Introductory remarks

CompNet-France Strategie-IWH Joint Conference

1st User Conference
Paris 8-9 October 2019
1. We started in 2012 as an initiative of the European system of Central Banks with a double mandate:
   - Provide a forum for research on productivity/competitiveness related matters
   - Provide top standard indicators on productivity drivers, which are firm-level based.

2. Since early 2017, we are a self-managed Network financed by major European institutions, including ECB, EU Commission (EC-Grow and EC-EcFin), EIB, EBRD and academic institutions (IWH-Halle and Tinbergen). Our management is handled by IWH-Halle and the ECB, which we thank for this important work.

3. Among data providers, in addition to several National Central banks, we can count on an increasing number of Statistical institutes (8).

Thanks to all this, we are able to improve the quality of the dataset and its cross country comparability. Hence, we can be proud of having reached a very high standard.
Why do we need CompNet? A reminder

1. Firms are **heterogeneous**: averages measures can be quite misleading and therefore we need more granularity in the data to study the entire distribution of firms

2. Unfortunately, firm-level data is **confidential** harming cross-country comparability

3. One possible solution is to rely on **Orbis data**, from BvD.
   - There is limited coverage/representativeness for a number of countries and information is lacking on employment and exports

4. Here we fill the gap thanks to a micro-distributed methodology
   - We use firm-level data available at data providers
   - We collect distributions of competitiveness-related indicators to preserve confidentiality
   - We use the same protocol in all countries to ensure harmonization
What has been going on in CompNet in the last few months

1. In March we organized successfully a conference in Luxembourg on the determinants and development of market power and impacts on productivity.

2. In parallel we focused on updating and revising the codes. We improved the dataset incorporating new variables, e.g. firms exit and entry, energy consumption, intra-EU and extra-EU import/export among others.

3. We decided to launch a remote training initiative:
   - The course is modular with respect to the needs and knowledge of the relevant audience.
   - There will be three modules: for beginners, intermediate and advanced users.

4. Finally, we have been working on the next conferences, especially the one on finance and productivity at the EBRD, in London in December.
Roadmap for the next months

Today
- First User Conference in Paris

End of October 2019
- First release of a subsample of the dataset

December 2019
- Release of the cross country report and FINPRO conference

Spring 2020
- Release of the final dataset and user guide

March 2020
- Conference in Bratislava at the NSB

July 2020
- CompNet 2020 Annual Conference at the ECB
About today

WHAT WILL WE DO?

- We have gathered researchers involved in using the CompNet dataset to discuss their work
- At this stage we have some 80 research teams doing so across the world

WHY?

- This conference is a great opportunity to explore synergies and getting ideas on research output for new members
- Besides that, it is a gathering of colleagues, friends and co-authors who have been working for long together
Conclusion

THANK YOU AND ENJOY THE EVENT!