

NEWSLETTER No. 24

CompNet The Competitiveness Research Network

Call for papers

The Call for papers for the Annual CompNet Conference which takes place on the 21st-22nd June 2018 at the Leopoldina conference hall in Halle, Germany is still on-going. The main topics of the conference will be *Economic Growth*, *Trade* and *Productivity dispersion*. **The deadline for submissions is the 15th of April**. Please send your submissions to secretariat@comp-net.org.

For additional information you can visit the CompNet [website](#) or check the official [Call for papers](#).

Data Collection

The data collection of the 6th Vintage of the CompNet database is nearly completed. The cooperation with several central banks and national statistical institutes is going now into its final phase. The database is planned to go online – for data providers and participating institutions - in April 2018.

Working Group on Cross-Country Comparability

One of the biggest strengths of the CompNet database is its cross-country comparability. In the pursuit of delivering a unique database of the highest standard a new working group was initiated in the end of 2017. The group has the goal to find ways to improve the CompNet database beyond the already implemented best practices in the field.

To achieve that goal, the group is comprised of experts in the field of economics and statistics and advised by Harvard Professor Marc Melitz and the General Director of the Tinbergen Institute, Eric Bartelsman.

CompNet Workshop: The 6th Vintage of the CompNet Database

The next CompNet workshop will take place at the European Central Bank on the 26th and 27th of April 2018. The highlight of the workshop will be the presentation of the cross-country report based on the 6th vintage of the CompNet database, as well as the report of the High-profile Working group on “Cross-country comparability of the Micro-based dataset” (see Box).

During the Workshop, data providers will discuss the current CompNet codes and provide feedbacks for their improvement, including new indicators to add in next round (7th vintage), to be started towards the end of 2018.

The last part of the workshop will be dedicated to ongoing research projects based on the CompNet database in the form of brief presentations and a discussion round on potential research based on the newest vintage.



Exchange Rate Movements, Firm-Level Exports and Heterogeneity

A Banque de France working paper written by A. Berthou & E. Dhyne released in January 2018. The authors use the CompNet database to show how the exchange rate elasticity may be affected by firm-level productivity and how the heterogeneous reaction of different firms contribute to the shape of a country's aggregate export reaction.