

Malawi - Business Registration in Malawi Experimental Data and Replication Files 2011-2015

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

MWI_2011_BRIEL_v01_M

Overview

ABSTRACT

We conduct a randomized experiment in Malawi to test three alternative approaches to formalizing firms: a) assisting firms to obtain a business registration certificate that offers access to formal markets but imposes no tax obligations; b) assisting firms to obtain both this business registration and tax registration; and c) supplementing the assistance to obtain business registration with a bank information session intended to help firms utilize one of the key potential benefits of formalizing. This dataset consists of a baseline, four rounds of follow-up surveys, administrative data, and replication files for replicating the results of the paper "How should the government bring small firms into the formal system? Experimental evidence from Malawi"

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Microenterprise

Scope

NOTES

The Malawi Enterprise study covered the following topics:

Baseline

- Basic information about the business
- Premises and equipment
- Finance
 - Bank account and other financial services
- Business registration
- Production
- Price and sales
- Clients
- Profits, revenues and expenditures
- Financial literacy and preferences
- Challenges and thoughts about future
- Workers
- Training and networks

- Business owner
- Household information
- Household decision making

Midline and Endline

- Contact details of business owners
- Information on business operation
- Information about time dedicated to business
- Assets and new investments
- Credit
- Savings
- Bank account
- Registration
- Production, sales, and business practices
- Profits, revenues and expenditures
- Workers and business owners
- Opinions, income and household

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

We target firms in urban Lilongwe and Blantyre, the major commercial cities in Malawi. At the end of 2011, we listed over 100 business centers - that is, concentrations of firms including industrial parks, markets, streets with shops, set of workshops, etc. - and randomly sampled 46 of these business centers (23 in each city) to list all businesses operating within these areas.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
David McKenzie	World Bank

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Francisco Campos	World Bank	co-PI
Markus Goldstein	World Bank	co-PI

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
International Initiative for Impact Evaluation	3ie	Funder

Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries	PEDL	Funder
Bank Netherlands Partnership Program	BNPP	Funder
Strategic Research Program	SRP	Funder
Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality	UFGE	Funder
Investment Climate Impact Program/ComPEL		Funder

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Development Economics Data Group	DECDG	The World Bank	Documentation of the DDI

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 01 (September 2018)

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_MWI_2011_BRIE_v01_M_WB

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

In this study we target the informal micro and small enterprises that are likely to be able to benefit the most from business registration, and that the government has said would be their first group of interest for a future road-show on business registration. We target firms in urban Lilongwe and Blantyre, the major commercial cities in Malawi. At the end of 2011, we listed over 100 business centers - that is, concentrations of firms including industrial parks, markets, streets with shops, set of workshops, etc. - and randomly sampled 46 of these business centers (23 in each city) to list all businesses operating within these areas. Through this process we listed 7,603 enterprises, 85 percent of which were not registered at the DRG. With this process, we excluded from the sample household-based enterprises.

To draw the sample for the baseline, we stratified the listing data by location and gender of the business owner and identified 3,600 firms that complied with one of the following criteria: (i) had at least one worker contracted outside of family members and business owners, (ii) were operating in a fixed location with more than one person working in the business, (iii) were at the 25th percentile of revenues or above. Through this process, we completed a detailed baseline survey for 3,002 informal firms, of which 1,195 were female-owned and 1,494 were from Lilongwe.

Questionnaires

Overview

Baseline questionnaire and four follow-up questionnaires attached

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2011-12	2012-04	Baseline
2012-11	2013-03	Follow-up 1
2013-11	2014-03	Follow-up 2
2014-11	2015-03	Follow-up 3
2015-06	2015-10	Follow-up 4

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Questionnaires

Baseline questionnaire and four follow-up questionnaires attached

Data Processing

No content available

Data Appraisal

No content available

Documentation

Questionnaires

Malawi Enterprise Survey, Baseline Questionnaire

Title Malawi Enterprise Survey, Baseline Questionnaire
 Date 2011-11-27
 Country Malawi
 Language English
 Filename BRIE Enterprise Survey 2011.11.27.pdf

Malawi Enterprise Midline Survey I Questionnaire

Title Malawi Enterprise Midline Survey I Questionnaire
 Date 2012-11-11
 Country Malawi
 Language English
 Filename BRIE_follow_up_11.11.2012.pdf

Malawi Enterprise Midline Survey II Questionnaire

Title Malawi Enterprise Midline Survey II Questionnaire
 Date 2013-09-26
 Country Malawi
 Language English
 Filename BRIE_second_followup_26.09.2013_printing2.pdf

Malawi Enterprise Midline Survey III.B Questionnaire

Title Malawi Enterprise Midline Survey III.B Questionnaire
 Date 2014-10-03
 Country Malawi
 Language English
 Filename BRIE_third_followup_3 10 2014_printingB_FINAL.pdf

Malawi Enterprise Endline Survey Questionnaire

Title Malawi Enterprise Endline Survey Questionnaire
 Country Malawi
 Language English
 Filename BRIE_endline_printing.pdf

Other materials

Stata do files

Title	Stata do files
Country	Malawi
Language	English
Filename	Stata do files.zip
