



**GTAP Advisory Board Meeting Summary**  
**June 10-11, 2013**  
**Shanghai University of International Business and Economics**  
**Shanghai, China**

**Attendance**

Staff members: Angel Aguiar, Alla Golub, Thomas Hertel, Robert McDougall, Badri Narayanan, Nelson Villoria and Terrie Walmsley

Consortium members and visitors: as listed in the Board Report and Issues Document

[https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board\\_Meetings/2013/documents/2013\\_IssuesReport.pdf](https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2013/documents/2013_IssuesReport.pdf).

**A. Summary of Goals and Accomplishments in the Past Year**

Board Report and Issues document:

[https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board\\_Meetings/2013/default.asp](https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2013/default.asp)

**B. Summary of Agency Activities in the Past Year**

Agency Reports: [https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board\\_Meetings/2013/default.asp](https://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu/events/Board_Meetings/2013/default.asp)

**C. Overview of Priorities and Core Goals for Next Year and Beyond**

***Goals 2008-2012***

1. ***Data Goal:*** To Improve the quality of data products through:
  - Improving the quality of contributed I-O data
  - Addition and improvement of other datasets
  - Monitoring of data quality using comparison programs
  - 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 global economic analysis education 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

**D. Overview of Priorities and Responsibilities**

1. ***Data Goal:*** To Improve the quality of Data Products.

<b><i>Tasks</i></b>	<b><i>Individuals</i></b>
<b>Improving the quality of contributed I-O data (core)</b>	<b>Aguiar</b>

<b>Primary Priority</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop programs that would facilitate the contribution of Supply and Use tables and alternative formats more consistent with those coming out of statistical offices</li> <li>Work with contributors to improve the EU IO Tables</li> <li>Work more closely with National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and OECD</li> <li>Further examination on whether the treatment of the dwellings sector can be improved</li> <li>Capital stock and depreciation</li> </ul>	<p>Grad</p> <p>McDougall</p>
<b>Addition and Improvement of Other Datasets used in GTAP Data Base (core)</b>	
<b>Primary Priority</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond to feedback on Labor Splits</li> <li>Investigate Services trade data from Francois</li> <li>Update income tax rates for all years</li> <li>Improved estimation of International Transport Margins</li> <li>FIT Module changes (to accommodate improved targeting of taxes &amp; domestic support)</li> <li>Agricultural disaggregation module updates</li> <li>Energy module fixes in African countries</li> <li>Incorporation of Agricultural production targeting into main construction build process</li> <li>Processing of ITC tariff dataset for version 9</li> <li>Finalize reference year and set labels for v9</li> <li>Updates to non-agricultural disaggregation modules</li> </ul>	<p>Walmsley</p> <p>McDougall</p> <p>Aguiar</p> <p>Villoria</p> <p>McDougall</p> <p>Peterson</p> <p>McDougall</p> <p>McDougall</p> <p>Mimouni</p>
<b>Secondary Priority</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine possibility of targeting trade balances</li> <li>Examine the availability of NSO data (production, etc., by year) to update IO tables as part of FIT process (when redo FIT)</li> <li>Domestic Margins</li> <li>Domestic support, PSE database for Latin America and Africa – MAFAP</li> <li>Baseline/forecast tool for updates</li> </ul>	<p>McDougall</p> <p>Aguiar</p> <p>McDougall and Aguiar and Ludena</p> <p>Depends on resources</p>
<b>Addition/Improvement of Protection Data (core)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update TASTE to v8</li> </ul>	<p>Narayanan</p> <p>Pelikan, Guimbard, Laborde, Horridge</p>
<b>Version Control and Documentation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin to implement pre-release process for version 9</li> </ul>	<p>Narayanan</p> <p>McDougall and Aguiar</p>
<b>Monitoring Data Quality using Comparison Programs (core)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake more pre- and post-data Comparisons</li> </ul>	<p>Narayanan</p> <p>Aguiar and</p>

