ITC GTAP-related activity in 2015-2016

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.

In the second half of the year 2016, ITC will start the update of the tariff data for the 10th revision of the GTAP database. The reference year should be 2014.

Furthermore, ITC is developing a visualisation and download module of the full tariff Database HS6 in the Market Access Map application. This module will facilitate the access and the analysis of the GTAP tariff protection data to large users. The beta version will be launched in June 2016

In June 2016, ITC will present a paper on the "Structure and tariff impact of the TPP agreement". This paper follows the project with the Graduate Institute for Policy Research (GRIPS), the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFATD) and the United States Trade International Commission (USITC) on the analysis of the existing agreements between the TPP countries across year from 2014 to 2031 and the TPP agreement from 2017 to 2046. The paper try also to analyse the margin of preferences and related trade potential generated by this regional trade mega-deal as well as the risk of erosion of preferences and trade diversion inside and outside TPP countries at the product level.
The resulting database was built using the same methodology than the GTAP database in order to estimate the impact of the TPP agreement in CGE model.

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, and in simulations of the impact of the Transpacific Partnership Agreement in a partial equilibrium setting.

Other computable general equilibrium (CGE) activities

Transpacific Partnership Agreement

We have used the GTAP 9 data (released candidate 2, year 2011) to simulate, using MIRAGE, the impact of the Transpacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) on its members and on third countries, with special focus on African countries and LDCs. 19 sectors and 31 regions were distinguished. This work has been done for ITC internal use and possibly for later communication purposes. Results show that the TPP will significantly benefit signatory countries (except Brunei whose main export product is hardly affected by the agreement), but will have a small negative impact on third countries, even when spillover effects arising from efforts to reduce non-tariff barriers are considered. These negative effects will impact mostly Central, Western and South Africa.