

Public preferences for economic reforms are shaped more by design than cost

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Overview

- The subfolder “Codes” contains all codes used to replicate the figures and tables in the main text and appendix. The master do-file (0_master_do_file.do) includes annotations indicating which .do files replicate which figures and tables. Before running any individual file, the global macros for directory paths defined in the master file should be executed first.
- The subfolder “Codes/Cleaning” contains do files to clean raw and harmonize raw survey data.
- The subfolder “Codes/Graphs” contains do files to produce all figures in the main text and the appendix.
- The subfolder “Codes/Tables” contains do files to produce all tables in the appendix.
- Where files are labeled numerically, it is recommended they be run in that sequence.
- The subfolder “Data” contains the data needed to replicate the analysis.
- The subfolder “Data/Raw Data” contains the raw data that is processed by the do-files.
- The subfolder “Data/Clean Datasets” contains the clean datasets produced by the codes from data cleaning do files.
- The subfolder “Output” contains the tables and figures used in the paper.
- The subfolder “Output/Graphs” contains all figures produced used in the paper.
- The subfolder “Output/Tables” contains the file “Tables.xlsx” contains all tables used in the paper, in separate sheets.

Computing Environment

Operating system: Mac OS Sequoia v15.6.1

Software used:

STATA MP 19.0 for Mac (Apple Silicone). Java installed (for importing .sav SPSS files using `import spss`).

1. Packages used:
2. `Grc1leg`: (`net install grc1leg.pkg`, from(<http://www.stata.com/users/vwiggins/>)). Used to combine graphs with a common legend
3. `Egenmore`: (`ssc install egenmore, replace`). Used for additional generate commands
4. `Reghdfe`: (`ssc install reghdfe, replace`). Used to estimate high-dimensional fixed effects regressions.
5. `Coefplot`: (`ssc install coefplot, replace`). Used to plot regression coefficients and confidence intervals from stored results.
6. `Heatplot`: (`ssc install heatplot, replace`). Used to generate heatmaps.
7. `Sankey_plot`: (`net install sankey_plot`, from(<https://github.com/gvegayon/sankey>)). Used to generate Sankey diagrams to visualize flows, such as response changes across groups.
8. `Ftools`: (`ssc install ftools, replace`). Required dependency for `reghdfe` and other high-performance commands.
9. `Ereplace`: (`ssc install ereplace, replace`). Used to efficiently replace values in large datasets.
10. `Parmest`: (`ssc install parmest, replace`). Used to extract model parameter estimates into datasets for flexible post-estimation analysis.
11. `Palettes`: (`ssc install palettes, replace`). Used to define and apply custom color palettes in visualizations.
12. `Colrspace`: (`ssc install colrspace, replace`). Provides color space manipulation tools used by `palettes` and `colorpalette`.

The packets can be installed by running the code in “Codes/required_packages.do”. Custom programs written by the authors are included within the .do files themselves and will execute automatically when the code is run. No separate installation is required.

Disk space needed: 816 MB

Index

Below is an index of all files, code, figures, and tables included in the replication packet. Each .do file is listed alongside the figure or table it generates, to allow for easy cross-referencing.

Below is a list of .do files the subfolder “Codes/” that are not directly associated with any specific figure or table but are part of the overall analysis.

The file `0_master_do_file.do` provides an overview of the replication workflow and sets the required global directory paths for all subsequent code files.

The file `required_packages.do` installs and loads all user-written packages needed to run the replication code.

The file `"Cleaning/1_harmonization.do"` cleans and harmonizes all raw country survey data

The file `"Cleaning/2_experts.do"` cleans the data from the survey of experts.

A list of all figures, along with their file names in the subfolder `"Output/Graphs"` and the corresponding `.do` files (in the folder the subfolder `"Codes/Graphs"`) used to replicate them (where applicable), is provided below. For figures that are not replicable, an explanation is provided.