	McDougall
<b>Communication (core)</b>	<b>Narayanan</b>
• Add a number of FAQs to the website to address questions like: Is GTAP SNA compatible?	Aguiar
• FAQ/Website: where does my money go?	Kincaid
<b>Satellite Data</b>	<b>Narayanan</b>
• Release new GTAPAgg	Horridge
• Finalize NonCO2 emissions satellite dataset	Ahmed, Rose, and Hertel
• Incorporate land use construction into main build	Baldos and Villoria
• Major update to Land Use Data, including Physical data	Villoria
• Finalize MRIO and document (release BEC concordance to WITS to facilitate automated aggregation of sourcing estimates)	Francois, Walmsley etc
• Consider including compositional differences.	
<b>Publish more papers on the GTAP data Base construction Process</b>	
• Papers on data base construction process, including specific examples of why data do not match original data	Aguiar, McDougall,
• Paper/chapter outlining how much I-O tables have changed - ranking of countries. Which changed the most and which the least and why?	Narayanan, and Walmsley
• Work with Productivity Commission and Joe Francois to include more data resources	Narayanan

2. **Research Goal:** To actively participate in quantitative economic analysis of pressing global concern

<i>Tasks</i>	<i>Individuals</i>
<b>Trade and Development</b>	
<i>Primary Priority</i>	
Continue to publish papers on trade, poverty, migration/labor (specifically supply chains)	GTAP Staff Grads
<b>Global Energy and Environmental issues</b>	
<i>Primary Priority</i>	
Continue to publish papers on energy and environmental issues (specifically water, landuse and biofuels)	GTAP Staff Grads

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

<i>Tasks</i>	<i>Individuals</i>
<b>Technical papers</b>	<b>Kincaid</b>
<i>Primary Priority</i>	
Finalize tech paper on GDyn-E	Golub
Finalize technical paper on GTAP-E Model	Golub and

Finalize paper on macro transmissions mechanisms	McDougall Walmsley, Hertel, McDougall and Villoria
Revise poverty technical paper to reflect latest improvements in handling of the survey data.	Hertel
Paper on incorporation of specific tariffs into the data base and standard model	Narayanan and Villoria
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<b>Secondary Priority</b>	
Technical paper on a Firm Heterogeneity Model	Villoria and Grad
Finalize technical paper on tariff aggregation tools	Will Martin
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4. <b>Education Goal:</b> To expand and improve global economic analysis education worldwide	
<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Individuals</b>
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<b>Education</b>	
<b>Primary Priority</b>	
GTAP Short Course (Turkey)	Villoria, Batta and Alexander
Implement Education plan	Villoria, Batta, Burfisher, Aguiar and Narayanan
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<b>Secondary Priority</b>	
Live Forums on topics of interest to the Network	Narayanan, Aguiar and Batta
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5. <b>Staffing Goal:</b> To actively seek and encourage talented staff and graduate students	
<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Individuals</b>
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<b>Recruitment</b>	
<b>Primary Priority</b>	
Undertake management restructure	Alexander and Hertel
Develop hiring plan	
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6. <b>Collaboration Goal:</b> Actively seek opportunities for fostering collaboration with institutions around the world.	
<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Individuals</b>
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<b>Seek partners and funding opportunities for collaboration (core)</b>	
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• Attend IO meetings	Aguiar
• Ongoing work with contributors, see IO report	Aguiar
• Extend collaborations with the ILO	Walmsley & Hertel
• Explore ways to help board members get the message out to other divisions	Alexander
• Link with geospatial community through GEOSHARE/AgMIP	Hertel and Villoria

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**Conferences**

*Primary Priority*

Work with Antoine Bouët and his collaborators at IFPRI on 2014 Conference (Dakar)	Hertel, Batta and Alexander
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**E. Summary of Discussions**

***Data Base***

Badri Narayanan presented the status of developments in GTAP Data Base. He summarised the development and release of GTAP 8.1 Data Base and a series of releases that accompanied it, including satellite datasets, labor-splits dataset and Africa Data Base. He also presented a schedule for version 9 data cycle as well as the various data improvements to be incorporated in this version. Several comments were made by the board members on various issues.

