Republic of Albania Enterprise Surveys Data Set

1. Introduction

1.   This document provides additional information on the data collected in Albania during calendar years 2008/2009 as part of the fourth round of the Business Environment and Enterprise Performance Survey (BEEPS IV), a joint initiative of the World Bank Group ("WB") and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("EBRD"). It is an enterprise survey whose objective is to gain an understanding of firms' perception of the environment in which they operate. The survey was until now administered three times at three years interval. This has added an important element of dynamics in the study of business environment in transition countries.

The 2008 survey was restructured to improve cross-country comparability and to make it compatible with the Enterprise Surveys the Enterprise Analysis Unit of the World Bank has been implementing in the past two years in other regions of the world.

The objective of the survey is to obtain feedback from enterprises in client countries on the state of the private sector as well as to help in building a panel of enterprise data that will make it possible to track changes in the business environment over time, thus allowing, for example, impact assessments of reforms.

Through interviews with firms in the manufacturing and services sectors, the survey will assess the constraints to private sector growth and create statistically significant business environment indicators that are comparable across countries.

The report outlines and describes the sampling design of the data, the data set structure as well as additional information that may be useful when using the data, such as information on non-response cases and the appropriate use of the weights.

2. Sampling Structure

2.   Due to a lack of reliable sample frame block enumeration was used in Albania. Before the enumerated establishments could be selected it was first necessary to remove any that had been selected for use in the Enterprise Survey 2007. Examination of the remaining establishments and the panel establishments showed that they would not be sufficient to obtain the target numbers of interviews. Therefore it was agreed that the numbers could be augmented by reinter views with establishments interviewed for the Enterprise Survey 2007. Thus the selected sample had three components. The BEEPS 2005 sample that met eligibility criteria was used in its entirety. Then available enumerated blocks were selected. Finally establishments for re-interview were selected to make up any expected deficits from the first two components.

b. To obtain unbiased estimates for the whole population. The whole population, or universe of the study, is the non-agricultural economy. It comprises: all manufacturing sectors according to the group classification of ISIC Revision 3.1: (group D), construction sector (group F), services sector (groups G and H), and transport, storage,

and communications sector (group I). Note that this definition excludes the following sectors: financial intermediation (group J), real estate and renting activities (group K, except sub-sector 72, IT, which was added to the population under study), and all public or utilities-sectors.

c. To make sure that the final total sample includes establishments from all different sectors and that it is not concentrated in one or two of industries/sizes/regions.

d. To exploit the benefits of stratified sampling where population estimates, in most cases, will be more precise than using a simple random sampling method (i.e., lower standard errors, other things being equal.)

e. Stratification may produce a smaller bound on the error of estimation than would be produced by a simple random sample of the same size. This result is particularly true if measurements within strata are homogeneous.

f. The cost per observation in the survey may be reduced by stratification of the population elements into convenient groupings.

3. Three levels of stratification were used in this country: industry, establishment size, and oblast (region). The original sample design with specific information of the industries and regions chosen is described in Appendix E.

4. Industry stratification was designed in the way that follows: the universe was stratified into 23 manufacturing industries, 2 services industries -retail and IT-, and one residual sector as defined in the sampling manual. The manufacturing sector had a target of 75 interviews, the services sector had a target of 55 interviews, and the residual sector had a target of 70 interviews.

5. Size stratification was defined following the standardized definition for the rollout: small (5 to 19 employees), medium (20 to 99 employees), and large (more than 99 employees)[1]. For stratification purposes, the number of employees was defined on the basis of reported permanent full-time workers. This seems to be an appropriate definition of the labor force since seasonal/casual/part-time employment is not a common practice, except in the sectors of construction and agriculture.

6. Regional stratification was defined in five regions. These regions are Tirane, Durres, Elbasan, Fier, and Vlora.

3. Sampling implementation

7. Given the stratified design, sample frames containing a complete and updated list of establishments for the selected regions were required. Great efforts were made to obtain the best source for these listings. However, the quality of the sample frames was not optimal and, therefore, some adjustments were needed to correct for the presence of ineligible units. These adjustments are reflected in the weights computation (*see below*).

8. For most countries covered in BEEPS IV, two sample frames were used. The first was supplied by the World Bank and consisted of enterprises interviewed in BEEPS

---

[1] The panel firms from BEEPS 2005 with less than 5 employees are included in the 5 to 19 strata.

