

ACTIONS PLANNED UNDER THE PARTNERSHIP

OBJECTIVE

The Joint Harmonised EU Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys is designed to gather information on the state of the economies in the EU Member States and in the candidate countries so as to be able to compare their business cycles for Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) management purposes. It has become an indispensable tool in the EMU economic surveillance process, as well as for general economic policy purposes.

The Programme involves specialised bodies/institutes carrying out one or more opinion surveys in the **27 EU Member States, and in the candidate countries: Croatia, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey** on a joint financing basis, more specifically in the following areas:

- Investment
- Construction
- Retail trade
- Services sector
- Industry
- Consumers

The Commission also organises *ad hoc* surveys on topical economic issues. These *ad hoc* surveys are by definition more occasional and are carried out in addition to the monthly surveys, using the same established samples as the monthly surveys, to obtain information on specific economic policy issues.

SURVEY TIMING AND REPORTING OF RESULTS

Survey name	Number of activities / size classes	Number of aggregates	Number of questions asked monthly	Number of questions asked quarterly
Industry	68 / -	8	7	9
Investment	6 / 6	2	2 questions in March/April 4 questions in October/November	
Construction	3 / -	1	5	1
Retail trade	7 / -	3	6	-
Services	37 / -	1	6	2
Consumer	22 breakdowns	2	14	3

- The monthly surveys must be carried out in the first two weeks of each month and the results must be e-mailed to the Commission at least five working-days before the end of the month in accordance with the calendar that will be included in the grant agreement; publication of results is generally on the second-last working day of the month. The deadline for the delivery of consumer survey results is seven working-days before the end of the month in accordance with the calendar that will be included in the grant agreement.
- The quarterly surveys must be carried out in the first two weeks of the first month of each quarter (January, April, July and October) and the results must be e-mailed to the Commission at least five working-days working days before the end of January, April, July and October respectively and in accordance with the calendar that will be included in the grant agreement.
- The six-monthly surveys of investment must be carried out in March/April and October/November and the results must be e-mailed to the Commission at least five working-days working days before the end of April and November, respectively, and in accordance with the calendar that will be included in the grant agreement.
- In the case of *ad hoc* surveys, the beneficiary must undertake to adhere to the specific timetables laid down for them.