Should everybody be born global? A policy-oriented longitudinal analysis on French exporters¹.

Flora Bellone*
GREDEG, Université Côte d’Azur, CNRS and OFCE Science Po

Catherine Laffineur
GREDEG, Université Côte d’Azur, CNRS

Sophie Pommet
GREDEG, Université Côte d’Azur, CNRS

Abstract 27/09/2019

Abstract

Public Investment Banks aim to promote the growth of newly established Small and Medium size Enterprises (SMEs), especially of the most innovative ones. An important policy challenge for them is to determine to what extent and by which means they should support the fast and early internationalization of those newly established SMS’s. To guide practitioners resource allocation decisions, this paper makes uses of a unique dataset which combines comprehensive information both on the production and export activities of newly established French manufacturing firms over the period 1998-2015, and on the innovation and export subsidies granted to those firms by Bpifrance, i.e. the French public investment bank.

Keywords: Born global, firm level data, Public bank of investment, Export premia

JEL classification: F14, G24, L25, M13

¹This study has been conducted as a part of the Project “Entreprises à Internationalisation Rapide et Précoce 2020” undertaken at GREDEG under a partnership agreement and a financial support by Bpifrance le Lab. This study utilizes the micro data of the questionnaire information on the “Census of Enterprises” conducted by INSEE (FICUS-FARE datasets) as wells as the firm-level transaction data collected by the French CUSTOMS. We also utilize the firm-level information compiled by the French Public Bank of Investment Bpifrance, on the subset of firms which receive at least one public subsidy granted by Bpifrance over the period of observation. We accessed all these diverse data sources through the “Centre d’Accès Sécurisé aux Données” (CSD), a public research infrastructure built under the Programme Investissements d’Avenir n° ANR-10-EQPX-17.

*Corresponding author: flora.bellone@univ-cotedazur.fr