Measuring the Impact of COVID-19 in the Private Sector

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4/21/2020
Where We Stand

Countries with recent Enterprise Surveys
Candidates for COVID Follow-Up

Interviews with informal and micro firms
Upcoming surveys in at least 3 countries

19 ES currently in the field plus
4 upcoming countries
Proposed COVID module

Research using Existing Data
COVID Focus
Advantage of Follow-Up

• Full baseline data pre-outbreak → *before and after* analysis
• Representative sample of the private sector excluding agriculture and extractive industries → metrics of *exit* and *magnitude* of changes
• Existing contracts with local vendors → *faster* contracting
• Existing relationship with respondents along with full **updated contact information** (phone numbers and emails)
• **Existing infrastructure** (Samples/Training/Quality Assurance)
• Fully **converged** with PULSE FCI survey
Follow-up Questionnaire Composition

- **Standard ES (Baseline)**
- **Sales**
  - Change in Sales: Increase-Decrease-Same
- **Production**
  - Change in Activity:
    - Online Business
    - Remote Work
    - Temporary Closures
    - Changes in production
    - Value chain
- **Labor**
  - Change in Workforce:
    - Increase-Decrease-Same
    - Laid-off
    - Furlough
- **Finance**
  - Cashflow: Availability-Source
- **Government**
  - Government Measures: Recipient-Types of Measures
- **Prospects**
  - Arrears
  - Sales
  - Workforce

Follow-up: Current status of the establishment
1) Open
2) Temporarily closed
3) Permanently closed

Closed establishments:
- Timeline
- Measures implemented before closing

Implementation

• Phone interviews supported by email for self-administered if needed
• Questionnaire designed to last at most 15 minutes, average of 10 mins.
• 3 waves: now, in 3 months, in 6 months
  ➢ Now? -> definition adapted to each country’s stage in virus evolution
• Questionnaire to be adapted with the evolution of the crisis
• Collection time: approximately 2 to 4 weeks
• Budget: external cost of data collection
# Evidence from Financial Crisis Surveys 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Firms that Discontinued Business or Inactive (confirmed)</th>
<th>Turkey</th>
<th>Romania</th>
<th>Hungary</th>
<th>Latvia</th>
<th>Lithuania</th>
<th>Bulgaria</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Firms that Discontinued Business or Inactive plus Firms Impossible to Contact (assumed exit)</th>
<th>Turkey</th>
<th>Romania</th>
<th>Hungary</th>
<th>Latvia</th>
<th>Lithuania</th>
<th>Bulgaria</th>
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<tr>
<th>Response rate</th>
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Candidates for Follow-up Surveys:
On-Going Surveys Adaptation & Upcoming ES

• Revisit recently completed interviews with small module
• Add module to existing questionnaire for interviews yet to complete
• Add module to future ES project in the year: we will revisit how these will be implemented

• Topics covered in the module:
  ➢ Changes in sales, demand of products or services, and supply of inputs
  ➢ Changes in workforce
  ➢ Changes in cashflow availability and source
  ➢ Government measures
On-Going Surveys:
Informal Surveys and Micro-Firms Surveys

- Covid-19 module for upcoming informal surveys
- Small module being defined for these surveys
- Adding more questions to identify emerging informal surveys due to Covid-19
- Sampling is geographical so follow-up by phone on existing data is not possible
- We will start collecting phone numbers