Converting the Belgian 2010 Interregional Supply and Use Table to ESA-2010 rules

Topic: SUT compilation issues relevant for users
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Recently, the Belgian Federal Planning Bureau has constructed interregional supply and use tables for 2010. They describe intra and interregional flows between the countryâ€™s regions Brussels, Flanders and Wallonia. To estimate these flows, we followed a bottom up approach based on VAT data and international trade data at the firm level. The table respects the national SUT for 2010 according to ESA 95 rules (European implementation of SNA93). It has been used by us to calculate regional income and employment multipliers, and by others to estimate the regional carbon footprint for Flanders and the possible impact of Brexit on Belgian regions. It also served as an input for our Belgian macro-econometric regional model.

The aim of the work is to adapt the interregional SUT to ESA2010/ SNA2008 rules and the corresponding new national SUT for 2010. This responds to demands from users for tables compatible with more recent versions of the national accounts. It would also allow for the integration of the interregional tables into recent global tables as well as for future analysis for more than one year once the 2015 tables have been constructed.

The complexity of this conversion is due to the large product and industry detail (350 x 140) and differences between national and regional accounts. For some large changes in the ESA 2010 (like the treatment of R&D) or the Belgian national accounts (incl. a revision of the Nace attribution) specific adjustments have been made to the regional tables. Most of the adjustments are automatic, though. The automatic adjustment is set up as a recursive process, using the interregional use table at basic prices and the supply tables of the three regions as a starting point. Each step consists of a series of RAS procedures by industry or final demand component for adjusting towards new regional and national totals. The problem of zero values in the interregional SUT (while not in the new national table) is also addressed.