FIGARO project – Difficulties and challenges

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Eurostat – ESTAT.C5
Joint Research Centre – JRC.B7
What has been already done?

- For 46 economies, estimation of a full set of:
  - national SUTs at basic prices (domestic & imports)
  - use tables at purchaser’s prices
  - valuation matrices for trade and transport margins and taxes less subsidies on products
- Estimation of the global National Accounts Main Aggregates and benchmarking of the national SUTs
- Balancing trade asymmetries

Done every year
How to do better?

- Use of more data from EU Member States on goods sent abroad for processing and merchanting by exporter, importer and product
- Reducing the gap between trade statistics and National Accounts / SUTs trade flows
- Gap filling in international services trade statistics in EBOPS categories; conversion to CPA
- Production of the FIGARO tables at previous year’s prices

Further refine methodology for trade flows + PYP SUTs + EU IC-IOTs
Which annual improvements?

- Combining UN COMTRADE and EU COMEXT trade data in goods to identify quasi-transit, re-exports and domestic exports (QDR approach)

- Compilation of a fully-fledged table of direct purchases abroad by country of resident, country of expenditure and product / service

- Production of inter-country SUIOTs for the EU27

Ideally to be done each year in future
How to go even further?

• Use of a proper database for international transport and insurance costs (now from OECD)

• Treatment of CIF-FOB adjustment for import transport services provided by domestic carriers

• Accounting for the taxes less subsidies paid on exports separately from those charged to domestic traded goods and services
What about cooperation within EU?

• Training provided to (new) staff in EU Member States, EFTA countries and candidate countries

• Close collaboration in terms of:
  − Data (national SUIOTs)
  − Validation rules
  − NAMA benchmarking
  − Metadata
And at international level?

- Develop common standards with other IC-IO initiatives: OECD, ECLAC, etc.
- Exchange on methodological work
- Single out more trading partners in FIGARO
- Develop together new applications

Further and deeper collaboration
Thank you.

FIGARO database: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/esa-supply-use-input-tables/data/database
Contact: ESTAT-IGA@ec.europa.eu

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