MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS OF IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW DATA

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Mekong-Salween-Red River Fellows Analysis & Writing Workshop

1-3 April 2016, Department of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University

Tape and transcribe

- Tape interviews
 - make sure include key information about subject (in recording, in file name)
- Transcribe in full
 - name files systematically
 - Keep as close as possible to verbatim, natural language
 - Assign unique id-numbers to files for quick reference and to anonymize sources
- Keep backups

Exceptions

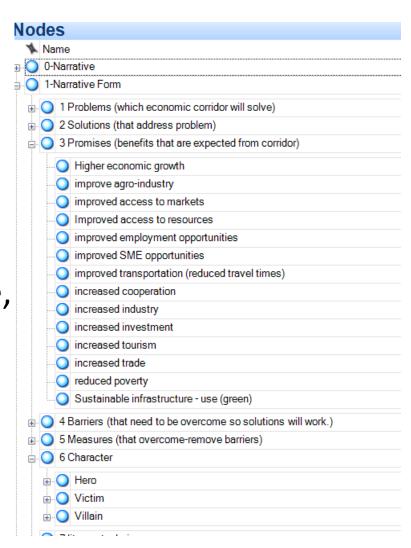
 If highly sensitive topic subject may not allow recording

Suggestions

- Keep short notes, even if you tape
- Allow time and money for transcription work

Code interview transcripts

- Use research questions or analytical framework to design initial code tree
- Code interview transcripts using software tools
- Coding strengthens evidence, improves transparency, and facilitates semi-quantitative analysis
- Codes become an index into your dataset



Selecting codes or themes

Questions

 What policy narratives have proponents and critics of Economic Corridor used? How?

Theoretical framework

- Policy Narrative framework
 - characters
 - Story plots
 - Problems-solutions-promises

Problems

Roads low quality

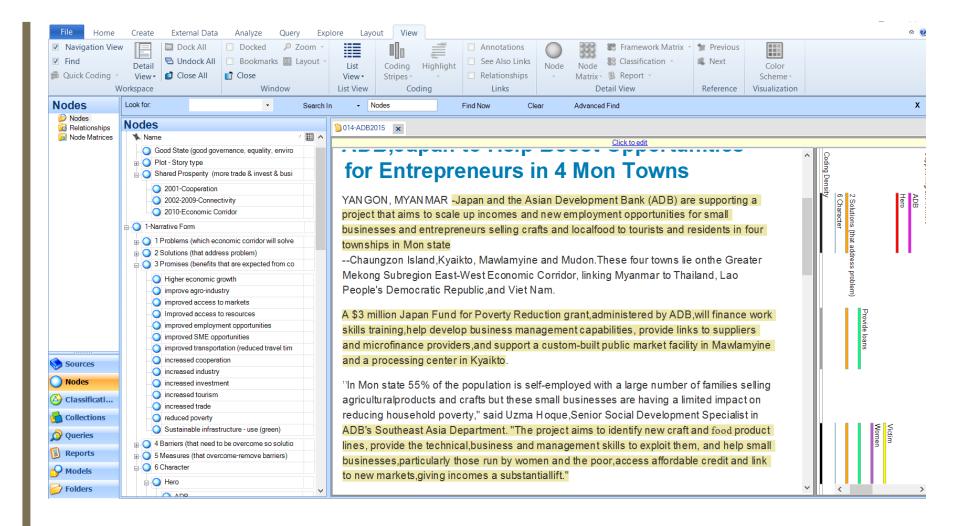
descriptive

- No investment
- Poor market access
- Story plots
 - Great victory (success)
 - Work in progress
 - Decline

abstract

- Characters
 - Heroes
 - ADB
 - Thai Government
 - Victims
 - Ethnic Minorities
 - Villains

NVIVO screenshot



Summarize evidence by codes and sources

- Look at all the excerpts relevant to a particular code
- If have sufficient data then examine information by relevant categories: gender, location, household structure
- Summarize findings, note exceptions, and select illustrative quotes

- "Last dry season is the worst; it was a tense time in the village and at home"[3]
- "...last year there was no water at all, so two of us went to work in the city."[5]
- "we had very little water, not enough to keep the plants alive, we lost the whole crop"
 [7]

The last dry season was a difficult one for most households: crops failed and some went to work in the city.

Extract illustrative quotes



- Extract quotes that illustrate common as well as exceptional perspectives
- Pay special attention to passages in which subjects explain their reasoning
- If writing paper in English but transcripts in another language, then keep original quotes as footnotes/endnotes
- Keep track of interviews providing key evidence for claims

 A villager in Moat Peam village noted that, "now it is easy for me to transport my fruit to sell in the town; before I had to get up early morning to carry fruit into a boat and then to a truck to transport it to the provincial town market. Now it is easy to go to market any time." However, observations revealed that the roads were showing signs of wear after the hydropower dam was constructed.

Use tables for intermediate analyses

Specific narrative (problem, solution)	Characters	Proponent	Influence
Floods bring benefits too, so it is important to allow dykes to overflow at least once every three years (Mekong Delta)	Victim: farmers Hero: government	National and provincial government	Accepted by local communities but with modest contestation every 3 years
Inner Bangkok must be protected at all costs because of its national importance so must strengthen protective	Victim: inner Bangkok Villain: national government	BMA (Business Interests)	Battle between municipal and national government
infrastructure and water management rules	Hero: Municipal government		Outer residents remain wary

- Use combination of codes to explore evidence about associations between 2 factors or to compare cases
- Progressively replace raw notes with synthesis

Write to analyse

- The act of writing about qualitative data is itself a form of analysis
 - consider supporting and counter-evidence
 - Refine claims by taking into account context and subject
- Use illustrative quotes and paraphrases, citing source
 - "the weather is not like it used to be, it is hotter" [41]
- In some situations, indicate level of support for claims (semi-quantitative)
 - "most", "many", "few", "one"
 - "4 out of 20", "6 out of 7"