2005. The World Bank required that attempts should be made to re-interview establishments responding to the BEEPS 2005 survey where they were within the selected geographical regions and met eligibility criteria. That sample is referred to as the Panel.

The Investment Climate survey conducted for the World Bank in Albania in 2007/8 showed that a suitable second frame did not exist for the country. Instead, the design returned to first principles, using a blocks enumeration methodology. Detailed maps of major cities were obtained from aerial mappings projected to a usable scale. They served as the basis of a multi-stage approach: Each city was divided into 'blocks' and then the blocks were classified into strata defined by the predominant spatial use, using local knowledge. The classifications used for the blocks included industrial, commercial, commercial/residential (mixed), and residential coding.

Blocks were selected and enumerated; building by building, floor by floor. Each separate unit was identified, classified as to use and in the case of business establishments further details collected as to employee numbers, activity, name, and phone number. This enumeration was then employed to project to universe totals by reference to the screening results and the number of blocks in each stratum. The establishments enumerated in those blocks were then used as the frame for the selection of the Enterprise Survey 2007 sample. Additional enumeration was conducted in 2008 and details of that enumeration were sent to TNS's statistical team in London to combine the two sets and then to select the establishments for interview for BEEPS.

9. The quality of the frame was assessed at the onset of the project. The frame proved to be useful though it showed positive rates of non-eligibility, repetition, non-existent units, etc. These problems are typical of establishment surveys, but given the impact these inaccuracies may have on the results, adjustments were needed when computing the appropriate weights for individual observations. The percentage of confirmed non-eligible units as a proportion of the total number of contacts to complete the survey was 26% (122 out of 476 establishments).

Sample Frame Albania

Source: Enumeration 2008 + Enterprise Survey 2007

Region	Employees	Sector			Grand Total
		Manufacturing	52	Residual	
Tirane	5-19	55	76	141	272
	20-99	47	10	48	105
	100+	13	3	8	24
Tirane Total		115	89	197	401
Durres	5-19	4	4	13	21
	20-99	7	0	8	15
	100+	2	0	0	2
Durres Total		13	4	21	38
Elbasan	5-19	4	1	6	11
	20-99	3	1	3	7
	100+	0	0	0	
Elbasan Total		7	2	9	18
Fier	5-19	13	1	3	17
	20-99	4	0	1	5
	100+	0	0	0	
Fier Total		17	1	4	22
Vlora	5-19	10	5	10	25
	20-99	7	1	1	9
	100+	3	0	0	3
Vlora Total		20	6	11	37
Grand Total		172	102	242	516

Sectors included in the Sample:

Original Sectors	Manufactures: 15 to 37 Services: 52 Residual: 45, 50, 51, 55, 60 to 64,72
Added Sectors	No

4. Data Base Structure:

10.   The structure of the data base reflects the fact that 3 different versions of the questionnaire were used. The basic questionnaire, the Core Module, includes all common questions asked to all establishments from all sectors (manufacturing, services and IT). The second expanded variation, the Manufacturing Questionnaire, is built upon the Core Module and adds some specific questions relevant to the sector. The third expanded variation, the Services Questionnaire, is also built upon the Core Module and adds to the core specific questions relevant to either retail or IT. Each variation of the questionnaire is identified by the index variable, *a0*.

11.   All variables are named using, first, the letter of each section and, second, the number of the variable within the section, i.e. *a1* denotes section *A*, question *1*. Variable names preceded by a prefix "*ECA*" indicate questions used in the previous rollout (2005) and, therefore, they may not be found in the implementation of the rollout in other Countries. All other suffixed variables are global and are present in all country surveys over the world. All variables are numeric with the exception of those variables with an "x" at the end of their names. The suffix "x" denotes that the variable is alpha-numeric.

12.   There are 2 establishment identifiers, *idstd* and *id*. The first is a global unique identifier. The second is a country unique identifier. The variables *a2* (sampling region), *a6a* (sampling establishment's size), and *a4a* (sampling sector) contain the establishment's classification into the strata chosen for each country using information from the sample frame. The strata were defined according to the guidelines described above.

13.   As noted above, there are 3 levels of stratification: industry, size and region. Different combinations of these variables generate the strata cells for each industry/region/size combination. A distinction should be made between the variable *a4a* and *d1a2 (industry expressed as ISIC rev. 3.1 code)*. The former gives the establishment's classification into one of the chosen industry-strata, whereas the latter gives the actual establishment's industry classification (*four digit code*) in the sample frame.

