



AUTUMN 2009 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR IRELAND: ANSWERS FROM IBEC

MAIN FORECAST					
		2009	2010		
Real GDP growth		-8.4	-2.9		
Consumer price inflation		-1.0	0.5		
Unemployment rate		12.2	15.7		
Employment growth		-8.0	-5.4		
Components of aggregate demand					
<i>Annual % change</i>		2009	2010		
Private consumption		-8.7	-5.0		
Public consumption		-1.0	-1.0		
Investment (Gross fixed capital formation)		-31.9	-10.0		
Exports		-4.0	-1.5		
Imports		-9.5	-4.0		
ECONOMIC SENTIMENT					
	Positive	Negative	Unchanged		
Trend in business climate over the next 6 months		Industry Services			
	Positive	Negative	Unchanged		
Trend in profitability over the next 6 months		Industry Services			
	Increase (faster pace)	Increase (slower pace)	Unchanged	Decrease (slower pace)	Decrease (faster pace)
Investment intentions over the next 6 months				Industry Services	
	Fall in global demand	Cost of finance	Availability of finance		
Influence on companies' investment decisions	negative	negative	negative		
	Replacement	Extension	Rationalisation	Innovation	
Driving force behind investment decisions in the next 6 months	not important	not important	important	important	
	Industry: past 6 months	Industry: next 6 months	Services: past 6 months	Services: next 6 months	
Overall trend in employment	Down	Down	Down	Down	
ACCESS TO FINANCE AND IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON POTENTIAL GROWTH					
Compared to 6 months ago, cost/access to finance has been...	sharply up / restrained	up / more difficult	same	down / easier	
<i>for SMEs</i>			Cost Access		
<i>for larger companies (>250 employees)</i>		Cost	Access		
Over the next 6 months, cost /access to finance will be...	sharply up / restrained	up / more difficult	same	down / easier	
<i>for SMEs</i>		Cost	Access		
<i>for larger companies (>250 employees)</i>		Cost	Access		
For companies, the current financing situation is...	threat to company existence	of high concern	somewhat concerning	not worrying	
working capital / treasury needs	SMEs	large companies			
debt refinancing	large companies	SMEs			
financing productive investments		large companies	SMEs		
financing innovation and R&D			SMEs large companies		
Based on measures taken at national and EU level, the crisis will lead to...	a fall in the potential growth rate				



POLICY MIX					
	<i>Tight, appropriate for the euro area</i>	<i>Tight</i>	<i>Appropriate</i>	<i>Loose</i>	<i>Loose, appropriate for the euro area</i>
<i>Monetary policy is...</i>			yes		
	<i>adequate</i>	<i>inadequate</i>			
<i>Consistency between fiscal and monetary policies</i>		yes			
	<i>excellent commitment</i>	<i>satisfactory commitment</i>	<i>neither satisfactory nor unsatisfactory commitment</i>	<i>unsatisfactory commitment</i>	<i>no clear commitment creating an extremely worrying situation</i>
<i>Regarding the sustainability of public finances, government shows ...</i>		yes			
	<i>respect the 3% limit</i>	<i>be in balance</i>			
<i>In 2015, the government deficit will...</i>	yes	no			