Figure 1 (filename: `Fig1.png`). Replicated using `1_sankey_change_due_to_design.do`

Figure 2 (filename: `Fig2.png`). Replicated using `2_SO_by_price.do`

Figure 3 (filename: `Fig3.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure 4 (filename: `Fig4.png`). Replicated using `4_expert_predictions.do`

Figure 5 (filename: `Fig5.png`). Replicated using `5_coping_compensation.do`

Figure C1 (filename: `surveyflow.png`). Figure illustrates the survey flow using a schematic created manually. It is not generated programmatically and is not part of the replication code.

Figure D1 (filename: `Fig3_energy.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D2 (filename: `Fig3_incgroup.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D3 (filename: `Fig3_trust.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D4 (filename: `heat_SO_byfeature.png`). Replicated using `6_heatplots.do`

Figure D5 (filename: `heat_comp_coping_rationalized.png`). Replicated using `6_heatplots.do`

Figure D6 (filename: `Fig5_byprice.png`). Replicated using `5_coping_compensation.do`

Figure D7 (filename: `Fig5_bysubgroup.png`). Replicated using `5_coping_compensation.do`

Figure D8 (filename: `Fig1_EGY.png`). Replicated using `1_sankey_change_due_to_design.do`

Figure D9 (filename: `Fig1_IDN.png`). Replicated using `1_sankey_change_due_to_design.do`

Figure D10 (filename: `Fig1_MON.png`). Replicated using `1_sankey_change_due_to_design.do`

Figure D11 (filename: `Fig1_UZB.png`). Replicated using `1_sankey_change_due_to_design.do`

Figure D12 (filename: `Fig2_EGY.png`). Replicated using `2_SO_by_price.do`

Figure D13 (filename: `Fig2_IDN.png`). Replicated using `2_SO_by_price.do`

Figure D14 (filename: `Fig2_MON.png`). Replicated using `2_SO_by_price.do`

Figure D15 (filename: `Fig2_UZB.png`). Replicated using `2_SO_by_price.do`

Figure D16 (filename: `Fig3_EGY.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D17 (filename: `Fig3_IDN.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D18 (filename: `Fig3_MON.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D19 (filename: `Fig3_NIG.png`). Replicated using `3_change_SO_by_feature.do`

Figure D20 (filename: Fig3_UZB.png). Replicated using 3_change_SO_by_feature.do
Figure D21 (filename: sankey_reducenergy.png). Replicated using
1_sankey_change_due_to_design.do

A list of all tables, along with their sheet names in the file “Output/Tables/Tables.xlsx” and the corresponding .do files (in the folder the subfolder “Codes/Tables”) used to replicate them (where applicable), is provided below. For tables that are not replicable, an explanation is provided:

Table B1 (sheet: Energy table). Not part of the replication code as it presents summary values directly sourced from external online databases, and not generated through code.

Table C1 (sheet: N/A). Not part of the replication code as this information was compiled manually from survey instruments and is not derived from analysis code.

Table C2 (sheet: N/A). Not part of the replication code as this summarizes variables, and is provided for reference and was compiled manually; it is not generated by replication code.

Table D1 (sheet: Demographics). Replicated using demographics.do

Table D2 (sheet: Balance (information)). Replicated using balance.do

Table D3 (sheet: Balance (price)). Replicated using balance.do

Table D4 (sheet: Eq 2). Replicated using eq2.do

Table D5 (sheet: Eq 2 (with controls)). Replicated using eq2.do

Table D6 (sheet: Eq 1). Replicated using eq1.do

Table D7 (sheet: Eq 2 (support)). Replicated using eq2_support.do

Table D8 (sheet: Eq 1 (support)). Replicated using eq1_support.do

Table D9 (sheet: Eq 2 (full distribution)). Replicated using eq2_full.do

Table D10 (sheet: Eq 1 (full distribution)). Replicated using eq1_full.do

Table D11 (sheet: Eq 2 (IPW)). Replicated using eq2_ipw.do

Table D12 (sheet: Eq 1 (IPW)). Replicated using eq1_ipw.do

Table E1 (sheet: Expert descriptives). Replicated using expert_descriptives.do

Table F1 (sheet: N/A). Not part of the replication code as it summarizes key theoretical results derived in the subsequent subsection. It is included for reader clarity and is not generated by code.