14.   All of the following variables contain information from the sampling frame and were defined with the sampling design. They may not coincide with the reality of individual establishments as sample frames may contain inaccurate information. The variables containing the sample frame information are included in the data set for researchers who may want to further investigate statistical features of the survey and the effect of the survey design on their results.

     -*a2* is the variable describing sampling regions
     -*a6a*: coded using the same standard for small, medium, and large establishments as defined above.

-*a4a*: coded using ISIC codes for the chosen industries for stratification. These codes include most manufacturing industries (15 to 36), and retail, and IT for services (52, and 72 respectively).
-id2005: The variable contains the firm ids of the panel firms
-id2007: The variable contains the firm ids of the panel firms interviewed in 2007. (available only in Bulgaria, Albania, and Croatia)

15.   The surveys were implemented following a 2 stage procedure. In the first stage a screener questionnaire was applied over the phone to determine eligibility and to make appointments; in the second stage, a face-to-face interview took place with the Manager/Owner/Director of each establishment. The variables *a4b* and *a6b* contain the industry and size of the establishment from the screener questionnaire. Variables *a8* to *a11* contain additional information and were also collected in the screening phase.

16.   Note that there are additional variables for location (*a3x*), industry (*d1a2*), and size (*l1*, *l6* and *l8*) that reflect more accurately the reality of each establishment. Advance users are advised to use these variables for analytical purposes.

17   Variable *a3x* indicates the actual location of the establishment. There may be divergences between the location in the sampling frame and the actual location, as establishments may be listed in one place but the actual physical location is in another place.

18.   Variable *d1a2* indicates the actual ISIC code of the main output of the establishment as answered by the interviewee. This is probably the most accurate variable to classify establishments by activity.

19.   Variables *l1*, *l6* and *l8* were designed to obtain a more accurate measure of employment accounting for permanent and temporary employment. Special efforts were made to make sure that this information was not missing for most establishments.

20.   Variables *a17x* gives interviewer comments, including problems that occurred during an interview and extraordinary circumstances which could influence results.

5. Universe Estimates

21.   As block enumeration was used in Albania the calculation of universe estimates and weights made use of data from the enumeration rather than from the BEEPS response codes used for other countries. The enumerated totals were adjusted to take account of the establishments found to be ineligible when interviews were attempted. Then ratios of the total numbers of blocks of each type to the totals enumerated were formed. Those ratios were then applied to the eligible establishments enumerated to provide universe estimates.

22.   Appendix C shows the overall estimates of the numbers of establishments in Albania based on the block ratios.

6. Weights

23.   Since the sampling design was stratified and employed differential sampling individual observations should be properly weighted when making inferences about the population. Under stratified random sampling unweighted estimates are biased unless sample sizes are proportional to the size of each stratum. With stratification the probability of selection of each unit is, in general, not the same. Consequently, individual observations must be weighted by the inverse of their probability of selection (probability weights or *pw* in Stata.)[2]

24.   The weights of the establishments were calculated as the universes estimated for each cell divided by the effective interviews in the cell. The weight values were then appended to the corresponding records of the establishments in the datasets. Those weights are shown in Appendix A.

Please note that for the purpose of the weights computations all panel firms were considered to be part of the current universe, although technically they are not randomly selected.

7. Appropriate use of the weights

27.   As discussed above, under stratified random sampling weights should be used when making inferences about the population. Any estimate or indicator that aims at describing some feature of the population should take into account that individual observations may not represent equal shares of the population.

28.   However, there is some discussion as to the use of weights in regressions (see Deaton, 1997, pp.67; Lohr, 1999, chapter 11, Cochran, 1953, pp.150). There is not strong large sample econometric argument in favor of using weighted estimation for a common population coefficient if the underlying model varies per stratum (stratum-specific coefficient): both simple OLS and weighted OLS are inconsistent under regular conditions. However, weighted OLS has the advantage of providing an estimate that is independent of the sample design. This latter point may be quite relevant for the Enterprise Surveys as in most cases the objective is not only to obtain model-unbiased estimates but also design-unbiased estimates (see also Cochran, 1977, pp 200 who favors the used of weighted OLS for a common population coefficient.) [3]

---

[2] This is equivalent to the weighted average of the estimates for each stratum, with weights equal to the population shares of each stratum.
[3] Note that weighted OLS in Stata using the command regress with the option of weights will estimate wrong standard errors. Using the Stata survey specific commands svy will provide appropriate standard errors.

