

Statistical Business Register Program of the African Development Bank (AfDB)

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Background

Why have Statistical Business Registers?

- Economic survey programme typically comprises several surveys and sources
 - They need to be harmonized conceptually and operationally
- Conceptual harmonizing mechanisms
 - 2008 System of National Accounts provides conceptual framework
 - ISIC Rev 4 provides standard industrial classification
 - ILO framework for defining informal sector
- Operational harmonizing mechanism
 - SBR
 - provides common set of statistical units
 - for use by surveys in constructing their survey frames

Background of SBRs in Africa

- Decision taken in 2011 to promote development of SBRs as part of Statistical Capacity Building Program
- Concerns on the quality of economic statistics in Africa
 - Lack of up-to-date business registers identified as the fundamental problem
 - Central registers mainly designed for employment purposes
 - Maintained and updated using area enumeration
 - Very expensive to maintain and gets outdated
 - Units and divisions maintain their own registers
 - On various computers and in different packages (Excel, CSPro, etc.)
- In 2014, AfDB published the Guidelines for Building Statistical Business Registers in Africa

Objectives of SBR

- Providing survey frames
 - within national statistical office
 - for other organizations
- Producing register based statistics
 - point in time unit counts
 - demographics births, deaths, mergers, changes over time
- Facilitating linkages and uploading data from different sources
- Enabling response burden to be spread equitably
 - by control of overlap of units receiving survey questionnaires
- Optimal Use of Resources (human and financial)

Conceptual Frameworks for SBR

- System of National Accounts (2008 SNA)
 - institutional units
 - legal/social entities and persons/groups of persons
 - economic sectors
 - non-financial corporations, financial corporations, general government, households,
 - non-profit institutions serving households (NPISH)
 - economic production
 - goods and services that can be sold or transferred, e.g, excluding household services
 - enterprise
 - corporation, non-profit institution, unincorporated enterprise, quasi corporation
- International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev 4)
- ILO framework for defining informal sector

Coverage of SBR

- Enterprises that are registered with selected set of administrative sources
 - that can easily be combined
- Ideally, the selected sources should include all
 - non-financial corporations
 - financial corporations
 - general government units
 - not for profit institutions
 - registered household enterprises

Define the *informal sector* to be all household enterprises that are **nonregistered** with these sources and hence **not included in the SBR.** With this definition

> coverage of the SBR <u>coincides with</u> the formal sector SBR is <u>not</u> designed to cover informal sector

AfDB SBR Guidelines Model



The generic SBR system

- The guideline is necessary but not sufficient for promoting the adoption of SBRs;
- In 2015 AfDB developed the generic SBR system which can be readily adapted to African countries.
- The goal of the generic SBR system is to induce adoption of the guidelines and associated concepts and frameworks by simplifying the task of constructing and deploying an SBR.
- The core component of the generic SBR system is a register supporting the three-tier AfDB SSU model.
- It has several functionalities ranging from data import, transformation, snapshots, register statistics, survey frames, sampling and survey analysis.



AfDB SBR Activities/Program

- Technical Support to Regional Member Countries to adapt and use the AfDB SBR guidelines
- Conduct regional and national training workshops on the AfDB SBR Guidelines and Generic SBR System
- Provide modest financial support to RMCs to develop SBR using grants; as a component of project.
- Planning to conduct SBR Assessment in the selected RMCs in COMESA and SADC that are English Speaking.
- Review and revise the AfDB SBR Guidelines to include new/emerging concepts and methods that are applicable to African countries' situations
- Promote collaboration with development partners in joint SBR programs in African countries.

Country SBR Activities/Program

- Prepare Proposal for SBR Development and Operations
- Use of the AfDB SBR Guideline as a basis
- Define SBR Units Model including standard statistical units
- Choice of primary and secondary sources
- Signing of MOUs with administrative sources to obtain data on a regular basis
- Define profiling and SBR survey procedures
- Define sampling procedures
- Define statistical outputs from SBR
- Develop SBR System based on AfDB Generic SBR System

Ongoing SBR Guidelines and SBR System adaptations

- Adaptations are ongoing in the following countries:
 - eSwatini
 - Botswana
 - Malawi
 - Mauritius
- Future adaptations:
 - Zambia
 - Ethiopia
 - Namibia
 - Uganda

AfDB Guidelines for BUILDING STATISTICAL BUSINESS REGISTERS IN AFRICA

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https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledg e/publications/guidelines-forbuilding-statistical-businessregisters-in-africa/



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE ATTENTION