出國報告 **(**出國類別：參加會議**)**

出席「**CIRET**（**Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys**）會議暨 **EC-OECD** 企業及消費者趨勢調查研習會」報告

服務機關：經濟建設委員會
出國人姓名職稱：秦羽翔　專門委員

赴派國家：比利時
出國期間：94 年 11 月 12 至 18 日
報告日期：95 年 2 月 18 日

摘要

ＣＩＲＥＴ為國際性經濟趨勢研究組織，會員遍及全球 51 個國家，經建會自 1983 年加入ＣＩＲＥＴ積極參與，與世界主要經濟景氣研究機構及政府單位合作並交換經驗與意見，不僅汲取最新研究方法與技術，亦展現我國積極貢獻國際專業社群之熱忱。本次會議，經建會葉副主任委員明峰當選執行委員會委員，成為領導該組織決策與發展團隊一員。

歐盟執行委員會（簡稱 EC）與 OECD 為改善調查資料的國際比較，而推動歐盟企業及消費者調查調和系統（Harmonised system of business and consumer surveys within the European Union），並將此系統推廣至轉型中國家及開發中國家。自 2003 年起 EC 與 OECD 舉行一系列企業及消費者趨勢調查研習會。本次聯合研習會由「回收率改善與問卷填寫人負擔最小化」及「調查運作與技術設計之調和」任務小組報告改善調查業務之做法，並由其他專家報告如何應用調查結果。EC 亦委託學術機構研究，評估三種季節調整方法之效能。各場會議結論與建議均有助於實務之改善，將被納入新版的指導手冊中，最佳範例亦將登載於入口網站。

目次

壹、目的 1

貳、會議過程 3

一、 ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會會議
二、 ＣＩＲＥＴ會員大會
三、 EC－OECD 企業及消費者趨勢調查聯合研習會

參、心得與建議 12

一、 鼓勵國內機構積極參與ＣＩＲＥＴ
二、 加強發展國內經濟趨勢調查

肆、附件 13

一、 ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會議程文件
二、 ＣＩＲＥＴ大會議程文件
三、 ＣＩＲＥＴ主席與財務委員致葉副主委當選執行委員賀函
四、 EC－OECD 研習會議程
五、 EC－OECD 研習會出席名單
六、 EC－OECD 研習會會議摘要報告初稿

出席「CIRET（Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys）會議暨 EC-OECD 企業及消費者趨勢調查研習會」報告
（94 年 11 月 14 至 16 日）

壹、目的

一、　ＣＩＲＥＴ會議背景

ＣＩＲＥＴ（Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys，國際經濟趨勢調查研究中心）係世界主要國家經濟景氣研究機構及學者專家所組成之國際性研究交流團體，其會員係從事經濟趨勢調查，或利用調查之結果從事應用或理論研究。趨勢調查爲一屬質調查，與傳統屬量調查不同，乃調查企業家或消費者對經濟變動方向之判斷、計畫或預期等，或爲景氣調查、或爲投資或消費調查，近年來金融服務業調查應用日趨廣泛。

ＣＩＲＥＴ成立於1953 年，原有約750個會員，遍及全球51個國家。自1982年至1999年皆由德國Ｉｆｏ經濟研究院院長Dr. Karl Heinrich Oppenländer 擔任會長，德國Darmstadt 大學法律經濟系教授Dr. Günter Poser 擔任顧問，秘書處則合併附屬於Ｉｆｏ經濟研究院。1999年2月起Dr. Hans-Werner Sinn 接任第十五任院長，1999年底，ＣＩＲＥＴ脫離Ｉｆｏ研究院，秘書處改設於瑞士聯邦技術學院(Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule，ＥＴＨ)之景氣研究所(Konjunkturforschungsstelle，ＫＯＦ)，所長Dr. Bernd Schips擔任會長。ＣＩＲＥＴ現依比利時法律，設籍於布魯塞爾。

ＣＩＲＥＴ每年舉行一次大會，兩年舉辦一次大型國際研討會。本會經濟研究處自 1983 年加入ＣＩＲＥＴ爲機構會員。1985 年李前副主任委員高朝以會員代表身份首次參加ＣＩＲＥＴ第 17 屆研討會,其後各屆會議本會多派員出席，並曾於 2002 年負責主辦第 26 屆研討會。

ＣＩＲＥＴ組織運作、行政、重要工作係由執行委員會（Council）負責，本會葉副主任委員明峰、胡參事仲英分別獲選於 2000-2003 年及 2003-2005 年擔任執行委員會委員。本年ＣＩＲＥＴ會員大會暨執行委員會於 11 月 15 日在比利時布魯塞爾舉行，會長 Schips 博士會前表示歡迎葉副主委重回執行委員會任職。

ＣＩＲＥＴ會員包括各國政府負責調查、經濟統計分析機構（如中央銀行、統計局）、金融機構、商工業總會，各國經濟智庫及教育機構、以及國際經貿組織（如 OECD、歐盟經濟暨財政事務總署、歐洲中央銀行），且ＣＩＲＥＴ在經濟趨勢調查研究領域居國際領導地位，本會因此得以透過參與ＣＩＲＥＴ與各國政府部門互動並獲邀出席 OECD 會議。

二、 **EC－OECD** 企業及消費者趨勢調查聯合研習會會議背景

爲能比較歐盟各經濟體景氣循環，並掌握歐盟各經濟體情勢與發展情況，歐盟經濟暨財政事務總署（Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs，DG ECFIN）設計並積極推動歐盟企業及消費者調查調和系統（Harmonised system of business and consumer surveys within the European Union），並與 OECD 合作共同將此系統推廣至轉型中國家及開發中國家，期能建立更準確之全球性趨勢指標。

EC（歐盟執行委員會）－OECD 企業及消費者趨勢調查聯合研習會，第一次係於 2003 年在布魯塞爾舉行，討論調查的編製、呈現及發布、各國調查結果之調和、企業與消費者調查之應用、訂定優先工作項目。2004 年 9 月ＣＩＲＥＴ研討會於華沙舉行，OECD 配合該會亦舉辦企業與消費者調查研習會，討論推動調查調和系統的入口網站、資料規格說明（metadata）標準、針對優先工作項目成立有關改善回收率、季節調整及調查運作等任務小組、以及舉辦第二次聯合研習會，本次即爲第二次 EC－OECD 聯合研習會。我國目前已參與華沙與第二次聯合研習會，但尚未有具體成果提出論文發表。

三、 出席會議目的

本（2005）年ＣＩＲＥＴ會員大會暨執行委員會於 11 月 15 日在比利時布魯塞爾舉行，同時，歐盟執行委員會（European Commission, EC）及 OECD 企業及消費者趨勢調查聯合研習會配合於 11 月 14-16 日舉行。ＣＩＲＥＴ會員大會主要議程包括：2004 年華沙大會、財務及預算、執行委員選舉、ＣＩＲＥＴ與 OECD 共同發行之期刊 Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis 報告。EC 及 OECD 聯合研習會主要討論：如何改進調查回收率以及受訪者填寫負擔、調和各國調查作業與設計、OECD 企業／消費趨勢調查（BTS/COS）入口網站、企業及消費者趨勢調查結果之季節調整、其他有關調查議題與未來發展等。

爲掌握經濟趨勢調查發展、汲取最新研究方法與技術，並積極參與國際經貿事務，本會派經濟研究處專門委員秦羽翔代表出席ＣＩＲＥＴ與 OECD 相關會議。

貳、會議過程

一、 ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會

11 月 14 日晚上 6 時ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會會議於比利時中央銀行召開，由ＣＩＲＥＴ會長 Schips 主持，出席委員包括ＩＦＯ研究院 Nerb 博士、OECD 統計局 Nilsson 先生、比利時央行 Vanhaelen 先生、法國統計經濟研究（National Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies, INSEE）院 Erkel-Rousse 女士、義大利研究與經濟分析研究院（Institute for Studies and Economic Analysis, ISAE）Malgarini 先生、匈牙利 GKI 經濟研究所 Vétes 博士、拉托維亞統計研究院（Latvian Statistics）Vanags 先生、波蘭華沙經濟學院（Warsaw School of Economics）Adamovics 教授、ＣＩＲＥＴ財務委員 Bloch 女士及本會代表秦羽翔專門委員等。列席者包括ＣＩＲＥＴ資訊中心 Bloesch 先生、28 屆研討會共同主辦單位義大利中央銀行 Parigi 先生等。

主席首先報告請假不克出席委員，並指出本會葉副主委去函向各委員致意。

本次會議除通過 2004 年於華沙舉行之執行委員會會議紀錄，主要討論 28 屆（2006 年）ＣＩＲＥＴ研討會。要點如下：

(一) 研討會主辦國義大利報告會議訂於 2006 年 9 月 20-23 日於羅馬 La Sapienza 大學舉行。
(二) 主辦單位為義大利研究與經濟分析研究院（Institute for Studies and Economic Analyses, ISAE）、中央銀行及 La Sapienza 大學。
(三) 會議主題為「景氣指標與經濟決策（Cyclical Indicators and Economic Policy Decisions）」，專題為「區域型與在地型調查（Regional and Local Surveys）」。
(四) 請委員廣邀論文，並預定明年 3 月召開執行委員會審查論文。

二、 ＣＩＲＥＴ會員大會

11 月 14 日晚上 7 時ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會於比利時中央銀行召開，由ＣＩＲＥＴ會長 Schips 主持，出席委員除執行委員會委員外，尚有其他會員出席。

本次會議除通過 2004 年於華沙舉行之大會紀錄、2004 年財務報告與 2006 年預算計畫外，並報告、討論重要工作、進行選舉新任執行委員。討論要點如下：

1. 組織人事與重要工作

(1) 主席報告其即將退休，繼任主席為瑞士ＥＴＨ及ＫＯＦ研究所新任所長。ＣＩＲＥＴ與 OECD 聯合出版學術期刊 Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis（JBCMA）主編 Günter Poser 亦將請辭。

(2) 注重維持 JBCMA 期刊之高學術水準。

(3) 近年財務有緊縮情形，希望會員宣導ＣＩＲＥＴ工作，邀請相關專業人士加入。

2. 執行委員請辭與選舉

本次會議確定本會胡參事仲英之請辭執行委員案，並選舉新任執行委員。主席請本會代表報告胡參事因職務調動請辭及葉副主委資歷後主持選舉，由本會葉副主委及法國 INSEE 研究院 Philippe Scherrer 先生當選。

大會約於晚間 8 點結束，會後並由比利時中央銀行預備簡單茶會，多位執行委員與會員向本會代表祝賀葉副主委當選，並請轉達致意。

三、 **EC－OECD** 企業及消費者趨勢調查聯合研習會*

(一) 推動企業及消費者調查調和系統

歐盟經濟暨財政事務總署（簡稱 DG ECFIN）與 OECD 為合作推動歐盟企業及消費者調查調和系統，並將此系統推廣至轉型中國家及開發中國家，定期在歐盟各國及歐盟申請國進行製造、服務、零售及營建等產業調查與消費者調查，綜合許多經理人與消費者意願與判斷，而建立指標。調查種類包括：

- 經濟信心指標（Economic sentiment indicator，簡稱 ESIN）目的在於觀測景氣循環動向，係每月由歐盟各國編製。

---

*本次會議討論議題與發表論文眾多，可自 OECD 網站 http://www.oecd.org/document/6/0,2340,en_2649_34249_35515718_1_1_1_1,00.html下載。

- 部門別信心指標（confidence indicator）：工業（製造業）、服務業、零售業、營建業以及消費者，每月進行一次。
- 投資調查：產業的投資動向調查，每兩年進行一次。
- 世界經濟調查：訪查全球 91 國 1,100 多位專家對本國經濟情勢所做判斷，每季進行一次。此調查由德國 Ifo 研究院執行，本會負責彙整台灣專家調查。
- 特別調查：針對特殊目的調查，例如 1989、1994 及 2000 所做的 EU 勞動市場景氣調查（Performance）。
- 歐盟申請國信心調查：目前已進行工業及消費者調查，其他調查也即將開始。

就提供短期經濟訊息而言，企業與消費者調查比較傳統的量化統計調查有許多的優點。因爲所要求的回答不需要精確的紀錄，對企業來及消費者來說較爲簡易，且可更迅速的回覆。趨勢調查涵蓋許多可以觀測景氣循環的變數以及量化統計沒有做到的變數（如設備利用率、對整體經濟景氣的看法）。因此在歐盟及 OECD 國家均應用趨勢調查來觀測景氣。

