

**Resource-use intensity and the labour market: more for less?**

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**Abstract:** Although the circular economy primarily focuses on closing supply chains, residual waste management, and product lifetime extensions, reducing resource use remains critical. This paper examines the system-wide impacts of reducing resource use using a multisectoral computable general equilibrium model. Although not strictly circular, the focus is on a costless ‘technology shock’ that reduces the consumption of intermediate goods in the construction sector and its system-wide effects. The results suggest that there is potential for reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but this is accompanied with a fall in GDP and employment, with unskilled workers experiencing larger negative employment effects. However, the scale of these GDP and employment effects is small, despite relatively large reductions in resource use. This indicates that technology-induced reductions in resource use have the potential to support the transition towards an economy that uses fewer resources without causing significant disruptions at the macroeconomic level.

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## Highlights

- ‘More for less’ is of importance in the transition towards a more circular economy
- Assess implications of an improvement in the resource-use intensity of construction
- Employ a dynamic, multi-sectoral computable general equilibrium model for Germany
- Identify a slight trade-off between the resource-use improvement and economic effects

## 1. Introduction

Improving resource-use intensity, i.e. decreasing the use of resources per unit produced [3], is a key pillar in moving towards a circular economy. This is in keeping with the overall notion of ‘more with less’ [4]. Whilst the circular economy is primarily concerned with closing supply chains, residual waste management, and product lifetime extensions, reducing the use of resources and materials remains crucially important [5]. This is reflected clearly in the ambitions set out in the circular economy action plan of the EU and the various directives adopted at the time of writing [6]. Substantial co-benefits, beyond the environmental impacts, are expected. The EU [7] Circular Economy Action Plan highlights the potential for positive net-effects on job creation. Specifically, 700 thousand new jobs could be created in the EU by 2030, along with an additional increase in EU GDP of 0.5%, by applying circular economy principles across the EU [7].

Many studies in this area focus on assessing the implications of resource use changes brought about by economic policy instruments, particularly material taxation. Note that scenario design in these ex-ante studies tends to be mainly stylised. For example: Chateau, et al. [8] assess the employment impacts of ‘material fiscal reform’ driven transition towards a more resource-efficient and circular economy. Hatfield-Dodds, et al. [9] consider, among other, the implications of the taxation of resource extraction. EC [10] examine the implications of a raw materials tax, and Distelkamp, et al. [11] assesses a material tax for building materials. Many more studies are summarised in Laubinger, et al. [12], McCarthy, et al. [13], Aguilar-Hernandez, et al. [14].

The scale of economic impacts, particularly these on employment, arising from taxation induced changes in resource-use depend on the redistribution of tax revenues [12]. Although, labour market (wage bargaining) responses might also affect outcomes e.g. workers could accept a lower pay in return for potential environmental improvements resulting in double dividend for the environment and the economy [15]. Many studies in this area – that employ computable general equilibrium (CGE) models - assume a homogeneous labour supply and that wages adjust to clear labour markets. As such, labour market imperfections and involuntary employment are often not considered.<sup>1</sup> Much of the academic

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<sup>1</sup> Many CGE models either assume a market-clearing set up such that wages equilibrate demand and supply resulting in no involuntary unemployment, or a fixed wage set-up where labour supply and demand are determined given a fixed level of wages, and the resulting difference is interpreted as involuntary unemployment [16]. The former operates in a perfectly competitive labour market whilst the latter could be considered imperfect. These two options are limiting (extreme) cases and difficult to support with long-run empirical evidence [16]. An in-between modelling option, as employed in this paper, is

literature in the area of taxation driven transformation suggests that labour market effects will be either neutral or (marginally) positive [12, 14]. The stylised scenario design in the current literature and the focus on taxation as instrument to reduce intermediate-use intensity stems from the fact that it is challenging to translate ‘soft policies’, or behaviour changes and new business practices into quantifiable model scenarios [12].

