prevalence was not used as a factor in the ranking. The rank identified a short list of sub-counties that we then selected from.

We selected Rachuonyo North in Homa Bay from this shortlist as it had one of the highest estimated poverty rate from the World Bank (see summary tab in that file) and the largest number of potential eligible households. After facing refusals issues in Rachuonyo North that were slowing our pace of enrollment, we moved to Rachuonyo South in order to maintain the pace of enrollment while we worked on the refusals problem. Rachuonyo South was selected because it was also on the short list, we already had approval to operate at the sub-county level, and geographically close so that we were easily able to switch.

After selecting the sub-county, we select sub-locations. For the current sub-county, Rachuonyo South, we selected sub-locations that had < 10% urban populations and > 40% "poor" according to World Bank estimates in the attached "20151005 Rachuonyo S. Villages". We plan enroll all villages within the selected sub-locations. When Aspirations or another study requiring randomization begins their work, we would set aside half of the villages that meet the < 10% urban and > 40% "poor" as control villages.