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Globalisation and Profiling

Profiling for large and complex enterprises in China

Abstract

Based on current BR's coverage and the definition of China's statistical unit, there are three main structural types for large and complex enterprise. The first and fundamental linkage is the enterprise and its affiliated establishments (legal unit-establishment), the second is the enterprise and its owned or holding enterprises (upper-lower legal unit), and the last is parent company and subsidiaries belong to one enterprise group (parent-subsidiary from one economic conglomerate). These three types of connection could form a multi-level structure.

The profile is a survey of large and complex enterprises those have complicated relationship with affiliated units. And they are mostly in the list of 'above threshold' enterprises which China's BR mainly offers for annual or regular subject matter surveys conducted with Integrated Questionnaire for Enterprises. In china's statistical system, the parent companies and their subsidiaries, and the legal units on each level of the unincorporated enterprise groups should all be treated as respondents and report their data respectively, rather than the parent companies reporting the data for their direct or indirect subsidiaries, or the upper reporting the lower's data. Which is very common in practice and would lead to duplicates. On the one hand, we need a profile including complete review of all pertinent statistical information regarding an enterprise (group)'s organization and identify the reporting units for the purpose of producing reliable estimates by province and sector of activity. On the other hand, the number of big and complex enterprises is too small, but the economy contribution is of great importance. For keeping track of the status

of operation of large and complex enterprises and forecast the trend of the development, we should integrate the structure information of big and complex enterprises to upgrade the BR's content and quality to realize comprehensive maintenance and updating along with enterprises' structural changes.

In order to establish a scientific and feasible survey program for profiling and gain organizing experience, we carried out the pilot work at the beginning of April. The pilot work focuses on several issues which should be solved. The primary purpose is to know about possible forms of relationship bonding upper and lower legal units. Second is to establish the structure in statistical database for big and complex enterprises according to three main types mentioned above. Organizational structure of respondent enterprises will be shown in an intuitive, visual way. The last is to review the definition and scope of large and complex enterprises for formal survey program. This pilot work will be continued until September which includes several stages of profiling design, personnel training, programming development, interviewing with related person, data collecting, processing and analysis. In addition to the above objectives, there are other critical issues to be under consideration such as feasibility of survey methods, choice of data processing platform, integration with BR's data, and use of administrative data, etc.

This article will introduce the background of China's profiling and briefly describe the pilot work which is ongoing. Meanwhile, some difficulties and problems faced and future work plan would be discussed in the context.