

Comprehensive linked employer-employee data (LEED) continuously gain more importance in the social sciences. However, surveys - particularly of firms and their personnel - are expensive and time-consuming. Moreover they face typical challenges of surveys like sampling and nonresponse. Recently more and more process-produced data sources like big data or administrative data emerge and can be used for research purposes. First, these data can be used as the basis for sample designs and as source for contact information. Beyond that the survey data can be enriched with information of the administrative data (premise: linkage consent) to create new and more comprehensive datasets.

Within the project 'Further Training as a Part of Lifelong Learning' (WeLL) an unique LEED with a particular focus on further training in Germany was established. The study built on the already existing IAB Establishment Panel. This survey has been conducted annually since 1993 and is representative for all establishments in Germany with at least one employee. The aim of the project was to link these establishment data with information on their employees. Hence a stratified sample was drawn from the establishments already surveyed in the IAB Establishment Panel. After that, the employees of these firms were interviewed in a second survey annually from 2007-2010. This approach provided the unique opportunity to link data of two different surveys. Furthermore the data can be supplemented with additional administrative data on the individual and the establishment level for past and future. Hence one can create different kinds of LEED within the so-called 'WeLL survey data linked to administrative data of the IAB' (WeLL-ADIAB) to analyse determinants and consequences of further training in Germany. Among other topics, research on data quality and unit-nonresponse or non-linkage consent bias is possible.