



**GTAP Advisory Board Meeting Summary  
June 15-16, 2015 Melbourne, Australia**

**Attendance**

**GTAP Center:** Angel Aguiar, Zeynep Akgul, Ginger Batta, Erwin Corong, Thomas Hertel, Robert McDougall, Badri Narayanan, Jeffrey Peters, Dominique van der Mensbrugge

**Board Representatives:** Anders Aeroe, Martina Brockmeier, Lucian Cernat, Jean Chateau, Laurent Cretegny, Brian Efid, Jean Fouré, Mark Horridge, Hans Grinsted Jensen, Patrick Jomini, Stephen Karingi, Aikaterini Kavallari, Kenichi Kawasaki, Bob Koopman, Marijke Kuiper, David Laborde, Maryla Maliszewska, Sergey Paltsev, Ralf Peters, Sandra Rivera, Jose Manuel Rueda-Cantuche, Elizabeth Schaefer, Shinji Yoshioka

**Guests:** Philip Adams, Will Martin, Mondher Mimouni, Glyn Wittwer

**A. Summary of Goals and Accomplishments in the Past Year** (*Board Report and Issues Document*)  
[http://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board\\_Meetings/2015/documents/2015\\_IssuesReport.pdf](http://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2015/documents/2015_IssuesReport.pdf)

**B. Summary of Agency Activities in the Past Year**  
[http://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board\\_Meetings/2015/default.asp#agencyreports](http://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2015/default.asp#agencyreports)

**C. Overview of Broad Goals for the Center**

1. **Data Goal:** To Improve the quality of data products through:
  - a. Improving the quality of contributed I-O data
  - b. Addition and improvement of other datasets
  - c. Monitoring of data quality using comparison programs
  - d. Version control and documentation
2. **Research Goal:** To actively participate in quantitative economic analysis of pressing global concern in the areas of Trade and Development and Global Environmental Issues
3. **Model Goal:** To promote further development of GTAP-based models
4. **Education Goal:** To expand and improve education for global economic analysis worldwide
5. **Staffing Goal:** To actively seek and encourage talented staff and graduate students
6. **Collaboration Goal:** To actively seek opportunities for fostering collaboration with institutions around the world
7. **Communication Goal:** To facilitate communication amongst members of the network as well as between the Center and key stakeholders

## D. Overview of Priorities and Responsibilities, by Goal Type

### 1. Data Goal: To Improve the quality of data products

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>Improving the quality of contributed I-O data (core)</b>	<b>Aguiar</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document the guidelines for contribution of Supply and Use tables</li> </ul>	Aguiar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with contributors to improve the EU and US IO Tables</li> </ul>	Grad
<i>Secondary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of the dwellings module in version 9.1</li> </ul>	McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-year Input-Output Tables</li> </ul>	Aguiar
<b>Addition/Improvement of Datasets used in GTAP Data Base (core)</b>	<b>Narayanan</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate possibilities for services sector disaggregation for v10</li> </ul>	Aguiar, McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with ITC on further splitting tariff dataset and other developments on tariff dataset</li> </ul>	Pichot, Mimouni
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commodity tax fixes</li> </ul>	McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural IO tables</li> </ul>	Peterson, McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New EU domestic support</li> </ul>	IPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Transportation Margins</li> </ul>	Villoria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data and methodological improvements in income/factor taxes</li> </ul>	McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Export subsidies</li> </ul>	Laborde
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvements to energy and services trade data processing</li> </ul>	McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic Margins</li> </ul>	Corong, McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land use data set</li> </ul>	Villoria, Baldos
<i>Secondary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine possibility of targeting trade balances</li> </ul>	McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine the availability of NSO data (production, etc., by year) to update IO tables as part of FIT process (when redo FIT)</li> </ul>	Aguiar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine integration of biofuels into standard data base</li> </ul>	Aguiar, McDougall, Narayanan, Taheripour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic support, PSE database for Latin America and Africa – MAFAP</li> </ul>	van Tongeren, Balié
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baseline/forecast tool for updates</li> </ul>	Resource dependent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GTAPAgg2</li> </ul>	Horridge, Narayanan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Production Targeting</li> </ul>	Narayanan, Haqiqi
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disaggregation of GTAP Sectors</li> </ul>	McDougall, Aguiar
<b>Addition/Improvement of Protection Data (core)</b>	<b>Narayanan</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update TASTE to v9</li> </ul>	Pelikan, Laborde, Horridge
<b>Satellite Data</b>	<b>Narayanan</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Release any pending satellite datasets (GDyn, GMig2, land use, GTAP-E, non-CO2 emissions) based on version 9</li> </ul>	Aguiar, Golub, McDougall, Villoria, Irfanoglu
<i>Secondary Priorities</i>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan about new satellite datasets (e.g. MRIO, POWER)</li> </ul>	Aguiar, Golub, McDougall, Villoria, Irfanoglu
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**2. Research Goal:** To actively participate in quantitative economic analysis of pressing global issues