The construction industry is a crucial component of many economies worldwide and the biggest consumer of raw materials [4, 18, 19]. However, it is also one of the most polluting industries, with a significant impact on the environment due to its large material and greenhouse gas emissions footprint. To achieve green goals in the future, significant changes are necessary in the current construction processes. The ‘business-as-usual’ projections suggest that urgent (and multi-pronged) action is necessary to reduce the environmental burden of the construction industry [18, 20]. One potential solution (and the focus of this paper) is to reduce the amount of resources required to produce the same output by implementing more efficient (technology driven) processes. However, this is just one avenue towards reducing resource-use, and it may not be the most environmentally friendly option. The pathway towards ‘circular construction’ involves reusing and recycling materials, particularly these from existing buildings. Although beyond the scope of this paper, a whole lifecycle approach is necessary, as also emphasised in the EU [7] Circular Economy Action Plan, to determine the most sustainable option.

Resource-use improvements in construction are crucial for transitioning towards a more resource-efficient economy due to the sector's economic importance and environmental impact [4, 18, 19, 21]. The Construction sector offers many avenues of resource-use improvements – beyond the use of policy instruments [22]. For example, automated prioritization of concrete mix design [23], data driven resource planning [24], textile reinforced concrete [25], converting waste plastics into construction applications [26], digital tools to enable design optimisation [27], optimised shapes [28], prefabricated buildings [29, 30], and so on, are among the many viable options to decrease resource-use in the Construction sector.

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in the form of a ‘wage curve’ [17]. With this, an imperfect labour market is modelled that allows for involuntary unemployment such that ‘equilibria’ are not necessarily ‘optimal’.

Overall, there are various ways in which resource-use intensity in the Construction sector can be improved and these are not necessarily ‘circular’, but certainly fall under the umbrella of the circular economy action plan of the EU where the notion of ‘more for less’ is the driving force. Given this, it is instructive to consider resource-use intensity improvements in general, rather than focusing solely on resource-use efficiency induced by taxation.<sup>2</sup> The analysis presented in this paper is mainly concerned with identifying the system-wide implications of (costless) improvements in production processes such that fewer intermediates (inputs) are used. Assessing such a costless ‘technology shock’ assists the analysis to focus on the impacts of the reduction in resource-use, rather than the impacts of e.g. R&D expenditures [31]. It could be argued that such stylised costless technology shock could arise due to nudging efforts underway to increase environmental and sustainability [4, 32-34], the various potential technology improvements outlined above, or any other environmental innovation [35].

This paper aims to identify the potential impacts of costless resource-use intensity improvements and considers in detail the labour market implications. That is, the system-wide impacts of an improvement in resource-use intensity, interpreted here as a reduction in the overall use of intermediates in the construction sector, are identified by employing an empirically founded multisectoral dynamic CGE model of Germany. While Germany is used as a case study in this analysis, the model and approach can be applied to other countries and regions, provided that the necessary data are available. However, the results presented in this paper are unique to Germany because they are heavily influenced by a range of key parameters and, more importantly, the industrial structure of the German economy. Second, the empirical analysis presented in this paper highlights the potential employment effects in a skill disaggregated labour market that allows for labour market imperfections and involuntary unemployment. This is of particular importance given that the analysis of resource-use intensity improvements on the labour market in general - and labour market subcategories specifically - is still lacking [12, 36, 37]. Appendix A gives a brief overview of the literature - to supplement the more detailed reviews outlined in [5, 8, 10, 12-14] - to again illustrate that much of the current literature concentrates on taxation as a means of reducing resource-use and/or employs models that only consider perfectly competitive and unified labour markets.

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<sup>2</sup> Indeed, the German resource efficiency program [20] encompasses more than just taxation, as it includes several instruments to achieve its goals. Examples include the more typical policies that are considered ‘circular, but also R&D-focused fiscal support, institutional support and education programs, extended product warranties, and most importantly for this paper, improved resource efficiency through digitalisation.

This paper is organised as follows. Section 2 discusses in more detail ‘resource-use intensity’ and illustrates the challenges of identifying system-wide impacts by using a simplified analytical framework. Sections 3 and 4 describes the model and the scenario considered. Section 5 outlines the simulation results, and Section 6 concludes.