(二) 討論要點

本次聯合會議，共有 58 機構之 90 位代表出席，分別屬於歐盟、歐盟申請國、非歐盟之 OECD 會員、其他國家、歐洲中央銀行及部分歐盟會員中央銀行。主要在討論「回收率改善與問卷填寫人負擔最小化」及「調查運作與技術設計之調和」任務小組之建議，以及歐盟執委會針對目前主要三種季節調整方法之研究。主要結論如下：

第一場次　「回收率改善與問卷填寫負擔最小化」任務小組

1. 回收率之計算方法應列在各國的資料規格說明－任務小組推薦兩種回收率之計算方法，一種適合單一抽樣比率與單一權數，另一種適合不等抽樣比率與不等權數。
2. 邀請參與調查並獲合作的策略－依受調單位特色而設計第一次聯絡方式、必須與該單位中適合填寫的人聯絡、解說調查的效益與應用以加強印象、加強受調者對調查及調查機關的認識、盡量在第一次聯絡時有個人接觸、解說本調查的特色及其與其他調查的差異、調查的資訊應該是回答者容易取得的。
3. 體會受調查單位立場提供多種回覆方式，由受調單位選擇其所偏好方式，以提高回收作業成效並減少調查失誤。另，定期詢問回答者偏好何種資料收取方式。

4. 針對不同資料收集方式設計有效的追蹤策略，包括宣導資料、免費詢問電話。爲避免完全拒答，宜向受訪者說明可以僅填寫重要變數資料，也接受估計值或替代變數值。
5. 加權方法應求權數能確切代表母體。
6. 注意企業回覆行爲是否有偏倚－本任務小組研究顯示，所有的調查機構或多或少都假設無回應（non response）現象是隨機的（missing at random, MAR），也就是假設，回收答案的統計分配可代表抽樣群體。如果此項假設不符事實，則可能誤導景氣預測。

第二場次　　「調和調查運作與技術設計」任務小組

2003 年 OECD 爲非會員國出版一本有關如何建立企業趨勢調查（BTS）手冊，其中所推薦的程序步驟係官方統計調查使用，本任務小組並以此爲基礎，研發調查作業與技術設計，達到四方面結論：

1. 有效率的樣本設計與加權方法基本要求

(1) 企業調查

樣本架構（sample frame）：廠商整體名冊宜盡量完整，並隨普查更新，官方註冊名冊優於民間商業工會名冊。爲維持分類組之穩定並精準顯示調查目標，宜建立裁減（cut off）策略。

抽樣方法（sampling method）：類組宜固定，並定期更換固定比例的受訪單位。強力推薦機率樣本方法（probability sample selection）。

資料缺項（missing data）：資料說明中應該記載如何處理項目別及受調單位之無回應。調查機構應密切注意資料缺項的影響並設計使無回應率最小化之策略。可考慮設算缺項資料但需謹慎避免扭曲。爲避免誤差，宜重新加權。

加權方法（weighting method）：必須使用權數以改善估計的準確性，至少做到簡單一階加權方法；如果母體具異質性（heterogeneous），則建議用二階或多階加權法。權數需能代表母體中企業大小分配。

(2) 消費者調查

樣本架構（sample frame）：抽樣群體名冊應盡量包含所有成人人口，並建議每年更新。政府普查較電話註冊理想，若係使用後者，應處裡取樣範圍偏差（coverage bias）。

抽樣方法（sampling method）：建議使用隨機抽樣以確保調查的代表性，如果母體具異質性（heterogeneous），則分組抽樣較簡單隨機抽樣理想。

加權方法（weighting method）：可以按人口結構特性（如年齡、性別、區域、市鎮大小）或社會經濟特色（如職業、教育水準、市鎮類型）加權，以改善樣本代表性。

2. 網路調查的設計

近年來，經由網路收集資料的趨勢快速發展，而網路環境較其他調查方法爲獨特，因此何爲進行網路調查的最佳方式，學界目前尚未達成共識。「調和調查運作與技術設計」任務小組彙整各式網路調查的特色、優點與困難，並推薦各種最佳範例，目前初步研究成果如下：

(1) 期初作業

- 鑒於參與調查者會評估主辦機構的網路專業能力，機構應講究其網頁呈現之專業性。
- 蒐集有關參與者之特性及人口統計資料。
- 鑒於部份企業限制員工使用網際網路，應先調查有電子郵件帳號者是否可使用網際網路。
- 提供回答問卷者之個人認證碼（PIN），最好可以不必輸入帳號與密碼而直接聯結。
- 提供資訊技術服務聯絡。
- 爲尊重倫理，不可未經同意而擷取回答者之相關資訊（如cookies）。
- 確保資料安全及機密。
- 詢查問卷在不同螢幕結構、作業系統、螢幕呈現之畫面差異。
- 第一次邀請參與網路調查時，應以正式書面函邀請。
- 進行志願試答，並將志願參與業者之意見列入考量。

(2) 電子郵件邀請 E-mail

- 鑒於帶有附件或 HTML 格式的電子郵件可能爲防毒緣故而被拒收，電子郵件邀請邀請應採普通文字格式。
- 請參與調查業者將調查機構電子郵件帳號設爲「安全」或「許可」寄件者，因此，調查單位應該提供不會因職務變動而改變的機構電子郵件帳號。
- 避免使用付費名冊，以免被誤以爲是寄發垃圾郵件者。
- 避免使用類似垃圾郵件的文字。
- 使用易於辨認、簡短且具長久性之電子郵件帳號。
- 應先試寄測試是否專用電子郵件帳號被部分 ISP 機構誤認爲垃圾郵件。
- 應該加入回條機制，以掌握實際收信率。

(3) 問卷設計

- 詢查多數問卷回答者網際網路連線速度。
- 設計吸引人的歡迎網頁，並強調填寫網路問卷的輕鬆特性。
- 爲避免讓人感覺電腦媒介的互動比較傳統方式冷漠，宜用親切的問候語。
- 問題應易懂並盡量與書面問卷類似。
- 避免太多色彩以及會分散注意力的版面設計。依經驗法則，建議 3 種顏色，並考慮色盲者的困難。
- 應該確認字體大小設計在各種螢幕結構下看都夠大。
- 瀏覽器相容問題可能導致下載時間長久，而增加回答者的負擔。因此，應避免遷就樣式而犧牲實用性，例如使用許多圖形、自動圈選等。
- 鑒於使用者可能解除 Java, JavaScript, Cookies, Active X 等網際網路功能，應該盡量使用最基本的標準語言。
- 避免設計使用多個同時進行的滑鼠動作。
- 鑒於網路讀者閱讀速度較快且較無耐心，應將易遭誤解部分強調註明。
- 重要訊息應能使讀者一目了然，並且不宜佔據整個畫面。
- 頁面設計，應做到使回答者只需上下移動畫面一題接一題地閱讀，避免左右移動畫面。
- 使用多頁面（multi-page）設計應該只限於子題或方便讀者跳頁的情形，且使用時應該標明與最後一頁的距離。
- 網路與書面問卷的版面與格式應盡量相同。
- 提供「重填（reset）」的選項。
- 容許回答者半途中斷，並在其他時間接續作答。
- 越來越多的網路使用者拒絕接受跳出畫面（pop-up）。
- 不同形式的問題搭配不同的格式，如：複選題以方格的選答，單選題用圓扣。
- 容許回答者從網頁列印問題及其回答結果。
- 三級判斷（變好、不變、變壞）模式在趨勢不明時提供較少的選擇，因此多數回答者在能夠確定趨勢扭轉前，傾向維持先前判斷。透過網路使用視覺化類比分級（visual analog scales, VAS），回答者可以逐漸改變其判斷，而調查機構可透過預期判斷的微調情形，偵測趨勢的潛在變動。

(4) 結果分析

- 分析問卷回答是否因無回應、有效性及可靠性而有否差異，及其差異原因（如：問卷設計、問題範圍、選取偏差）。
- 探討網路回答者與傳統書面回答者的樣本特性是否可比較。

(5) 回饋

- 運用網路與回答者聯繫（如：節期問候），提供額外訊息（如：問題回答）以及精美的報告等。
- 若可行，提供內部網路給回答者專享。
- 定時查訪使用者滿意度。
- 注意網際網路環境的變化及使用者的需求變化。

(6) 資訊安全：提醒參與調查者妥善處理使用帳號與密碼，並定期更新機構防毒軟體

3. 其他

有關電話調查，需考慮手機使用率的激增。而隨機數位撥號並非理想的樣本建立方式，未來應該討論樣本循環（sample rotation）及如何建立最貼切的樣本。

4. 未來工作

(1) 以上有關樣本設計、加權方法、網路調查建議將納入 OECD 與 EC 未來企業與消費者（BTS/COS）調查指南。OECD 並將先行納入其 BTS/COS 入口網站，EC 將在其修正 1977 版指南時納入。
(2) 比較目前各國樣本設計與加權方法與小組建議之差異。
(3) 研究網路調查有關資訊安全、問卷設計與網頁呈現的理想做法。
(4) 研究在企業調查使用 VAS 之設計與發展。

第三場次　　OECD 工作進度

1. 企業與消費者調查（BTS/COS）入口網站

(1) BTS/COS 入口網站的設立為推動調查調和，並透過國際組織及各國機構之分享，推廣有關企業與消費者信心調查範例。目前該入口網站提供現有國際指南與範例、各國問卷、各國調查主要項目標準與定義說明、各國範例連結、格式相同的資料以供區域或國家間合計、以及 OECD、歐盟執委會及ＣＩＲＥＴ會議論文連結等。
(2) 與會者支持本網站的建置並肯定 OECD、歐盟執委會及ＣＩＲＥＴ之間的密切合作，使網站上的資訊能保持一致性與互補性。與會者亦希望網站提供工具促進使用者之間資料（data）與資料說明（metada）之交流。
(3) 未來工作方面，OECD 將提供部分國家的標準化指標以及區域合計值；同時，OECD 統計網站 OECD.stat 將提供國家別所有部門的詳細

調查資料。非歐盟會員國的標準格式化資料說明所涵蓋範圍亦將逐漸改進。

2. 區域信心指標的合計與計算

(1) 由於調查資料本身不僅是趨勢指標，亦是領先指標的重要構成項目，調查資料將愈來愈受重視。同時，巴西、中國、印度、俄羅斯等新興國家的調查資料對建立區域性與全球性企業與消費者信心指標亦相當重要。OECD 已試算一些區域性與全球性製造業及消費者信心指標，並提供其編製方法。OECD 指出，這些指標係用以進行國別比較，並可評估全球景氣。其他與會者則指出，也可用來比較個別國家景氣循環與歐盟及全球景氣關係。

(2) 未來工作包括：爲沒有類似指標的非歐盟 OECD 會員國計算企業信心調查；計算印度、印尼、俄羅斯等國的消費者信心指標；計算歐洲四大、OECD 歐洲會員、歐盟 15 國、NAFTA 等區域總合指標；研究編製區域的非製造業部門信心指標（目前僅有美國與韓國的資料）；試編不同的權數以反映各國在區域中的相對重要性，例如出口與進口占世界貿易比重。

第四場次　　企業與消費者趨勢調查（BTS/COS）之應用

比利時、歐盟、土耳其等國中央銀行簡報如何運用企業與消費者調查進行分析，並討論各種調查資料之特性，擔任報告機構咸認爲調查資料應具時效性、可供跨國比較、並且有完整而長久的時間序列。未來需要針對新趨勢而在問卷一般問題以外增加特別問題，例如有關人口老化、勞動力、福利、及金融市場等，可能的方式之一是輪流使用一組特殊問題。另外，應發展服務業及其他部門的調查，並提供更多種的資料分類，例如部門別、地區別、人口結構別、技術層級別等。爲發展服務業調查，先著手彙整現有服務業調查，比較調查項目所涵蓋的活動，並確認各機構未來調查計畫。

鑒於資料修訂的最小化對銀行非常重要，未來將探討如何修訂意見調查資料、修定資料的機構數目、修訂幅度、能否改善時效。

第五場次　　企業與消費者調查資料季節調整方法之效能

歐盟執委會委託鹿特丹 Erasmus 大學經濟學院評估 Census X12-ARIMA、TRAMO/SEATS 及 Dainties 三種季節調整方法，結論指出前二者在整理原始資料時間序列方面功能最穩健，而 Dainties 對於已確定季節特性（季

