Variable Creation Outline Paper 1

Kate Brandt

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# Process to clean and create variables for paper to analyze land cover change and fuel use

**The following is an outline of steps for creating and attaching variables to LSMS survey clusters for Malawi (years ??)** # This outline uses MARKET ACCESS as the example variable

~~#1 Import LSMS (YEAR) spatial data as .csv~~

# 2 Import AfriPop data (YEARS) as #### file

# 3 Process AfriPop data

* Create density variable ++ Population/Area (sq km) ++ Choose threshold to qualify as “market” (e.g., 500 persons/sq km) ++ Create binary variable: Market, not market ++ Any contiguous area >XX sq km AND market = market (aggregating larger areas to reduce salt and pepper effect)

# 4 Add ‘MARKET ACCESS’ variable to LSMS clusters

* Create variable column: ‘MARKET ACCESS’, values {yes, no}
* Search for geographically proximal markets to each cluster # Offset radius of LSMS clusters = XX km.
* IF determined ‘market’ (from step 3) falls within 2\*‘offset radius’, THEN LSMS cluster = “yes” for ‘MARKET ACCESS’