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>Trade and Development</b>	<b>Various</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to publish papers on trade, poverty, migration/labor and global supply chains</li> </ul>	Staff and Grads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Commodity Prices, Remittances, and Migration: Developing Country Implications”</li> </ul>	Carrico, Ahmed, Aguiar
<b>Global Energy and Environmental issues</b>	<b>Various</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to publish papers on energy and environmental issues with a special focus on the land-water-energy-climate nexus</li> </ul>	Staff and Grads

**3. Model Goal:** To promote further development of GTAP-based models

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>Technical and Working Papers</b>	<b>Various</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A GTAP-MRIO for the GTAP 9 Data Base</li> </ul>	Carrico
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“A GTAP-E Extension for Emission Abatement Analysis: An Application of Total Requirements Coefficients”</li> </ul>	McDougall, Narayanan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Disaggregating the Electricity Sector in the GTAP Database” the current draft is GTAP Resource #4619 (database and documentation)</li> </ul>	Peters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“GTAP-Power: an electricity-detail version of the GTAP model with capacity expansion and factor utilization.” (model version)</li> </ul>	Peters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does IO data stability matter for CGE model results?</li> </ul>	Narayanan, Aguiar, McDougall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Reconciling additivity with the CES—modeling power demand in GTAP”</li> </ul>	Peters, van der Mensbrugge
<b>Software</b>	<b>Various</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GTAPAgg2</li> </ul>	Horridge, Narayanan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Standard GTAP Model in GAMS</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge

**4. Education Goal:** To expand and improve global economic analysis education worldwide

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>Education Plan</b>	<b>Various</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2015 GTAP Short Course (Purdue)</li> </ul>	Villoria, Keeney, Batta, Douglas

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GTAP 101 Course(s)</li> </ul>	Burfisher, Batta, Douglas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2015 GTAP Dynamic Course (Purdue)</li> </ul>	Aguiar, van der Mensbrugge, Batta, Douglas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further investigate development of online mini-courses on special topics</li> </ul>	Burfisher, van der Mensbrugge, Hertel

**5. Staffing Goal:** To actively seek and encourage talented staff and graduate students

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>Recruitment and Hiring</b>	<b>Various</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career path development</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement plan for Nelson Villoria</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge

**6. Collaboration Goal:** Actively seek opportunities for fostering collaboration with institutions around the world.

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>GTAP Conferences and Board Meetings</b>	<b>Batta, van der Mensbrugge</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 Conference and Board Meeting (Washington DC, USA)</li> </ul>	Batta, World Bank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017 Conference and Board Meeting (West Lafayette, IN, USA)</li> </ul>	Batta
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018 Conference: solicit proposals</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge, Batta
<b>Seek partners/funding opportunities for collaboration (core)</b>	<b>Various</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend IO meetings</li> </ul>	Aguiar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing work with contributors</li> </ul>	Aguiar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IAMC &amp; EMF</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGRODEP</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AgMIP</li> </ul>	van der Mensbrugge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ITC, CEPPII and Ken Kawasaki</li> </ul>	Narayanan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNESCWA</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other potential partnerships/collaborations</li> </ul>	Hertel, van der Mensbrugge

**7. Communication Goal:** To facilitate communication amongst members of the network as well as between the Center and key stakeholders.