29.	From a more general approach, if the regressions are descriptive of the population then weights should be used. The estimated model can be thought of as the relationship that would be expected if the whole population were observed[4]. If the models are developed as structural relationships or behavioral models that may vary for different parts of the population, then, there is no reason to use weights.

8. Non-response

30.	Survey non-response must be differentiated from item non-response. The former refers to refusals to participate in the survey altogether whereas the latter refers to the refusals to answer some specific questions. Enterprise Surveys suffer from both problems and different strategies were used to address these issues.

31.	Item non-response was addressed by two strategies:
	a- For sensitive questions that may generate negative reactions from the respondent, such as corruption or tax evasion, enumerators were instructed to collect the refusal to respond as (-8).
	b- Establishments with incomplete information were re-contacted in order to complete this information, whenever necessary. However, there were clear cases of low response. The following graph shows non-response rates for the sales variable, *d2,* by type of questionnaire. Please, note that the coding utilized in this dataset does not allow us to differentiated between "Don't know" and "refuse to answer", thus the non-response in the table below reflects both categories (DKs and NAs).

---

[4] The use weights in most model-assisted estimations using survey data is strongly recommended by the statisticians specialized on survey methodology of the JPSM of the University of Michigan and the University of Maryland.

**Sales Non-response Rates
Albania, 2009**
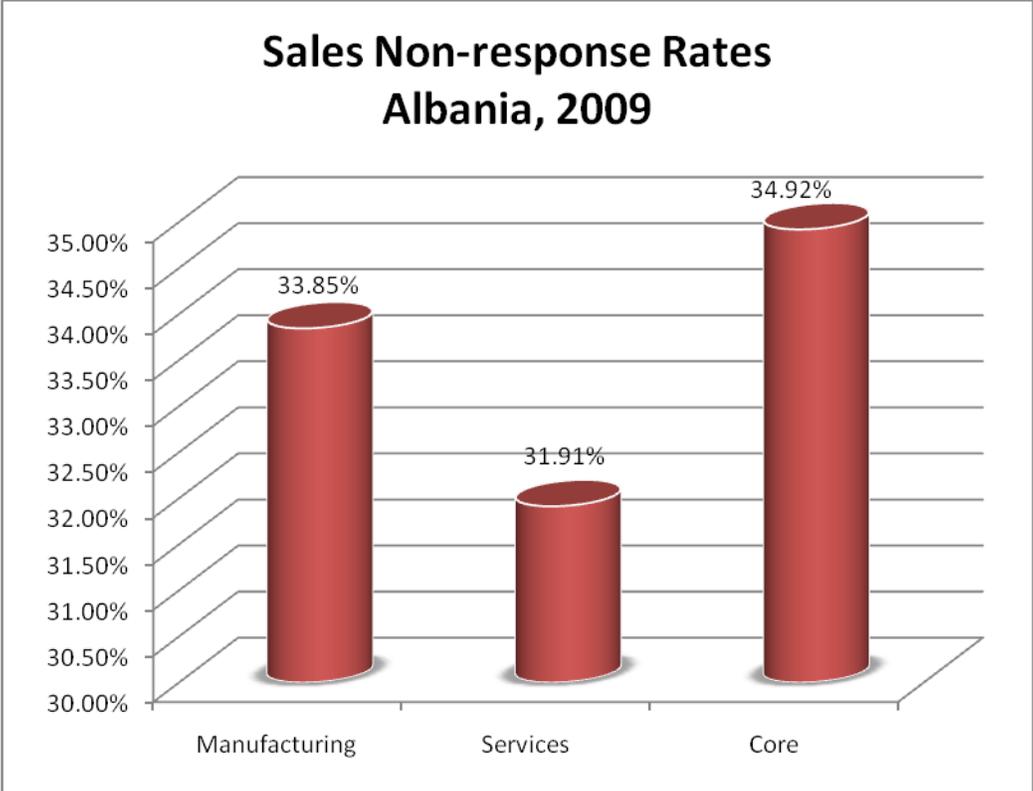
32.   Survey non-response was addressed by maximizing efforts to contact establishments that were initially selected for interview. Up to 4 attempts were made to contact the establishment for interview at different times/days of the week before a replacement establishment (with similar strata characteristics) was suggested for interview. Survey non-response did occur but substitutions were made in order to potentially achieve strata-specific goals.   Further research is needed on survey non-response in the Enterprise Surveys regarding potential introduction of bias.

