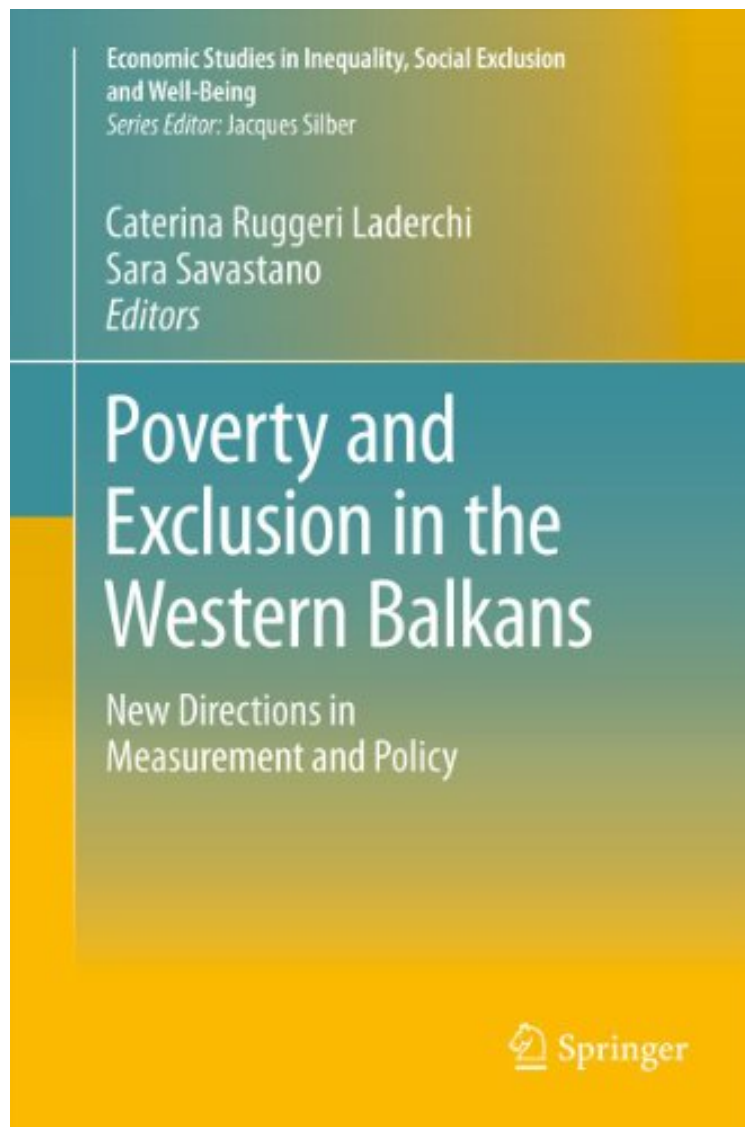


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## Poverty and Exclusion in the Western Balkans: New Directions in Measurement and Policy: 8 (Economic Studies in Inequality, Social Exclusion and Well-Being)

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This book maps the latest developments in the policy relevant analysis on poverty, inclusion and the social agenda in the Western Balkans. It does so by presenting a selection of recent papers which explore from a methodological and analytical point of view how the inclusion agenda can be monitored and adapted to understand the challenges in the region. The volume includes an overview and four sections, covering respectively: (1) innovations in terms of measurement of poverty and inclusion in the region (the concept of inclusion as elaborated at the EU level, innovations in survey design to suit the measurement of inclusion, methodological insights from qualitative work); (2) innovative country level analysis (updating poverty mapping in inter-censal years, the analysis of material deprivation, the analysis of determinants of social inclusion, subjective wellbeing of public work programs participants); (3) examples of country level analysis of drivers of exclusion (barriers to formalization in the labour market, gender disparities in the labour market, disruption in social networks following urbanizations, attitudes towards multi-ethnic states); (4) building inclusive safety nets (an assessment of safety nets in the region, the political economy of welfare reform, micro-simulations of social assistance reform, the adoption of better tools to improve targeting performance). The chapters combine sophisticated techniques which are at the frontiers of poverty analysis (small area estimation, efficiency analysis applied to household welfare, micro-simulations) with less groundbreaking papers which take advantage of innovative datasets or perspectives deeply grounded in the policy dialogue in the countries of the region. By providing a wide spectrum of innovative and policy relevant analytical contributions this book will be of broader interest than for observers of the region.

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About the Author Sara Savastano is an Assistant Professor in Economics at the University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy. In addition to her academic activities she collaborates with the Development Research Group of the World Bank, the FAO, and other international organizations and private institutions. Her research spans from option value theory and investment analysis to agricultural efficiency and productivity analysis, on which she published a number of papers, including on the Western Balkans. Recently, Sara started to explore innovative topics in Neuroeconomics and Behavioral Economics. Caterina Ruggeri Laderchi is a Senior Poverty Economist in the Europe and Central Asia division of the World Bank. Prior to joining the World Bank she worked on poverty, employment and social issues for the Human Development Report Office of UNDP, DFID and the European Commission. Her research has mostly focused on the measurement of alternative concepts of poverty and deprivation, labour market analysis in low income settings, and the distributional and gender impacts of reforms, particularly tariff reforms.