Tasks	Responsibility
<b>Improve user support system</b>	<b>Narayanan</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GTAP-L, gtapsupport, contactgtap: Continue offering support</li> </ul>	Narayanan, Aguiar, Batta, Douglas
<b>Strategic Communication</b>	<b>Hertel</b>
<i>Primary Priorities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to build upon the 2014 strategic meeting working with Sriramesh Krishnamurthy</li> </ul>	Hertel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Journal of Global Economic Analysis</li> </ul>	Hertel

## E. Summary of Discussions

Following Dominique van der Mensbrugge’s meeting overview, the following items were discussed.

### Disaggregation

- Services surfaced as a very significant priority in this year’s board meeting. The idea of disaggregating additional services sectors, including biofuels and manufacturing (aerospace, machineries, computers and electronics, mainly by US-ITA and UNCTAD), which are available in OECD I-O tables, is an important part of this thrust. This could also pair nicely with the new effort to break out domestic margins in the data base. In keeping with this thrust, the low-hanging fruit would likely include the following (refer to ISIC Rev 4 codes for more exhaustive detail <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/regcst.asp?Cl=27>):
  - Disaggregation of WRT (ISIC G) into: (a) motor vehicle trade, (b) wholesale trade, and (c) retail trade
  - Disaggregation of transport and storage services (ISIC H) into: (a) land, (b) water (c) air, (d) warehousing and (e) postal and telecom services
  - Disaggregation of FIRE (ISIC K, L) into: (a) Financial services, (b) Insurance (c) Auxiliary services, and (d) Real Estate
  - Follow one-digit mapping for the remaining services categories (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/regcst.asp?Cl=27>)
- Tom Hertel (GTAP) mentioned that we have been successful on coordination and continuity, but resources is a major issue when it comes to disaggregating the sectors

### *Services Sub-Committee*

- A services sub-committee was appointed with co-chairs Bob Koopman (WTO) and Lucian Cernat (EC DG-Trade). Center facilitators are Robert McDougall, Angel Aguiar and Erwin Corong. Interested board members had a more detailed follow-up meeting and plan to provide a draft proposal for circulation to the Board this fall. Following board evaluation, this would be circulated more widely. A final proposal for services disaggregation will be presented to the board at next year’s meeting in Washington DC.
- Apart from I-O tables, the Center may also seek outside informational sources. (Rob McDougall, GTAP)
- David Laborde (IFPRI) mentioned to be careful not to split ourselves too thin, while this may be relevant for 20 countries, we need to obtain data for 120. If we disaggregate services we may run into trouble when we match it to available services trade statistics.
- Only some countries produce bio-fuels, should we then think of this as a satellite data set?

- Dominique van der Mensbrugghe (GTAP) suggested distinguishing between commodities and activities, so that we can have more disaggregation in commodities than in activities, for example, since there are a lot of non-I-O inputs for the former.
- Martina Brockmeier (University of Hohenheim) expressed some support for bioenergy disaggregation.
- Laurent Cretegny (KPMG Australia) suggested focusing on services sectors, which form over 70% of global economy. Patrick Jomini (Productivity Commission) mentioned that there is no good data on services, and whatever ‘made-up’ data that we can develop could well be the best available!
- Marijke Kuiper (LEI) suggested that we use Board members’ work in several areas of disaggregation as our starting point. In this context, Patrick Jomini (Productivity Commission) suggested using GTAP website as a ‘meeting group’ for bio-energy datasets, rather than attempting to prepare an official version of bio-energy dataset.
- Jose Manuel Rueda-Cantuche (EC-IPTS) suggested using EU I-O tables, available annually, for disaggregating margins and other service sectors.
- From the FAO, the request was more on fertilizers’ disaggregation and making our sectors consistent with FAOSTAT categories. Jean Chateau (OECD) also suggested that splitting CRP sector in GTAP should be a priority.
- Lucian Cernat (EC-DG Trade) mentioned that while there can be several priorities, services is a top priority, for disaggregation.
- Ralf Peters (UNCTAD) mentioned that, in the context of the new Information Technology Agreement in the WTO, disaggregation in manufacturing sectors, particularly computers and electronics, is pretty significant. Liz Schaefer (US Department of Commerce) also argued for more disaggregation in manufacturing, for example in aerospace—in part to reflect the increasing fragmentation of production.

