



Capacity Building Workshop on Gravity Modelling

This workshop aims to provide participants with the following:

1. A solid understanding of the gravity model of bilateral trade, including its theoretical basis;
2. Practical skills in applying basic gravity econometrics using Stata;
3. An appreciation of data and estimation issues involved in the use of gravity models in a range of applied trade policy topics.

In light of these objectives, the structure of the workshop will alternate between presentations by the trainer based on the existing literature, and “hands on” applications in which participants will be invited to explore concrete applications using real data. In addition, participants will be required to work in groups to conduct an exercise tracing through all aspects of the gravity modeling process, from research design to presentation and interpretation of results.

Workshop facilitator: Ms. Witada Anukoonwattaka, (ESCAP/ARTNeT)

7 April 2015: Introduction to the gravity approach

08:45 - 09:00: Registration

09:00 - 09:15: Opening Remarks

09:15 - 10:00: Session 1 – Using Gravity Model for Evidence-Based Policymaking in Mongolia
(Mr. Enkhbold Voroshilov)

10:00 - 12:00: Session 2 - The traditional gravity model

- Concepts and stylized facts of the gravity approach
- Example of applications
- Identifying (“trade potentials”) using gravity approach

(15 minutes break at around 10:00-10:15)

12:00-13:00: Lunch Break

- 13.00-16.00: Session 3 - Estimating the traditional gravity model in STATA
- The OLS estimation of a basic gravity model: the regression, the OLS assumptions, and the output
 - Major weakness of the traditional gravity model
 - Hands-on practice

(15 minutes break at around 14:30-14:45)

8 April 2015: The theoretical gravity models

- 09:00 - 12:00: Session 4 - The theoretical gravity approach
- Concepts of the theoretical gravity model
 - The Anderson and Van Wincoop (AvW 2003) model
 - Empirical implication
 - The fixed effect (FE) estimation in STATA for the theoretical gravity model

(15 minutes break at around 10:30-10:45)

12:00 - 13:00: Lunch Break

- 13.00 - 16.00: Session 5 - Augmented the theoretical gravity model
- The augmented FE gravity model and the concerns
 - The Random Effects (RE) approach
 - The Baier and Bergstrand (BB) approach

(15 minutes break at around 14:30-14:45)

9 April 2015: Using gravity in research works and wrap up

- 09:00 - 10.00: Session 6 - Consolidation
- Group brainstorming on exercises and project ideas

(15 minutes break at around 10:30-10:45)

12:00 - 13:00: Lunch Break

- 13.0 - 16.00: Session 7 (continued)
- Group presentation and comments
 - The workshop wrap up

(15 minutes break at around 14:30-14:45)

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