## 2. Resource-use intensity and the labour market

There are various mechanisms by which resource-use intensity can be improved, particularly in the context of a circular economy. The focus of this paper is on assessing a costless ‘technology shock’, akin to an increase in efficiency, to the Construction sector such that it uses fewer intermediates in the production process – following the notion of ‘more for less’ [4]. Such changes in resource-use can be presented in a simplified analytical framework (as employed in the literature [38] in the context of improvements of energy efficiency, for example):

$$(1) \quad \Lambda = (1 + \psi) V$$

where intermediates in natural units are given as  $V$ ,  $\Lambda$  are intermediates in efficiency units, and  $\psi$  is the intermediates change parameter. The subsequent price of intermediates in efficiency units,  $p_\Lambda$ , is given by:

$$(2) \quad p_\Lambda = \frac{p_V}{1+\psi} < p_V$$

With constant prices in natural units,  $p_V$ , an improvement in intermediates-use reduces the price of intermediates in efficiency units. Whether this reduces the use of intermediates in natural units depends on the general equilibrium own-price elasticity [38]. For example, in cases where this is greater than unity: substitution, income and output effects would dominate the effects of the intensity-use improvement so that the use of intermediates would increase. That is, the fall in the implicit price of intermediates will generate an increase in expenditure on intermediates, and thereby increase intermediates use [38]. This would act contrary to explicit target of a reduction in resource-use.

A similar complexity is present when seeking to identify the likely employment effects. Although, it can be expected that employment will mirror output, labour intensities, for example, become crucially important. It is evident that such simplified analytical framework is not sufficiently equipped to deal

with such substitution, income and output effects at a multisectoral and economy-wide level [38]. Thus, there is the need for a more complex empirical model that is parameterised on a set of representative accounts of the economy. Such model is outlined in the next section.

### 3. The DEMACRO model

The model employed in this paper, DEMACRO, is a an intertemporal, dynamic, multi-sectoral CGE model for Germany. The DEMACRO model builds upon the macro-micro economic CGE simulation framework AMOS [15, 39-44]. A mathematical summary of the DEMACRO model is given in Appendix B and in Lecca, et al. [39]. The model is parameterised on a 2018 Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for Germany. The 2018 EXIOBASE Input-Output (IO) tables [45] form the basis of the SAM.<sup>3</sup> The model has three domestic transactors: households, corporations, and government; four major components of final demand: consumption, investment, government, and exports; 25 industrial sectors; and two types of labour (skilled and unskilled). The demand for German exports (to the rest of the world) is determined via conventional export demand functions and imports are obtained through an Armington [48] link with trade substitution elasticities of 2.7 [49]. Financial flows are not explicitly modelled, and Germany is assumed to be a price-taker in financial markets. In the simulations presented in this paper real government expenditure is exogenous and remains fixed, although this assumption could be relaxed [15, 50].

Capital stock is fixed in the short run both in total and in its distribution across sectors. Capital stocks in individual sectors vary through period-by-period flows of net investment, and capital markets fully adjust in the long run models. Gross investment at time,  $t$ , is equal to depreciation,  $\delta$ , plus some proportion  $\tau$ , of the difference between the desired capital stock in the next time period,  $KST_{it}$ , and the actual capital stock,  $KS_{it}$ , so that:

$$(3) \quad IND_{it} = \tau[KST_{it} - KS_{it}] + \delta KS_{it}$$

The desired capital stock in period  $t$  is determined by the output price,  $p^y$ , and cost of capital,  $UCK$ , value added  $Y_{JT}$  in time period  $t$ .  $E_{k_{JT}}$  are efficiency parameters calculated by industry with  $\rho$  elasticity parameters

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<sup>3</sup> The multi-regional IO table is aggregated to Germany and the rest of the world (ROW). This aggregate German IO table is extended to a SAM using publicly available data [46], following the approach outlined in Emonts-Holley, et al. [47]. Given this, each period in the period-by-period simulations is interpreted as a year.

$$(4) \quad KST_{JT} = \left( \frac{E_{K_{JT}}^{\rho_J^Y} \alpha_J p_{JT}^Y}{UC_{KT}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_J^Y}} Y_{JT}$$

The industries investment decisions are based on their desired level of capital stock and in the last period  $KS_{IT}\delta = IND_{IT}$ . Note that a perfect foresight version is available, as outlined in detail Lecca, et al. [39].