On TASTE, there were questions about the release date and availability of bound tariff data. Houssein Guimbar from CEPII mentioned that bound tariff data will be incorporated by July, while Mondher Mimouni added that ITC supports the inclusion of this data in the public release of TASTE. Mondher Minouni also mentioned about several special tools and datasets developed by the ITC that can be incorporated into GTAP framework/website in the future. Feedback from David Laborde, which is expected shortly, will help us release TASTE in near future, probably even without the bound tariff for a first version of TASTE for GTAP 8.1 Data Base.

On the reference years for GTAP 9 Data Base, there was support for both 2010 and 2011 as the latest amongst the three proposed, apart from 2004 and 2007. Those who proposed to stick with 2010, did so to maintain a 3-year difference across the reference years and to facilitate easier model validation. Others suggested to go with the latest year for which the data is available, which is 2011, for better usability in policy studies. More feedback on the choice of reference years will be useful to make a final decision in this regard.

***IO Tables***

Angel Aguiar presented the status of IO tables in the GTAP Data Base. He is developing tools to facilitate EU Supply Use tables, as a way to help an EU contributor (IPTS or other) update these data. On the topic of improving our tax representation, it was brought to or attention the treatment of indirect taxes on imports as tariffs in IO tables, which will be further investigated. Also, regarding the chopping block, the merits of not removing Hong Kong table were discussed at the meeting.

***Labor data***

Terrie Walmsley presented work recently distributed to the board splitting the labor data in the

GTAP Data Base into 5 ILO labor categories. Feedback on this improvement was positive during the meetings - we await possible further feedback.

### ***Non-CO2 Emissions***

Tom Hertel presented a summary of the v.8 non-CO2 GHG emissions data base developed by Amer Ahmed, in collaboration with Steve Rose and Tom Hertel. The Board felt comfortable with the overall approach. (Sergey Paltsev requested that the F-Gases be disaggregated by type of gas.) Steve Rose would like to see a few modest changes made to the data base before it goes to the Board. Unfortunately, Amer has taken a job with the World Bank and is no longer available to work on this. His work will be passed on to Burcu Irfanoglu, a PhD student in the Center. When she returns from summer travels in August she will wrap up this data base and make it available to the Board for inspection prior to public release. The proposal was also made that for v.9 we would adopt a simpler approach wherein we would map emissions levels from international sources (EDGAR and AGROSTAT) directly into the GTAP data base. (The present approach only takes growth factors from these data sources and applies them to the 2001 benchmark emissions levels by driver and source.) While more simplistic, the beauty of this new approach is that it could be incorporated directly into the v.9 build process – which means that future updates would be much less resource intensive. After finalizing the v.8 emissions data base, Burcu will turn her attention to this problem for the v.9 data base.

### ***Education Plan***

Terrie Walmsley presented an education plan which included increasing the number of web based courses available to the network. The proposal was whole heartedly accepted. GTAP 101 will be offered this fall, and there are already a large number of applicants for this introductory online course, to be led by Mary Burfisher.

### ***NTBs***

Ken Kawasaki presented a proposal to collaborate to obtain estimates of NTBs for use with the GTAP model. It appears as though some work might be undertaken to get initial estimates for use in policy analysis, however further work is needed before these become part of the standard GTAP Data Base. ITC-Geneva, the World Bank and the OECD all commented on work being done in their institutions, although there are concerns about converting this work into useable estimates for CGE analysis.

The following people attended the meeting and were interested in being involved: Ken Kawasaki, Peter Petri, Patrick Jomini, Mondher Mimouni, Hans Jensen, Geert Woltjer, Marinos Tsigas, Marla, Lucian Cernat, Susan Stone, Houssein Guimbard, Jean Chateau, Joe Francois, Susumu Suzuki, Martina Brockmeier and Terrie Walmsley.

