INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL MEMBERS
MEMBERS:
Angola
Australia
Brazil
Canada
China
France
Germany
Indonesia
Ireland

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:
AIFC
Ukraine

OBSERVERS:
CGAP
Consumers International

The World Bank
OECD
The International Financial Consumer Protection Organisation (FinCoNet) was created in 2013 in response to the growing focus on financial consumer protection worldwide, and the need for better interaction, sharing and collaboration among supervisory bodies responsible for the oversight of the various national financial consumer protection regimes.

FinCoNet is an international organisation of supervisory authorities which have responsibility for financial consumer protection. It is a member based organisation and has been set up as a not-for-profit association under French law.

FinCoNet replaces the informal network of supervisory authorities which has existed since 2003, and will continue to build on its work, while advancing the G20’s financial consumer protection agenda. It provides a forum for research and the exchange of information and best practices related to market conduct supervision and consumer protection issues with a focus on consumer credit and banking.

The former Chair of the Governing Council of FinCoNet, Mr. Bernard Sheridan, Director of Consumer Protection at the Central Bank of Ireland, speaking at the founding meeting of FinCoNet in 2013, said:

“FinCoNet aims to help support and promote strong and effective consumer protection among supervisory authorities. Banking and credit in particular play an important part in the lives of so many consumers and supervisory authorities must work together to help develop strong consumer protection frameworks.”

WHY JOIN FINCONET?

As a FinCoNet Member you will

- Gain privileged access to all relevant information and topical discussion, together with quality research (some of which is confidential in nature) generated by FinCoNet.

- Set the international agenda through technical contributions, debates and proposing and voting on the work plan of this globally influential Organisation. Receive exclusive invitations to participate at the AGM and other seminars, providing you with unparalleled access to leading global peers on the field on financial consumer protection. Contribute to and influence the work plan of the Organisation.

- Influence international priorities: The Organisation’s programme of work is set by the members, therefore joining FinCoNet gives you the opportunity to influence the strategic direction and priorities and request work on specific areas of interest. FinCoNet helps supervisory authorities, which are faced with particular challenges in delivering on their mandates by promoting best practice and sharing information among members, thus providing an unprecedented resource in financial consumer protection. In addition, FinCoNet represents members’ views in other international fora including the G20/OECD Taskforce on Financial Consumer Protection.
• Benefit from international cooperation: In addition, as a FinCoNet member you will be encouraged to contribute articles to the FinCoNet Newsletter and provide feedback. The four editions per year of the FinCoNet Newsletter are published on the FinCoNet website to help share best practices and effective approaches across members and also act as a channel of communications on current topics.

AIM AND PURPOSE

The overall aim of FinCoNet is to promote sound market conduct and strong consumer protection though efficient and effective market conduct supervision, with an initial focus on banking and credit consumer issues, aiming to strengthen consumer confidence while reducing systemic risks. Banking and credit in particular play such an important part in the lives of so many consumers that supervisory authorities must work together and support each other to help develop strong consumer protection frameworks.

FinCoNet aims to set, monitor and assess best practices and effective approaches on financial consumer protection issues, whilst taking into account the variety of different systems in various countries.

FinCoNet also intends to collaborate with other international bodies and contribute to advancing the G20’s financial consumer protection agenda.

The purpose of FinCoNet can be summarised as:

• Facilitating and promoting international co-operation in the promotion of international standards of regulation, oversight and enforcement on the matter of financial consumer protection and facilitating contact between supervisory authorities and other relevant parties.

• Providing a worldwide forum of supervisors for policy dialogue and exchange of information on financial consumer protection.

• Influencing and participating in the work of relevant international bodies in the area of financial consumer protection.

• Assessing the strengths and weaknesses of existing institutional arrangement models of supervisory authorities and identifying effective approaches that can assist financial consumer protection supervisors in carrying out their responsibilities.
Represent your country and organisation at FinCoNet:

Full instructions on how to join FinCoNet are available via the FinCoNet Secretariat [sally.day-hanotiaux@oecd.org]. Further details on membership requirements are available on page 13 of this brochure.