33.   As the following graph shows, the number of contacted establishments per realized interview was 2.58. This number is the result of two factors: explicit refusals to participate in the survey, as reflected by the rate of rejection (which includes rejections of the screener and the main survey) and the quality of the sample frame, as represented by the presence of ineligible units.

Rejection rate and Contacts per Interviews Albania, 2009
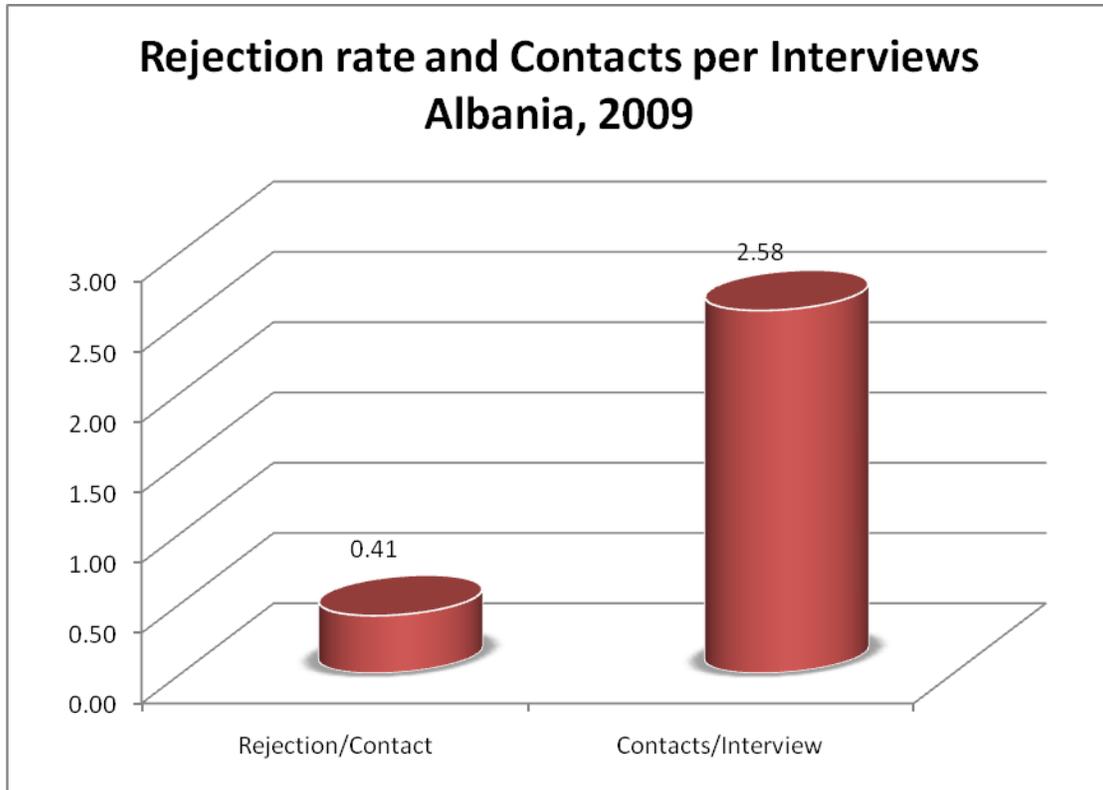
34.	Details on rejections rates, eligibility rates, and item non-response are available at the level strata. This report summarizes these numbers to alert researchers of these issues when using the data and when making inferences. Item non-response, selection bias, and faulty sampling frames are not unique to Albania. All enterprise surveys suffer from these shortcomings but in very few cases they have been made explicit.

References

Cochran, William G., Sampling Techniques, 1977.

Deaton, Angus, The Analysis of Household Surveys, 1998.

Levy, Paul S. and Stanley Lemeshow, Sampling of Populations: Methods and Applications, 1999.

Lohr, Sharon L. Samping: Design and Techniques, 1999.