節模型）的時間序列表現較佳。該報告亦指出，線性離群值（additive outliers）對季節調整功能無顯著影響（亦即，此種歧異值的存在與否，不會影響季節調整的效能），但是季節調整方法對於非線性離群值（innovation outliers）則特別敏感，三種方法均不能充分清除這類雜訊。對企業與消費者調查資料而言，三種方法的表現均佳，但是因爲 Dainties 不考量離群值，所以將研究於此方法中納入剔除離群值步驟的可行性。

　　未來，將進一步以國別及多國資料研究季節調整方法，並匯整各國之模型方法及偵測、處理雜訊的步驟。

第六場次　　其他報告

　　歐盟執委會及部分國家代表以個案報告指出未來發展方向包括：運用企業信心調查進行製造業產出預測、分析有關價格預期的屬「量」問題、服務業信心調查、企業趨勢調查的綜合指標、探討各國與歐盟之信心指標差異來源。

第七場次　　結論

EC 與 OECD 將把本次會議建議納入新版的指導手冊中，並將最佳範例登載於入口網站。兩個任務小組既已大致完成基礎工作，編組即將結束，EC 與 OECD 將於與會人士就會議報告提出意見後，規劃未來各國參與工作及特定議題之研究。因此，任何與任務小組成員之間的研商均將視爲非正式雙邊互動。EC 與 OECD 對於任務小組成員投入的時間與努力，表示熱忱的感謝。

會議結束

參、心得與建議

一、 鼓勵國內機構積極參與ＣＩＲＥＴ

ＣＩＲＥＴ集合全球從事趨勢調查之專家、學者、政府與研究機構，係爲運用調查結果或理論研究之個人或機構意見與成果之交流平台。雖然ＣＩＲＥＴ爲非政府組織，但與各國政府經濟、統計單位互動頻繁，尤其，歐盟與 OECD 積極推動使用趨勢調查，與ＣＩＲＥＴ有極密切合作關係，並邀請ＣＩＲＥＴ會員出席相關會議。鑑於我國加入國際組織困難，應鼓勵國內趨勢調查研究及經濟預測機構積極參與ＣＩＲＥＴ，透過此平台與國際同一領域之精英互相切磋，改進我國趨勢調查及預測效能，並提升我國在 OECD 等國際經濟組織的能見度。

經調查，目前我國ＣＩＲＥＴ機構會員有中央銀行、經建會、主計處等，經建會除參與會議，亦與主席、執行委員及其他會員保持聯絡。會後，本會與國內其他從事趨勢調查研究機構如：台灣經濟研究院（景氣動向調查）、中央大學台灣經濟發展研究中心（消費者信心調查），以及從事經濟預測機構如：中華經濟研究院、中研院經濟研究所等機構聯絡，鼓勵參與ＣＩＲＥＴ，已獲大多數主事者正面回應，其中部份人士限於經費，將申請個人會員資格[*]。

二、 加強發展國內經濟趨勢調查

由於調查資料本身不僅是趨勢指標，亦是領先指標重要的構成項目，國際經濟組織均愈來愈重視調查資料，並且愈來愈需要使用新興國家調查結果算出區域性，甚至全球性的經濟趨勢指標，因此我國應加強發展經濟趨勢調查，以建立可靠的指標，俾與國際社會分享成果與經驗，加強國際合作，並避免在國際機構評估國際經濟趨勢時遺漏我國資料。

雖然我國景氣指標已可由 OECD 網站「Leading Indicators and Tendency Surveys」下「Business Tendency and Consumer Surveys: International Development Work and Co-ordination」之「Business Tendency and Consumer Surveys: National Survey Institutes and Relevant International Bodies」網頁（http://www.oecd.org/document/53/0,2340,en_2649_34249_33660853_1_1_1_1,00.html）連結，但已運作 30 餘年之經建會「製造業景氣調查」因結構變遷且回

[*] ＣＩＲＥＴ團體會員會費爲 800 歐元，個人會員會費爲 80 歐元。

收率屢降，樣本結構不足代表實際產業結構，加以回覆內容不夠完整，調查結果難具代表性與參考價值，亟需尋求改善。

肆、附件

一、ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會議程文件

ETH
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

CIRET Office
c/o KOF
Konjunkturforschungsstelle
Swiss Institute for
Business Cycle Research

ETH Zentrum WEH
CH-8092 Zurich

Phone +41 44 632 42 38
Fax +41 44 632 11 50
info@ciret.org
www.ciret.org

Zurich, November 8, 2005

CIRET

Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 18:00

National Bank of Belgium
rue Montagne au Herbes Potagères 61, Brussels/Belgium

phone: +32 2 221 21 11, fax +32 2 221 31 00

Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the last Council Meeting of April 14, 2005 in Zurich

3. 28th CIRET Conference (Rome, September 2006): Call for Papers

4. Varia
   - Elections on the occasion of the upcoming General Assembly meeting 2005
   - CIRET Office
   - Date of the next Council meeting and General Assembly 2006
     (to take place in Rome during the next Conference)

Page 1/1

2004年9月ＣＩＲＥＴ執行委員會會議記錄

ETH
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

CIRET-Office
c/o KOF
Konjunkturforschungsstelle
Swiss Institute for
Business Cycle Research

CIRET KOF

Zurich, 25 February, 2005

DRAFT

Minutes of the CIRET Council Meeting, September 16, 2004
Warsaw School of Economics, Al. Niepodleglosci 162, Warsaw/Poland

Members present	Mrs. Hélène Erkel-Rousse, Prof. Bernd Schips (President), Dr. Gernot Nerb (Vice-President), Mr. Paolo Carnazza, Prof. Ullrich Heilemann, Dr. Frank Chung-Ying Hu, Mr. Jens-Uwe Jungnickel, Mr. Franz-Josef Klein, Mr. Marco Malgarini, Dr. Zbigniew Matkowski, Mr. Jussi Mustonen, Mr. Ronny Nilsson, Prof. Karl Heinrich Oppenländer, Prof. Günter Poser, Mr. Jean-Jacques Vanhaelen, Dr. Andras Vértes,
Guests	--
CIRET-IDC	Mr. Daniel Bloesch
Secretary	Mrs. Katharina Bloch
Excused:	Prof. Ichiro Shirakawa, Mr. Ari Tyrkkö

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**
   The agenda is adopted.

2. **Adoption of the Minutes of the last Council meeting of March 12, 2004, in Warsaw**
   The minutes are adopted.

3. **JBCMA Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis (joint OECD-CIRET Journal): Status Report by Prof. Günter Poser**
   The third and last edition of 2004 will come out in November 2004. The edition following the November edition will contain a selection of papers presented at the present Conference.
   Referee process: this procedure has turned out to last up to 12 to 15 weeks, longer than previously expected.
   Procedure: The papers are submitted to the CIRET Secretariat in Zurich. Before they are transmitted to the editorial Board, they are made anonymous.
   Advertising: a new leaflet has been prepared. The CIRET Office will put it on internet so that the JBCMA can be found easily by the search engines.
   Personal changes: Mr. Pretorius Sterrenberg as well as Mr. Augustin Maravall wish to retire from the editorial board by the end of this year.
   Prof. Poser, after giving the lift-off to the journal wishes also to retire and to give way to a younger scientist who has experience in statistical procedures.
   Dr. Matkowski wishes the list of referees to be made public. Referees from all countries should be consulted.

4. **Discussion of the elections (Council, President, Vice-President, Treasurer)**
   There is no Council member who wishes to withdraw.
   Prof. Schips informs that he will retire from his activities at the KOF (Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research) at the end of September 2004. The Council is asking him to continue on a temporary basis for another two-year period. The secretariate and the treasurer will also continue their mandate for this same period. Dr. Nerb points out that this would leave enough time for the Council to clarify whether the successor of Prof. Schips would be interested in CIRET. Then, a suitable candidate could definitely be elected in 2006.

Dr. Matkowski wishes to raise the number of Polish representatives in the CIRET Council, Prof. Elzbieta Adamowicz as second representative of Poland being member on a temporary basis only as local organizer of this Conference.

5. Venue and Organisation of the 28th CIRET Conference 2006

Prof. Schips informs that the local organizer must be a Corporate member of CIRET.
There are two candidates: Rome by ISAE, Istituto di Studi e Analisi Economica and Santiago de Chile by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.
Mr. Malgarini as representative of Rome is informing that he has been able to contact potential co-hosts already. He should be able to present a preliminary programme by the next meeting.
On behalf of the representative from Chile, Mr. Nilsson is informing that a commitment could be made for 2006, however not for 2008 as this moment is too far away from now to make binding commitments. Prof. Poser points out that already 15 years ago an attempt was made to organize a Conference in South America and that it would be worthwhile now to consider seriously this candidacy. Dr. Nerb adds that the Central Bank of Chile has started Business Surveys recently and that therefore, Chile would indeed be an interesting location for a future Conference.
Regarding the next Conference, it is decided to organise it in Rome. This would leave more time to evaluate carefully the organisation of a future Conference in South America.
Mr. Nilsson will inform Dr. Hofmann accordingly.

6. Varia

- There are 6 new Individual Members who have registered since the last Council meeting of 12 March 2004.
- Procedure of selection of papers for future conferences: It is difficult to judge on the quality of a contribution if it is only based on an abstract as abstracts often tend to be too general. Mrs. Erkel-Rousse and Dr. Bloesch will therefore draw up a form to be used in the future to submit papers. This draft will be discussed at the next Council meeting.
- Next Council meeting: The next Council meeting will take place in April or June 2005 in Rome [changed in the meantime to Zurich, 14 April 2005, 2:00 p.m.].

Katharina Bloch

28 屆ＣＩＲＥＴ研討會及論文邀請簡章

ETH
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

CIRET Office
c/o KOF
Konjunkturforschungsstelle
Swiss Institute for
Business Cycle Research

CIRET
KOF

28th CIRET Conference

on

Cyclical Indicators and Economic Policy Decisions

Special Topic:

Regional and Local Surveys

20th – 23th September 2006, Rome, Italy

hosted by the Institute of Studies and Economic Analysis (ISAE),
the Bank of Italy and
the University "La Sapienza", Faculty of Statistics.

Call for Papers (draft_v3)

The overall aim of CIRET conferences is to encourage and improve communication, exchange and co-operation between academics and practitioners who conduct economic or social surveys, analyse survey data and develop or make use of cyclical indicators. CIRET, the Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys, is also a forum for discussion and application of new methodological developments and their results.

This call invites papers related to a broad range of topics to be investigated based on several types of surveys (business tendency surveys, consumer surveys, investment and innovation surveys, etc.) or based on the development and use of cyclical indicators, including methodological aspects. Within this framework, all types of contributions are welcome.

Topics

I. Short-term Economic Surveys and Indicators

- **Business Tendency Surveys (including Investment Surveys)**
- **Consumer Surveys**
- **Composite and Leading Indicators**
- **Ad hoc Surveys**
- **New Methods**

II. Surveys Related to Structural Aspects of the Economy

- **Innovative Activity**
- **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**
- **Organisational Change**
- **Labour Market Analysis**

III. Special Topic

- **Regional and Local Surveys**

Description about the special topic (forthcoming)

Submission Procedure

Abstracts

Deadline: Mid of February 2006

Please send your abstract by filling out the **form for abstracts** on:

http://www.ciret.org/callforpapers

The form asks for an abstract of 300-500 words, the title of the abstract and for keywords and JEL classification. In addition information about the method, the data, the novelty of the contribution and about the most relevant references is requested.

E-mails of acceptance will be sent to the corresponding author by end of March 2006.

Papers

Deadline: End of June 2006

Papers may be written by using the template for MS-Word or the corresponding style definitions on:

http://www.ciret.org/callforpapers

Please send your submission in MS-Word- or Adobe-PDF-Format to:

papers@ciret.org

Authors are kindly invited to submit their ready-to-publish paper to the joint OECD and CIRET Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis (JBCMA).
Submissions accepted by the Editor-in-Chief will be reviewed by two referees (double blind procedure).