### **Energy Data**

- Developing a closer relationship with the IEA was deemed a priority, specifically in relation to requesting they continue to produce their data which is no longer available. In this regard, getting the US-DOE back on the Board should also be a priority. Dominique van der Mensbrugghe (GTAP) will spearhead these efforts, in collaboration with key board members.

### **Tariff/Trade Data**

- Bob Koopman (WTO) underlined the importance of capturing the ‘digital economy’.
- AVEs for NTMs have been estimated by several researchers; employing them in GTAP requires caution, since the elasticities that correspond to them could be of a different timeframe than GTAP elasticities.

## **Emissions**

- We should be using EDGAR for emissions

## **MRIO**

- Anders Aereoe (ITC) and Patrick Jomini (Productivity Commission) underlined the importance of developing GTAP MRIO, given the current dominance of TiVA and WIOD in this area.

## **Domestic Support**

- On domestic support, David Laborde and the IFPRI team will take lead on developing a global dataset, in collaboration with MAFAP and OECD.
- Hans Grinsted Jensen (IFRO) presented the new details of domestic support that the IPTS team is interested in publishing through GTAP.
  - To a question by Martina Brockmeier (University of Hohenheim) if this will be public, he responded yes, depending on non-EU and non-OECD countries' willingness to make their data public as well. This data includes measures like CSE and GSSE by OECD, which are pretty tricky, with issues such as double-counting in terms of other subsidy/tariff datasets and the need to consider net taxes in the contributed I-O tables, while overriding them with the CSE data. US food stamps program is an example in this context.
- Patrick Jomini (Productivity Commission) also raised concerns that what holds good for EU need not be appropriate for the non-EU countries like Japan and Australia, so any decision on this has to be taken after utmost cautious considerations.
- Lucian Cernat (EC-DG Trade) mentioned that the assumption behind all GTAP analysis is that the GTAP Data Base is well-balanced in terms of base policy coverage across the world; with the exceptions in countries such as India for domestic support, the analysis for example of WTO negotiations can be misleading, given that such a big player that stalled the negotiations is being overlooked.
- Bob Koopman (WTO) mentioned that law firms' data on domestic support is not being used in GTAP, while this is what is so commonly used for negotiations.

## **Agricultural Support**

- Hans Grinsted Jensen (IFRO) agreed to chair a Board Sub-Committee which will seek to coordinate efforts on this front. It will be important to keep abreast of the IFPRI-led effort to form a consortium of agencies working on domestic support world-wide. David Laborde (IFPRI) is our key contact to this group. It is our hope that eventually this group could become the global supplier of agricultural support information for the entire GTAP Data Base.

## **Biofuels**

- Dominique van der Mensbrugghe (GTAP) will coordinate an effort to achieve greater cooperation on this front.

### **Data Base Availability**

- There was strong interest in making the GTAP Data Base more widely available – in easily accessible form, and at an aggregated level. Dominique van der Mensbrugge (GTAP) has offered to lead this effort, in conjunction with Patrick Jomini (Productivity Commission) who previously oversaw development of such a program.

### **Domestic Margins**

- Erwin Corong (GTAP) outlined a program to incorporate domestic margins in the standard GTAP Data Base. This will be a top priority for the next data base release (version 10).

### **GTAP-Power**

- Jeffrey Peters (GTAP) presented the data and methodology for the construction of the GTAP-Power database. The Board decided to make the satellite database freely available with the full GTAP license (as opposed to an additional fee). The GTAP-Power database will be released by the end of July 2015.

### **The Standard GTAP Model in GAMS**

- Dominique van der Mensbrugge (GTAP) introduced ongoing work to replicate the standard GTAP model in GAMS. The new version is being coupled with a graphical user interface by Wolfgang Britz. This work also provides an opportunity to potentially introduce some new features to the standard GTAP model in GEMPACK that will allow for somewhat greater flexibility in its application.

