

**EU WORKSHOP
ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN
BUSINESS AND CONSUMER SURVEYS**

Thursday and Friday, 13-14 November 2014

Brussels, Crowne Plaza – Le Palace

Final Agenda

12 November 2014

THURSDAY, 13 NOVEMBER

09.00 – 9.30	Registration and welcome coffee
09.30 – 10.00	Welcome and introduction DG ECFIN will present an overview of recent developments in the Joint Harmonised EU Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys (BCS) <i>Elena Flores</i> (European Commission)
10.00 – 10.50	Survey methodology: online surveys, mixed-mode surveys and other initiatives to raise response rates <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Introduction – <i>Christian Gayer</i> (European Commission) (10 min)▪ Online surveys for business tendency in Slovenia – <i>Laura Šuštar Kožuh</i> (SI-SORS) (20 min)▪ Mixed-mode surveys (phone and online), results from pilot studies in the Finnish consumer survey – <i>Pertti Kangassalo</i> (FI-STAT) (20 min)
10.50 – 11.10	Coffee break
11.10 – 12.10	Survey methodology: online surveys, mixed-mode surveys and other initiatives to raise response rates [contd.] <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Considerations around switching from telephone to online survey methodology – <i>Karsten Shaw</i> (UK-GfK) (20 min)▪ From postal surveys to electronic data capture: building higher response rates – <i>Christopher Taylor</i> (UK-CBI) (20 min)▪ Discussion (20 min)
12.10 – 13.40	Lunch (buffet)
13.40 – 14.40	Harmonisation issues I: statistical units and business registers <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ongoing review of statistical units and business registers (FRIBS): overview and time schedule – <i>Hans-Eduard Hauser/Thomas Werkhoven</i> (European Commission-ESTAT) (20 min)▪ Likely impact of FRIBS on the implementation of the BCS Programme – <i>Katarzyna Walkowska</i> (PL-STAT) (20 min)▪ Discussion, questions and answers and way ahead (20 min)
14.40 – 15.50	Harmonisation issues II: surveys of surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Survey of surveys in the French manufacturing survey – <i>Catherine Renne</i> (FR-INSEE) (20 min)▪ Survey of surveys in the British distributive trades survey – <i>Jonathan Wood</i> (UK-CBI) (20 min)▪ Finding patterns in response behaviour of business tendency surveys – <i>Matthias Bannert</i> (CH-KOF) (20 min)▪ Discussion (10 min)
15.50 – 16.10	Coffee break

16.10 – 17.30 Topical applications of survey data – 1st part

Moderator: Björn Döhring (*European Commission*)

- A new indicator on euro area capacity utilisation in services – **Iskra Pavlova** (*ECB, DG Statistics*) (20 min)
- Evaluation of the forecast content of the bi-annual investment survey – **Alessandro Girardi** (*European Commission*) (20 min)
- Use and usefulness of the bi-annual investment survey – **Desislava Rusinova** (*ECB, DG Economics*) (20 min)
- Discussion (20 min)

17.30 – 17.50 Financial management of grant agreements

- Working together to speed up payments – **Murielle Noncle** (*European Commission*) (10 min)
- Discussion, questions and answers (10 min)

19.00 Dinner at the restaurant "KWINT"- 1, Mont des Arts, Brussels

FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER MORNING

08.30 – 09.00	Welcome coffee
09.00 – 10.20	Harmonisation issues III: follow-up on the 2013 task force 'Quality of BCS data' <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview of recently implemented changes to national questionnaires and other recent harmonisation steps – Andreas Reuter (<i>European Commission</i>) (10 min)▪ Impact of updating weights on tracking performance and volatility (INDU and BUIL) – Alessandra Righi (<i>IT-ISTAT</i>) (20 min)▪ The signal and the noise – an analysis of irregular fluctuations in business surveys – Werner Hölzl (<i>AT-Wifo</i>) (20 min)▪ Metadata to be provided monthly per breakdown for business surveys and implementation of socio-economic breakdowns in the consumer survey – Roberta Friz (<i>European Commission</i>) (20 min)▪ Discussion (10 min.)
10.20 – 10.40	Coffee break
10.40 – 12.20	Topical applications of survey data – 2nd part <i>Moderator: Roberto Astolfi (OECD)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The role of survey data in nowcasting euro area GDP growth – Christian Gayer (<i>European Commission</i>) (20 min)▪ Measuring uncertainty – including survey measures – Arne Gieseck (<i>ECB, DG Economics</i>) (20 min)▪ Measuring uncertainty in the financial sector using the financial services survey – Aytaç Erdogan (<i>TR-CBRT</i>) (20 min)▪ Assessment of trends and characteristics of survey data in Croatia and Candidate Countries – Andreas Reuter (<i>European Commission</i>) (10 min)▪ Enhancing the performance of Croatian survey indicators – Srdjan Dumicic (<i>HR-IPSOS</i>) (10 min)▪ Discussion (20 min)
12.20 – 12.30	Concluding remarks and prospects (DG ECFIN) Agenda for the coming year
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch (buffet) - end of workshop -
