A 2012 SAM for South Africa & Mini SAMs 1993-2013

A 2012 Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for South Africa by Dirk van Seventer¹, Faaiqa Hartley², Sherwin Gabriel² & Rob Davies¹, ¹UNU WIDER, ²SA National Treasury

Methodology consists of three broad steps:
1. Create a macro SAM based on and entirely consistent with National Accounts
2. Adjust latest published SUT to match Nat Acc: initial rebalancing full table
3. Add labour and household detail using surveys: final rebalance of households

Results: SAM with following features
• Full consistency with Nat Acc preserved: zero tolerance in rebalancing
• Method can be replicated for other SUT years (now 2007 – 2014)
  • As long as the disaggregation remains the same
  • New survey data from QLFS and LCS will require manual operation
• Dimensions
  • 62 activities / 104 commodities (consistent with SSA ST & UT)
  • 4 types of labour (by education attainment)
  • 14 types of households (9 income decile & 2% intervals at the top decile)

Compilation of annual mini SAMs for South Africa 1993-2013 in current and constant prices by Dirk van Seventer¹

Methodology Step 1: SAM Series current prices
• Distinguish 2 periods
  • 2005-1993: 7 SSA SAMs for selected years / Ann Nat Acc / missing years: closest SAM
• Activity value added (GVA) and breakdown benchmarked on SSA series for 1 & 2 digit
• Complication: informal sector treatment in SUTs different compared to SSA GVA
• Problem: total import duties from SARB Govt Stats but commodity level initially 2007

Methodology Step 2: Constant price SAMs
• Deflators considered but unsuitable
  • Domestic output of SA industry / Commodities for SA consumption / Exports / Imports
  • Due to lack of coverage and / or change thereof
  • Some require physical quantities for weighted aggregation for which hard to find data
• Deflators used:
  • SSA GVA (for W&S & GOS) & Total Intermediate Use
  • SARB implicit for Final Demand / Assets / Imports / Exports (limited detail) / Final Balance
• Total Intermediate Input =Total Intermediate Sales: scale weakest / residual to Δstocks
• Biproportional scaling of intermediates with current price structure as starting point
• Transfers: by means of residual derivations

Further work:
• Analysis elsewhere at this conference
• Breakdown of labour by skill (not education) is now available but more required