

# Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

## Country progress report 2017 and future plans

### Country:

South Africa

### Reporter:

Marietha Gouws: Chief Director - Business Register

### Institution:

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)

## I. Organisation, Population and Usage of the Statistical Business Register

### 1. Name of the register

Statistical Business Register

### 2. Name of the organisation responsible for holding the register

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)

### 3. Position of the register unit in the organisation

Sampling frame for economic statistics surveys

### 4. Number of employees in the register unit (Headcount employees)

62

### 5. Primary goal and use of the register

Sampling frame and secondly production of the Business Register-based statistics

### 6. Year of establishment of the register

1999

### 7. Year(s) of the main re-engineering(s) of the register

2013

### 8. Number of active enterprises\* in the register at the end of 2017

\*If it is difficult to use Enterprises, you can use Legal units instead.

Enterprises: 1'493'168

(Legal units: )

### 9. Does the register have geographical coordinates assigned to every address or could they be obtained through other registers linked to it?

Yes

## II. Progress and Developments in the Past Year

Please list main achievements (maximum 3) in the past year (2016) or the problems you have tackled. Also, please classify them according to the categories within each drop-down list.

### 1. Short title of work which was done

General maintenance of statistical units

(Category)

5. Maintenance

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Profiling of large and complex group companies,  
Investigation of large enterprises received through survey area feedback and VAT business rules,  
Conducting Business Register Quality Improvement Survey of large enterprises,  
Lastly, quality assurance of industry classification of all statistical units from the various maintenance sources.

2. Short title of work which was done (Category)

Research to improve quality matters.

8. Quality

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Started with implementation of reviewed SBR performance measures and quality indicators.  
Finalised the business case with the aim to implement the reviewed Statistical Units Model.

3. Short title of work which was done (Category)

Updating of Geographical Unit with Geo-coordinates.

Data sources

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

The administrative data source (i.e. the South African Revenue Service (SARS)) has started the process of updating the quarterly Geographical statistical units with geo-coordinates.

### III. Future plans

Please list themes/projects (maximum 3) which you plan to tackle in the current (2018) and following year(s). Also, please classify them according to the categories within each drop-down list.

1. Short title of work planned (Category)

Quality assessment of geo-coordinates received from SARS.

Maintenance

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Using geo-coordinates to update the SBR with provincial and municipality names. Assess the accuracy of geo-coordinates received from SARS by checking the actual location of enterprises on the ground.

2. Short title of work planned (Category)

Reducing the operational costs

Others

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Cost of printing is one of the biggest costs items of the Chief Directorate. SBR is looking at various possibilities to reduce the costs.

3. Short title of work planned (Category)

Further analysis of SBR units

Units

Description of work (max 4-5 sentences)

Analysing SBR units in order to improve the usage and application of the SBR. This include in-depth industry analysis.

### IV. Main challenges

Please list main challenges (maximum 3) with respect to development, maintenance and use of your statistical business register. Also, please classify them according to the categories within each drop-down list.

1. Main challenge 1 (Category)

Provision of a sub-national sampling frame to draw economic

Roles of the SBR

Description of the challenge

The quality of geo-coordinates received from the administrative source has not yet been assessed. This will received attention in the near future as this impacts on sub-national level information.

2. Main challenge 2

(Category)

Implementation of ISIC 4 on the SBR

Quality

Description of the challenge

Unfunded priority

3. Main challenge 3

(Category)

To implement revised business rules to improve the coverage of the sampling frames

Coverage

Description of the challenge

The VAT- and IT business rules were revisited. Implementation will commence soon.