Scheaffer, Richard L.; Mendenhall, W.; Lyman, R., Elementary Survey Sampling, Fifth Edition, 1996

Appendix A
Cell Weights – Albania

Region	Employees	Sector		
		Manufacturing	**52**	**Residual**
Tirane	5-19	11	7	10
	20-99	6	13	6
	100+	19		6
Durres	5-19	2		11
	20-99	17		4
	100+	4		
Elbasan	5-19	11		2
	20-99			7
	100+			
Fier	5-19	21		
	20-99	5		
	100+			
Vlora	5-19	13	20	14
	20-99	4		
	100+	4		

Appendix B

Status Codes - Total

	ELIGIBLES	
Eligible	1.Eligible establishment *(Correct name and address)*	327
	2. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the new firm/establishment bought the original firm/establishment)*	0
	3. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the firm/establishment changed its name)*	0
	4. Eligible establishment *(Wrong address - the firm/establishment has changed address and the address could be found)*	0
	16. Panel firm - now less than five employees	0
Ineligible	5. The establishment has less than 5 permanent full time employees	13
	6. The firm discontinued businesses	9
	7. Not a business: private household	0
	8. Ineligible activity: education, agriculture, finances, governments…	17
Unobtainable	91. No reply *(after having called in different days of the week and in different business hours)*	69
	92. Line out of order	0
	93. No tone	3
	10. Answering machine	2
	11. Fax line - data line	0
	12. Wrong address/ moved away and could not get the new references	3
	13. Refuses to answer the screener	3
	14. In process *(the establishment is being called/ is being contacted - previous to ask the screener)*	**24**
	151. Out of target - outside the covered regions, firm moved abroad	1
	152. Out of target - firm moved abroad	5
	Total	**476**

Response Outcomes - Total

Complete interviews *(Total)*	175
Incomplete interviews	20
Eligible in process	0
Refusals	132
Out of target	39
Impossible to contact	77
Ineligible - coop.	6
Refusal to the Screener	3
Total	**452**

PANEL

Complete interviews *(Total)*	17
Incomplete interviews	0
Eligible in process	0
Refusals	7
Out of target	12
Impossible to contact	43
Ineligible - coop.	6
Refusal to the Screener	3
Total	**88**

	ELIGIBLES	
Eligible	1.Eligible establishment *(Correct name and address)*	24
	2. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the new firm/establishment bought the original firm/establishment)*	0
	3. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the firm/establishment changed its name)*	0
	4. Eligible establishment *(Wrong address - the firm/establishment has changed address and the address could be found)*	0
	16. Panel firm - now less than five employees	0
Ineligible	5. The establishment has less than 5 permanent full time employees	0
	6. The firm discontinued businesses	6
	7. Not a business: private household	0
	8. Ineligible activity: education, agriculture, finances, governments…	6
Unobtainable	91. No reply *(after having called in different days of the week and in different business hours)*	37
	92. Line out of order	0
	93. No tone	3
	10. Answering machine	0
	11. Fax line - data line	0
	12. Wrong address/ moved away and could not get the new references	3
	13. Refuses to answer the screener	3
	14. In process *(the establishment is being called/ is being contacted - previous to ask the screener)*	**9**
	151. Out of target - outside the covered regions, firm moved abroad	1
	152. Out of target - firm moved abroad	5
	Total	**97**

ENTERPRISE SURVEY 2007

Complete interviews *(Total)*	121
Incomplete interviews	0
Eligible in process	0
Refusals	47
Out of target	2
Impossible to contact	17
Ineligible - coop.	0
Refusal to the Screener	0
Total	**187**

	ELIGIBLES	
Eligible	1.Eligible establishment *(Correct name and address)*	168
	2. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the new firm/establishment bought the original firm/establishment)*	0
	3. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the firm/establishment changed its name)*	0
	4. Eligible establishment *(Wrong address - the firm/establishment has changed address and the address could be found)*	0
	16. Panel firm - now less than five employees	0
Ineligible	5. The establishment has less than 5 permanent full time employees	0
	6. The firm discontinued businesses	2
	7. Not a business: private household	0
	8. Ineligible activity: education, agriculture, finances, governments…	0
Unobtainable	91. No reply *(after having called in different days of the week and in different business hours)*	16
	92. Line out of order	0
	93. No tone	0
	10. Answering machine	1
	11. Fax line - data line	0
	12. Wrong address/ moved away and could not get the new references	0
	13. Refuses to answer the screener	0
	14. In process *(the establishment is being called/ is being contacted - previous to ask the screener)*	**13**
	151. Out of target - outside the covered regions, firm moved abroad	0
	152. Out of target - firm moved abroad	0
	Total	**200**

FRESH

Complete interviews *(Total)*	37
Incomplete interviews	20
Eligible in process	0
Refusals	78
Out of target	25
Impossible to contact	17
Ineligible - coop.	0
Refusal to the Screener	0
Total	**177**

