Updating the WIOD database in the virtual laboratory environment

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The World Input-Output Database (WIOD) has been widely utilised in many research applications. These popular uptakes are driven by the facts that WIOD provides with extended international trade market integration and time series covering year 1995-2011. With the view to continuity for the existing WIOD user community, we describe the processes of updating the WIOD in a virtual laboratory environment called the Global MRIO Lab (Global IELab). The Global IELab system has been designed to replicate closely the original WIOD construction pipelines. The only major departure from WIOD practice is that we apply a single-step reconciliation procedure compared to WIODs original two-step reconciliation process. The single-step reconciliation procedure considers both SUT and trade data sources, whereas the original two-step procedure handles these types of data sources separately. Compiling the WIOD database in the Global IELab offers a number of advantages such as flexibility in terms of sectoral and spatial resolution, a less labour-intensive and hence more cost-effective data integration process, and a faster turnaround time for data updates. These advantages are largely owed to the high degree of automation within the Global IELab. Therefore, implementation of the WIOD database in the Global IELab will allow for timely and continuous updates in the future.