### **GTAP Conferences**

- Presentations and subsequent discussion on the current and future GTAP Conferences was held with the following outcomes.
  - **2015 Conference Update** - Philip Adams and Glyn Wittwer (Centre of Policy Studies, Victoria University) updated the Board on arrangements for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis. The conference planning went very smoothly and they wished everyone an enjoyable conference and stay in Melbourne. Philip Adams proposed that we introduce a mentoring system whereby first time participants are paired with ‘old hands’ to better facilitate integration into the network. The Center will work to implement this idea for 2016 by identifying potential mentors in late February (following abstract reviews) and inviting them to serve in this capacity by matching them up with a first-time presenter base on common interest.
  - **2016 Conference Update** - Will Martin (IFPRI, formerly World Bank) presented an update on the 2016 GTAP Advisory Board Meeting and 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis, which will both be held at and co-organized by the World Bank in Washington DC from June 13-17, 2016. The 2016 Conference Program Committee met during lunch at the conference to begin formal discussions on potential sources of funding, plenary speakers and organized session topics. Moving forward, the committee will continue these discussions via email.
  - **2017 Conference Proposal** - Ginger Batta (GTAP) presented the proposal for the 20<sup>th</sup>

Annual Conference to be held at Purdue University in June 2017, bringing the conference back to its “birthplace” for its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Board approved.

### **GTAP Research Fellows**

- The Board approved the following individuals to serve as GTAP Research Fellows for 2015-2018.
  - Joaquim Bento Ferreira-Filho
  - Will Martin
  - George Philippidis
  - Maureen Rimmer
  - Anna Strutt
  
- The following individuals have agreed to serve on the 2016 Research Fellows Committee.
  - Kenichi Kawasaki (Chair)
  - Stephen Karingi
  - Thomas Hertel
  
- The Board also approved the following individuals to be inducted into the GTAP Hall of Fame.
  - Peter Dixon
  - Terrie Walmsley

### **Education**

- The Board was impressed with the progress of GTAP 101 and endorsed the idea of additional courses (educating the policy maker, detailing “why numbers change”, advanced modules on modeling regional integration, etc.). The Center will continue progress towards developing these additional courses.

### **Strategic Communication**

- There was general agreement that Krishnamurthy Sriramesh’s (Purdue University) proposal for more strategic communication and relationship building was indeed on target.
  
- Sandra Rivera (USITC) underscored the need to update the website entry points so that this could cater to different types of users, e.g. researchers, policy makers, media and students, etc.
  
- There would appear to be a significant market for aggregate data descriptions of the global economy – tailored to different sectors/users. One idea which surfaced was to contract with someone to develop this angle and allow them to be paid from the revenue stream.
  
- There are some excellent case studies/success stories which could be highlighted. The UN-ECA in particular would be timely. We need to identify someone to work on this.
  
- Sandra Rivera (USITC) inquired whether we can also show the breakdown of the network by occupation (e.g., academic, government, private sector). Ginger Batta (GTAP) responded that yes, this was possible, but would require manual work on the data.

- It was suggested that the Center include policy and user testimonials regarding the use of GTAP products. This has been in place for GTAP 8 for a number of years. Once GTAP 9 has been out a bit longer, Ginger Batta (GTAP) will email purchasers requesting their statements and post these on the GTAP 9 homepage (and website homepage as space permits needed).
- It was stressed that the timeline for the JGEA website is important
- David Laborde (IFPRI) to share IFPRI's visualization SQL
- Maryla Maliszewska (World Bank) asked that we establish a protocol to respond to Board member questions.
- A question was asked regarding lost sales (e.g., customers not renewing with each release). Currently, this is not active process, but can be implemented if need be by Ginger Batta (GTAP).

### **Budget and staffing**

- The Center should see a modest budget surplus in 2015 on the heels of an uptick in data base sales given the release of GTAP 9. Over a data base cycle, the deficits and surpluses tend to wash out. A significant portion of Center funding comes from external sources.
- The Center, with much regret, is losing Nelson Villoria. A top priority will be finding his replacement.