Additional information about the conference is available on the CIRET web site:

http://www.ciret.org/conferences/rome2006

Contact

CIRET Office
c/o KOF
Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research
ETH Zentrum WEH
8092 Zürich
Switzerland

Phone: +41 44 632 42 38
Fax: +41 44 632 11 50

http://www.ciret.org
info@ciret.org

二、ＣＩＲＥＴ大會議程文件

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

CIRET Office
c/o KOF
Konjunkturforschungsstelle
Swiss Institute for
Business Cycle Research

ETH Zentrum WEH
CH-8092 Zurich

Phone +41 1 632 50 01
Fax +41 1 632 11 50
info@ciret.org
www.ciret.org

CIRET KOF

Zurich, November 8, 2005

CIRET
General Assembly Meeting

Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 18:30

National Bank of Belgium NBB
rue Montagne au Herbes Potagères 61
~~Boulevard de Berlaimont 14, BE-1000 Brussels, Belgium~~

phone: +32 2 221 21 11, fax +32 2 221 31 00

Draft Agenda

1. Verification of the quorum
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Adoption of the Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting 2004 in Warsaw
4. Accounts 2004: Report of the Auditors
5. Approval of Budget 2006
6. Report about the state of the Association
7. Resignation of Council members:
   - Dr. Chung-Ying Hu, CEPT, Taipei/Taiwan
8. Election of new Council members:
   - Mr. Thomas M. F. Yeh, Taipei, replacing Dr. Frank Chung-Ying Hu, CEPD, Taipei/Taiwan
   - Mr. Philippe Scherrer, INSEE, France
9. Report on the OECD-CIRET Journal «Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis»
10. Varia

Page 1/1

2004 年 CIRET 大會會議記錄

ETH
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

CIRET Office
c/o KOF
Konjunkturforschungsstelle
Swiss Institute for
Business Cycle Research

CIRET
KOF

Zurich, September 25, 2004

Draft

Minutes of the General Assembly of CIRET, September 16, 2004,
Warsaw School of Economics, Al. Niepodleglosci 162, **Warsaw/Poland**

Members present: see attached list. The quorum is constituted (1/3 of the votes).

The President, Prof. Schips, is opening the conference wishing a warm welcome to the members present.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**
   The agenda is adopted.

2. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Last General Assembly Meeting in Munich**
   The minutes of the last General Assembly meeting 2004 is approved.

3. a) **Report about the state of the Association**
   There are 29 Corporate Members and 49 Individual Members.

   b) **JBCMA Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis (joint OECD-CIRET Journal): Status Report**
   The third and last edition of 2004 will come out in November 2004. The edition following the November edition will contain a selection of papers presented at the present Conference.
   Referee process: this procedure has turned out to last up to 12 to 15 weeks, longer than previously expected.
   Advertising: a new leaflet has been prepared. The CIRET Office will put it on internet so that the JBCMA can be found easily by the searching engines.
   Personal changes: Mr. Pretorius Sterrenberg as well as Mr. Augustin Maravall wish to retire from the editorial board by the end of this year.

4. **Accounts 2003: Report of the Auditors**
   The report of the Auditors is adopted.

5. **Approval of Budget 2005 and 2006**
   The budgets 2003 and 2004 are approved.

6. **Elections**
   Treasurer: **Dr. Peter Weiss** is elected auditor replacing Mr. Frank Schönborn as from the financial year 2006.

6. **Venue and Organization of the 27th CIRET Conference 2004**
   The 28th Conference will take place in **September 2006, in Rome/Italy**.

7. **Varia**
   The President expresses his thanks to the sponsors of CIRET. As the financial situation of CIRET remains difficult, he asks the members to convince known potential candidates to register as CIRET members.

Katharina Bloch

Encl.

Page 1/1

2004 年財務報告

Financial Year 2004

Report of the Auditors

Considering that CIRET pays a definite sum of CHF 40'000 to KOF, the financial year 2004 closed with a benefit of EUR 2'765.11 (corresponding to CHF 4'285.95, for 2004 an exchange rate of CHF 1.55 is applied).

However, this sum does by far not cover all the costs incurred. As 2004 was a year with a CIRET conference to be prepared, the costs added up were even higher than in the previous year.

Liabilities side (debit)

In the financial year, the income amounted to a total of **EUR 28'862.79** comprising membership fees of EUR 24'839.95, extra supports of EUR 4'003.74 and interests of 19.10.

The list of the members is enclosed to this document.

Expenses (credit)

The expenses result from a payment made in CHF charging the account at UBS in Zurich and another payment made in EUR charging the account at NBB in Brussels. The total of these two payments including the bank charges sum up to **EUR 26'097.68** (EUR 19'354.84 + 6'600.00 + 142.84).

On December 31, 2004, the account balances are as follows:

- UBS Zurich: **CHF 6'450.68** (EUR 4'161.73)
- NBB Bruxelles: **EUR 3'726.67**

The costs borne by KOF can be itemised as follows

- CIRET Office/Administration	EUR	47'102.74	32.85 %
- JBCMA Journal	EUR	40'562.23	28.29 %
- Conference	EUR	36'442.16	25.41 %
- Travel expenses	EUR	9'671.32	6.74 %
- Database/Website	EUR	7'624.10	5.32 %
- Misc. Costs	EUR	1'990.71	1.39 %
Total	**EUR**	**143'393.26**	**100.00 %**
(income CIRET	EUR	28'862.79	20.13 %)

The auditors checked the documents proving the expenses.

The labour cost of the KOF personnel (permanent staff) was imputed by the bookkeeping department of KOF based on its work reports (time sheets). The accounted labour cost attributes to CIRET Office, JBCMA Journal, Conference preparation and database/website support. It summed up to EUR 130'364.70 or to 90.91 % of the total cost (CHF 170'901.85 + 31'163.45 = CHF 202'065.30).

Page 1

Travel expenses were paid for the President and his secretariat including the treasurer, as well as for the editor-in-chief of the Journal by OECD and CIRET, JBCMA.

Conclusion

Based on the documents put at our disposal, the auditors could check the account of the CIRET association. All expenses were proved by the documents except the labour cost.

....	....
Winfried Stier	Frank Schönborn
Date:	Date:
15.8.2005	05.10.2005

Signed and dated annexes:

Account CIRET 2004 with
- detailed list of income and expenses
- list of CIRET members indicating their payments

CIRET KOF

Account CIRET 2004

Exchange rate: 1 EURO = 1.55

Debit	CHF	Account 2004 EUR	Budget 2004 EUR
Contribution to KOF (CHF)	30'000.00	19'354.84	26'666.67
Contribution to KOF (EUR)	10'230.00	6'600.00	
Bank charges	221.40	142.84	
Balance	4'285.95	2'765.11	1'633.33
Total Debit	**44'737.35**	**28'862.79**	**28'300.00**

Credit	CHF	EUR	Budget 2004 EUR
Member contributions CHF (UBS)	24'790.75	15'994.03	23'000.00
Member contributions EUR (NBB)	13'711.20	8'845.92	
Extra Support CHF (UBS)	3'880.80	2'503.74	5'300.00
Extra Support EUR (NBB)	2'325.00	1'500.00	
Bank interest	29.60	19.10	
Total Credit	**44'737.35**	**28'862.79**	**28'300.00**

Expenses borne by KOF	CHF	EUR	Budget 2004 EUR
CIRET Office/Administration	73'009.25	47'102.74	35'000.00
JBCMA Journal	62'871.45	40'562.23	
Conference	56'485.35	36'442.16	35'000.00
Travel expenses	14'990.55	9'671.32	4'000.00
Database/Website	11'817.35	7'624.10	35'000.00
Misc. Costs	3'085.60	1'990.71	2'450.00
Total expenses	**222'259.55**	**143'393.26**	**111'450.00**
Reimbursement from CIRET (CHF)	30'000.00	19'354.84	26'666.67
Reimbursement from CIRET (EUR)	10'230.00	6'600.00	
Expenses borne by KOF	**182'029.55**	**117'438.42**	84'783.33

3.8.2005
[illegible signature]

K:\CIRET\Finances\Budgets_Accounts\2004\2004-Account_with-Budget.xls

2005 年修正預算

CIRET KOF

Zurich, October 28, 2005/kb

Revised Budget 2005

(Exchange rate: 1 EURO = CHF 1.52)

Debit	CHF	EUR	Credit	CHF	EUR
Contribution to KOF	40'000.00	26'400.00	Membership fees EUR		12'400.00
			Membership fees CHF	15'800.00	10'400.00
			Extra support CHF	3'800.00	2'500.00
			Loss		1'100.00
Total Debit		**26'400.00**	**Total Credit**		**26'400.00**

Expenses to be borne by KOF Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research

Debit	*CHF*	*EUR*	*Credit*	*CHF*	*EUR*
CIRET Office/Administration	*72'000.00*	***47'400.00***	*Contribution to KOF*	*40'000.00*	***26'300.00***
JBCMA Journal	*63'000.00*	***41'400.00***			
Conference	*0.00*	***0.00***			
Travel expenses	*3'800.00*	***2'500.00***			
Database/Website	*10'000.00*	***6'600.00***	*Loss*		***71'600.00***
Total Debit		***97'900.00***	***Total Credit***		***97'900.00***

2006 年預算

CIRET KOF

Zurich, October 28, 2005/kb

Budget 2006

(Exchange rate: 1 EURO = CHF 1.52)

Debit	CHF	EUR	Credit	CHF	EUR
Contribution to KOF	40'000.00	**26'400.00**	**Membership fees EUR**		**8'000.00**
			Membership fees CHF	24'000.00	**15'790.00**
			Extra support CHF	3'800.00	**2'500.00**
Benefit		**1'390.00**	**Extra support EUR**		**1'500.00**
Total Debit		27'790.00	Total Credit		27'790.00

Expenses to be borne by KOF Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research

Debit	*CHF*	*EUR*	*Credit*	*CHF*	*EUR*
CIRET Office/Administration	*73'000.00*	***48'000.00***	*Contribution to KOF*	*40'000.00*	***26'300.00***
JBCMA Journal	*63'000.00*	***41'400.00***			
Conference	*45'000.00*	***29'600.00***			
Travel expenses	*15'000.00*	***9'900.00***			
Database/Website	*11'800.00*	***7'800.00***	***Loss***		***110'400.00***
Total Debit		***136'700.00***	***Total Credit***		***136'700.00***

k:\Ciret\Finances\Budgets_Accounts\Budget-2006.xls

執行委員辭職函

Resignation Dr. Chung-Ying Hu

From: chungying@cepd.gov.tw
To: schips@kof.ethz.ch
Subject: CIRET Council member
Date: Mon, 3 Oct 2005 16:39:26 +0800

Dear Prof. Schips,

(...)

My purpose in writing is to inform you of a change in my situation at the Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), where I have left the Department of Economic Research to take up appointment as a counsellor. A result of this is that I no longer supervise the business cycle research division. Therefore, I think it is appropriate for me to resign as a Council Member of CIRET.

I would like to take this opportunity to suggest that Mr. Thomas M. F. Yeh be put forward as a candidate for membership of the Council, on which he served during 2000-2004. Mr. Yeh, who has been especially enthusiastic about our participation in CIRET, is now Vice Chairman of the CEPD with responsibility for overseeing economic research and policy analysis and recommendation.

(...)

Yours sincerely,

Chung-Ying Hu

Counsellor

Council for Economic Planning and Development

Taipei, Taiwan

執行委員候選人簡歷（一）

CURRICULUM VITAE

September 2005

Name: Mr. Thomas M. F. Yeh
Birth Date: October 14, 1944
Birth Place: Taiwan, ROC

EDUCATION

1968 BA in Economics, National Taiwan University (NTU)
1971 MA in Economics, NTU
1972-1975 Ph.D. Program in Economics, NTU
1975-1976 Financial Management Training Program, Syracuse University, USA

POSITIONS

2004 -	Vice Chairman, Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD)
2002 - 2004	Director General, the 4th Department, Executive Yuan (Cabinet)
1999 - 2002	Secretary General, Council for Economic Planning & Development (CEPD)
1996 - 1999	Director, Economic Research Department, CEPD
1990 - 1996	Director, Financial Analysis Department, CEPD
1989 - 1990	Director, General Affairs Department, CEPD

CONCURRENT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2005 -	Vice Chairman, Turnaround Management Association of Taiwan
2002 -	Convenor, Venture Capital Investment Project Assessment Committee of the Development Fund
2000 - 2004	Council Member, Center for International Research on Economic Tendency Survey (CIRET)
1989 -	Board Director, International Commercial Bank of China, Taiwan
1990 - 1996	Executive Secretary, Managing Committee for Sino-American Fund for Economic and Social Development
1990 - 1996	Member, Securities and Exchange Commission, Ministry of Finance

SPECIALITY

Fiscal and Economic Policies

Address: 5thF, No.3 Pao Ching Road, Taipei, Taiwan (ROC)
TEL 886-2-23700364
FAX 886-2-23700380
E-mail thomasyeh@cepd.gov.tw

執行委員候選人簡歷（二）

Curriculum vitae
Philippe Scherrer

Born in 1965, M. Philippe Scherrer is an INSEE administrator (Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques).

