

Since the former Economic Research Institute (Economic Planning Agency) joined the GTAP project in 1996, we have conducted research projects using the GTAP and other CGE models. Each project lasted several years.

We researched APEC trade liberalization effects globally using the GTAP model, and subsequently updated that study. We then researched the impacts of regulatory reform in Japan using CGE models.

After finishing those projects, our institute—now called the Economic and Social Research Institute, Cabinet Office, after the reorganization of the former EPA institute due to governmental reform—no longer conducts those projects for special purposes. We have, however, used CGE models when appropriate for some studies. In one study, we tried to research sectoral effects caused by bad loan problems, which is one of most serious economic problems the Japanese economy faces today. Another example is a study on the effects of regional trading arrangements using latest version of the GTAP database.

We have recently started a project on the China-Japan economic relationship. This study will become a major project for us. We would like to use the GTAP model for quantitative evaluations.

Reference:

“Macro Economic Studies By Econometric Methods” (Interim report of a committee on macroeconomic studies) (in Japanese), Economic and Social Research Institute, Cabinet Office, March 2002.