Completing the Picture: Thai Enterprise Panel Survey (TEPS)

Data Collection Summary

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Country: Thailand

Summary: Household and SMEs have long been a cornerstone of the Thai economy. Increasing the efficiency of the financial system would help further fuel their growth appropriately. Studies have indicated that many household businesses are highly productive but suffer from inadequate financing. Others have low marginal products of capital yet remain in business. Larger banks seem to concentrate on large firms and corporations, with few locations and products catered toward households and SMEs. The goal of this particular survey is to provide a more complete picture of household and enterprise financing and saving so improvements can be made to mobilize and intermediate savings more efficiently.

In December 2009, the Research Institute for Policy Evaluation and Design (RIPED) at the University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce (UTCC) launched the Thai Enterprise Panel Survey (TEPS), a household panel survey designed to capture households operating firms and those that might seek to start businesses. These kinds of data are relatively rare across the developing world but comprise an integral piece of the financial system and how it operates. This is especially important in understanding national level flow of funds and the role households and smaller businesses play, since most available flow of funds accounts (FFAs) do not account for flows into and out of the informal financial sector, which is indispensable in developing countries.

Survey Time Frame and Rounds:
- 2010: Initial census
- 2011 – 2013: Quarterly collection of TEPS survey data
- Ongoing: Construct balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow statements for household enterprises

Modules:
- TEPS Quarterly panel survey

Sample: Urban households across 6 provinces in Thailand: Lopburi, Chacheongsao, Buriram, Sisaket, Phrae, and Satun

Survey size: 1,967 households and 6,644 household members

Intervention: N/A