CompNet The Competitiveness Research Network

Newsletter No. 27

6th Vintage CompNet Dataset: public release

Public access to the newly released 6th vintage dataset has been ensured since February 1st. External researchers can now apply to access the dataset through the application form found in the data section of the CompNet Website.

CompNet 7th Vintage data collection

CompNet has now started working towards the collection of data for the 7th vintage dataset.

The data collection procedure has been improved based on the insights of the comparability report and user feedbacks. In particular, the 7th vintage dataset aims to expand country coverage, the quality and scope of indicators and incorporates a new weighting procedure to improve comparability across countries and sectors.

Data Provider Forum, 6-7th May 2019

The next Data Provider Forum will be held on the 6th and 7th of May, 2019 at the Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH).

Joint CompNet - ENRI - IMF - EIB - IWH Conference

The Competitiveness Research Network is glad to present the final program of its annual conference "**From Micro to Macro: Market Power, Firms' heterogeneity and Investment**" jointly organized by **CompNet, ENRI, IMF, EIB** and **IWH** and held at the EIB headquarters in Luxembourg **on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th March 2019.**

The conference aims at addressing whether and to what extent the rising market power of certain firms and, more broadly, the heterogeneity at the firm level matter for such aggregate trends as the slowdown of aggregate output growth, persistently low investment rates, declining labor shares and rising inequality.

We are very proud to present a line-up of outstanding papers and academics and we are happy to announce that Peter Praet (Chief Economist at ECB) has confirmed his participation as our distinguished keynote speaker.

Please find more information and the program for the conference on our website.

Final Versions of 6th Vintage Dataset Reports now available

All the **complementary publications** related to the 6th vintage dataset are now accessible in their **final version** on the website. The review of all three documents is highly recommended for an effective use of the new dataset.

The 6th vintage user guide provides researchers with necessary information to have an easy start with the usage of the new wave of the CompNet dataset. It illustrates how the dataset is structured, the range of indicators available, presents the joint distributions and how to use them to analyze the data. It includes an extensive appendix with information on data providers and sources, sector coverage and an overview of all available indicators.

A new version (updated in December 2018) of the cross-country report was reviewed especially in the trade part. It also highlights selected stylized facts of potential high value for research and policy, emerging from the 6th vintage dataset.

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The cross-country comparability report, drafted by a working group chaired by Marc Melitz (Harvard University), aims at assessing whether sources and data collection methodologies are consistent across countries and if indicator construction methodologies guarantee a good representativeness of the dataset.

IWH-CompNet Discussion Paper Series

Three new publications belonging to the **IWH CompNet discussion paper series** have now been included in the research section of CompNet website. This series constitutes our own working paper series, which features research on CompNet related fields (such as productivity and competitiveness) with and without CompNet data. Our discussion paper series is conceived to be a publication platform for researchers who are keen to produce research based on CompNet data and focus on related topics.

The new papers include:

1. "**Micro-mechanisms Behind Declining Labour Shares: Market Power, Production Processes, and Global Competition**" is a new paper by M. Mertens which investigates how changing production processes and increasing market power at the firm level relate to a fall in Germany's manufacturing sector labour share.

2. "**Labour market power and the distorting effects of international trade**" by M. Mertens examines how trade shocks shape labour market imperfections that create market power in labour markets and prevent an efficient allocation of labour.

3. "**The effect of the single currency on exports: Comparative firm-level evidence**" is a new work by T. Lalinsky and J. Meriküll which investigates how adopting the euro affects exports using firm-level data from Slovakia and Estonia.

They are available at the following link together with the previous papers belonging to this series.