

## ANNEX I

**UNITED NATIONS**  
**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**  
 CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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**Online meetings on measuring poverty and inequality, 30 November - 2 December 2021**
**I. ABSTRACT**

<b>Title</b>	<i>Poverty Measurement During COVID: Administrative Records as Contrast and Data Source</i>
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<b>Topic</b>	<i>Assessing and improving survey methods, and use of alternative data sources</i>
<p>Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, during 2020 DANE had to rapidly implement a process of adapting the Great Integrated Household Survey (GEIH by its acronym in Spanish) to a telephone operation, between March and July, for the 23 main cities and metropolitan areas. This implied reducing the questionnaire that was traditionally applied, which led to the collection of only income sources corresponding to wages and net earnings, which represent about 65% of the aggregate income of Colombian households.</p> <p>Highlighting that the measurement of income for the poverty incidence rates calculation includes additional sources of income, between November and December 2020, DANE implemented a telephone operation, which sought to recover the information which was not collected during the march-July period. In addition, to this new statistical operation, DANE developed different analyses of the consistency of the information from this survey that allowed contrasting the different sources of income (collected through the survey) with the information included on administrative records.</p> <p>Using information from the Social Security Register and the ordinary and extraordinary government allowance programs, the consistency analysis found a decrease in the coverage of the income recovery operation for cash transfers and pensions in relation to the universe that the GEIH traditionally identifies. This prompted DANE to thoroughly evaluate the feasibility of integrating the administrative records of institutional support with the GEIH, not only as a contrast source, but as an information source by itself.</p> <p>Using information from 2019 as a counterfactual, consistency analysis suggested that the use of administrative records to recover income information not collected in the reduced version of the questionnaire did not jeopardize comparability among the poverty series. In addition, this exercise allowed DANE to calculate the extent to which pensions, and ordinary/extraordinary social transfers contributed to mitigate income and extreme income poverty in urban/rural areas and the 23 main cities and metropolitan areas of Colombia.</p>	