He holds the diploma of Statistician-Ingineer from ENSAI (Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Analyse de l'Information, Paris, France, from 1986 to 1988) and that of Economist-Statistician from ENSAE (Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Economique, Paris, France, from 1992 to 1995).

1988: he worked as an economic planner in the Statistical Direction of the French Ministry of Agriculture;

1995: he taught statistics and econometrics to ENSAE students;

1998: he was in charge of the economic analysis of financial and accounting data on local authorities in the Public Finance Direction of the French Ministry of Economics and Finances;

2000: he became the head of the "Producer price" Division in INSEE, collecting also import and export prices;

since October 2004, he has been the head of the "Business Tendency Surveys" Division in INSEE.

三、 CIRET 主席與財務委員致葉副主委當選執行委員賀函

-------*Original Message*-------

From: CIRET Office - Katharina Bloch
Date: 11/30/05 08:04:19
To: thomasyeh@cepd.gov.tw
Cc: chyn@cepd.gov.tw
Subject: Re: Say Hello from Thomas Yeh(Taiwan)

Dear Mr. Thomas M. F. Yeh,
We are pleased to inform you that the CIRET Council on 15 November has elected you again as new Council member.
Many congratulations.
We thank you for being available again for CIRET and are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation.
Sincerely yours,
Bernd Schips/Katharina Bloch

--
CIRET OFFICE
http://www.ciret.org <http://www.ciret.org/>, mailto:info@ciret.org
c/o Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research
ETH Zentrum WEH, CH-8092 Zurich/Switzerland
tel: +41 44 632 42 38, fax: +41 44 632 11 50

> Dear Professor Schips,
>
> Time goes by so quickly that it is already three years since we last
> met in Taipei. However, I have continued to pay close attention to
> CIRET activities, and since returning to the CEPD as Vice Chairman, I
> have been overseeing this Council's participation in CIRET.
>
> I am gratified to learn that you welcomed my candidacy as a CIRET
> Council member. I see the position as an honour as well as an
> opportunity to serve the community and promote CIRET's cause more
> actively. I would take this opportunity to express my sincere
> gratitude for all the benefits we have gained from our association
> with CIRET and the support you have given us over the years.
>
> Due to my responsibility to advise on my country's participation in
> the APEC Leaders Meeting, it is much to my regret that I will not be
> able to join you and fellow members at the coming General Assembly
> meeting. However, I have delegated Ms. Regina Yeu-shyang Chyn, a
> senior economist of the CEPD, to attend on my behalf and extend our
> warm greetings and enthusiastic support for the development of CIRET.
>
> I wish you a pleasant stay in Brussels and the best of success to the
> meeting.
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
> Thomas M. F. Yeh
>
> --
>
>

四、 EC－OECD 研習會議程文件

簡介與邀請函

ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES

OECD OCDE

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTION DES STATISTIQUES
STATISTICS DIRECTORATE

Chef Statisticien et Directeur
Chief Statistician and Director

To: Participants at the joint European Commission - OECD Workshop on International Development of Business and Consumer Tendency Surveys, Brussels, November 2003

Participants at the OECD Workshop on Business and Consumer Tendency Surveys, Warsaw, September 2004

Members of Business Tendency Survey/Consumer Opinion Survey task forces

Paris, 28 July 2005

STD/DO(2005)59

Dear Colleague

Joint EU – OECD Workshop on
International Development of Business and Consumer Tendency Surveys
14-15 November 2005

The OECD and the European Commission (EC) are jointly organizing a workshop for statistical and research institutions in OECD Member countries, European Union (EU) Members, Candidate countries and selected non-Member countries (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and South Africa). The workshop will be held on 14-15 November 2005 in Brussels, Belgium. This meeting will be held back-to-back with a one day meeting organised by the EC for EU and Candidate countries on Wednesday, 16 November.

Following the priority tasks identified at the 2003 joint EU-OECD workshop in Brussels and subsequent development work discussed at the 2004 OECD workshop in Warsaw, the agenda for this workshop will mainly focus on the work carried out in the framework of the OECD task forces on "Harmonization of Survey Operations and Technical Design" and "Improvement of Response Rates and Minimisation of Respondent Load". Other topics include recent developments in collection and dissemination of metadata, seasonal adjustment and discussion of the business tendency and consumer opinion survey portal. A preliminary Agenda is attached.

To facilitate discussion and to maximise the sharing of ideas we would like to invite participants to contribute any national experience on the topics/issues suggested above or indicated in the attached draft Agenda. However, country papers on other topics are welcome and will be considered for inclusion in the agenda on merit and time available.

Further information will be provided regarding the final agenda, national contributions and administrative arrangements (including the location of the venue in Brussels) at a later date.

To facilitate the preparation of the final agenda, we would like to receive electronic copies of any contributed papers in advance of the workshop (by 10 October 2005). This will also enable their distribution to meeting participants well prior to their departure for Brussels. A web site for the meeting will be available after the summer 2005 at: http://www.oecd.org/std/meeting-papers.

2, rue André-Pascal, 75775 Paris Cedex 16, France Tél : +33 (0) 1 4524 8200
Ligne directe/Direct line : +33 (0) 1 4524 7688 Fax : +33 (0) 1 4430 6248 E-mail : Ronny.Nilsson@oecd.org www.oecd.org

The OECD and the EC therefore invites official representation from your institution to participate in the workshop. Could you please forward the name and contact information (telephone number, email address) of your nominated delegate and the topic of your country paper (if submitted) **prior to 31 August 2005** to enable the agenda to be finalised.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Ronny Nilsson (ronny.nilsson@oecd.org) should you require additional information on specific aspects of the Workshop agenda. Please send your reply regarding your attendance at the Workshop, etc., to Ms. Kate Raggett. (kate.raggett@oecd.org)

Yours faithfully

Enrico Giovannini

Enrico Giovannini

2

議程

Joint European Commission - OECD Workshop on International Development of Business and Consumer Tendency Surveys

Brussels, 14-15 November 2005

Agenda

Workshop objective

The main objective of the two day workshop will be to discuss work carried out in the framework of the OECD task forces on the priority tasks identified at the joint European Commission - OECD Workshop on International Development of Business and Consumer Tendency Surveys held in Brussels in November 2003 and the subsequent development work defined at the 2004 OECD workshop in Warsaw.

Monday, 14 November

09.30 – 09.50	Welcome and introduction	EC and OECD

Session 1 – Presentation of work by the OECD Task Force on "Improvement of Response Rates and Minimization of Respondent Load"

Improvement of response rates and minimization of respondent load are of high priority for all national institutes. The specific aim of the task force was to identify good national practice and to make recommendations on the following issues:

	Presentation by taskforce leaders:	
09.50 – 10.25	Relationship between response rates and data collection methods – Analysis of key issues and main findings Discussion	Bianca Martelli, ISAE

10.25 – 11.15	Business Surveys in South Africa: Testing the ground for internet-based surveys keeping the impact of response rates in mind	Pieter Laubscher, BER South Africa
	Why is the response rate of the TANKAN high?	Kenichiro Tahara, Bank of Japan
	Discussion	

11.15 – 11.35	Coffee break

11.35 – 12.10	Assessing and minimising the impact of non-response of survey estimates – Analysis of key issues and main findings	Richard McKenzie, OECD
	Discussion	
12.10 – 12.50	Adjusting for non-response: constant-sample method in the French business surveys	Philippe Scherrer, INSEE
	Analysis of non-response patterns in South African business tendency surveys	Pieter Laubscher, BER South Africa
	Discussion	
12:50 – 13:00	Session 1 conclusions and recommendations	

13.00 – 14.20	Lunch

Session 2 – Presentation of work by OECD Task Force on 'Harmonisation of Survey Operation and Technical Design"

There are at present no international guidelines and recommendations outlining best practice for the development of business tendency surveys. However, in 2003 the OECD published a Handbook aimed at helping non-member countries to implement and/or develop their business tendency surveys. The survey procedures presented and recommended in the handbook are procedures which are used for official statistical surveys. These recommendations could, however, be used as a starting point for further discussion on development of standards for survey operation and technical design.

	Presentations by taskforce leaders:	
14.20 – 14.50	Efficient sample design and weighting methods – Analysis of key issues and recommendations	Marco Malgarini, ISAE
	Discussion	
14.50 - 15.20	Identification and Assessment of Recommended Practices for the Design of Internet Surveys	Anna Stangl, Ifo Institute
	Discussion	
15.20 – 15.30	Session 2 conclusions and recommendations	15.20 – 15.30

Session 3 – Recent developments of the OECD Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Surveys Portal

To promote harmonization and facilitate best practice through the sharing of information on business tendency and consumer opinion surveys between international organizations and national institutes. The OECD web-portal provides access to the following:

- existing international guidelines and recommendations;
- questionnaires used by national institutes;
- summary metadata describing key elements of national institute surveys;
- links to selected examples of good national practice;
- data presented in a common format for countries and regional aggregates;
- links to papers from meetings organized by the OECD, European Commission and CIRET.

15.30 – 16.00	Brief overview on recent improvements to the portal including developments in the collection and dissemination of metadata Discussion	Ronny Nilsson, OECD

16.00 – 16.20	Coffee break

16.20 – 16.50	Calculation of normalised business and consumer confidence indicators and OECD and Non-OECD area aggregates (OECD Total, Major 7, Big 6 Non-OECD, World proxy) Discussion	Olivier Brunet, OECD
16.50 – 17.00	Session 3 conclusions and recommendations	Denis Ward, OECD

Session 4 – Uses of business and consumer opinion survey data, implications for data producers

This session outlines the uses of business and consumer opinion survey data in the analytical work of several central banks. The presentations also touch briefly on issues / implications of interest to producers of survey data.

17.00 – 17.20	Use of business and consumer opinion survey data in business cycle analyses from a user perspective.	Giuseppe Parigi, Bank of Italy
17.20 – 17.40	Use of business and consumer opinion survey data in business cycle analyses from a user perspective.	Ece Oral, Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey
17.40 – 17.50	Discussion	

<u>Tuesday, 15 November</u>

Session 4 – Uses of business and consumer opinion survey data, implications for data producers (cont.)

09.30 – 09.45	Use of business and consumer opinion survey	Benoît Robert,

	data in business cycle analyses from a user perspective.	National Bank of Belgium
09.45 – 10.05	The usefulness of survey measures from a research and policy perspective	Ricardo Mestre, European Central Bank
10.05 – 10.15	Discussion	
10.15 – 10.25	Session 5 conclusions and recommendations	OECD

Session 5 – Recent Developments in the Seasonal Adjustment of Business Tendency and Consumer Opinion Data

10.25 – 10.55	Performance of Seasonal Adjustment Procedures: Simulations and Empirical Results	Philip Hans Franses, Econometric Institute – Erasmus University Rotterdam
	Discussion	
10.55 – 11.10	Session 4 conclusions and recommendations	European Commission

11.10 – 11.30	Coffee break

Session 6 – Presentation of studies on other topics

This session presents recent work of a number of national agencies and the European Commission and, in particular, identifies avenues / issues for possible future work by the Workshop in the evolution of business and consumer opinion surveys.