Data Sources:

The following is a list of all datasets used in the replication, along with a brief description and source reference for each file:

1. File: Data/Raw data/GMD/GMD_allcountries.dta.
 - Contains a harmonized, representative sample of key socio-economic indicators for multiple countries from the Global Monitoring Database, used to compare our sample against national populations.
 - Source: World Bank Global Monitoring Database (GMD).
 - Survey data not publically available. This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access

- details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
2. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/EGY/Energy survey WB_final.sav.
 - Country survey for Egypt.
 - Source: World Bank.
 - Not publically available yet. This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
 3. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/IDN/anon_I2indo_M15_coping.dta.
 - Coping module for the Listening to Indonesia World Bank household survey (up to Round 11).
 - Source: World Bank. Not online yet but mentioned here:
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/brief/world-bank-listening-surveys>.
 - This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
 4. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/IDN/anon_I2indo_M14_gasoline.dta.
 - Module capturing public opinion on fuel price reform for the Listening to Indonesia World Bank household survey (up to Round 11).
 - Source: World Bank.
 - Not online yet but mentioned here:
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/brief/world-bank-listening-surveys>.
 - This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
 5. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/IDN/Anon_HH_L2Indo_Analysisfile_r14.dta.
 - Main household level module for the Listening to Indonesia World Bank survey (up to Round 14).
 - Source: World Bank. Not online yet but mentioned here:
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/brief/world-bank-listening-surveys>.
 - This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
 6. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/IDN/anon_I2indo_M14_gasoline_r14.dta.
 - Coping module for the Listening to Indonesia World Bank household survey (up to Round 14).
 - Source: World Bank. Not online yet but mentioned here:
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/brief/world-bank-listening-surveys>.

- This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
7. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/IDN/Anon_HH_L2Indo_Analysisfile.dta.
 - Main household level module for the Listening to Indonesia World Bank survey (up to Round 11).
 - Source: World Bank. Not online yet but mentioned here: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/brief/world-bank-listening-surveys>.
 - This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
 8. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/MON/MNG Energy survey R1.dta.
 - Country survey for Mongolia.
 - Source: World Bank. Not publically available yet. This is included in this replication package under data-sharing terms. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
 9. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/p2r13_sect_a_2_5g_8_11c_12.dta.
 - National Longitudinal Phone Survey 2021-2024
 - Source: World Bank.
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/4444/data-dictionary>
 10. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/p2r13_sect_2_5d.dta.
 - National Longitudinal Phone Survey 2021-2024
 - Source: World Bank.
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/4444/data-dictionary>
 11. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/p2r12_sect_5g.dta.
 - National Longitudinal Phone Survey 2021-2024
 - Source: World Bank.
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/4444/data-dictionary>
 12. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/Post Harvest Wave 5/Household/sect11b_harvestw5.dta.
 - Section 11b of post harvest wave 5 survey in Nigeira, containing important demographic information for the households in our sample.
 - Source: World Bank.
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6410>
 13. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/Post Harvest Wave 5/Household/sect8b_harvestw5.dta.
 - Section 8b of post harvest wave 5 survey in Nigeira, containing important demographic information for the households in our sample.
 - Source: World Bank.
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6410>
 14. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/Post Harvest Wave

- 5/Household/sect1_harvestw5.dta. Section 1 of post harvest wave 5 survey in Nigeira, containing important demographic information for the households in our sample. Source: World Bank.
<https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6410>
15. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/NIG/Post Harvest Wave 5/Household/sect4a_harvestw5.dta.
- Section 4a of post harvest wave 5 survey in Nigeira, containing important demographic information for the households in our sample.
 - Source: World Bank.
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6410>
16. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/M23_tariff.dta.
- Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. Tariff module (Round 78).
 - Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
 - While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
17. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/I2cu_cati_M12_opinions.dta. Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. Opinions module (Round 78).
- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
 - While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
18. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/I2cu_cati_M06_views.dta. Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. View module (Round 78).
- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
 - <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>. While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.
19. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/I2cu_cati_M02_shocks.dta. Listening

to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. Shock module (Round 78).

- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
- <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
- While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.

20. File: Data/Raw [data/Country_surveys/UZB/I2cu_cati_base@78.dta](#).

- Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. Base data (Round 78).
- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
- <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
- While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.

21. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/I2cu_cati_individual_data_79.dta.

Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. Individual data (Round 79).

- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
- <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
- While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.

22. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/I2cu_cati_household_data_79.dta.

Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025. Household data (Round 79).

- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
- <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
- While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.

23. File: Data/Raw data/Country_surveys/UZB/Round 81/l2cu_cati_M23_tariff.dta.
Listening to the Citizens of Uzbekistan Survey 2018-2025 (Round 81)

- Source: World Bank. This dataset is an earlier version of the survey mentioned here:
- <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/6412/data-dictionary>.
- While the exact version used here is not publicly hosted, it is included in the replication package under data-sharing terms. The structure and documentation remain largely consistent with the linked source. Researchers interested in obtaining the original data should contact the corresponding author for access details or guidance on requesting it from the World Bank.

24. File: Data/Raw

data/Descriptives/P_Data_Extract_From_World_Development_Indicators.xlsx.

- Contains selected country-level indicators from the World Bank's World Development Indicators database, used to compare national statistics with our sample.
- Source: World Development Indicators – World Bank (<https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators?Series=SE.XPD.CTOT.ZS>, Database: World Development Indicators; Countries: Egypt Arab Republic, Indonesia, Series: Educational attainment, at least completed post-secondary, population 25+, total (%) (cumulative) Mongolia, Nigeria, Uzbekistan; Series: Educational attainment, at least completed post-secondary, population 25+, total (%) (cumulative) [For Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Nigeria] , Educational attainment, at least completed post-secondary, population 25+, total (%) (cumulative) [For Egypt and Mongolia], Rural population (% of total population), Rural population (% of total population); Years: 2020-2024)). Accessed July 2025.

25. File: Data/Raw data/Descriptives/P_Data_Extract_From_Gender_Statistics.xlsx.

- Contains selected indicators from the World Bank's Gender Statistics database, , used to compare national statistics with our sample.
- Source: Gender Statistics – World Bank,
- <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators?Series=SE.XPD.CTOT.ZS>
- Database: Gender Statistics; Countries: Egypt Arab Republic, Indonesia, Series: Population ages 0–14 (female, male), 15–19 (female, male), 20–24 (female, male), 25–29 (female, male), 30–34 (female, male), 35–39 (female, male), 40–44 (female, male), 45–49 (female, male), 50–54 (female, male), 55–59 (female, male), 60–64 (female, male), 65 and above (female, male); Years: 2020-2024)). Accessed July 2025.

26. File: Data/Raw data/Experts/Designing Publicly Acceptable Energy Price Reforms_responses.csv.

- Raw data for the survey of experts
- Source:<https://socialscienceprediction.org/predict/r/PREVIEW/c23b2655e8b14ea89986734e5636b5e9/>

27. File: Data/Clean datasets/survey_of_experts.dta.

- Clean version of the survey of experts Source: Produced within the replication packet
28. File: Data/Clean datasets/harmonized_surveys.dta.
- Clean and harmonized country survey Source: Produced within the replication packet
29. File: Data/Clean datasets/harmonized_surveys_long.dta.
- Cleaned and harmonized country survey in long format, with each design feature reshaped so that every question appears in a separate row per respondent.
 - Source: Produced within the replication packet

Citations

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). (2024). General Household Survey, Panel 2023-2024 [Data set]. World Bank, Development Data Group. <https://doi.org/10.48529/ZD5S-TJ25>

World Bank. 2025. Gender Statistics (database). Washington, DC: World Bank. Available at: <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/gender-statistics>.

World Bank. 2025. World Development Indicators (WDI) (database). Washington, DC: World Bank. Available at: <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>.

World Bank (2025) Global Monitoring Indicators – June 2025 version