



12 April 2006

**WTO/ESCAP Second ARTNeT Capacity Building  
Workshop on Trade Research**

Organized by UNESCAP and the WTO  
17-21 April 2006, Bangkok, Thailand

**TENTATIVE PROGRAMME**

*Monday, 17 April 2006 - Seminar Room 2, Learning Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor UNCC*

08:15 - 08:30      **Registration**

08:30 - 08:45      **Welcome remarks**

*Mr. Xuan Zengpei, Director, Trade and Investment Division, UNESCAP  
Mr. Patrick Low, Director, Economic Research and Statistics, WTO  
Mr. Evan Due, International Development Research Centre, Canada*

**Day 1: The Multilateral Trading System and the WTO and Doha Development Agenda**

08.45 -10.00      **Session 1: The architecture and rationale of the multilateral trading system.**

*Mr. Patrick Low, Director, Economic Research and Statistics, WTO*

10.00 – 10.15      *Coffee break*

**Session 2: The GATT/WTO system: How the system works and a brief introduction to current negotiation issues.**

*Mr. Patrick Low, Director, Economic Research and Statistics, WTO*

12.00 - 13.00      *Lunch break*

13.00 - 14.15      **Session 3: Regional trade arrangements: Systemic implications and performance assessment of PTAs**

*Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Chief, Trade policy Section, TID, UNESCAP*

14.15 - 14.30      *Break*

14.30 - 16.00      **Session 4: Developing countries in the multilateral trading system: S&D and other issues.**

*Mr. Patrick Low, Director, Economic Research and Statistics, WTO*

**Note:**

Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), an initiative of UNESCAP and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada is an open regional network of research and academic institutions specializing in international trade policy and facilitation issues. Network members currently include about 15 leading national trade research and academic institutions from as many developing countries from East, South and South-East Asia and the Pacific. The Trade and Investment Division of UNESCAP is the Secretariat of ARTNeT, and operates through a grant from IDRC. WTO, as a core network partner, provides substantive and financial support to the network.

Tuesday, 18 April 2006 - Seminar Room 2, Learning Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor UNCC

**Day 2: WTO Negotiations and Research Issues**

- 08:45 - 10:15     **Session 1: Trade Facilitation and the WTO negotiations**  
*Mr. Yann Duval, Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP*
- 10.15 - 10.30     *Break*
- 10.30 - 12.00     **Session 2 : Market access in goods: NAMA and agriculture negotiations**  
*Mr. Patrick Low, Director, Economic Research and Statistics, WTO*
- 12.00 - 13.00     *Lunch break*
- 13.00 - 14.15     **Session 3: Trade in services: state of play and interest of developing countries**  
*Mr. Patrick Low, Director, Economic Research and Statistics, WTO*
- 14.15 -14.30     *Break*
- 14.30 -16.00     **Session 4: Roundtable discussion on WTO related research issues.**  
*Ms. Mia Mikic, Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP*

Wednesday, 19 April 2006 - IT Lab, Learning Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor UNCC

**Day 3: Gravity Modeling and Applications**

- 08:45 - 10:15     **Session 1:** Modelling Methods for Trade Policy I: simulation models  
*Ms. Roberta Piermartini, Economic Research and Statistics Division, WTO*
- *Partial equilibrium models*
  - *CGE models*
  - *Evidence on the effects of the Doha Round*
- 10.15 - 10.30     *Break*
- 10:30 - 12:00     **Session 2:** Modelling Methods for Trade Policy II: gravity models
- Session 2a: Introduction to OLS regression analysis (focusing on interpretation of the coefficients and significance/reliability of the results)
- Session 2b: The theoretical foundations of gravity models and the estimated equations

- 12:00 - 13:00     *Lunch break*
- 13:00 - 14:15     **Session 3: Applications of gravity models**  
Review of selected papers, including using computer-based demonstrations
- 14.15 - 14.30     *Break*
- 14:30 - 16:00     **Session 4:** Presentation and review of gravity model applications of selected participants  
*Prabir De, RIS*  
*Sanit Chaisirisawatsuk, NIDA*

Thursday, 20 April 2006 - IT Lab, Learning Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor UNCC

**Day 4: Data for Gravity Modeling and Group Work**

- 08.45 – 10:15     **Session 1:** Building a data set for gravity modeling: data sources, data transformation and applications (including data download using WITS)  
*Roberta Piermartini, WTO*
- 10:30 - 12:00     **Session 2:** Presentation of sample cases\* and selection of cases/research questions by the 5 small research group (SRG)  
*Roberta Piermartini, WTO*
- 12:00-13:00     *Lunch*
- 13:00 – 16:30     **SRG Group work**  
*Assisted by WTO and UNESCAP staff and participating senior researchers*

Friday, 21 April 2006 - IT Lab, Learning Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor UNCC

**Day 5: Small Research Group Work**

- 08.30 - 09.45     **Session 1:** status report by each group & review of problems encountered – questions and answers  
*Roberta Piermartini, WTO*
- 09:45 - 12:00     **SRG Group work** (cont'ed)  
*Assisted by WTO and UNESCAP staff and participating senior researchers*
- 12:00-13:00     *Lunch*
- 13:00 – 13:30     **Preparation of SRG presentations**
- 13:30-14:45     **Session 2:** SRG small group presentations

- 14:45-15:00      **Evaluation and distribution of certificates**
- 15:00              **Closing**
- 15:15 – 16:15      **Advance gravity modeling** (optional session for interested participants)  
*Roberta Piermartini, WTO*

**\*Sample Cases –suggested steps for each working group**

- 1- Selection of a research question; selection of geographic scope and product scope – Selection of basic model and variables
  - a. team decides to what extent they will be estimating same models (each team member could take different set of country, or extend the model in different ways, or test different hypotheses under the same research question)
- 2- Collection of trade and tariff data (using WITS)
- 3- Collation of data, etc...
- 4- Estimation of the model
- 5- Interpretation of the results
- 6- Discussion within each groups of results achieved, with experienced researchers/ modelers assisting junior team members in going through steps 2-5
- 7- Presentation to the group of consolidated results