



## **ESGI Online-survey “Innovation and Gender” General Information**

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### **1 Main objective of the ESGI “Online-survey”**

The main objective of Work Package four is to get a differentiated insight into current conditions for inventors in the EU-Member states.

The survey took place between 27<sup>th</sup> of September and 02<sup>nd</sup> January 2008.

### **2 Sample Design**

The base of the sample design was the database PATSTAT of the European Patent Office (EPO). It contains approximately 350000 different patent applicants of the 27 EU-Member States for the time span 2002 – 2004. For the project we expected that at least 1.500 applicants will have answered the questionnaire in an online run time of 3 months. Therefore it was decided to draw a stratified sample by country of 3000 applicants. The number of requested contacts per country depended on the patent activities of the respective country. A subcontracted call centre received the assignment to extract the 3000 target persons from all applicants. The call centre identified the contact data and e-mail-addresses of the key persons (heads of the research and development department).

### **3 Content of the questionnaire**

The content of the questionnaire included three parts:

Questions regarding

- Personal data of the interviewee and structural data of the organisation
- Innovation system and frequency of patent applications of the department
- Personnel and corporative policy

#### **4 Response rate**

The expected response rate of 1500 questionnaires could not be fulfilled.

During the runtime of the survey four reminders were sent out to all persons who had not answered the questionnaire or interrupted it. One of these reminders was even a personified postal reminder, which was not planned in the beginning of the project.

In total 807 persons started the online survey of which 711 interviews can be analysed.

The response rate per country referring to the e-mails, that were sent out per country shows that the reaction to the online-survey is very different. While Germany, Austria and Spain have a response rate between 34% and 43%, France with a high patent activity, has a very low response rate (12,5%) as well as Great Britain (11,5%), one of the EU-Member-States with a medium patent activity.

It is remarkable, that both countries with the lowest rate of female inventors (Germany and Austria) are over-represented in the survey. The low response rate of France and Italy could be caused by problems of the call centre

The response rate regarding the country stratified sample design is not proportional. However the target group regarding the institutional sector is achieved. 88% of the interviewees are based in Industry/Trade. This corresponds with the institutional sector allocation of inventors (Kugele: work report 1. 2006, p.33).

<b>Country</b>	<b>Country code</b>	<b>Sample-Design: Questionnaires, that were finally sent per country</b>	<b>Answered questionnaires per country</b>	<b>Response rate referring to Questionnaires that were sent out per country in percent</b>	<b>Response rate referring to all finished questionnaires throughout the EU in percent</b>
<b>Germany</b>	DE	959	<b>330</b>	34,41	<b>46,41</b>
<b>France</b>	FR	361	<b>45</b>	12,47	<b>6,33</b>
<b>Italy</b>	IT	248	<b>43</b>	17,34	<b>6,05</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	NL	200	<b>39</b>	19,50	<b>5,49</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	GB	244	<b>28</b>	11,48	<b>3,94</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	SE	116	<b>24</b>	20,69	<b>3,38</b>
<b>Finland</b>	FI	97	<b>23</b>	23,71	<b>3,23</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	BE	98	<b>26</b>	26,53	<b>3,66</b>
<b>Austria</b>	AT	106	<b>44</b>	41,51	<b>6,19</b>
<b>Spain</b>	ES	94	<b>40</b>	42,55	<b>5,63</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	DK	98	<b>25</b>	25,51	<b>3,52</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	IE	40	<b>6</b>	15,00	<b>0,84</b>
<b>Luxemburg</b>	LU	35	<b>1</b>	2,86	<b>0,14</b>
<b>Poland</b>	PL	56	<b>6</b>	10,71	<b>0,84</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	CZ	59	<b>8</b>	13,56	<b>1,13</b>
<b>Hellenic Republic</b>	GR	9	<b>2</b>	22,22	<b>0,28</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	HU	34	<b>2</b>	5,88	<b>0,28</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	SI	42	<b>10</b>	23,81	<b>1,41</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	PT	14	<b>1</b>	7,14	<b>0,14</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	SK	12	<b>1</b>	8,33	<b>0,14</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	CY	4	<b>1</b>	25,00	<b>0,14</b>
<b>Malta</b>	MT	4	<b>0</b>	0,00	<b>0,00</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	LV	5	<b>3</b>	60,00	<b>0,42</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	EE	2	<b>0</b>	0,00	<b>0,00</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	LT	1	<b>0</b>	0,00	<b>0,00</b>
<b>Romania</b>	RO	5	<b>2</b>	40,00	<b>0,28</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	BG	7	<b>1</b>	14,29	<b>0,14</b>
<b>Sum</b>		2950	<b>711</b>	24,10	<b>100,00</b>

*Response rate: countries*