### ***MRIO/IRIO***

A number of board members are working on developing MRIO/IRIO datasets discussed their work on extending the GTAP database or using other datasets, such as WIOD. Terrie Walmsley and Tom Hertel are currently working on a GTAP-MRIO as part of a project with the Asian Development Bank. This work will culminate in a standard tool for undertaking MRIO analysis within the GTAP framework.

One area of future interest is in having the tariff data also reflect differences in intermediate and final use due to different aggregation and underlying differences in applied rates (duty drawbacks). It was thought that taking account of differences in aggregation should be relatively easy to do.

### ***Energy***

In addition, immediately following the Board meeting, Robert McDougall presented to a subgroup of Board members, a proposal for disaggregating the electric power sector in the GTAP data base/standard model, developed by Jeff Peters, a new graduate student in the Center. Board members were very positive about the idea of work in this area. And some expressed potential interest in supporting such work. However, they would like to see a more fully fleshed out proposal. In particular, they are interested in seeing the data product that would flow out of such work. On the advice of Board members, Jeff Peters will be communicating with, and visiting, a number of Board members this fall in order to flesh out this proposal.

## **F. The Network**

### **1. 2013 Conference Update**

Xingguo Ye and Dongfeng Xu welcomed everyone to the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade. He revealed the timeline of activities.

### **2. 2014 Conference Update**

Antoine Bouët updated us on preparations for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis in Dakar, Senegal, hosted by IFPRI and AGRODEP. The Advisory Board Meeting will be June 16-17, 2014, with the conference following June 18-20, 2014. The overall conference theme is “Environment, Poverty and Development.” Discussion followed about themes and facilities.

### **3. 2015 Conference Proposal**

Terrie Walmsley presented the proposal to host the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis in Australia. Discussion followed about the two alternative locations suggested: Melbourne and Cairns. The Board approved this conference proposal and holding the conference in Cairns.

### **4. Research Fellow Report and Committee Nominations**

The Board approved the committee's recommendation for 2013-2016 GTAP Research Fellows as follows:

- ***David Laborde*** - For sustained, unique and outstanding contributions to the quality of GTAP Data Base, particularly in terms of the state-of-the-art tariff dataset, TASTE tool and export subsidies.
- ***Carlos Ludena*** - For outstanding leadership in the development and extension of GTAP-compatible data bases in Latin America and the Caribbean and his efforts to process the

household surveys in these regions to develop a poverty module accompanying these regions in the GTAP Data Base.

- **Janine Pelikan** - For publications using the GTAP Data Base and/or Model on tariff aggregation methods and impacts of the WTO agreement in refereed agricultural economics journals in addition to work on the coupling of GTAP and CAPRI, TASTE and contributions to the GTAP 8.1 Data Base.
- **Karen Thierfelder** - For contributions to CGE analyses and GTAP, she has used and developed a variety of single (STAGE and IFPRI) and global models (USDA-ERS and GLOBE) and is co-author on a number of publications, including GTAP Technical Paper No. 22.
- **Niven Winchester** - For outstanding research using the GTAP Data Base through publishing numerous GTAP-related articles as well as research on the impact of the EU ETS on aviation outcomes which has been used by the EU Commissioner for Climate Action in policy discussions and was circulated at the US Department of the Treasury to help shape a U.S. response to said policy. Other institutions, namely, the ADB, OECD, Tsinghua University, Brookings Institution and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade have also used his research for policy discussions.

## **G. Budgeting and Staffing**

As discussed at the board meeting, the Center showed a large surplus this year due to increased data sales and research projects. The Center is now in a good position to obtain another data team member and will be undergoing a review of its management structure and developing a hiring plan for the coming year. Combined with projected staff turn-over, we expect up to three new staff members by next year's Board meeting.