ANNEX C

International comparability of venture capital data

Aggregate data on venture capital provide useful information on trends in the venture capital industry. These data are typically compiled by national or regional Private Equity and Venture Capital Associations, often with the support of commercial data providers. The quality and availability of aggregate data on venture capital have improved considerably in recent years; however, international comparisons remain complicated because of two main problems.

The first difficulty comes from the lack of a standard international definition of venture capital. While there is a general understanding, the definition of the types of investments included in venture capital varies across countries and regions. In some cases, differences are purely linguistic; in others, they are more substantive.

The second problem relates to the *diverse methodologies employed by data compilers*. The completeness and representativeness of venture capital statistics with respect to the venture capital industry of a country will differ depending on how data were collected.

The following tables illustrate differences concerning respectively: the definition of private equity and venture capital (Table C.1); the breakdown of venture capital by stage (Table C.2); the breakdown of venture capital by sector (Table C.3); and the methods of data collection (Table C.4).

Table C.1. Definitions of private equity and venture capital

Source	Private equity (PE)	Venture capital (VC)
European Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (EVCA)	PE is equity capital provided to enterprises not quoted on a stock market.	VC is a subset of private equity and refers to equity investments made to support the pre-launch, launch and early stage development phases of a business.
National Venture Capital Association – United States (NVCA)	PE is equity investment in non-public companies, usually defined as being made up of venture capital funds. Real estate, oil and gas, and other such partnership are sometimes included in the definition.	VC is a segment of the private equity industry which focuses on investing in new companies with high growth potential and accompanying high risk.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)	(Later Stage) PE is an investment in companies in later stages of development, as well as investment in underperforming companies. These companies are still being established, the risks are still high and investors have a divestment strategy with the intended return on investment mainly in the form of capital gains (rather than long-term investment involving regular income streams).	VC is a high risk private equity capital for typically new, innovative or fast growing unlisted companies. A venture capital investment is usually a short to medium-term investment with a divestment strategy with the intended return on investment mainly in the form of capital gains (rather than long-term investment involving regular income streams).
Canada's Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (CVCA)	The generic term for the private market reflecting all forms of equity or quasi-equity investment. In a mature private equity universe, there are generally three distinct market segments: Buyout Capital, Mezzanine Capital and Venture Capital.	A specialised form of private equity, characterised chiefly by high-risk investment in new or young companies following a growth path.
Korean Venture Capital Association (KVCA)	PE means an equity investment method with fund raised by less than 49 Limited Partners. It takes a majority stake of company invested, improves its value and then obtains capital gain by selling stock.	Company/Fund investing in early-stage, high-potential and growth companies.
Venture Enterprise Center -Japan (VEC)	PE is an investment method by which investors are involved in the management and governance of enterprises for the improvement of its value by providing those enterprises, in different developing stages and business environments, with necessary funds.	Funds provided via shares, convertible bonds, warrants etc. to venture businesses, which are closed (non-public) small and medium size enterprises with growth potential.

Table C.2. Breakdown of venture capital by stage, selected VC associations and OECD

		EVCA	NVCA	PwC Money Tree – Israel	ABS – Australia	CVCA	VEC	KVCA	NZVCA	RVCA	SAVCA	OECD
Private equity	Venture capital	Seed Start-up Other early stage	Seed Early stage	Seed/ Start-up Early stage/ Expansion stage	Pre-seed Seed Start-up	Seed Start-up Other early stage	Seed Early stage Expansion	Early (< 1) Early (< 3)	Seed/ Start- up Early stage Expansion	Seed/ Start-up	Seed Start-up and early stage	Pre-seed/ Seed Start-up/ Other early stage
		Later- stage venture	Expansion / Later stage	Later Stage	Early expansion	Expansion	Later		Expansion	stages		Later stage venture
	Other Private Equity	Growth/ Rescue/ Turnaroun d Replacem ent, Buyout	Buy-outs and mezzanine capital		Late Expansion, Turnaroun d, LBO/ MBO/MBI	Acquisitio n/Buyout, Turnaroun d, Other stage		Later (> 3)	Turnaround Mid-market PE, Buyout PE	Expansion Restructur ing Later stage	Expansion and development Replacement, Buyout	Other Private Equity

Note:

CVCA includes Expansion in Other Private Equity. NZVCA includes Turnaround in Venture capital.

NZVCA: New Zealand Venture Capital Association.

RVCA: Russian Venture Capital Association.

SAVCA: South African Venture Capital and Private Equity Association.

Table C.3. Breakdown of venture capital by sector, Europe and United States

OECD classification	United States – NVCA	Europe – EVCA
Computer and consumer electronics	Software Semiconductors Electronics/Instrumentation Networking and Equipment Computers and Peripherals	Computer and consumer electronics
Communications	Media and Entertainment IT Services Telecommunications	Communications
Life sciences	Medical Devices and Equipment Healthcare Services	Life sciences
Industrial/Energy	Industrial/Energy	Energy and environment Chemicals and materials
Other	Consumer Products and Services Retailing/Distribution Business Products and Services Financial Services Other	Consumer goods and retail Consumer services Business and industrial products Business and industrial services Financial services Agriculture Real estate Construction Transportation Unknown

Table C.4. Methods for collecting data on venture capital

ABS Census of VC and later stage PE funds domiciled in Australia and identified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Investments by non-resident funds in Australian investee companies are out of scope of the survey, however funds sourced from non-residents and Australian funds investing in non-resident companies are in scope. CVCA Quarterly surveys of PE fund managers active in the Canadian industry, conducted by Thomson Reuters. Coverage of the industry is claimed to be very high. EVCA Census of European PE and VC firms identified by EVCA and partner associations. Firms are surveyed on a quarterly basis: firms that did not provide quarterly surveys are invited to fill in an annual questionnaire, available on the PEREP website (*PEREP Analytics is a non-commercial pan-European private equity Database with its own staff and resources). Throughout the data-collection period. PEREP analysts and co-operating national PE and VC associations contact non-respondents to encourage participation in the survey. Information is complemented by data from public sources (e.g. press, media, websites of PE and VC firms or their portfolio companies): data are managerial in the survey. Information is complemented by data from public sources (e.g. press, media, websites of PE and VC firms or their portfolio companies): data are managerial in the survey. Information is added to the database. KVCA Census of registered Korean VC firms (for registration, the capital of a VC firm should exceed 5000 won). By law, VC firms report their activities monthly. NVCA MoneyTree™ Report: Quarterly study of venture capital investment activity in the United States, produced by NVCA in co-operation with PricevaterhouseCoopers (PwC). The report includes the investment activity in care activity in care activity in simunation activity (in investee companies domicied in the Lunied States) of professional venture capital firms with or without a US office, Small Business Investment Companies (SBICs), corporate VC, institutions, investment sha		3
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	VEC	Survey of VC investors identified by VEC.



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