

**OECD WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS AND CONSUMER TENDENCY, WARSAW  
14 SEPTEMBER 2004**

**Session 1: CREATION OF A WEB PORTAL FOR BUSINESS TENDENCY AND  
CONSUMER OPINION SURVEYS AND STATISTICS**

**PROJECT PROPOSAL**

**a. Objectives**

1. The aim of the project is the creation of a portal on the web that will promote harmonisation and facilitate best practice through sharing of information on business tendency and consumer opinion surveys and statistics (BTS/CTS) between international organisations and national institutes.

2. This paper proposes a structure for the portal, which involves the modification of the existing OECD corporate web structure for the presentation and dissemination of information and statistics on the OECD website. A draft version of the porthole using the structure described below has been established on the OECD website and can be seen at <http://www.oecd.org/std/bt-coi/coordination>.

3. The sharing of information between international organisations and national institutes on BTS/CTS should provide access to the following:

- Existing and draft international guidelines and recommendations
- Questionnaires used by national institutes
- Summary metadata describing key elements of national surveys
- Presentation of selected country data and regional aggregates presented in a common format
- Links to papers from meetings organised by the OECD, European Commission and CIRET
- Links to selected best practice
- Links to selected websites
- Terminology

**b. Suggested Structure**

4. The existing OECD corporate web structure does not provide sufficient flexibility and user friendliness so the intension is to create a special home for the portal under the subject domain "Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Indicators" with the following name :"**Business Tendency and Consumer Surveys: International Development Work and Coordination**". The design and content of the home page for the portal are presented at the end of the paper. Access to information on any aspects of business tendency and consumer surveys is provided by the following main links:

- Recent Survey Results
- International Guidelines and Recommendations
- Business Tendency and Consumer Survey Terminology
- Questionnaires
- Metadata/ Methodology
- Surveys - Good Practices
- Meeting papers

5. Access to relevant other information and national and international bodies are provided under the “don’t miss” box: This box will contain:

- Business and Consumer Surveys: OECD Development Work in Non-member Countries
- OECD Leading Indicators
- Links to National Survey Institutes and relevant International Bodies

6. The above first level headings would include second or more detailed headings for certain main links. The following sub-headings are suggested to easily find available information.

<b>Heading/sub-headings</b>	<b>Available information</b>
<b>Recent Survey results</b>	A table and a few graphs with confidence indicators for BTS in manufacturing and CTS data for the Big 7 OECD Member countries and the Big 6 Non-Member countries should be introduced under the heading “Statistics” under the subject domain “ <u>Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Indicators</u> ”.
<b>International guidelines and Recommendations</b>	OECD publication “Business Tendency Surveys A Handbook”  OECD publican “Data and Metadata Reporting and Presentation Manual”  OECD Minimum standard for Metadata  EC publication “EU Harmonised business and Consumer Surveys: User Guide”  IMF DSBB “Forward-looking indicators available at
<b>Business Tendency and Consumer Survey Terminology</b>	OECD BTS/CTS Glossary
<b>Questionnaires</b>	
<i>Business tendency Surveys</i>	Canada      Business Conditions Survey Sweden      Variables in the business tendency survey Switzerland      Konjunkturumfrage
<i>Consumer Surveys</i>	United States      Surveys for Consumer
<b>Metadata</b>	
<i>Methodology</i>	
Frame	Business Tendency Surveys: A Handbook – The survey frame
Sample design	Business Tendency Surveys: A Handbook – Sample design University of Michigan Survey Research Center – Surveys of consumers

## Heading/sub-headings

## Available information

Estimation

Business Tendency Surveys: A Handbook – Weighting of results

Data collection and  
Validation

Non response in the Norwegian Business Tendency Survey  
Uncertainty in the Norwegian Business Tendency surveys

Evaluation and  
Dissemination

ITS Answering practices questionnaire  
ITS Answering practices report

### *Country Information*

Cross Country  
Overview

Summary survey characteristics by sectors for BTS/CTS surveys  
in OECD member and major non member countries  
A synoptic table with information on surveys conducted all over  
the world from the CIRET Information & Documentation Centre

IMF/SDDS

Belgium  
France

### *National Survey*

#### *Descriptions*

OECD Member  
Countries

Australia Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and  
Social Research  
Austria WIFO  
Belgium National Bank of Belgium – Business Surveys  
Enquetes de conjuncture  
National Bank of Belgium – Consumer Surveys  
Modification of the reference month of the  
business surveys: methodological comment  
Canada Statistics Canada  
Czech Rep. Czech Statistical Office  
Denmark Statistics Denmark Consumer Surveys  
Methodology

## Surveys - Good practices

### *Survey description*

Belgium Dissemination standards  
Denmark Construction industry: tendency survey  
Tendency survey for manufacturing industries  
Economic trends in the service sector  
Consumer expectations survey  
France Dissemination standards  
Norway About the business tendency survey

### *Questionnaire description*

Canada Business confidence survey  
Sweden Variables in the business tendency surveys  
Switzerland Konjunkturumfrage  
United States Surveys for consumers

## Heading

## Available information

*Methodology*

United States    Surveys for consumers, sample design

*Data presentation*

Belgium            Monthly Press Release  
France              Main Indicators

## Meeting papers

*November 2003*

Joint European Commission-OECD Workshop on International Development of Business and Consumer Tendency surveys, Brussels, 20-21 November 2004

