

## **Use of input-output tables in assessing national economic reform - Australian Productivity Commission experience**

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The Australian Productivity Commission is the Australian government's principal review and advisory body on microeconomic policy reform and regulation. Under its Act of Parliament, the Commission undertakes public inquiries and supporting research, and publishes its advice. An important part of the Commission's work has been to report on the potential economic benefits of national reform programs in Australia. It has also examined the implications of possible international trade and regulatory policy developments for Australia and for the broader global economy. Economic modelling based on Australian and global input-output information has been crucial to meaningful reporting on these issues. This paper uses case studies drawn from the Commission's experience to illustrate the importance of input-output data to effective policy analysis. It also highlights areas of recent improvement in input-output data and areas for future attention.