



PRESS RELEASE

AUTORITI MONETARI BRUNEI DARUSSALAM TO CONDUCT SURVEY INTERVIEWS WITH BUSINESSES FOR BUSINESS SENTIMENT INDEX

1. Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) will be conducting survey interviews on selected businesses to develop the Business Sentiment Index (BSI) starting 1 April 2020. This survey is expected to be carried out monthly.
2. The survey is to develop the BSI, a monthly published index to measure the level of business sentiment or confidence in Brunei Darussalam. More than 600 businesses have been selected to represent the various sectors within Brunei Darussalam's economy.
3. The selected businesses will receive a letter notifying them of their involvement in the project and a suitable representative will be requested to participate in the survey. The interviews will be carried out by AMBD staff who will identify themselves at the beginning of the interviews.
4. Respondents should expect general questions regarding the current and future business conditions, investments, employment of workers, as well as costs of running their businesses. Responses to the questions are mostly of qualitative nature and all responses will be kept confidential. No personal information will be collected aside from the respondents' name and contact information.
5. Monitoring the level of business sentiment is important in many economies as it is a key barometer and a leading indicator of business conditions, as well as measures the overall health of the economy. Business confidence drives business growth and investment, and supports employment opportunities. As such, the BSI will provide additional valuable insights into how Brunei Darussalam's economy is faring from the perspective of businesses in general. Over time, it is hoped that the information gathered will assist policymakers in formulating appropriate policies to support economic development.
6. For further information and enquiries regarding the BSI as well as the survey, members of the public may refer to the technical notes on the methodology and the list of survey questions for the BSI on the AMBD website at www.ambd.gov.bn. Respondents may also contact AMBD if they wish to verify the authenticity of an interviewer by calling AMBD at 2382262.

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Reference: AMBD/COMMS/3