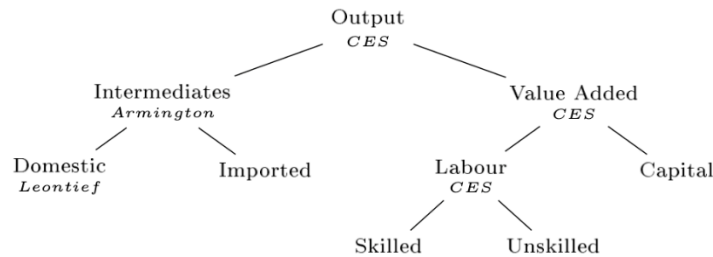
The production structure of each of the production sectors, as shown in Figure 1, is characterised by a capital and labour nested CES function. The combination of labour and capital forms value added, and intermediate inputs are determined via an Armington link [48] between domestic and imported. The combination of intermediates and value added in turn forms total output in each sector. Intermediate inputs in production,  $V_{ij}$ , are given as:

$$(5) \quad VV_{ijt} = \psi_{ij} C_{it}^V \sigma_i \left[ \frac{P_{it}^X}{P_{it}^Q} \right]^{\sigma_i} X_{jt}$$

where  $C_{it}^V$  is the calibrated coefficient for intermediate inputs,  $P_{jt}^X$  and  $P_{it}^Q$  are the gross output price and the composite price respectively,  $X_{jt}$  is gross output,  $\sigma$  is a substitution parameter and  $\psi_{ij}$  is the intermediates change parameter.

In all simulations the labour force is fixed, but employment is variable over time, the unemployment rate can change, and labour is mobile across sectors. Natural demographic change is not modelled and there is no change in human capital formation.

**Figure 1:** DEMACRO production structure



The model allows for labour market imperfections and involuntary unemployment, implying that ‘equilibria’ are not necessarily ‘optimal’ [51]. The default model specification embodies a bargained real wage function (BRW) for each skill category represented in the labour market [17, 52, 53]. This is a



positive empirical relationship between the real consumption wage and the bargaining power of workers, which is inversely to the unemployment rate:

$$(6) \quad \ln(rw_{zt}) = \beta - \epsilon_z \ln(un_{zt})$$

where  $rw$  is the after-tax real wage,  $un$  is the unemployment rate (4% for the skilled and 6% for the unskilled),  $z$  is the skill category,  $\epsilon$  is the unemployment rate elasticity which is set to 0.16 for the skilled and 0.15 for the unskilled [54-58], and  $\beta$  is a calibrated parameter so as to replicate base year data. While there is evidence in favour of this labour market wage specification, there exists some uncertainty about the way that the aggregate labour market currently operates, where real wages have been falling along with falling unemployment rates. This would suggest that there is some evidence of a degree of nominal wage inflexibility. This is illustrated by exploring the limiting case of a fixed nominal wage (FNW) were  $w_{zt} = w_{zt=0}$ .

#### 4. The modelling scenario

Although reusing and recycling existing materials, such as these from the existing housing stock, is a more promising avenue for reducing resource usage, improving building practices, and utilising technological advancements can also contribute to long-term sustainable resource usage [18, 20]. Whilst it is feasible to incorporate modelling for material reuse and recycling within the framework used in this paper, the focus here is to enhance resource utilisation by improving technological efficiency. The Construction sector offers significant opportunities for efficiency improvements through the better use of technologies, as highlighted in the German resource efficiency program [20] and the illustrative examples outlined previously.

The analysis presented in this paper uses a stylised interpretation of an intermediate use-reduction in the Construction sector. That is, an exogenous large-scale (and costless) immediate and permanent 15% step improvement in resource-use improvement (i.e a reduction in the use of all intermediates) in the Construction sector is modelled.<sup>4</sup> For this, the intermediates change parameter,  $\psi$ , in Equation 5 is set to 0.85 for all purchases of the Construction sector. Note that this follows the same general approach

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<sup>4</sup> A gradual improvement in resource-use would yield similar long-run effects. Adjustment paths, however, would be different such that impacts on employment and GDP, for example, would be less pronounced and distributed over a larger number of time periods.

that would be taken when employing an Input-Output model [59] – although the model employed in this paper considers in detail output, price, income, substitution, and competitiveness effects along with a more detailed representation of the labour market. Although a 15% improvement in resource usage is rather ambitious and likely not achievable without material reuse and recycling, it is nonetheless instructive to consider the economy-wide implications of such extreme structural changes to highlight potential growing pains that may be experienced in labour markets. A less pronounced increase in resource-use efficiency would not affect the qualitative results reported in the sections to follow.

