Rico Konen
Statistics Netherlands

Session 6: Profiling and Globalization

Collaboration SBR and EGR

Abstract

This paper describes the collaboration between the Dutch SBR and the different interfaces of the EGR: EGR-IS, EGR-IM, EGR-CORE, EGR-FATS. But also the complementary actions executed by the FATS statisticians to improve the quality provided by the EGR, regarding the allocation of the GDC, are discussed in this paper.

Since the start of the EGR back in 2007, Statistics Netherland (SN) was deeply involved in the methodology and the development of the different applications of the EGR. However the processes to exchange data with the EGR, to use the EGR applications itself or to distribute the data extracted from it, had not yet been optimized.

Other topics for improvement within SN were related to the identification of cross border relationships and the exchange of data with the EGR. Since 2014, information about approximately 20.000 cross border relations were provided by the Dutch Chambers of Commerce. The identification process and the maintenance using the EGR-IS, meant a big increase of the workload of SBR staff. Besides, the statistical processes to exchange data with the EGR, depended strongly on the availability and the efforts of some specific staff members of the Dutch business register department. This might have affected not only the quality of the information provided by SN in the historical EGR cycles, but might also be a risk factor for future deliveries.

In order to overcome the drawbacks, SN developed in 2017 a special Cross Border Register (CBR) and a special EGR-satellite. The EGR satellite is based on the coordinated data extracted from the final frame(s) in the EGR-FATS application. The aim of the satellite is to provide a coordinated frame to be used for global statistics about the Netherlands in general. The aim of the CBR is to implement the EGR methodology, facilitate the data exchange with the different EGR applications and support the identification process in order to coordinate and ease the workload of the SBR staff.

At this moment, the quality of the information provided by the EGR for the Netherlands is not yet sufficient to produce Dutch FATS statistics. FATS statisticians still discover inconsistencies in the allocation of the country of the GDC by using different information sources. Sharing some information in this paper about the sources and methodology they used to detect these anomalies, might contribute to raise the quality of EGR data.

Keywords: EuroGroups Register (EGR), Statistical Business Register (SBR), Cross-Border Register (CBR), Global Decision Centre (GDC), Foreign Affiliates Trade Statistics (FATS)