CAPRI Training Session 2019

Joint Research Centre, Seville
5th – 8th November 2019

In collaboration with the CAPRI network, the Technical University of Madrid (UPM) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission organise the CAPRI Training Session 2019 under the framework of the SUPREMA project[1].

CAPRI[2] (Common Agricultural Policy Regional Impact Analysis) is a global agroeconomic model developed for policy impact assessment purposes. Operational for two decades, it supports decision-making related to the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU and its implementation at the Member State and regional levels. The effects of agricultural, environmental and trade policies on agricultural production, consumption, prices and trade, as well as environmental indicators, are analysed in a comparative-static framework in which the simulated results are compared to a baseline scenario.

Aims of the training session

The annual CAPRI training aims at bringing together modellers, developers and any individuals with a strong interest and background in agriculture related research to improve their knowledge about agricultural economics and quantitative modelling of agricultural, environmental and trade policies with the CAPRI system. Discussions on common issues on agricultural policy, policy modelling, model development and maintenance with CAPRI developers and users will support knowledge generation and exchange of experiences in the community.

The focus of this year's training is to provide participants with fundamental knowledge of CAPRI model to support and foster their further *independent use* for educational and research purposes (at the advanced level). Participants will learn to use the CAPRI model for scenario analysis and get acquainted with its Graphical User Interface (GUI), its structural blocks and its development approach. Special attention will be given to hands-on exercises on ex-ante impact assessments of agricultural policy changes in the agricultural sector, agri-food markets and the environment.

---

[1] https://www.suprema-project.eu
[2] https://www.capri-model.org

Format of the course

The training session offers two different levels:

- Beginners – the course will provide theoretical foundations about CAPRI supply and market modules, baseline generation and comparative static policy impact analysis. During the course, participants will learn basic skills in using the GUI to operate CAPRI and to analyse results. Furthermore, hands-on exercises will be offered such as analysing scenario results.

- Advanced – the course will cover more in-depth theory about supply and market modules. The applied part of the course will cover selected advanced topics such as baseline calibration, adjusting the GUI reporting viewer, and strategies for error-handling. After this advanced course, we expect that participants will be able to make adaptations of CAPRI for their specific needs.

The course will have two main components:

1) A self-study component based on a tutorial, which requires an estimated total of three to five days of work and should be completed at your own pace during the month of September.

2) An intensive 3.5-day training session in JRC, Seville (Spain).

Specific topics covered by the training session include:

- Model overview
- Software used in CAPRI
- GUI and model files and folders
- Reading GAMS language in CAPRI (basics)
- Fundamental blocks and steps in CAPRI
- Scenario run, results review and analysis
- Recent developments in CAPRI

For PhD-students successfully completing all parts of the course, 2 ECTS academic credits can be provided based on previous discussion with the organizers in UPM.

Trainers

The training will be led by a number of developers from the CAPRI network: Peter Witzke, Torbjörn Jansson, Alexander Gocht, Maria Blanco, Mihaly Himics, with the assistance of several advanced users: Hyung-sik Choi, Jörg Rieger, Pilar Martínez, Mariia Bogonos and Jordan Hristov.

Costs

There is no fee for participating in the training session. Participants have to cover their own travel, accommodation and meals.

Pre-requisites and material

All participants are strongly advised to complete the tutorial before participating in the training session. The tutorial itself requires no prior knowledge except for introductory level microeconomics. Having familiarized yourself with CAPRI, you will have a higher payoff from the CAPRI Training Session course. The training session assumes that you have completed the CAPRI tutorial.

In order to follow the course, you will need a modern laptop with 64 bit Windows operating system, and to install software as described in the tutorial. All software used in the course is free of charge except for the modelling language GAMS, but we will provide a temporary GAMS license.

Application procedure

To apply for participation in the course, fill in this form: https://forms.gle/npkYTnjgTrZoDXkCA. Please provide a short motivation to why you want to participate, as well as a brief description of previous knowledge in microeconomics and economic modelling. Also state if you want to participate in the beginners or the advanced level and if you have participated in previous training sessions. If you wish to have academic credits for the course (PhD students), this should also be stated in the application form.

As the number of places is limited, we will evaluate all the applications and notify the acceptance or not to participate in the training session.

Important dates

30 June	Deadline for pre-registration
15 July	Notification of acceptance
5 September	Tutorial and pre-course materials sent to participants
20 October	Deadline for submission of tutorial exercises
5 – 8 November	CAPRI training session in Seville (Spain)

Contact

For further information contact:

Maria Blanco – maria.blanco@upm.es

Pilar Martinez – mpilar.martinez@upm.es