The economy is taken to be in long-run equilibrium prior to the increase in resource-use in the Construction sector, and when the model is run forward without this exogenous disturbance it replicated the base-year dataset in each period [60]. The results reported in the following sections are percentage changes in the endogenous variables relative to this unchanging equilibrium and are directly attributable to the exogenous technology shock to resource-use in the Construction sector.

## 5. Simulation results

This section outlines the simulation results with focus is on two conceptual time periods. The first is the short run, the period immediately after the introduction of the change in intermediates use of the Construction sector. Capital stocks are fixed in the short run at industry level, but labour is perfectly flexible across sectors. The second period is the long run, where capital stocks fully adjust, across all sectors, and are again equal to their desired levels. Table 1 summarises the short- and long-run effects of a 15% decrease in intermediates-use in the Construction sector. The following sections outline these results in detail, starting with the long run, Section 5.3 gives the time path dynamics, and Section 5.4 considers the implications of changes to the openness of trade.

### 5.1 Long run results

Data columns 3 and 4 in Table 1 report the long-run results for the bargained real wage and the fixed nominal wage closures, labelled BRW and FNW respectively. There are some general effects that can be observed irrespective of the wage closure employed. As the decrease in resource-use of the Construction sector is effectively a negative demand shock to the sectors from which the Construction sector purchases, there is a fall in demands and so GDP, employment, investments, and household consumption all decrease. Domestic intermediates-use and territorial industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

decrease, indicating that the overall aim of a reduction in the use of resources is achieved. The scale of the impacts, however, critically depends on the wage closures.

In the FNW closure, the decrease in resource-use in the Construction sector results in a 0.98% fall in GDP. As there are no changes in prices, i.e. CPI and wages remain unchanged from base year levels, there are no competitiveness effects and exports remain unchanged. Only quantities change in this case since prices are invariant across long-run equilibria, and there is no crowding out/in. This corresponds closely to the behaviour of an Input-Output system with an entirely passive long-run supply side (although the labour force remains fixed here). As such, this gives the full effect of the fall in resource-use in the Construction sector. Overall economy wide intermediates decrease in the FNW closure by 2.19% (and domestic intermediates fall by 2.23%). Whilst there is no change in nominal and real wages, there is a fall in employment of 0.81% for the skilled, and 1.04% for the unskilled – leaving the unskilled worse off as compared to the skilled.

**Table 1:** Short- and long-run effects of a 15% decrease in intermediates-use in the Construction sector.

Values are % changes from base year.

	Short run		Long run	
	BRW	FNW	BRW	FNW
GDP	-0.04	-0.21	-0.23	-0.98
CPI	-0.33	-0.27	-0.25	-
Unemployment rate	0.14	0.72	0.30	1.74
Skilled	0.07	0.31	0.14	0.76
Unskilled	0.08	0.40	0.16	0.98
Employment	-0.08	-0.38	-0.16	-0.93
Skilled	-0.07	-0.33	-0.15	-0.81
Unskilled	-0.08	-0.43	-0.17	-1.04
Nominal gross wage	-0.51	-	-0.64	-
Skilled	-0.51	-	-0.64	-
Unskilled	-0.52	-	-0.65	-
Real gross wage	-0.18	0.27	-0.39	-
Skilled	-0.18	0.27	-0.39	-
Unskilled	-0.19	0.27	-0.40	-
Total intermediates	-1.23	-1.41	-1.41	-2.19
Domestic intermediates	-0.84	-1.03	-1.18	-2.23
Territorial industrial CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	-0.42	-0.85	-0.59	-1.62
Household consumption	-0.02	-0.03	-0.09	-0.26
Investment	-0.32	-0.74	-0.33	-1.01
Exports	0.75	0.66	0.67	-