	ELIGIBLES	
Eligible	1.Eligible establishment *(Correct name and address)*	135
	2. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the new firm/establishment bought the original firm/establishment)*	0
	3. Eligible establishment *(Different name but same address - the firm/establishment changed its name)*	0
	4. Eligible establishment *(Wrong address - the firm/establishment has changed address and the address could be found)*	0
	16. Panel firm - now less than five employees	0
Ineligible	5. The establishment has less than 5 permanent full time employees	13
	6. The firm discontinued businesses	1
	7. Not a business: private household	0
	8. Ineligible activity: education, agriculture, finances, governments…	11
Unobtainable	91. No reply *(after having called in different days of the week and in different business hours)*	16
	92. Line out of order	0
	93. No tone	0
	10. Answering machine	1
	11. Fax line - data line	0
	12. Wrong address/ moved away and could not get the new references	0
	13. Refuses to answer the screener	0
	14. In process *(the establishment is being called/ is being contacted - previous to ask the screener)*	**2**
	151. Out of target - outside the covered regions, firm moved abroad	0
	152. Out of target - firm moved abroad	0
	Total	**179**

Appendix C

Status Codes Summary Fieldwork Reports--TOTAL

Eligibility Rules

Status Code	Eligibility Criteria		
	Strict	**Weak**	**Median**
1. Eligible establishment (Correct name and address)	1	1	1
2. Eligible establishment (Different name but same address - the new firm/establishment bought the original firm/establishment)	1	1	1
3. Eligible establishment (Different name but same address - the firm/establishment changed its name)	1	1	1
4. Eligible establishment (Wrong address - the firm/establishment has changed address and the address could be found)	1	1	1
16. Panel firm - now less than five employees	1	1	1
5. The establishment has less than 5 permanent full time employees	0	0	0
6. The firm discontinued businesses	0	0	0
7. Not a business: Private household	0	0	0
8. Ineligible activity: education, agriculture, finances, governments…	0	0	0
91. No reply (after having called in different days of the week and in different business hours)	0	1	0
92. Line out of order	0	1	0
93. No tone	0	1	0
10. Answering machine	0	1	1
11. Fax line – data line	0	1	1
12. Wrong address/ moved away and could not get the new references	0	1	0
13. Refuses to answer the screener	0	1	1
14. In process *(the establishment is being called/ is being contacted – previous to ask the screener)*	0	0	0
151. Out of target – outside the covered regions, firm moved abroad	0	0	0
152. Out of target – firm moved abroad	0	0	0

Strict eligibility
  = (Sum of the numbers with codes 1,2,3,4,&16) / Total

Weak eligibility
  = (Sum of the numbers with codes 1,2,3,4,16,91,92,93,10,11,12,&13) / Total

Median eligibility
  = (Sum of the numbers with codes 1,2,3,4,16,10,11, & 13) / Total

Albania Universe Estimates

Region	Employees	Sector Manufacturing	52	Residual	Grand Total
Tirane	5-19	228	211	292	732
	20-99	101	26	125	253
	100+	94		17	110
Tirane Total		423	237	434	1,095
Durres	5-19	5		53	58
	20-99	87		9	96
	100+	7			7
Durres Total		100		61	161
Elbasan	5-19	11		15	26
	20-99			15	15
	100+				
Elbasan Total		11		29	41
Fier	5-19	42			42
	20-99	5			5
	100+				
Fier Total		47			47
Vlora	5-19	93	20	41	154
	20-99	11			11
	100+	4			4
Vlora Total		108	20	41	169
Grand Total		690	257	565	1,513

Appendix D

Questionnaires:

Problems for the understanding of questions (write question number)	No major problems
Problems found in the navigability of – questionnaires (for example, skip patterns).	No major problems
Comments on questionnaires length:	No major problems
Suggestions or other comments on the questionnaire:	No major problems

Database

Comments on the data entry program	Data entry program chosen: PERTS Comments: None
Comments on the data cleaning	N/A

Country situation

General aspects of economic, political or social situation of the country that could affect the results of the survey:	Businesses in Albania usually operate with two balance sheets. They operate in this way in order to evade taxes. They keep one balance sheet for the tax purposes (the report they deliver to the tax office) and the other one for themselves. So when it comes to questions regarding businesses turnover, profit, expenditures, employees, etc, businesses sometimes provide the real figures and sometimes they don't. As decided with TNS Opinion, we recorded the answers as provided by the respondent.
Relevant country events occurred during fieldwork:	None
Other aspects:	None

