

How to access restricted data for “Mining and local corruption in Africa”

February 24, 2016

1 Afrobarometer location data

The steps to access the location information for the Afrobarometer data were provided to us by the Afrobarometer, and reproduced here for interested researchers. One thing to note first: We complement our own geocodes with those from Nunn and Wantchekon’s slave trade paper, and Deconinck and Verpoorten’s replication. The former data used to be available at <http://scholar.harvard.edu/nunn/pages/data-0>, but this seems to no longer be the case. We received the latter data by contacting Koen Deconinck. Interested researchers should follow the steps below, and then contact Nathan Nunn at nnunn@fas.harvard.edu and Koen Deconinck at koen.deconinck@kuleuven.be to ask about getting access to their coordinates.

“Access can be granted to restricted data of publicly released datasets for researchers who undertake a personal commitment to use our data securely. If users wish to gain access to restricted data, they need to complete an application form available on the Afrobarometer website and email a signed application to Ms. Carmen Alpin at c.alpin@uct.ac.za.

Users must provide a short summary of their project and abide by the following conditions:

1. to preserve the confidentiality of, and not attempt to identify, individuals in the data;
2. to ensure that the data are kept secure and not disclosed to anyone else until the data set is publicly released;
3. to offer any prospective publication that makes significant use of our data first to the Afrobarometer Working Paper series (which does not preclude later publication of a revised version elsewhere);
4. to acknowledge Afrobarometer as the source of the data in all publications resulting from its use by means of bibliographic citation in this form: Afrobarometer Data, [Country(ies)], [Round(s)], [Year(s)], available at <http://www.afrobarometer.org>
5. to send us bibliographic details of any published work based on our data;

6. to try, where possible, to do the analysis and writing collaboratively with a member of the Afrobarometer Network, preferably an African member;
7. to share with Afrobarometer any data produced by adding additional data to our datasets (e.g., geocoding the EA locations, or detailed mapping of the data), for Afrobarometer internal purposes;
8. not to use the data for commercial purposes;
9. that personal data about you may be held for validation and statistical purposes;
10. to notify us of any errors discovered in the data.”

2 SNL Metals & Mining: Raw Materials Database

Users interested in getting access to the Raw Materials Database should contact Gray McCrickard at gmccrickard@snl.com. Access to the data is granted through a paid subscription to this database. At the time we collected the data for our research, the RMD data had just been purchased by the SNL group. Interested researchers should inquire the SNL to find out whether the database is still available in its January 2015 form. If so, the steps to retrieving the data are the following, given that access has been granted:

1. The data comes in the form of a Windows application “RMD.exe”, where users can filter data by different dimensions, and export directly to Excel files.
2. The data for “Mining and local corruption in Africa” were exported from the “Country” tab. We exported the full tables for all available African countries to ‘.xlsx’ format. This data includes, for a given country, data on all mines for all minerals in the database. These files are the raw data, and were directly imported into Stata and further processed there.