**Note:** BRW = bargained real wage; FNW = fixed nominal wage

It must be noted that the fall in GDP (and employment) is relatively small, despite the relatively large decrease in resource-use of the Construction sector. This, however, could be expected. According to the underlying IO tables [45], the Construction sector constitutes 6% of total national direct employment, and 5% of total national direct value added. Thus, a 15% decrease in intermediates-use of the Construction sector is not necessarily poised to generate large system-wide effects. It is therefore possible to absorb such changes in consumption patterns of the Construction sector in a system-wide context, particularly when competitiveness effects take effect (as illustrated in the BRW closure). Such rebound effects, however, might be counter to stated (energy policy) goals. This is discussed again in Section 5.4 where the openness to trade is considered.

Aggregate effects outlined above do not necessarily hold at the individual sector level (Appendix C and D give the long-run effects at the individual sector level for the two wage closures). Although sectoral results are not discussed in detail, the impacts depend on the proportion of the sectors' activities that are supported by the Construction sector, export and labour intensities of that sector, and other inter-sectoral and final demand effects. In the FNW closure, there are negative impacts across all sectors such that output and employment always fall. In the BRW closure, however, there is a stimulus to exports in all sectors. Sectors with strong export intensities and direct demand linkages to the Construction sector see an increase in demands for their outputs and thereby an increase in employment and investments, but correspondingly also resource-use. Thus, whilst economic activities fall at the aggregate level, this is not necessarily the case at the level of the individual sector. The following section outlined the short-run results, where capital restrictions exist.

## 5.2 Short run results

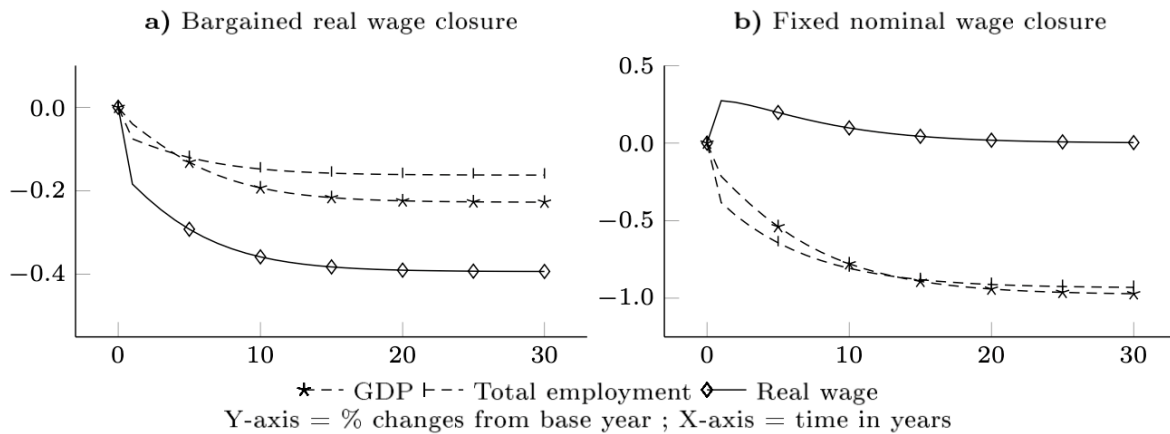
The short-run results for the bargained real wage and the fixed nominal wage closures are reported in data columns 1 and 2 in Table 1. Recall that in the short run capital stocks are fixed at industry level. Aggregate effects are similar to those seen in the long run, but impacts are more muted as effects have not propagated fully through the system. GDP falls by only 0.04% in the BRW closure, and by 0.21% in the FNW closure. A key difference, however, in the FNW closure is that real gross wages increase (nominal wages being fixed along with falling prices). Moreover, as prices now also fall in the FNW closure, there are competitiveness effects at play that act as a buffer to the negative demand effects coming from the reduced intermediates demands from the Construction sector. Exports increase by 0.66% in the FNW closure. However, the comparatively large negative effects on employment act

against this. This indicates that, as in the long run, there are negative economy wide effects from the fall in resource-use of the Construction sector. However, as outlined previously, the scale of the negative effects is small.