Appendix E

Original Sample Design

Region	Employees	Sector			
		Manufacturing	52	Residual	Grand Total
Tirane	5-19	22	42	23	87
	20-99	21	6	23	50
	100+	7	2	4	13
Tirane Total		50	50	50	150
Durres	5-19	2	2	6	10
	20-99	3	0	4	7
	100+	1	0	0	1
Durres Total		6	2	10	18
Elbasan	5-19	2	0	3	5
	20-99	1	0	1	2
	100+	0	0	0	0
Elbasan Total		3	0	4	7
Fier	5-19	6	0	1	7
	20-99	2	0	0	2
	100+	0	0	0	0
Fier Total		8	0	1	9
Vlora	5-19	4	3	5	12
	20-99	3	0	0	3
	100+	1	0	0	1
Vlora Total		8	3	5	16
Grand Total		75	55	70	200

Appendix F

Local Agency team involved in the study:

Local Agency	Name: IDRA Research & Consulting Country: Albania Membership of international organisation: ESOMAR Activities since: 2000
Name of Project Manager	Florian Babameto
Name and position of other key persons of the project:	Florian Babameto – Project Manager Stela Dhima – Fieldwork coordinator
Enumerators involved:	Enumerators: 25 Recruiters: the interviewers were in charge of the recruitment as well.
Other staff involved:	Fieldwork Coordinators: Stela Dhima Editing: Edison Zylalaj Data Entry: Tedi Çoka Data Processing: Tedi Çoka

Sample Frame:

Characteristic of sample frame used:	N/A
Source:	BEEPS 2005 Panel, 2008 Block Enumeration, 2007 Enterprise Survey list of establishments.
Year of publication:	2008 - 2009
Comments on the quality of sample frame:	There were several changes in the contact information for the BEEPS 2005 panel which made the process of contacting these specific companies very difficult and in many cases the establishments could not be found.
Year and organism who conducted the last economic census	NA

Sample:

Comments/ problems on sectors and regions selected in the sample:	On sectors: Problematic finding the businesses in the retail sector. Most of businesses in the retail sector that operate in Albania have less than 5 employees. It was quite challenging finding eligible companies. Especially for this sector we used more than 3 contacts to get the interviews completed. As in the Enterprise Survey 2007, this was on of the main causes for not being able to reach the quotas for this sector (RETAIL). On regions: No major problems
Comments on the response rate:	Response rate from the Enterprise Survey 2007 was quite good, above 50%
Comments on the sample design:	All sample frames used for this survey, except the BEEPS 2005 panel, were very good because the contact details (phone numbers, addresses) were accurate and up to date. They were built from the blocks enumerations conducted in 2007 and 2008.

Fieldwork:

Date of Fieldwork	October 2008 – February 2009
Country	Albania
Interview number	Manufactures: 69 Services: 35 Core: 71
Problems found during fieldwork:	The major problem was fixing an appointment with the target respondents. We contacted firms more than 4 times in order to complete the interviews.
Other observations:	No

Appendix H.

Survey Universe, Sample Population and Sampling Frames

The following provides description of the general methodology used in BEEPS 2009.

The survey universe was defined as commercial, service or industrial business establishments with at least five full-time employees. Government departments including military, police, education, health and similar activities were excluded, as were those in primary industries including agriculture, mining, etc.

There are no up to date and reliable statistics relating to this universe in the countries being

surveyed in BEEPS IV. Consequently the universe size and characteristics have to be directly

estimated from the survey results themselves. This requirement increases the emphasis that has to be placed on the quality of the sample frame, because the validity of the results is predominantly a function of coverage and age of the sampling frame.

The criteria used to evaluate the available sampling frame in descending priority were those of:

- Coverage
  - ✓ Up to datedness
  - ✓ Availability of detailed stratification variables
  - ✓ Location identifiers- address, phone number, email
  - ✓ Electronic format availability
  - ✓ Contact name(s)

The sample frames used for the surveys must consist of the lists of enterprises in each country that most optimally meet these requirements. The final selection was made by the TNS in collaboration with the World Bank and EBRD. For most countries covered in BEEPS IV two sample frames were used. The first frame was often an official frame of establishments supplied by the national statistical office of the country. The Enterprise Survey conducted for the World Bank in Albania in 2007/8 showed that a suitable frame did not exist for the country. Instead, the design returned to first principles, using a blocks enumeration methodology.