



Data Partner FAQ Malawi



Data Sources

What are the main original sources of information? E.g. Chambers of commerce, local courts, yellow pages etc

NOTE - This should apply to, registered companies and sole traders/none registered companies.

Financial data: Local Company Register if available, private companies in many countries in Africa are not required to publish FS

Negative data: Local company register; Chamber of commerce; Local news

Demographic data: Official and non-official databases

Payment Data: N/A

Collection data: N/A

Shareholders data: Shareholding Documents filed at the local registry, Gazettes.

Group Structure/ corporate hierarchy: There are no official sources that provide this information, therefore we load all annual reports of listed companies worldwide and all their subsidiaries and create a link to that particular subsidiary in the database. Many African companies are owned cross border from other countries

Other key information: Official and non-official databases

How often the above data is updated e.g. daily, weekly etc.?

On an order basis - as received

Annually - major companies, listed companies

Do you contact companies via a telephone interview or site visits at regular intervals e.g. once a year?

We conduct telephone interviews for all companies when we receive a request to conduct a report.

Site visits are not included as part of the investigation - this is available through our Due Diligence Service where available.

Regulations/ Legal requirements

Which types of company have to file financial data e.g. registered companies, public companies only etc.?

Public listed companies, Banks and Insurance companies.

List any filing exemptions and thresholds (e.g. companies of certain size may only have to file a balance sheet, large companies have to file a Profit & loss etc.)

For most countries in Africa: Sole traders, General partnerships, Association, Foundations, Joint ventures, Public authorities, Cooperative Societies, Branches of foreign companies and Trust funds.

How long after the financial year end do companies have to file financials?

Dependant on the country but general rule is 6-12 months after year end.

What is the penalty for not filing the financial data? Is it likely a company would prefer the penalty rather than filing them?

As most private companies in Africa are not required to publish financial data open to the public, deciding to pay a fine as oppose to filing FS should not be a considered as a reason for financial data not being available.

Negative Data

What type of negative data is available in your country e.g.

Bankruptcies/Insolvencies: Yes

Court Cases/ Actions: Yes, when disclosed

Debt Collection cases: N/A

Any other negative data specific to your country:

If the company is part of the International Sanctions lists.

How often is this negative data updated?

On an order basis - as received

Annually - major companies, listed companies

Credit Rating Limit

Do you give a credit rating & limit on all companies?

Yes

If not, what are the exceptions?

We do give a rating to any legal form - no exceptions

What is the credit rating intended to predict? E.g. insolvency, ability to pay etc.

Level of Risk doing business, Ability to pay its invoices, prediction of failure.

Is Payment data included in your credit scoring model?

Yes, if available it is including in the score

What does the credit limit mean? E.g. amount of credit you can extend in a 30 day period etc.?

Maximum limit of credit within standard invoicing terms.

General

What version of activity codes are used in the reports?

NACE 2.0

What company ID numbers are available (e.g. local registration number, VAT number, etc.)?

Registration Number.

VAT number where available.