### 5.3 Time-path adjustments

Figure 2 gives the time-path adjustments for GDP, total employment, and aggregate real wages. Panel a of Figure 2 illustrates the period-by-period results for the bargained real wage closure, and panel b those for the nominal wage closure. Each period is one year. The difference in the way the labour market operates is highlighted here. Whilst real wages (for both skill categories) remain negative throughout all periods in the BRW case, the real wages are positive in the initial periods following the exogenous technology shock in the FNW closure. In both cases employment closely traces the impacts on GDP and is negative throughout all periods of the simulation. This illustrates again that effects are relatively small; that the most negative effects are confined to the long run; and that negative effects are cushioned in the BRW closure.

**Figure 2:** Aggregate transition paths of GDP, employment, and real wages of a 15% decrease in intermediates-use in the Construction sector. Values are % changes from base year.



### 5.4 Trade sensitivity

Table 2 gives the long run results for changes in the Armington trade elasticities,  $\sigma_v$ , for the bargained real wage closure. The elasticity is varied between 0.7 and 4.7 in increments of one, where the default value used in the model is taken to be 2.7 [49]. Note that changes to the Armington trade elasticity do not affect the results reported in Table 1 for the fixed nominal wage closure. This is because there are

no changes in prices in the long run such that exports remain unchanged from base year values irrespective of Armington trade elasticities.

As the degree of openness of the economy is increased, with increasing values for the Armington elasticity, the system becomes more sensitive to competitiveness effects. That is, more is exported with higher Armington values so that GDP and employment take a smaller cut. However, this also implies that the resource-use decrease is smaller. With a relatively closed economy, as represented by an Armington elasticity of 0.7, there is a fall in GDP of 0.56% along with a fall in employment of around 0.4%, and a decreased use of intermediates of 1.78%. In contrast, a more open economy with an Armington elasticity of 4.7, GDP falls by 0.15%, but intermediates only decrease by 1.33%. Thus, the openness of the economy to trade is important in determining system-wide macroeconomic effects, and the corresponding resource-use levels.

**Table 2:** Long-run effects of a 15% decrease in intermediates-use in the Construction sector and changes to the Armington trade elasticity. Bargained real wage closure. Values are % changes from base year.

Armington $\sigma_v$	GDP	Employment skilled	Employment unskilled	Total intermediates	Domestic intermediates
0.7	-0.56	-0.41	-0.46	-1.78	-1.66
1.7	-0.32	-0.22	-0.25	-1.51	-1.31
2.7	-0.23	-0.15	-0.17	-1.41	-1.18
3.7	-0.18	-0.12	-0.13	-1.36	-1.11
4.7	-0.15	-0.09	-0.11	-1.33	-1.07

It is worth noting that not all construction materials will have the same Armington trade elasticity. High-volume but low-value materials may have limited competitiveness effects due to transport costs, reducing opportunities for trade and international competition. Sectors with high export intensities, such as Rubber and Plastics, Other Non-Metallic Minerals, and Basic Metals and Fabricated Metal, may exhibit a higher Armington trade elasticity [61, 62], with around 35% of each sector's output relying on trade. These sectors are also those from which the Construction sector directly purchases. In contrast, the Construction sector itself is not export-intensive, with only around 2% of output going to the external sector, such that a low trade elasticity can be expected for this sector.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> To illustrate the potential effects, the Armington trade elasticities of Rubber and Plastics, Other Non-Metallic Minerals, and Basic Metals are increased to the extreme value of 4.7, while maintaining 2.7 for all other sectors. This results in a 0.21% long-run GDP fall, compared to 0.23% fall in GDP reported in Table 1, for the bargained real wage closure. Similarly, reducing the Construction sector's elasticity to 0.7, whilst maintaining the default value of 2.7 for all other sectors, results in a 0.24%

## 6 Discussion and conclusion

Whilst the circular economy is primarily concerned with closing supply chains, residual waste management, and product lifetime extensions, reducing the resource and material use remains crucially important in moving towards a more circular economy. Resource-use improvements in the Construction sector are a vital part in this given its emissions contents, for example. More importantly, the Construction sector holds substantial capacity to do so. Many studies focus on identifying the effects of taxation induced reductions in resource-use. However, there are other avenues that can be explored – beyond the use of (fiscal) policy instruments. This paper aims to analyse the system-wide implications of a reduction in resource-use of by using a dynamic multisectoral computable general equilibrium model of Germany. Specifically, the focus is on the macroeconomic implications of a costless ‘technology shock’ that reduces the intermediates used by the construction sector, and its possible effects on the labour market.