11.30 – 12.00	Individual responses to BTS and the forecasting of manufactured production	Hélène Erkel-Rousse, INSEE
	Discussion	
12.00 – 12.30	Analysis of Quantitative Questions on Price Perceptions / Expectations in the EU	Staffan Lindén, European Commission
	Discussion	

12.30 – 14.00	Lunch

14.00 – 14.25	ESI and services confidence indicator in Slovak Republic Discussion	Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic
14.25 – 14.50	Differences between GUS survey and the EU standardised survey - implications for future harmonisation of national surveys with the EU standardised indicator Discussion	Katarzyna Walkowska, CSO, Poland
14.50 – 15.15	Comparison of national versus European Commission confidence indicators Discussion	Maarten van de Stadt, European Commission
15.15 – 15.40	Consumer and entrepreneurs confidence and inflation perception from perspectives of Estonian entry into the European Union and joining the EMU Discussion	Marje Josing, EKI, Estonia
15.40 – 15.50	Session 6 conclusions and recommendations	OECD

Session 7 – Meeting conclusions and future work

15.50 – 16.20	Review of meeting conclusions and recommendations for: Task Force on “Improvement of Response Rates and Minimization of Respondent Load” Task Force on ‘Harmonisation of Survey Operation and Technical Design” Future work on priority areas Discussion	Denis Ward, OECD

	Future meetings (back to back with CIRET, Rome, in 2006)
	Other business

五、EC－OECD 研習會出席者名單

Attachment 2

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, JOINT EU/OECD WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS TENDENCY SURVEYS,
14 – 15 NOVEMBER 2005

Canada	Statistics Canada	Mr Peter LYS
India	Reserve Bank of India	Mr M.N. LIMBKAR
Indonesia	Bank of Indonesia	Mr Eddy SULAIMAN YUSUF
	Bank of Indonesia	Mr Ismet INONO
	Bank of Indonesia	Ms Nita A. MUELGINI
Japan	Bank of Japan	Mr Kenichiro TAHARA
Korea	Bank of Korea	Mr Jae-Ryong YANG
	National Statistical Office	Ms Worlan PARK
		Ms Sungja LIM
South Africa	Bureau for Economic Research	Mr Pieter LAUBSCHER
Switzerland	KOF ETH	Mr Daniel BLOESCH
Taiwan	Council for Econ Planning and Development	Ms Regina YEU-SHYANG CHYN
USA	University of Michigan	Mr Richard CURTIN
Turkey	Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey	Mr Oguz ATUK
		Ms Ece ORAL
Poland	Warsaw School of Economics	Ms Elzbieta ADAMOWICZ
		Ms Maria DROZDOWICZ-BIEĆ
		Mr Slawomir DUDEK

AT	Austria	GFK	Mr Peter ULRAM
		WIFO	Mr Gerhard SCHWARZ
BE	Belgium	BNB	Mr Jean Paul VONCK
			Mrs Isabelle DE GREEF
			Mr Benoît ROBERT
CY	Cyprus	CMR	Mrs Eliza LOUCAIDOU
CZ	Czech Republic	GFK Praha	Mr Michal STRAKA
		Czech Statistical Office	Mrs Marie HORMANNOVA
DE	Germany	GFK AG	Mr Rolf BUERKL
		IFO	Mr Gernot NERB
			Mrs Anna STANGL
			Mr Klaus ABBERGER
DK	Denmark	Danmarks Statistik	Mr Casper LARSEN
			Mr Jacob DØJHOLT
EE	Estonia	EKI	Mrs Marje JOSING
			Mrs Evelin AHERMAA
EL	Greece	FEIR/IOBE	Mr Aggelos TSAKANIKAS
			Mrs Irini STAGGEL
ES	Spain	MITYC	Mr Jose Manuel ALMENDROS
			Mr José Frias SAN ROMAN

FI	Finland	CFI	Mr Penna URRILA
		Statistics Finland	Mr Pertti KANGASSALO
FR	France	INSEE	Mr Philippe SCHERRER Mrs Hélène ERKEL-ROUSSE
HU	Hungary	GKI Economic Research	Mr András VÉRTES Mr Raymund PETZ
IE	Ireland	ESRI	Mr James WILLIAMS
IT	Italy	ISAE	Mr Marco MALGARINI Mrs Biana MARTELLI
LT	Lithuania	Statistics Lithuania	Mrs Regina DEVEIKYTE Mrs Alma RUTKAUSKIENE
LU	Luxemburg	BCL	Mr Jean Marie THOSS
		STATEC	Mr Frank HANSEN
LV	Latvia	Latvian Statistical Institute	Mr Ilmars VANAGS
			Mrs Inta MUKINA
MT	Malta	EMCS	Mr Robert GEISMANN
		Federation of Industry	Mr Kevin CARUANA
NL	Netherlands	CBS	Mr Kees NIEUWSTAD Mr Gert BUITEN
		EIB	Mr Ad GROOTENBOER
		TNS-NIPO	Mr Adriaan EECEN Mr Remco FRERICHS
PL	Poland	GFK	Mr Piotr MADALINSKI
		Central Statistical Office Poland	Mrs Katarzyna WALKOWSKA
PT	Portugal	AECOPS	Mrs Maria Conceição VITAL
		INE	Mr Paulo DAVID
RO	Romania	GFK Romania	Mr Dan MAGIRESCU
		National Institute of Statistics	Mrs Gheorghita BRAILEANU
SE	Sweden	NIER	Mr Roger KNUDSEN Mr Klas-Göran WARGINGER
SI	Slovenia	Statist. Office of the Republic of Slovenia	Ms Brigita VRABIC-KEK Mr Matija REMEC
SK	Slovakia	Statist. Office of the Slovak Republic	Mrs Edita HOLICKOVA Mrs Dagmar BLAHOVA Mrs Michaela KLACIKOVA Mrs Anetta PATAJOVA
UK	United Kingdom	CBI	Mr Jonathan WOOD
		CFR	Mr Alan ARMITAGE
		GFK Martin Hamblin	Mrs Ruth RAMM
HR	Croatia	Croatian National Bank	Mr Vedran ŠOŠIĆ Mr Saša CEROVAC

Bank of Italy	Mr Giuseppe PARIGI
Erasmus University	Mr Philip Hans FRANSES Mr Dennis FOK
GFK Ad Hoc Research Worldwide	Mr Mark HOFMANS

TEEC Economisti Associati	Mr Alberto BOLOGNINI
ECB	Mr Heinz-Christian DIEDEN Ms Roberta FRIZ Mr Fabrice ORLANDI Mr Ricardo MESTRE

OECD	Mr Denis WARD Mr Olivier BRUNET Mr Richard McKENZIE Mr Ronny NILSSON
EC - DG ESTAT	Mr Nikolaus WURM Mr Giovanni SAVIO
EC - DG ECFIN	Mr Jürgen KRÖGER Mr Peter WEISS Mr Maarten VAN DE STADT Mr Antonio FUSO Mr Christian GAYER Mr Andreas JONSSON Mr Staffan LINDEN Ms Yevgeniya KULOZHENKO Mr Julien GENET Mr Franz-Josef KLEIN

六、**EC－OECD** 研習會會議摘要報告初稿

JOINT EUROPEAN COMMISSION – OECD WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS AND CONSUMER TENDENCY SURVEYS

BRUSSELS

14 – 15 NOVEMBER 2005

Summary of Outcomes and Recommendations for Future Work

Peter Weiss
DG Economic and Financial Affairs
European Commission

Denis Ward
Short-term Economic Statistics Division
Statistics Directorate
OECD

- January 2006 -

JOINT EUROPEAN COMMISSION – OECD WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS AND CONSUMER TENDENCY SURVEYS, BRUSSELS, 14-15 NOVEMBER 2005

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

A. INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the main outcomes and recommendations for future work arising out of the second joint European Commission – OECD Workshop on business and consumer opinion surveys (BTS / COS) held in Brussels on 14-15 November 2005[1]. The meeting was attended by 90 delegates from 58 institutes in EU member and candidate states, non-EU OECD Member countries, other countries from around the world, the European Central Bank and Central Banks in several EU countries. The meeting agenda and list of attendees are provided in Attachments 1 and 2 respectively. Further background information about the workshop, papers prepared and presentations given, are available at the meeting website[2].

The focus of discussion at the two day Workshop were the recommendations prepared by two task forces that arose out of the last joint workshop held in 2003 and the OECD Workshop held back-to-back with the CIRET meeting in Warsaw in September 2004. The task forces were:

- improvement of response rates and minimisation of respondent load; and
- harmonisation of survey operations and technical design.

Membership of the task forces comprised representatives from national institutes in Austria, Belgium, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, United Kingdom, as well as staff from the European Commission and the OECD.

In addition, there was also the presentation and discussion (in Session 5) of a comprehensive study commissioned by the European Commission into the relative strengths of the three primary seasonal adjustment methods for business and consumer opinion survey time series, namely, Census X12-ARIMA, TRAMO / SEATS and Dainties.

Task force recommendations and other outcomes endorsed by participants at the Workshop are summarised below in the context of each of the six substantive sessions. Where appropriate, these are linked to specific papers available on the meeting website cited above providing background / context and recommended best practice prepared for the 2005 joint meeting and from other national sources. The European Commission and the OECD intend to embody these recommendations in revised versions of opinion survey guidelines / handbooks to be prepared in future by both organisations. The OECD will also incorporate the task force recommendations and examples of recommended national practice into future evolutions of the BTS / COS portal discussed at the Workshop in Session 3.

The initial work of both task forces is now largely complete and they will be disbanded. Requests for national involvement / input in future work or research focused on specific issues (as outlined in options for future work outlined below for each Session) will be sought following the receipt of Workshop participant comments on this report. Any future consultation with former members of the task forces on any outstanding issues will be undertaken on an informal (and largely) bilateral basis. Finally, but not

---

[1] The workshop was followed by a one day internal European Commission meeting held on 16 November.

[2] Accessible at http://www.oecd.org/document/45/0,2340,en_2649_33715_35304301_1_1_1_1,00.html

least, the OECD and European Commission warmly thank the members of both task forces for their time and effort in the preparation of the reports and presentations for the 2005 Workshop.

B. JOINT MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPTIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Session 1: Task force on improvement of response rates and minimisation of respondent load

The terms of reference for the task force involved investigation on:

- which methods of data collection (e.g. mail, phone, fax, internet, email, etc.) and follow-up routines are most effective for improving response rates and reducing response burden, also considering the impact of the different methods on the costs of conducting the survey;

- effective and cost efficient methods for communicating with survey respondents to gain their co-operation in situations where the survey is either compulsory or non-compulsory;

- how to assess the impact (bias) that non-response can have on survey estimates and the development of methods to minimise that impact (e.g. imputation methods, estimation methodologies).

The work of the task force entailed a thorough review of current national practice and available literature in these areas. This literature pointed to the fact that the achievement of a satisfactory response rate is a key factor in the compilation of high quality opinion survey data, and that clear strategies to minimise non-response should be given high priority in the allocation of resources. The task force offered a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between response rate and data collection methods. It investigated different data collection and communication methods as well as factors influencing response rates.

The main outcomes of the task force work and discussion at the Workshop are embodied in the following seven recommendations, which entail the need for national institutes to:

1. Clearly specify in their metadata which kind of response rate is applied. The task force felt that two kinds of non-response rate (or the complementary response rate) seemed advisable according to survey design. In the case of non-response these comprise a measure appropriate where there is a uniform sampling fraction and equal weights and another appropriate in the more general case of unequal sampling fraction and reporting units with different weights[3].

2. Formulate and implement a range of strategies to establish initial contacts with respondents to gain their co-operation. Strategies include the tailoring of contacts to the characteristics of the unit (especially larger units), contacting the "appropriate" person within the unit, overcoming a lack of awareness of the survey by explaining the benefits / uses of data from the survey, making respondents more aware of the survey institution and its survey program, using personal contact in the initial approach where possible, providing information on the survey characteristics explaining differences from other surveys, ensuring that data requested are readily available to the respondent.

[3] The former is given by the notation $NR1 = \left(n' / n \right) * 100$ where n' is the number of units which did not submit useful information and n is the number of units selected in the survey. The latter is represented by the notation $NR3 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n'} \frac{1}{f_i} * w_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{f_i} * w_i} * 100$ where $f_i = \frac{n^i}{n}$ is the sampling fraction of the i^{th} unit and w_i is the size of the weight of the i^{th} unit.

3. Adopting a respondent perspective with regards to the data collection method, all of which have their strengths and weaknesses. Where possible, efforts should be made to allow survey units to choose the mode they prefer. Implement a mixed mode approach for data collection which allows for the optimisation of data collection procedures and a reduction of total survey errors within the available time and cost. Examples of recommended practice in this area are provided in the Bank of Japan paper, *Why is the response rate of the TANKAN high*[4]?

4. Periodically include questions in questionnaires to assess respondent preferences for data collection.

5. Develop efficient follow-up strategies which are tailored to the various modes of data collection used by an institute conducting BTS / COS. Such strategies include the provision of promotional material, use of toll-free telephone help lines to provide assistance to respondents, collecting only key variables as an alternative to total non-response, and providing an explicit indication that estimates (or proxy data) are acceptable for requested data items.

6. Review their current weighting methodology to ensure that business weights used in estimation are representative of the population. There is a need to take account of sampling probabilities in the weighting process. If aggregation to the branch or cell level combines businesses chosen with different probabilities (e.g. large and small businesses) then the sampling fraction should be a factor in the weighting process, otherwise estimates will be biased.

