



Queries and responses on the request for research proposals

Firm-level analysis

Q.1 Are the variables by size of firm easily accessible?

A.1 The size of the firm in terms of number of employees will be included in the database.

Q.2 Can you please inform me of the details of possible spatial information contained in the dataset?

A.2 Currently the spatial information is not available. However, during the first year of the project the feasibility of obtaining geo-coded data from SARS will be investigated along with any possible legality issues when obtaining spatial information.

Q.3 Is there a simple coding of firms by municipality or province if a detailed geo-code is unavailable?

A.3 We are currently working on getting a legal clearance to include coding of firms by municipality/province. We welcome proposals including 'preliminary' analysis into the spatial data; however; this is of course subject to availability.

Q.4 I have read through the paper that you have referenced but unfortunately it does not have an exhaustive list of the data fields in the SARS-NT database

A.4 Unfortunately, we cannot provide an exhaustive list of the data fields in the SARS-NT database. The data set is compiled based on several SARS forms (i.e. IT14, ITR14, VAT101, SAD500, and ITR12), excluding any data fields that can identify individuals or firms. The forms can be downloaded here for further inspection.

Q.5 What firm/worker characteristics can we derive from the data?

A.5 The number of employees, which is taken from the matched employee tax data, is available. It is also possible to identify the age of the workers. We do not yet have access to other worker characteristics, but it should be possible at some stage to integrate the gender of workers into the dataset.

Q.6 Does the data on taxation include the detailed coding of tax type?

A.6 There is some detailed information on taxes as per this form.

Q.7 My research proposal requires data from the CIPC. Does this fall within the parameters of the proposal requested?

A.7 No, unfortunately not.

Q.8 Do the data contain information about the participation of firms in the automotive development programme (APDP)? Do we know the amounts received, for example? Do we know how firms were selected?

A.8 The data do not have information about participation of firms in the APD. The criteria for selection into the programme are available here.

Q.9 I understand that SARS data contains tax and customs data. However, if we focus on customs data only, would you have more data available for previous years?

A.9 A cleaned version is available from 2009 to 2014 and researchers can access it. Updated data will also be available within the next few months.