

Master Sample Implementation in Bosnia & Herzegovina

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1. Introduction

Bosnia & Herzegovina (BiH) consists of two entities: Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBH) and Republika Srpska (RS). The Delegation of the European Commission to Bosnia & Herzegovina contracted IBF International from Belgium to create a registry of households based on a Swedish proposal for the construction of a Master Sample. The author was contracted as the statistical expert for realization of this project.

This project had a wider objective: It was to provide a representative set of sampling units (households) for carrying out surveys intended to collect reliable and timely information about subject specific conditions e.g. social conditions, housing standards, consumption outlays etc. The registry was considered to be a national asset because it will enable nationwide sampling in a costs effective way (costs spread over several surveys). The target population was the households living in a identified dwelling (address) at the time of data collection.

2. Field work procedure

The data collection was from households and about households. The questionnaire was constructed to achieve logical consistency i.e. to avoid inconsistent answers. The core questions that were given priority in designing the questionnaire were as follows:

Entity, Municipality, enumerating area, postal identity (street, house number and postal code), telephone number (if available), information about household head (name, year of birth, gender) and size of the household (persons living by age and sex). In addition a module question was included to obtain information from neighbour if the respondent was not at home after the third call.

It was also decided, that each entity should translate the questionnaire into its own alphabetical setting to make the questionnaire appropriate to its cultural context. The field procedure was to be standardized as far as possible: Both entities has to conduct the survey during a given time period and they were to engage trained survey leaders to review the data collection, and enforce controls before returning the questionnaire for data entry.

The primary test of reliability and validity will depend on whether all households in the selected municipalities are reached by the field workers, and whether the respondents are willing to co-operate in providing answers to the questionnaire. The questionnaire is displayed on page two.

REFERENCE

EU Programme: Implementing Master Sample Framework: Report from the IBF Mission to BiH, Sarajevo. Date: 2001-03-23.

RESUME

Cet article décrit les conseils sur la mise en place de Registre de Foyer (Cadre de l' Echantillon Maître) dans les deux entités de Bosnie Herzegovine. Le questionnaire a été développé afin d' éviter toutes inconsistances dans les réponses. Le travail de terrain devra être réalisé de manière standardisée par des enquêteurs qualifiés et formés à cet effet.

