Queries and responses on the request for research proposals

Public revenue mobilization for inclusive development AND Turning the tide on inequality

Q.1 Are there any company location data (physical addresses of the companies) available as part of the CIT dataset or any other form of location data that will indicate the company’s municipal or enumerator area (EA)?

A.1 At the CIT level, province is the only location data reported.

Q.2 Are there any location data (physical addresses) available as part of the IRP5 dataset on the residential location of tax payers or any other form of location data that will indicate the individual’s municipal or enumerator area (EA)?

A.2 There is location data for individual tax payers in the data, but this is not very well populated at all as this is not a required field on the IRP5.

Q.3 Does the CIT dataset indicate fringe benefits? Specifically, does the data indicate whether the company provides transport to its employees (transport fringe benefit, but not taxable).

A.3 In terms of fringe benefits, such as transport, it is our understanding that this is reported as a claim on the IRP5 or on the assessed ITR12 data. More info on the SARS website here.

Q.4 Will you consider a proposal on congestion-charging for metropolitan areas in South Africa. The focus will specifically be on assessing the viability of congestion-charging schemes and on their income-generating potential, which can be used to support operational (and capital) subsidies for public transport operations.

A.4 Proposals on any topic are accepted, but since this call concerns revenue mobilization and inequality workstreams it would be a good idea for researchers to make the link from their research to these topics. More info on the SA-TIED webpage.
Q.5 Under the application form, it is stated that the individual proposal length should not exceed 5 pages. Under the group proposal, however, there is no indication of the proposal length or any additional requirements. I would appreciate if you clarify whether the 5-pages length also apply to proposals submitted by groups of researchers.

A.5 The individual and group proposal length should not exceed 5 pages.

Q.6 Will it be possible to match external (publicly available) datasets to the administrative data provided? In particular, I have a dataset with individual names as an identifier and would like to match it to the names of the owners (for sole proprietorships and partnerships) and directors (for companies) of the firms in the administrative datasets. Of course, the matching could be done by SARS or UNU-WIDER and then the data could be returned anonymized. The dataset I want to match is of a nature that once the matched administrative dataset is re-anonymized, it will not be possible for me to re-identify any individuals or firms.

A.6 At this stage, matching the tax data with any publicly available data will not be possible as the anonymization is done at the South African Revenue Service (SARS) before it is sent to the National Treasury for research analysis.