7. Analyse the results from previous surveys to determine whether there is any evidence of different response behaviour for businesses which are more or less likely to respond to a particular survey cycle[5]. All institutes reviewed by the task force use, at least to some extent, the missing at random (MAR) assumption for treating non-respondents in BTSs. This assumes that the average (weighted) distribution of answers from responding businesses is representative of non-respondents. If this assumption does not hold then only taking into account answers from businesses responding to a particular monthly cycle of a survey can lead to a false diagnosis of changes in the business climate if this is due only to a change in structure of the respondents.

Further information on Recommendations 1-5 are available in the task force paper, *Relationship between response rates and data collection methods*[6]. Background information for Recommendations 6, 7 are available in the paper, *Assessing and minimising the impact of non-response on survey estimates*[7].

Other presentations and relevant discussion

Participants at the Workshop noted that closer relationship with respondents and institutes taking steps to develop respondent awareness of the importance of their participation, favourably influenced response rates. It would also be useful to examine difference in response rates between units with different characteristics (such as size) as a means of identifying more precisely the cause(s) of non-response.

---

[4] Available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/54/8/35564041.pdf

[5] As undertaken by the South African Bureau of Economic Research, as described in para. 23 of the task force paper, *Assessing and minimising the impact of non-response on survey estimates*, available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/56/16/35634012.pdf

[6] Available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/55/40/35558806.pdf

[7] Available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/56/16/35634012.pdf

On the use of internet surveys as a means of lowering non-response, the study carried out in South Africa[8] that explored the use of this mode of data collection although supporting the idea of growing acceptance among the respondents of this means of collection, revealed significant constraints arising from technical considerations (concerning the availability and type of internet access) and inertia from the use of the customary postal mode that might lead to a comparatively lower response rate. Comments raised during subsequent discussion at the Workshop were principally devoted to technical constraints (type of internet access – dial-up versus line access, security issues and the best practice for internet survey design). INSEE pointed to their use of the internet as an efficient means of sending reminders. Also, in France the share of initial responses obtained through internet does not exceed 20-25% depending on sector.

The presentation given by the Bank of Japan outlining the principal methods adopted by the Bank to minimise non-response, demonstrated the benefits of having well thought through strategies covering all phases of the survey cycle – from questionnaire design, initial contact with respondents, followup, etc. During subsequent discussion, delegates thought that the authority and prestige of a collection institute has might also have a positive impact on response.

The study presented by the Bureau of Economic Research in South Africa provided evidence that the missing at random assumption for non-response does not hold in that businesses with a different propensity to respond (i.e. more or less frequently) may answer differently[9]. This can lead to a bias which may vary across time (i.e. is not expected to be constant) thus affecting the quality of time series. The presentation by INSEE on their constant sample imputation methodology is one possible way to address the issue of non-response bias but many institutes and users expressed concern that the method causes revisions to originally published estimates. Nonetheless, a variant of the technique which does not result in revisions could be worthy of further study given that the findings of the South African study support the need for the development of imputation methodologies.

Options for future work

- Further work to examine response rates by different size of business and the relationship with data collection methods.

- Further work to examine the potential bias caused by the use of the missing at random assumption, by compiling estimates for different groups of respondents depending on their regularity of response (i.e. as done in the South African study – see footnote 9)

- Experimentation with the INSEE constant sample methodology by other institutes, using a variant of the method which does not lead to revisions

Session 2: Harmonisation of survey operations and technical design

There are at present no international guidelines and recommendations outlining best practice for the development of business tendency surveys. In 2003 the OECD published a Handbook[10] aimed at assisting non-member countries to implement and /or develop their BTSs. The survey procedures presented and

[8] Refer paper, *Business surveys in South Africa: testing the ground for internet-based surveys keeping the impact on response rates in mind*. Available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/62/35524816.pdf

[9] Refer to ppt presentation: Business Surveys in South Africa: an analysis of non-response patterns. Available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/28/40/35674158.ppt

[10] Available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/61/31837055.pdf

recommended in the Handbook are those used for official statistical surveys and served as a starting point for more detailed consideration by the task force of key aspects in the development of standards for survey operation and technical design. The aspects covered by the task force comprised: efficient sample design and weighting methods and; identification and assessment of recommended practices for the design of internet surveys.

Efficient sample design and weighting methods[11]

The task force sought to identify key issues in the areas of sample design and weighting methodologies for both business and consumer opinion surveys in order to draft an initial set of recommended minimum requirements and preferences aimed at improving the reliability and hence, the overall quality, of survey data. The key issues for efficient sample design considered in the task force paper presented at the Workshop covered identification of the relevant universe / reference population; identification of the sample frame; methods used for sample selection and; the treatment of missing data (except for consumer surveys).

As can be seen from the recommendations outlined below (separately for business tendency surveys and consumer opinion surveys), most are also relevant for quantitative surveys. Although many of the recommendations are self-evident, benefits for their future inclusion in international recommendations are to benchmark recommended practice and comparisons of data quality between countries.

Business tendency surveys

- Sample frame

1. Frame lists should include an as exhaustive as possible account of active firms in the survey universe of interest. In this context the use of official or statistical registers of active firms is recommended over that of more partial business or membership registers.

2. Institutes are advised to use cut-off strategies in order to stabilise the panel (size cut-off) and for a precise identification of the survey objectives (branch cut-off).

3. Establishments may be considered as the ideal choice for the sample unit, though it is recognised that it may be difficult to gather information at this level. Furthermore, other types of units may be more suitable depending on the focus or interest of the survey, e.g. KAUs for studies on industrial structure or local units for regional structures. Even if the firm is identified as the sample unit it is advisable to have different reporting units within the firm where possible. It is strongly recommended that the same type of response units answer questionnaires each month.

4. Frame lists should be updated as soon as a new census of active firms is available.

- Sampling methods

5. A fixed panel should be used that has been established on a statistically sound basis using a rotating pattern of updating with a fixed proportion of units being replaced at regular intervals.

6. The use of probability sample selection techniques is strongly recommended in preference to purposive or judgemental methods. The use of stratification-based sampling methods is recommended where

[11] Refer paper *Efficient sample design and weighting methodologies: Analysis of key issues and recommendations*, available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/12/37/35493506.pdf

there is heterogeneity in the unit population with respect to size or other characteristics. Use of exhaustive sampling is recommended for small countries or for a subset of the sample.

- Treatment of missing data

7. Institutes should describe in their metadata the precise nature of the procedures used in the treatment of item and unit non-response.

8. As a minimum requirement it is recommended that institutes closely monitor the impact of missing data (especially for large firms) and to develop a clear set of strategies to minimise non-response.

9. Consideration should be given to the use of imputation methods to deal with remaining missing data, though with care to avoid possible distortions.

10. Re-weighting techniques, taking account of different composition of the panel in adjacent surveys are recommended as a means of reducing bias.

- Weighting methods

11. The use of weights is strongly recommended in order to improve the precision of the estimates. At a minimum the use of a simple one-stage system of weights is recommended though two-stage (or multi-stage) weighting procedures are recommended for heterogeneous populations, especially in large countries. A minimum requirement is that business weights used for units in the sample are approximately representative of the distribution of businesses (by size) in the population.

<u>Consumer surveys</u>

- Sample frame

12. The frame list should include an as exhaustive as possible account of the adult population. As a result, official census or statistical registers are preferred to telephone registers. If the latter are used, appropriate methods to correct for possible coverage bias should be used.

13. Cut-off strategies with respect to age are advisable, though this may require further harmonisation within the EU.

14. Frame lists should be updated yearly.

- Sampling methods

15. It is strongly recommended that random sampling techniques be used to ensure survey representativeness.

16. In the case of heterogeneous populations, stratified sampling methods are preferred over simple random sampling.

17. Further research is recommended on the benefits of the use of a rotating sample design over the use of an independent sample selected each month.

- Weighting

18. Weighting is recommended in order to ensure better representativeness of the sample selected. These could comprise demographic characteristics such as age and gender, region of residence and size of township, or socio-economic characteristics such as occupation, level of education, type of area municipality.

Design of internet surveys[12]

Over recent years there has been an explosion in the use of the internet for data collection. While there is broad experience and knowledge on personal interviews and mail questionnaires there is not yet a consensus among researchers involved in BTS / COS on how best to conduct internet surveys and little attention has been given so far as to their scientific underpinnings. However, most researchers agree that the internet environment has characteristics that make it distinct from other survey methods.

The aim of the task force is to contribute to higher research standards in the realm of business surveys and to develop research-based design principles for internet questionnaires in business tendency surveys. The paper presented by the task force for discussion at the Workshop commenced with an overview of the characteristics, strengths and issues of concern for internet surveys. This, together with an extensive list of recommended practices are based largely on the analytical reports, workshop documents and other instruction material prepared by task force members and other researchers working on internet surveys in a wide range of countries.

Based on current knowledge and experience the recommended practices outlined below are a starting point for further development of research-based principles for internet surveys.

- Getting Started

- Ensure that the internet presence of the institution is professional, as participants will evaluate this on entry.
- Collect information about participants' demographics and characteristics.
- Check whether potential participants who are contactable by e-mail have access to the internet, as in many businesses employees have restricted access to the Web.
- Provide a PIN for limiting access to the questionnaire only to the participant of the survey. If possible use an individualized link, so that respondents do not need to enter an ID and a password.
- Give respondents the chance to choose the mode of their preference, as it offers the possibility of "soft" control for computer competences.
- Assure that IT support is available also beyond the end of the start-up phase and that there is a help-line facility (phone number of the department or administrator).
- For ethical reasons, do not acquire data without the knowledge of the respondent (for example cookies).
- Assure data protection, data security and confidentiality.

[12] Refer paper, *Identification of recommended practices for the design of internet surveys*, available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/12/16/35493730.pdf

- Check the differences in the visual appearance of questions that result from different screen configurations, operating systems, browsers and screen displays.

- For the first invitation to an internet survey preferably use a printed invitation letter that provides a sense of professionalism.

- Conduct a pilot study with volunteer firms and take into account their observations.

\- E-mail Invitation

- When using e-mail invitations, adhere to a widely accepted format (at present the plaintext format). HTML e-mails and attachments may be rejected for virus risks.

- Ask participants to place the data collection institute's e-mail address in their address book or the company's safe senders list. For that purpose use a project e-mail address that is not affected by executive staff changes.

- Avoid using bought-in e-mail lists, as the data collection institute could be labeled as a spammer.

- Avoid spammy-sounding words in the institutes e-mail. It is also recommendable to avoid the use of "click here", unsubscribe instructions and/or explanation of why the recipient is on the list.

- Use a recognizable, short, and consistent "From" Address.

- Avoid the "Subject" line words written all in small case or all caps.

- Send the data collection institute's e-mail campaign to several test accounts to prove whether some ISPs are falsely treating it as Spam.

- Maintain address list cleanliness, regularly remove invalid e-mail addresses.

- Find out the validity of the data collection institute's e-mail list (the real contact rate) by incorporating regularly the "confirm reading" function into e-mails.

\- Designing the Questionnaire

- Find out, how most respondents go on-line (dial-up or broadband connection such as DSL and cable) because it determines a reasonable file download time.

- Introduce the Web questionnaire with a welcome and attractive screen that is motivational and emphasizes the ease of responding.

- Use a personal salutation at the beginning of the questionnaire to prevent computer-mediated communication with participants from being perceived to be more anonymous than the traditional communication.

- Present each question in a conventional format similar to that normally used on paper questionnaires with self-explanatory and intuitive instruments.

- Avoid the use of too many colors and design features that may distract respondents' concentration from the questions. One commonly used rule is to use three colors. Take color blindness into account.

- Ensure that the font is big enough within different screen configurations.
- Do not sacrifice practicality for style, such as the use of extensive graphics, features and automated data checks, since browser incompatibility may result in a longer download time and accordingly in higher end user costs.
- Be aware that the user can disable Java, JavaScript, Cookies and Active X elements. Stick to the strategy of the smallest common denominator.
- Use sparingly drop-down-boxes and other instruments that require several simultaneous mouse movements.
- Minimize the number of control functions (automated data checks, where respondent is asked to control or to improve the value). They may not only frustrate participants but also be generally more time-consuming and cause a higher burden, particularly to respondents who make mistakes.
- Be aware that on-line readers read more quickly and impatiently. For questions known to be subject to mistakes, highlight important parts and include instructions that remind respondents to pay attention.
- The important text passages should be in the reader's view and should not occupy the whole width of the screen.
- Construct Web questionnaires so that respondents can scroll down from question to question. Avoid the necessity to scroll sideways.
- Use a multi-page design merely for automatic skipping, conditional branching or adaptive questionnaires. If using a multiple-page design, a progress indicator should be utilized showing respondents how close they are to the end.
- Try to use the same layout and alignment of scales in the Internet and the paper version of the questionnaire, to avoid possible influence of the visual layout and question order on the responses.
- Incorporate a reset option.
- Allow respondents to interrupt and re-enter the survey in case they were disturbed or wish to continue the answering process at a later time-point.
- Be aware that an increasing number of Internet users disable "pop-up" windows in their Internet browsers.
- Use different forms for different kind of questions: for example, square checkboxes for multiple-choice questions and round radio-buttons for single-choice questions.
- Make sure that the Web form is printable in case participants want to save a hardcopy of their responses.