Session 2 Production, presentation and dissemination Issues

Selected country presentations

FGV, Brazil            Current Work and Plans for Development

Statistics Canada    The Business Conditions Survey

ESRI, Japan            Recent Development of Japan's Business

NCAER, India          Business Conditions Survey

BER, South Africa    Business and Consumer Surveys

Key presentation/dissemination and statistical/methodological issues

Statistics Denmark    Danish Dissemination Practices for the Industry Survey

Statistics Finland    The Finnish Consumer Survey

Statistics Norway    Norwegian Business Tendency Survey

CBI, United Kingdom interpreting the CBI/PriceWaterhouse Coopers Financial Services Survey

European Commission National versus harmonised presentations of survey results in the EU

OECD                  Enlargement of OECD database to sectors outside manufacturing

*September 2004*

OECD Workshop on Business and Consumer Tendency Surveys, Warsaw, 14 September 2004

## Don't miss

Business and Consumer Surveys: OECD

Development Work in Non-member countries

Taller sobre Encuestas de opinion Empresarial, December 2003, Santiago

OECD/UNESCAP workshop on Composite Leading Indicators and Business Tendency Surveys, February 2003, Bangkok

Taller sobre Encuestas de Opinion Empesarial, December 2002 Rio de Janeiro

OECD/ADB/ESCAP Meeting on composite Leading Indicators and Business Tendency Surveys, October 2001, Bangkok

Joint ECLAC-OECD Seminar on Leading Indicators, December 2000, Rio de Janeiro

Joint OECD-ADB- ESCAP Workshop on Business Tendency Surveys, November 2000, Bangkok

Joint OECD-ADB Workshop on Business tendency Surveys November 1999, Manila

Development of business and Consumer Surveys in Central and Eastern Europe- Summary of Workshops 1991-1996

## Heading

Links to National Survey  
Institutes and relevant

## Available information

OECD Member countries  
Australia  
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Westpac  
Banking Corporation  
[http://www.acci.asn.au/index\\_surveys.htm](http://www.acci.asn.au/index_surveys.htm)  
Austria  
Austrian Institute for Economic Research (WIFO)  
<http://www.wifo.at>  
Belgium  
Banque National de Belgique (BNB)  
<http://www.nbb.be/sq/en/homee2.htm>  
Canada  
Statistics Canada  
<http://www.statcan.ca/start.html>  
Czech Republic  
Czech Statistical Office  
<http://www.czso.cz/eng/angl.htm>  
Denmark  
Statistics denmark  
<http://www.dst.dk/dst/dstframesetuk.asp>

## Discussion Issues

Having reviewed the current draft structure of the proposed portal at: <http://www.oecd.org/std/bt-coi/coordination> feedback is sought on the following issues:

- Is the proposed location of the BTS/CTS portal on the OECD web-site a good solution?
- Do we have any alternative possible locations (CIRET?) of the portal?
- Is the proposed structure logical and detailed enough or is something missing?
- Would it make sense to involve national institutes in the maintenance of certain parts of the portal?
- If so, how would this work in practice?
- Would it be possible to have links to national institutes with more direct connections to BTS/COS information

Statistics Directorate  
(Home)

## Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Indicators

About Statistics Publications & Documents  
Information by Country

Home: Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Indicators .> Business Tendency and Consumer Surveys: International Development Work and Coordination

## Business Tendency and Consumer Surveys: International Development Work and Coordination

The aim of this site is to promote continued development and facilitate best practice through sharing of information on business tendency and consumer surveys and statistics between international organisations and national institutes.

Access to information on any aspect of business tendency and consumer surveys is provided by the following links:

- [Recent Survey Results](#)
- [International Guidelines and Recommendations](#)
- [Business Tendency and Consumer Survey Terminology](#)
- [Questionnaires](#)
- [Metadata/Methodology](#)
- [Surveys - Good Practices](#)
- [Meeting papers](#)

Much of the early development and recent improvements in business tendency and consumer surveys is due to the activities of [CIRET – Centre for International Research on economic Tendency Surveys](#).

The [European Commission](#) – more specifically the [Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs](#) has been active in designing and promoting the harmonised system of business and consumer surveys within the European Union and, together with OECD, in expanding the system to transition and developing countries.

Don't miss

Business and Consumer Surveys: OECD  
Development Work in Non-member Countries

OECD Leading Indicators

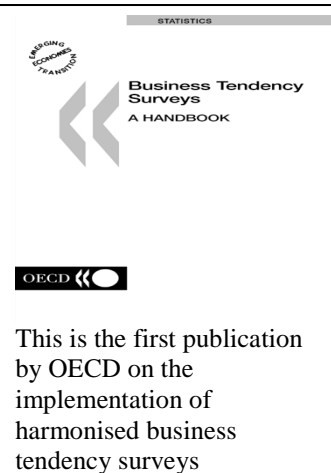
Links to National Survey Institutes and relevant International Bodies

Contact us

Site Map

Back to

### Focus



The image shows the cover of a handbook titled "Business Tendency Surveys: A HANDBOOK". It features the OECD logo and a stylized graphic of two overlapping shapes. The text "STATISTICS" is visible at the top right. Below the main title, it says "OECD" with the logo.

This is the first publication by OECD on the implementation of harmonised business tendency surveys

### Focus



The image shows the cover of a journal titled "Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis". It features the OECD logo and a stylized graphic of two overlapping shapes. The text "OECD" and "Edited by Günter Poser" are visible. Below the main title, it says "OECD – CIRET Journal on business and economic cycle research, including both measurement and analytical aspects – www.oecd.org/std/jbcma".

OECD – CIRET Journal on business and economic cycle research, including both measurement and analytical aspects –  
[www.oecd.org/std/jbcma](http://www.oecd.org/std/jbcma)