

ITC GTAP-related activity in 2014-2015

Contributions to GTAP

Tariff data

ITC has been the provider of tariff data for GTAP since 2004, starting with the 6th revision of the GTAP database, corresponding to year 2001. Ad valorem equivalents were initially computed, aggregated and sent to GTAP by CEPII based on ITC data (along with other data sources).

Since 2013, ITC has been in charge of the full process and has provided tariff data for the 9th revision of GTAP, corresponding to years 2007 and 2011.

GTAP conference

Yvan Decreux has reviewed 8 abstracts for the 2015 conference.

Use of the GTAP database

Substitution elasticities

The GTAP database has been used since 2013 as a source for substitution elasticities in ITC export potential assessment methodology.

Input for the Mirage model

A paper based on GTAP data has been published by Yvan Decreux (ITC staff) and Lionel Fontagné in January 2015.¹

Other computable general equilibrium (CGE) activities

Côte d'Ivoire

ITC has conducted capacity building activities in Côte d'Ivoire between November 2013 and November 2014. The purpose of this activity was to train a group of professionals from several ministries (trade, economy and finance, industry) on the use of a regional model built by a consulting company named ITAQA (International Trade and Quantitative Analysis). The objective of this model is to evaluate the impact of possible trade policy scenarios between the European Union and the ECOWAS region, in particular the Western Africa Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). A group of 9 people with some notions of CGE modelling have been trained to the use of this particular model.

The model has been fed with new trade and tariff data. Some minor modifications were brought to the code to make this updated possible through a pre-experiment simulation (from the model base year to present time). A report was written on the impact of the EPA on ECOWAS economies, taking into accounts remarks from the audience.

Morocco

Yvan Decreux and Mondher Mimouni have participated in a workshop on the modelling of non-tariff barriers in Rabat in October 2014, in the context of negotiations between Morocco and the EU around an in-depth and comprehensive free trade agreement (ALECA). They presented modelling issues and ways to address them, as well as ITC data collection on non-tariff measures.

¹ Decreux, Y. & Fontagné, L., 2015. What Next for Multilateral Trade Talks? Quantifying the Role of Negotiation Modalities. World Trade Review, Volume 14, Issue 1, 29-43.