

# Ethiopian Economic Association/Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute

## Statistical Database 2009

### Preface

The Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute (EEPRI) was established in July 2000 as the research and publication wing of the Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA). The major objectives of the Institute include strengthening research capacity for independent policy analysis, collecting and compiling socio-economic data for rigorous research and providing continuous information and analyses on economic policy matters for the purpose of improving the policy environment through informed public debate and making available increased policy options. The Institute also aims to promote the study of economics and to provide an organic linkage between Ethiopian economic researchers based in Ethiopia and those living abroad and other economists doing research on Ethiopia.

The Institute, accordingly, is building its organizational and human capacities and has already become a valuable independent voice in public policy discourse. In its research endeavor the Institute employs various methods of data collection and once the data is properly compiled and processed, it will be systematically stored in the Institute's database system

The Institute aims at developing and maintaining a Live Consistent Database which will be continuously updated using both secondary and primary data sources. The database is designed and developed to contribute primarily to the research undertaking of the Institute. There is also, however, a strong commitment and desire to serve a credible and easily accessible data source for the larger research/academic community in line with the objectives of the Institute to encourage and promote the study and practice of the economics profession. The Institute also believes in the public

nature and on positive values of information sharing which it wants to promote strongly. At the same time, given the significance of information in shaping policies and public opinion, data use need to be guided by basic principles that encourage disciplined, responsible and committed use of information.

## EEPRI Database System

Databases today are essential to every business. They are used to maintain internal records, to present data to clients and to support many other processes. Databases are likewise found at the core of many economic and other investigations. The power of databases comes from a body of knowledge and technology that has developed over several decades and is embodied in specialized software called a database management system (DBMS), or more colloquially a “database system”.

A DBMS is a powerful tool for creating and managing large amounts of data efficiently and allowing it to persist over long periods of time, safely.

The EEPRI database system contains time-series data on many economic indicators in an easy-to-use interfaces. All interfaces are designed to integrate all major parts in a very user friendly format. Each interface contains a related group of economic indicators and it also has links to other interfaces in order to move easily to other groups of indicators.

The economic indicators in EEA/EEPRI Database are grouped into 7 major parts.

1. **Macro:-** This part contains data on National Accounts, Government Finance, Investment, Trade, Debt, Monetary, Financial Sector, Balance of Payments and Prices.
2. **Social:-** This part contains data on Education, Gender, Health, Nutrition and Poverty
3. **Agriculture & Environment**
4. **Public/Private Sectors:-** This part contains data on Public Enterprises, Public Sector management and Private Sector Dev/Manufacturing.

5. **Population & Labor**
6. **Infrastructure, Technology and Power**
7. **Industry:** - This part contains data on Manufacturing and Mining.

The database system puts results of the data query on Excel worksheet in order to give users the following opportunities.

- To easily export data to other applications, like Ms-Word, SPSS, SAS, etc.
- For further calculations, using Excel's built-in functions.
- To easily draw graphs or charts.
- For easy management of output data.
- To perform analysis with out re-entering data.

## Data Policy

### BASIC PRINCIPLES

EEA/EEPRI REQUIRES POTENTIAL DATA USERS TO RESPECT THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES AND PRINCIPLES IN SHARING THE INSTITUTE'S DATABASE

- Putting a formal request: To ensure fast and appropriate delivery of data to recipients, potential data users are required to submit a formal request to the Institute specifying the nature and magnitude of data they seek to obtain from the Institute's database system, the purpose for which the data is to be obtained including expected outputs. The request must also be accompanied by verification that the researcher is engaged in the claimed research.
- Acknowledging data source: Users are required to quote EEA/EEPRI as the data source specifying the data reference period and nature of the data set. The quotation should also indicate the original data source in case of secondary data sets available with EEA/EEPRI. Whenever appropriate data users should also indicate data accuracy and reliability.

- Responsible use: Users should take responsibility and the claim to any analytical results that they would obtain using the data source. EEA/EEPRI can be quoted only as the data source not for the results obtained there from unless otherwise the user is quoting a specific analytical paper produced by EEPRI using this data.
- Use for public benefit: Data obtained from EEA/EEPRI should always be used for the purpose of enhancing public well-being. EEA/EEPRI discourages and will not take responsibility for use of data for bigotry or other purposes that undermine the sovereignty of the country and freedom of the people.
- Notification of data transfer: Those who have obtained access to EEA/EEPRI data sets are not normally allowed to transfer the data to a third party. However, such transfer could take place on conditions that they inform and take guarantee for respect of EEA/EEPRI's protocol by the third party (including charges as appropriate) and that they notify earlier about their intentions and get approval from EEA/EEPRI.
- Submission of copy of a report: EEA/EEPRI would like to receive free copies of reports produced fully or partially using its database.
- Complying with EEA/EEPRI demands: EEA/EEPRI may request potential data users for additional information such as research proposals and also may demand a formal signing of agreement to ensure the effective implementation of this Protocol.

The above principles are designed to ensure the most efficient and effective data use and build public trust and engagement.

## **POTENTIAL USERS OF DATA**

### EEA/EEPRI ENCOURAGES USE OF ITS DATABASE BY VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS

EEA/EEPRI aims to promote the most efficient and effective use of data by encouraging a wide ranging and in-depth analyses of available data. The Institute promotes therefore use of data by different stakeholders partly to facilitate the extraction of maximum available information contained in data sets. Moreover duplication of data collection efforts will weaken the fragile resources the country has and should be avoided by all means.

Potential users of EEA/EEPRI database include, but not limited to:

- 1) *Ethiopian Economic Association members*: EEA members have not only full right to use EEA/EEPRI database but are also considered as direct owners of the database systems.
- 2) *Academicians and Students*: Those involved in teaching and learning process could find useful the EEA/EEPRI database to augment theoretical underpinnings with practical facts and experiences. Students who have a requirement to produce analytical papers including thesis will be encouraged to use EEA/EEPRI's database.
- 3) *Research Institutions*: EEA/EEPRI considers other similar research institutes as partners and aims to collaborate with and encourage their activities by making its database available for professional use.
- 4) *Private Consultancy Firms and Individuals*: Given the multi-faceted nature of development problems the country is facing and the wide-ranging intervention initiatives, the demand for professional input is excessively huge and private consultancy firms and individual researchers have important contributions to make. EEA/EEPRI aims to encourage their participation in the development endeavor by making accessible to them its database.
- 5) *Government Ministries and Public Institutions*: The government could also find EEA/EEPRI's database useful to augment its information base on macro and sector issues and concerning overall socio-economic conditions in the country. In particular, qualitative information generated through collecting the opinions of different social groups could provide useful insight to the government concerning public satisfaction on government programs.
- 6) *Donors and Non-governmental Organizations*: Local and foreign donors and NGOs involved in development activities in the country are encouraged to make use of the Institute's database in designing and assessing their interventions.