**ORGANISATION**

FinCoNet operates with a Governing Council, which is responsible for leading and organising FinCoNet, its Programme of Work and membership.

The Governing Council meets on a monthly basis.

It should be stressed that the key resource of FinCoNet is its very active membership. Research projects are proposed, led and developed by country members organised into Standing Committees – ensuring the great involvement, relevance and commitment to all projects undertaken.

**FINCONET GOVERNANCE**

![Diagram of FinCoNet Governance]

**PARTICIPANTS IN FINCONET STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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The current FinCoNet Governing Council is made up of representatives of governmental authorities from eleven countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Australian Securities and Investments Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Green, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Central Bank of Brazil</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
<td>Financial Consumer Agency Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Financial Services Authority</td>
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<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Central Bank of Ireland</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>Bank of Italy</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>Financial Services Agency</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Banco de Portugal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Lucia Leitão, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Financial Sector Conduct Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Banco de España (Central Bank of Spain)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fernando Tejada, Treasurer</td>
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STANDING COMMITTEES

The current FinCoNet Programme of Work is undertaken through six Standing Committees:

- Standing Committee 1: Supervisory Toolbox
- Standing Committee 2: Supervisory approaches to credit worthiness assessments
- Standing Committee 3: Online and Mobile Payments
- Standing Committee 4: Suptech approaches for market conduct supervision
- Standing Committee 5: Financial Advertising
- Standing Committee 6: Financial Product Governance and Culture

SECRETARIAT

The FinCoNet Secretariat is hosted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), according to the FinCoNet/OECD partnership agreement.

FINCONET PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUBLICATIONS</th>
<th>EVENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FinCoNet/OECD Joint International Seminar: Ageing Populations: Understanding and responding to the needs of older financial consumers, 26 March 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2018</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FinCoNet Report on Digitalisation of Short-term, High-cost Consumer Credit</td>
<td>2018 FinCoNet Annual General Meeting, 6-8 November 2018, Brasilia, Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FinCoNet Report on Practices and Tools Required to Support Risk Based Supervision in a Digital Age</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017</strong></td>
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COMMUNICATIONS

As a FinCoNet Member you will have access to regular editions of the FinCoNet Newsletter

2019
-- March 2019
-- June 2019
-- September 2019
-- December 2019

2018
-- January 2018
-- May 2018
-- September 2018
-- December 2018

2017
-- March 2017
-- July 2017
-- November 2017

2016
Papers and presentations from FinCoNet Annual General Meetings and Newsletters are available on the FinCoNet website at www.finconet.org.

Documents discussed at Open Meetings and Governing Council meetings are available to Members on the FinCoNet Clearspace site.
HOW TO JOIN FINCONET

The Organisation has three types of membership: Members, Associates and Observers. To apply for any category of membership, please make contact with FinCoNet by emailing Sally Day-Hanotiaux [sally.day-hanotiaux@oecd.org].

If you meet the eligibility criteria for your required type of membership, you will be sent an application form to complete.

Membership fees are levied in bands according to the membership category.

MEMBERS

a. Eligibility.
A member means a public entity which has a financial market conduct and financial consumer protection supervision mandate. It can include national and regional authorities including supervisory authorities, regulatory authorities, ministries of finance or central banks.

b. Voting.
Members have full voting rights.

ASSOCIATES

a. Eligibility.
An associate is a public national or international entity that does not fulfil all the criteria to be a Member, but which is considering the establishment of a financial market conduct supervisory regime, or is part of a financial consumer protection framework and has a direct interest in its effectiveness.

b. Voting.
Associates have no voting rights.

OBSERVERS

a. Eligibility.
An observer is an interested party that does not fulfil the criteria to be an Associate Member but has a direct and demonstrated interest in, and commitment to, the effectiveness of financial market conduct and financial consumer protection supervision; and may include international and non-governmental organisations.

b. Voting.
Observers have no voting rights.