

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 2002/03:

#### Consortium related

- Together with CPB and Erasmus University Rotterdam, LEI has organized the 2003 conference in The Hague.
- GTAP-EU network: One EU FP5 proposal on EUROMED agreements with participation from the network has been granted and is ongoing. Another one has been submitted to FP6. Johan Swinnen of CEPS, Brussels, is co-ordinator of both initiatives.
- Hans van Meijl served as instructor on the 2003 GTAP short course. One LEI researcher has attended the 2003 course. Frank van Tongeren is again contributing as instructor to the 2004 short course.

#### People

Markus Lips left Lei after a one-year post-doc experience. Marijke Kuiper has joined the team. We now have four researchers with active GTAP involvement: Marijke Kuiper, Hans van Meijl, Andrzej Tabeau, Frank van Tongeren.

#### Research involving GTAP in 2003/04

- Policy research for The Netherlands: We have continued our work for the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Fisheries Management. Specifically, we have made an assessment of the 'Harbinson proposal' for the agricultural negotiations in the WTO, modeling of EU MTR, and we are involved in ongoing work in 2004. Some smaller projects on EU sugar reforms make use of GTAP input.
- A new avenue has been opened last year 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. A derived paper on the LEI-RIVM work is going to be presented at this year's conference. We hope to present recent (and much more elaborate) work during a ministerial meeting in the context of the Dutch chair of the EU in the second half of 2004. Two methodologically related large-scale projects are currently in the contract negotiation phase. The EU FP6 funds these so-called integrated projects.
- We continue work on EUROMED agreements, in the framework of an EU thematic network led by Jo Swinnen.
- In 2003 we started a collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on Doha round issues for African countries. A derived paper is going to be presented at this year's conference. UNECA is using the project to support African countries in the Doha round process.
- In 2003 we started a new project with the OECD secretariat on the issue of agricultural liberalization and non-member countries. Frank van Tongeren spent three months at the OECD to help develop a tailor-made model that specifically utilizes PSE information and has a number of other new features regarding the modeling of the agricultural supply side. This model development benefits enormously from work done by Tom Hertel and Roman Keeney on modeling agriculture. A derived paper will be presented at this year's conference.
- 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 are planning to attend this year's short course.

- Baseline Dutch agriculture: a large LEI-internal project to develop a baseline projection for the Dutch agri-food complex. The project integrates PE models, econometric models, GTAP and expert information.

Some publications:

Marijke Kuiper en Frank van Tongeren (2004), *Mediterrane associatieverdragen en Europese veiligheid*, ESB, vol 89, nr. 4431, pp.182-183 (16 April 2004).

Jikun Huang, Ruifa Hu, Hans van Meijl and Frank van Tongeren (2003), "Biotechnology Boosts to Crop Productivity in China: Trade and Welfare Implications", forthcoming in the *Journal of Development Economics*.

Tongeren, F.W. van and, J. Huang (eds.) (2004), *China's food economy in the early 21st Century; Development of China's food economy and its impact on global trade and on the EU*, The Hague, Agricultural Economics Research Institute (LEI), report 6.04.04 (February 2004).

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (2004), *Trade Liberalization under the Doha Development Agenda: Options and Consequences for Africa*, draft.

Acherbosch, Thom, Frank van Tongeren and Sander de Bruin (2003), *Trade preferences for developing countries*, The Hague: LEI, report 6.03.11 (May 2003).

Joseph Francois, Hans van Meijl, Frank van Tongeren (2003), *Trade liberalisation and developing countries under the Doha round*, CEPR discussion paper DP4032 (August 2003) and Tinbergen Institute discussion paper TI2003 – 060/2.