

# Programmatic Poverty Assessment Work in Western Balkans

## Analytical Description of Statistical Programs

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This file explains the contents of the program files used to generate the panel dataset for Bosnia & Herzegovina (2001-2004).

### A) BiH LSMS Program Files

1) ***cr1.1\_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the identifier files for each of the 4 waves, traces the unique individual and household identifying variables and renames them into pid and hid, respectively. It also tracks some basic demographic variables. It then appends the 4 files to each other, so that a 1<sup>st</sup> stage panel **No. 1** with identifying variables is obtained.

2) ***cr1.2\_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the household files for each of the 4 waves, and renames some of the useful variables, providing standard conventional names. Then the 4 generated files are sorted and appended to each other, so that another 1<sup>st</sup> stage panel **No. 2** with household variables is obtained.

3) ***cr1.3\_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the individual files for each of the 4 waves, and renames some of the useful variables, providing standard conventional names. It keeps a broad selection of potentially useful variables. Then, the 4 generated files are sorted and appended to each other, so that another 1<sup>st</sup> stage panel **No. 3** with individual variables is obtained.

4) ***cr1.4\_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the job history files available for waves 2, 3, and 4, and renames some of the useful variables, providing standard conventional names. Then the 3 generated files are sorted and appended to each other, so that another 1<sup>st</sup> stage panel **No. 4** with job history variables is obtained. This file could probably be useful for job-event-analysis.

5) ***cr1.5\_data*** (*data creation file*)

This is the concluding file of the panel generation process where the 4 1<sup>st</sup> stage panel files are merged into 1 large panel file.

- File 1 (identifiers) is merged to File 2 (household variables), based on hid (unique household identity) and wave (year).
- Then, File 3 (individual variables) and File 4 (job history) are consecutively merged to the previous outcome based on pid (unique individual identity) and wave (year). This is because File 2 contains household variables that are the same for all individuals in the household, while File 3 and File 4 contain individual variables that are unique for each person in every household.
- The outcome of this merging exercise is the large panel, titled BiH\_Panel.dta, which contains most variables to be used in the analysis.