

# **A Land Use Data Base for GTAP**

Presented by Thomas Hertel

Building on collaborative work with Navin Ramankutty, Brent Sohngen and Huey-Lin Lee

# Outline

- Motivation
- Key dimensions of the data base
- Potential uses
- References

# Motivation

- Demand -- increasing interest in global environmental issues tied to land use:
  - Deforestation
  - Biodiversity
  - Climate change: land use change and land using activities contribute large share of GHG emissions
- Supply -- data availability:
  - Global satellite data on land cover
  - Merged with sub-national data on land use from AgroMaps: FAO/IFPRI/SAGE, developed by Navin Ramankutty
  - Forestry data from Brent Sohngen
- Funding: Support from US-EPA climate change group

### **Key Features of Data Base**

- Built up from 0.5 degree grid cell data (260,000 on the globe)
- Aggregated into Agro-Ecological Zones (AEZs: IIASA/FAO):
  - Three climatic zones: boreal, temperate, tropical
  - 6 to 36 LGPs = # days with adequate temperature and soil moisture to grow crops
- Instead of one land endowment, now many land endowments (AEZs):
  - not explicitly spatial
  - these may shift over time with climate change (Darwin et al.),
- Land use for 175 FAO crops (Monfreda, Ramankutty and Foley, 2007)

# **Global Distribution of AEZs**





Equirectangular projection centered on 0.0°E

Data Min = 0.0, Max = 21.7

# **Applications (1): GHG mitigation**

- Supplement with data on:
  - GHGs (methane and nitrous oxide from agriculture; soil and forest carbon sequestration)
  - PE MACs for individual activities
- Generate regional and global GE MACs for GHG abatement
- Examine competition for land in different AEZs

# **USA GE-GHG abatement supply schedules: USA-only carbon tax**



Source: Hertel et al., 2007

#### Changes in rental-share-weighted land use for selected AEZs in USA: USA only carbon tax (\$100/MTCE)



#### Source: Hertel et al., 2007

## Applications (2): Baseline Projections of Land Use

- Embed in dynamic GTAP model with modified consumer demands and "intensification" options
- Add investment decision to access new forest lands
- Focus on changes in land use (and emissions) as global pattern of demands changes

### **Rental-share-weighted change in crop land use by AEZxRegion: 1997-2025**



Source: Golub et al., 2007

# **Applications (3): Biofuels (in progress)**

- Combine with bio-fuels-enhanced version of GTAP-E which permits inter-fuel substitution
- Examine impact of subsidies/higher energy prices on ethanol and bio-diesel demand
- Model translates increased demand into production of maize, oilseeds or sugar cane
- Land use module predicts which crops will be displaced, where deforestation might occur
- Examine impact on food prices and environmental degradation

### **Future Directions and References**

• Currently revising GTAP Tech Paper #25 to reflect new MRF and forestry data bases

## • Editing book on this topic:

- Economic Analysis of Land Use in Global Climate Change Policy, Publisher: Routledge, Editors: Tom Hertel, Steven Rose, Richard Tol
- In summary: Lots of potential for basic applied research as well as policy applications