- Analyzing the Results

- Analyze whether there are differences in results across modes (item non-response, validity and reliability criteria) and systematically analyze the sources of these differences (questionnaire design, coverage, selection bias etc.).

- Check whether sample characteristics of Web respondents are comparable to those of traditional paper respondents.

- Giving Feedback

- Use the internet as an additional platform for personal contacts with the respondents (for example Season's Greetings), for the display of additional information (frequently asked questions) and attractive output (customized reports).

- If possible, create an intranet facility as a distinct member privilege, accessible by a unique password.

- Regularly gather feedback about user satisfaction from participants to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the institute's Website.

- Assure adoption of on-line questionnaires to the constantly changing Internet environment and be aware of the increasing requirements of the end-users.

- Security

- Create awareness among participants about the safe handling of their IDs and passwords. Instruct them not to share their access information with anyone except where they are assured that the request has been posed by an authorized party.

- Regularly up-date the institute's anti-virus and ensure that Spyware applications and anti-Trojan packages have been added to virus list.

- It is also advisable not to save the information about the institute's participants in the address book of email software (such as Outlook, etc), but in a separate file (an Access or an Excel file, for example), as some viruses are configured to scan these areas and automatically to send an infected file to all addresses found.

- Use SSL (Secure Socket Layer) protocol to ensure encryption of server-client exchanges.

The work of the task force represents an extensive further elaboration of existing international guidelines and recommendations and recommended practice on sample design for BTS / COS, in particular, for internet surveys.

During subsequent discussion at the Workshop on all of the Session papers particular interest was drawn to the problem of efficient sample creation for telephone questionnaires in a situation where more households (especially young households) have only mobile phones and no land line connection. This phenomenon is quite new and needs to be taken into account, though there are no easy solutions as statistics on the number of households possessing only mobile phones are not available. Furthermore, random digit dialing will be neither a simple nor efficient solution for creating an efficient sample of respondents. There was also interest in further elaboration in the recommendations on issues surrounding sample rotation and the most appropriate sample units.

With respect to internet surveys there was also discussion on the use of visual analog scales (VAS). The major benefit of VAS for business tendency surveys would be an earlier detection of possible trends than given with three-category scales, where respondents tend to remain longer in their old position and to change the category only, when the new state is already evident. In contrast, the analog scale enables scores between categories and thus allows a gradual transition of the assessment and more sensitive measures.

Future work

- OECD and European Commission to embody the recommendations outlined above on efficient sample design and weighting methods and recommendations for the design of internet surveys in future versions of guidelines and recommendations for BTS / COS. In the case of the OECD these will initially be incorporated into the BTS / COS Portal. The European Commission will incorporate them into a revision of their 1997 guidelines publication [obtain name].

- Compare current practices used at national level on efficient sample design and weighting methods against the recommended practices outlined above.

- In the case of internet surveys there could be further work to identify (flesh out) recommended practice on key problem areas such as: ways to ensure the security of data; questionnaire design and presentation on the internet;

- Future work on internet surveys could include a point on the use and development of VAS for BTS.

Session 3: Recent developments at OECD

BTS / COS Portal

The proposal to develop a BTS / COS portal was presented by the OECD at the November 2003 joint Workshop where they were endorsed by participants. The aim of the Portal was to promote harmonisation and to facilitate recommended practice through the sharing of information on business tendency and consumer opinion surveys between international organisations and national institutes. A first version of the Portal was presented at the OECD BTS / COS Workshop in September and the version presented in November 2005 incorporated some additional features, content and suggestions for improvement received from national institutes.

The Portal version presented in 2005[13] provides access to the following:

- existing international guidelines and recommendations;
- questionnaires used by national institutes;
- summary metadata describing key elements of national institute surveys;
- links to selected examples of good national practice;
- data presented in a common format for countries and regional aggregates;
- links to papers from meetings organized by the OECD, European Commission and CIRET.

Participants at the Workshop supported the Portal as it provided ready access to an extensive array of practical information and recommended practice on opinion surveys that is of use to national institutes.

[13] Available at http://www.oecd.org/std/bt-coi/coordination

especially those currently developing surveys. Participants supported close collaboration between OECD, the European Commission and CIRET to ensure that information provided on the websites of each organisation was consistent and complemented each other. Finally, participants recommended that the Portal should include tools that would promote the dynamic exchange of data and metadata between institutes, international organisations and other users.

Future work

The OECD will continue the enhancement of the Portal both in terms of functionality and content. With respect to the latter the inclusion of the following is envisaged:

- Data

- Normalised confidence indicators for selected countries and sectors and regional /zone aggregates will replace the data now available in Excel files with recent survey results.

- Detailed survey data for all sectors and countries will be available through a link to the new OECD corporate dissemination database OECD.stat.

- Metadata

- Coverage of metadata in a standardised format for non-EU member countries to be improved gradually.

- Online metadata for OECD published data will be rearranged to be consistent with the structure provided in the OECD's corporate metadata facility MetsStore and upgraded with additional metadata.

Calculation of confidence indicators for zone aggregates

External interest in the OECD Composite Leading Indicators (CLIs) suggests that there could be high demand for business tendency and consumer opinion data (BTS / COS) as survey data are used extensively both as input series for calculation of CLIs and in their own right as stand-alone indicators on business and consumer expectations for the near term future. It is believed that there would be further interest in the provision and ready availability of opinion survey for the emerging economies of Brazil, China, India, Russian Federation, etc. The availability of survey data for these countries, when aggregated in some way with data for OECD and EU member states offers the potential for the compilation of normalised business and consumer confidence indicators and zone aggregates for additional regions and perhaps even at the "global" level.

At the November 2005 Workshop the OECD presented some preliminary work[14] on the compilation of selected regional and world level confidence indicators for the manufacturing sector and consumers, together with the methodology used for their compilation. Alternative approaches for calculation of regional or zone area confidence indicators were also presented with reference to the Euro area aggregate and comparisons of different World and Euro area confidence indicators.

[14] Outlined in the OECD paper, *Calculation of Normalised Business and Consumer Confidence Indicators and Zone Aggregates*, available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/7/17/35601565.pdf

Future work

Following the OECD presentation there was discussion on the practical usefulness of such indicators, though the OECD pointed to their use in cross-country comparisons, world cycle anticipation and as other delegates pointed out, for checking national cycle synchronization not only within European Union but also with the world cycle.

The early results presented at the Workshop were intended only to obtain initial reactions and further work will be undertaken by the OECD for presentation at future meetings. More specifically, future work will entail:

- Calculation of country specific business confidence indicators for non-EU OECD Member countries based on EC practice or other methods where no such indicator is available (replacing business situation as a component series).

- Identification and / or incorporation of consumer confidence indicators for missing countries (India, Indonesia and Russian Federation).

- Extension of calculation of zone aggregates to other areas such as: Big 4 Europe, OECD Europe, EU 15, NAFTA, etc.

- Investigation of the possibility to calculate regional or zone confidence indicators for other sectors including a non-manufacturing sector (only aggregate available for the United States and Korea).

- Exploration of the use of alternative weights to reflect the relative importance of the countries in the aggregation to regional or zone aggregates such as the share of exports and imports of a country in total world trade.

Session 4: Uses of BTS / COS data: implications for data producers

This Session aimed at outlining the uses of business and consumer opinion survey data in the analytical work of several central banks, namely: the National Bank of Belgium; the European Central Bank; the Bank of Italy; and the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey. These presentations also touched briefly on issues and implications relating to the data characteristics data they considered of interest to producers of survey data, especially with regards to future developments.

All four presentations mentioned the importance to at least maintain the timeliness of the availability of survey data, comparability between countries and consistency of time series over time. Bank requirements with regards to the future evolution of opinion survey data included:

- inclusion of probabilistic questions;

- the need to supplement traditional outputs through inclusion of supplementary topics on emerging issues of importance such as those relating to the ageing population / labour force, welfare reform, evolution of financial markets, etc;

- the need for wider sector coverage, especially with respect to the services sector;

- the provision of more detailed disaggregations – sectoral, geographic, socio-demographic, high-low technology sectors.

Future work

- Existing practices for the incorporation of program of rotating or ad hoc supplementary topics into opinion surveys. Would it be possible to identify possible topics for such a program?

- Detailed examination of current national practice with respect to the revision of data for opinion surveys. From the presentations given at the Workshop banks attach high importance to minimisation of the extent of data revisions. How many institutes revise their data? For those that do, what benefits does this confer on timeliness and what are the extent of revisions?

- Compile an inventory of current services sector surveys, compare activity coverage, and identify national institute plans for future surveys in this sector.

Session 5: Performance of seasonal adjustment methods for BTS / COS data

This Session presented the results of a study concerning the seasonal adjustment of business and consumer opinion survey data undertaken by the Econometric Institute, Erasmus University, Rotterdam. The study was commissioned by the European Commission European Commission (Contract No. ECFIN-195-2004/S12.385615). The study sought to evaluate the relative effectiveness of three seasonal adjustment methods, namely: Census X12-ARIMA; TRAMO / SEATS and Dainties using simulated data and 300 BTS / COS data. The paper presented at the Workshop[15] commenced with an outline of the methodology used, the link between these methods and potentially useful models to describe the data.

The study then included a simulation experiment to highlight the differing performances of the three seasonal adjustment methods. The main findings were that:

- Census X12-ARIMA and TRAMO / SEATS methods were most robust to variations in the data generating process. This implies that in situations where there were no strong indications as to which model could best describe the raw (unadjusted data), then these two methods are to be preferred.

- On the other hand Dainties performed relatively well for two types of data generating processes, i.e. series with deterministic seasonality. Therefore, if one suspects that the data are best described by these models, then the Dainties method is preferable.

- Additive outliers were not found to have a serious effect on the performance of the seasonal adjustment procedures. If a procedure generates proper corrected series in the case without outliers it also performs well when additive outliers are present.

- However, the adjustment methods were very sensitive to innovation outliers. None of the seasonal adjustment methods were found capable of adequately removing this type of outlier before seasonal correction.

- In summary, the study found that for BTS / COS series the choice of seasonal adjustment method is not very important. The study found that for generated data all three methods performed well as was the case for actual data. One disadvantage of Dainties is that it does not take outliers into account and a final recommendation of the study is to extend the Dainties method with a method for outlier correction. The details of such a procedure are left for further research.

[15] Refer paper, *Performance of seasonal adjustment procedures: Simulation and empirical results*, available at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/57/35525423.pdf

Future work

- Additional / complementary studies at a country or multi-country level on the relative performance of seasonal adjustment methods.
- An inventory of national practices regarding issues relating to modelling approach, model identification (e.g. default settings, automated versus controlled model identification), outlier detection / treatment and other pre-adjustment procedures.
- The European Commission to study the feasibility of extending the Dainties method with an outlier detection/correction procedure.

Session 6: Presentations of studies on other topics: implications for data producers

This Session presented recent work of a number of national agencies and the European Commission on a diverse range of issues. The aim was to identify areas / issues for possible future work by the Workshop in the evolution of business and consumer opinion surveys. Topics presented in this session were:

- Individual responses to BTS and the forecasting of manufacturing production – INSEE;
- Analysis of quantitative questions on price perceptions / expectations in the European Union – European Commission;
- Indicator of economic sentiment and confidence indicator in services – Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic;
- Composite indicators in business tendency surveys: Practice of CSO of Poland and the European Commission – CSO Poland;
- Comparison of national versus European Commission confidence indicators – European Commission;
- Consumer and entrepreneur's confidence and inflation perception from the perspective of Estonian entry into the European Union and joining the EMU – EKI, Estonia.

Peter Weiss
ECFIN A-3 Business Surveys
DG Economic and Financial Affairs
European Commission
Brussels

Denis Ward
Statistics Directorate
OECD
Paris

16

文件結束