

OECD-FLAN

Opportunities and challenges to enhance micro analysis of agriculture and rural areas

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how can farm and business data be crossed for the same rural areas?

- analytical focus/dm unit?: down business (inputs, services) – *farm* – (outputs) up business
- *firm* scope?: agri-business data / degree of diversification (vertical/horizontal)
- datasets linkage by regional identifier (e.g. municipality, nuts3) / sectoral or nat res or input?
- definition/spatial description of rural area is key
- “crossing” depends on actual research questions to be investigated

what additional insights can be obtained?

- research question / hypotheses should be derived from theory (or exploratory)
- data needs should follow hypothesis..
- farm level: adoption, investm, productivity, credit, extension, innovation networks, contracts, prices, market power/comp, transaction costs, risk managem, costs, sustainability (chemicals etc.), resilience, urbanis (land)
- firm level: *down* - demand, pricing, extension services | *up* - supply, pricing, quality, labelling | *vertical/horizontal* - coop, digital innov, social (labor, capital), sustainability (tricky!)
- regional/sectoral development: productivity, price transmission, inno networks, spill-over effects, policy impacts, bioecon potential, biomass supply, labor sector: migration, OSH etc.
- policy effects: on farms, on businesses, on (parts) of vertical supply-chain - the costs of regulation?/the benefits of subsidies?, nonlinear / higher order effects on sustainability?

what are the challenges and difficulties for using together or complementing each other?

- access to datasets in a timely/cost-effective manner, time relevance reflected (panel req)
- locational/transaction identification of farms & businesses (spatially defined id)
- linkage with tax/revenue data: identification of farm-business partners, market transactions, negotiated/paid/delivered prices/quantities/qualities, long-term contracts/labels etc.
- potential overlap between recordings / double counting, i.e. off-farm/non-agricultural activities / other income etc.
- differing sampling schemes, implications for representativeness, heterogenous indicator definitions

what is the way forward?

- incorporate (at a minimum) a recognized regional identifier, incorporate farm/firm identifier
- supply chain related surveys for overarching chain related sustainability/profitability/risk/resilience focused research questions
- more effective cooperation between survey/data collection agencies/units before surveys are designed/launched