

NEW AT DICE DATABASE

“Natural Environment” and “Experts’ Assessments”

In the third quarter of 2005 two major additions have been made to the DICE Database (free access: www.cesifo.de/DICE). Both are new topics. One is “Natural Environment”, the other is “Experts’ Assessments of Governance Characteristics”. “Natural Environment” describes in a country-comparative way the environment-related regulations under which economic agents have to make their decisions. In addition to such regulations, important characteristics of the environment itself are also described.

The new topic “Experts’ Assessments” characterises – as do other topics of DICE – the framework conditions of an economy. However, the new topic differs from others in that it does not describe facts about the framework (in words or figures) but provides assessments of it. All of the assessments are in quantitative form; most variables are received on an annual basis and cover a longer range of time. This should facilitate econometric research, focusing on the relation between framework conditions and economic reforms on the one hand and economic performance on the other. For researchers interested in such questions DICE should increasingly become a “one-stop centre”, providing easy access to information from many sources.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

Global Economic Imbalances: Prospects and Remedies (1)

Munich, 11 – 12 November 2005

The issues to be treated on this third CESifo-Delphi Conference (first part) include the role of the Euro in a changing international environment, the viability of the US current account deficit, multilateral exchange rate regimes and policy coordination, financial and exchange rate crises, the role of currency and trading blocs.

Scientific organisers: Helge Berger, Thomas Moutos and Sarantis Kalyvitis

Guns and Butter: The Economic Causes and Consequences of Conflict

Munich, 9 – 10 December 2005

The conference will address topics such as the effects of conflict on economic activity, the potential role of globalisation in fostering a more peaceful or a more violent world, the relationship between development and conflict, how to measure the costs of conflict, and war finance.

Scientific organiser: Gregory D. Hess

Money, Macro and International Finance

Munich, 24 – 25 February 2006

The objective of this CESifo Area Conference is to bring together scholars of international macroeconomic questions in order to stimulate interaction and cooperation between them. All CESifo research network members are invited to submit their papers.

Scientific organiser: Paul de Grauwe

Applied Microeconomics

Munich, 10 – 11 March 2006

This CESifo Area Conference will provide a forum for scholars dealing with questions of applied microeconomics. The aim of the conference is to stimulate interaction and cooperation between the participants. All CESifo research network members are invited to submit their papers.

Scientific organiser: Christian Gollier

Global Economy

Munich, 7 – 8 April 2006

This is the third area meeting for CESifo’s Global Economy group. Topical questions are how the gains from globalisation differ from those from trade, causes and effects of marginalisation, the role of culture and local identity, new forms of global institutions and arrangements.

Scientific organiser: John Whalley

Public Sector Economics

Munich, 21 – 23 April 2006

This CESifo Area Conference provides an overview of the current research undertaken by members of the Public Sector Economics area of the CESifo network. Its objective is to stimulate interaction and

cooperation between them. All CESifo research network members are invited to submit papers.

Scientific organiser: Frederick van der Ploog

Employment and Social Protection

Munich, 26 – 27 May 2006

This CESifo Area Conference gives CESifo members the opportunity to present and discuss their ongoing research. All CESifo research network members are invited to submit papers.

Scientific organiser: Kai Konrad

Global Economic Imbalances: Prospects and Remedies (2)

Munich, 2 – 3 June 2006

The issues to be treated at the third CESifo-Delphi Conference (second part) include the role of the Euro in a changing international environment, the viability of the US current account deficit, multilateral exchange rate regimes and policy coordination, financial and exchange rate crises, the role of currency and trading blocs.

Scientific organisers: Helge Berger, Thomas Moutos

NEW BOOKS

Doing Business in 2006: Creating Jobs

World Bank and International Finance Corporation, forthcoming in 2006

Doing Business in 2005: Removing Obstacles to Growth

World Bank and International Finance Corporation, 2005

International Institutions in the New Global Economy

Lisa L. Martin (ed.)
Edgar Elgar, 2005

Ageing and Pension Reform Around the World Giuliano Bonoli (ed.)

Edgar Elgar, 2005

Banking Regulation and World Trade Law: GATS, EU and Prudential Institution-building

Lazaros E. Panourgias
Hart Publishing, 2005

Innovation and Institutions

Steven Casper (ed.)
Edgar Elgar, 2005

Competing with the Government: Anti-competitive Behaviour and Public Enterprises

R. Richard Geddes, David E. M. Sappington,
J. Gregory Sidak (eds.)
Hoover Institution, 2005

Institutions, Sustainability, and Natural Resources:

Shashi Kant and R. Albert Berry (eds.)
Springer, 2005

Growth, Trade and Economic Institutions

Tapio Palokangas (ed.)
Springer, 2005

New Ideas in Contracting and Organizational Economics Research

Harvey S. James, Jr. (ed.)
Nova Science Publishers, 2005

New Institutional Economics Abstracts (network journal)

Michael Sykuta, (ed.)
Social Science Research Network, 2005

A NEW COUNTRY-COMPARATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL DATABASE

Deposit Insurance Around the World

The database, existing since 1999, has been recently updated and enlarged. It is available as an Excel workbook online at the Finance Research website of the Development Economics Research Group, World Bank. For a summary, see World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 3628, June 2005.