

Project description sheet issued by a federal administration

Practical information

Name of the public institution who has issued the project: FPS Economy, S.M.E.s, Self-employed and Energy
Directorate-General Economic Potential
<http://economie.fgov.be>

Name of the project: Monitoring the market and the economic sectors

Timing of the scientific tasks to be accomplished: 27 months

Deliverables and valorisation activities by the scientific team (not foreseen in the project description below):

- *International seminar (beginning of the project, state of the art concerning the data/work to perform) ;*
- *report exposing the way the data concerned by the project could make international/European comparisons or harmonisation possible by the public authority;*
- *Valorisation activity by the end of the project: the team will make a proposal in this respect in its submission form.*
- Deliverables from the research contract with federal Science Policy Office: *project description* (max. 25 lines in French, Dutch, English and German for the Web site of the Science Policy Office), *summary of the project* in max. 10 pages in F/D/EN/G for the web site of the Federal Science Policy Office, *a document in max. 40 lines* destined to the AGORA Newsletter at the end of the project in F/D/EN, *interims reports* (max. 2 pages, issued every 6 months destined to the financing of the project), *reports for the users' committee* (see below) ;

All these activities are to be financed within the allocated budget.

Working of the project:

The public authority steers and manages the project and collaborates closely with the team and the federal Science Policy Office (which form the technical committee of the project). The project is followed up by a users' committee who comes together at least three times in the course of the project (at the beginning, in the middle and at the end). Its role is to give a positive input to the team and the public authority in the management of the project. It is composed by representatives of other public administrations and by other researchers. The scientific team is in charge of preparing the documents for this committee, the public institution is responsible of the agenda and the minutes of the meetings.

Date of the information session with a delegate of the public institution (inscription at least a week in advance by e-mail – naji@belspo.be . without mark of interest, the meeting will be cancelled): **7 April 10 a.m.** at the Federal Science Policy Office

The project

1. Name of the Public institution

2. Name of the project

Monitoring the market and the economic sectors

3. Acronym

MMS

4. Description of the project and situation within the framework of the institution

The development of the knowledge of economic sectors covers three of the five strategic targets of the FPS Economy¹:

- Contribute to the development, the competitiveness and the sustainability of the goods and services market;
- Foster exchanges by fair economic relations in a competitive market;
- Collect, exploit and spread economic data.

These strategic targets are implemented by the following operational targets:

- Develop an economic watchdog facility in order to identify and anticipate constraints and economic stakes;
- Develop the capacity and the methodology to analyse the economic context.

In order to develop this analytical methodology, the FPS has created the Department Sector and Market Monitoring.

The task of that department is to detect imperfectly functioning markets and economic sectors, to determine what causes these problems and to suggest any remedies.

To be able to fulfil this task, the service must not only have access to regularly updated reliable data but the data must also be structured in such a way that the required information can be easily and rapidly accessed by the user.

5. Tasks to be accomplished

a. by the research team:

The scientific team will have to put together the different information sources provided to them by the FPS Economy – internal inventories (regulatory, statistics, analyses), external inventories (regulatory, statistics, analyses), information originating from the field (collected within the framework of supervision activities), FPS Economy datawarehouse – in order to create a specific database for the Sector and Market Monitoring Service with a sui generis classification server which will in particular allow a rapid determination of the economic importance of a sector, its adaptation capacity, the level of competition or the importance of innovation for the sector.

The scientific team will also provide the Sector and Market Monitoring Department with tools that allow combining different kinds of data in order to execute an analysis of sector-specific phenomena.

¹ These targets have been defined in line with the national and European guidelines and economic policies; their aim is to create the conditions necessary in order to fulfil the requirements of the Lisbon strategy.

Finally, the scientific team will propose interesting conceptual combinations of different sources of data.

b. By the public institution:

The FPS Economy will, beforehand, draw up an inventory of the available data; during the project it will set out its requirements concerning the classification server and will provide the necessary technical assistance.

6. Final product to be delivered:

a. By the research team:

A complete proposal for the implementation of the classification server that meets the requirements set out by the Sector and Market Monitoring Department.

b. For the public institution

A performing tool with the capacity to rapidly and easily provide the service with a certain number of indicators allowing it to efficiently execute its task, namely to detect imperfectly functioning markets and economic sectors, to determine what causes these problems and to suggest any remedies.

7. Valorisation of the end product

a. For the public institution: integration of the end product into its own way of working

The classification server will be embedded within the department "Sector and Market Monitoring" of the FPS Economy and will be one of the instrument the department will rely on in order to fulfil its mission.

b. for the 'public': access conditions and modalities for scientific users and for the general public

The target group of the tool to be developed will not, in principle, be the public. However during its development functionalities will probably occur, for which public access will be organised.

8. Timing, planning and allocated budget

a. timing of the activities:

1 September 2008 to 31 December 2010

b. planning of the activities:

b.1. for the research team

The planning will be established by mutual agreement at the time when the scientific experts take up their assignment.

b.2. for the public institution

End of 2007: finalisation of the inventory of information sources – internal data (available within the FPS Economy).

First quarter of 2008: finalisation of the inventory information sources – external data (available outside the FPS Economy) and discussion of the conditions for access to non-public data of the National Institute for Statistics.

9. Special conditions

a. Suggestions for the composition of the support committee:

The follow-up committee should at least comprise an expert of the ICT team at the FPS Economy and a member of staff of the Directorate-General “Statistics and Economic Information” who works on the data warehouse project of the FPS Economy.

b. Clause of confidentiality and intellectual property:

1. Access to non-public data of the National Institute for Statistics

The modalities for access to non-public data of the National Institute for Statistics are governed by the Act of 4 July 1962 on Public Statistics. Within the remit of their tasks, the members of the scientific staff are assimilated to staff members of the Sector and Market Monitoring Service and will thus have equal access to non-public data of the National Institute for Statistics.

2. Clause of confidentiality

The scientific staff will take any necessary measures in order to make sure that confidential information isn't used for purposes other than those of the assigned tasks.

c. Presence of the research team in the institution

The intensity of presence of the team within the FPS will be decided in the first stage of the project. The researchers will be considered full-fledged members of staff of the Sector and Market Monitoring Service and a regular presence is expected.