GTAP activities LEI, 2004

The Agricultural Economic Research Institute (LEI) has been a member of the GTAP consortium since November 1996. We use GTAP for a variety of research related to international trade in agri-food products. A summary of our activities over 2004/05:

Consortium related
• In December 2004 LEI has hosted a World Bank conference on the WTO agricultural agenda in relation to trade and poverty.
• Frank van Tongeren served as instructor on the 2004 GTAP short course. One LEI researcher will attend the 2004 course. Frank van Tongeren and Hans van Meijl are both contributing as instructor to the 2005 short course.

People
No changes. We now have four researchers with active GTAP involvement: Marijke Kuiper, Hans van Meijl, Andrzej Tabeau, Frank van Tongeren.

Research involving GTAP in 2004/05
• Policy research for The Netherlands: We have continued our work for the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Fisheries Management. GTAP input continues to be requested in CAP-WTO related projects, e.g. on EU sugar reforms. A large scale project at special request of minister Veerman uses GTAP (and many other inputs) to develop a ‘vision on Dutch agriculture in 2020.
• A new avenue has been opened over the past 2 years with joint work with RIVM and now expanded to include other collaborating institutions. This multidisciplinary work sets out to make scenario projections leading amongst other things to spatially explicit land use projections. The EURURALIS project is widely considered to be a great success and has been presented to senior EU officials during meetings in the context of the Dutch EU presidency in 2004.
• One methodologically related large-scale project has started. The SEAMLESS project is funded through the EU FP6 as a so-called ‘integrated project’
• We continue work on EUROMED agreements, in the framework of an EU thematic network led by Jo Swinnen.
• In 2003 we started a project with the OECD secretariat on the issue of agricultural liberalization and non-member countries. The development of GTAPEM benefited enormously from work done by Tom Hertel and Roman Keeney on modeling agriculture. This work is ongoing.
• Indonesia: we are working with various institutions (government and university) to build WTO capacity. This work is funded through a bilateral fund with the Dutch government. Two researchers from Indonesia have attended the 2005. The work has been well received in Indonesia and we hope to obtain funding for a follow-up.
• New and upcoming: there is a revival of attention for ‘biomass for energy’ in all of Europe. We are working with Royal Dutch Shell and technical institutes to develop global scenarios on bioenergy potential. We expect to use GTAP-E and plan to enrich the database with bioenergy information. Hopefully more to be heard about this at next year’s meeting.

Some publications:


EURURALIS 1.0 A scenario study on Europe’s rural areas to support policy discussion, (2004), Wageningen UR, CD-ROM (contact: jan.klijn@WUR.NL)

Huang, Hsin, Frank van Tongeren, Joe Dewbre and Hans van Meijl, A New Representation of Agricultural Production Technology in GTAP, Paper presented at 7th annual conference on global economic
Osakwe, Patrick, Frank van Tongeren, Thom Achterbosch and Hakim Ben Hammouda

Lips, Markus, Andrzej Tabeau and Frank van Tongeren


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