The large-scale decrease in resource-use of the Construction sector is effectively a negative demand shock to the sectors from which the Construction sector purchases. Thus, there is a fall in demands for these sectors and so GDP and employment, investments, and household consumption decrease. Both total and domestic intermediates-use decrease, indicating that the overall aim of a reduction in the use of resources is achieved. Many studies in this area - that employ computable general equilibrium models - assume a homogeneous labour supply and that wages adjust to clear labour markets. However, the analysis given in this paper illustrates that labour market imperfections and the consideration of involuntary employment substantially affect overall results.

In our preferred standard specification where workers have bargaining power over their wages, negative macroeconomic effects are cushioned (via competitiveness effects). This in turn, however, has contrary effects on resource-use and industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as the use of overall intermediates increases. In contrast, in the case where nominal wages remain fixed, the use of intermediates decreases more substantially, but at the cost of lower GDP and employment. We note that results at the individual sector level might not follow these of the macroeconomy. Particularly in the case where workers have a bargained wage, there are winners and losers at the individual sector level. That is, there are sectors that experience a fall in output and employment (and resource-use), and there are sectors

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fall in GDP. This is not significantly different from the results given in Table 1. Armington elasticities simply amplify existing trade intensities.

that experience the opposite. Sectoral export intensities play a key role here as competitiveness effects drive these results. Importantly, this implies that the stated aim of reductions in the use of resources might not be achieved fully in the presence of competitiveness effects. The scale of this competitiveness effect greatly depends on the economy's openness to trade (and corresponding sectoral export intensities). Higher openness means greater sensitivity to competitiveness effects, and this implies a smaller decrease in resource-use, but also smaller cuts in GDP and employment. Key inputs to the Construction sector, such as Other Non-Metallic Minerals, might be rather sensitive to competitiveness effects, so lower local demand could rebound via trade.

The primary goal of reducing resource-use is to mitigate the environmental impacts of industrial processes, rather than to achieve economic benefits. Although it would be desirable to have positive impacts on both the economy and environment, our modelling indicates that there is a small trade-off between the two. This is despite the relatively large-scale decrease in resource-use of the Construction sector of 15%. It is therefore possible to absorb such changes in sectoral consumption patterns in a system-wide context, particularly when competitiveness effects are taken into consideration. From a policy perspective, it is thus possible to concentrate on R&D investment and technologies that reduce the use of resources (this could also be within a more 'circular' setting) instead of solely using taxation to achieve policy goals. However, as shown in this paper, there is the potential for rebound effects acting contrary to stated goals of reducing resource-use.

The results presented in this paper cannot be generalised beyond the German economy due to the influence of various key parameters and, most importantly, the unique industrial structure of the German economy. However, this paper emphasises that it is important to take into consideration the system-wide effects - particularly the implications of different labour market specifications - and this holds universally.

The analysis presented in this paper could be expanded in several ways to provide further insight. First, comparing the aggregate effects of tax-induced changes to the use of intermediates with those presented here (or an extension that considers product-specific resource-use improvements) would be informative. This comparison would be useful for policy makers who are deciding whether to invest in R&D and technologies that reduce resource use (the carrot) or taxation (the stick). Second, it would be beneficial to extend the analysis to an interregional framework that considers trade effects in more detail. Last, a more detailed analysis of the Construction sector would be helpful. It is evident that such



an analysis would benefit from a more disaggregated approach, and exploring the possibility of this in a multi-regional context could be useful.

## Appendices

## Appendix A: Brief overview of literature.

Paper	Region	Model	Policy / shock	Labour market segmentation	Labour market competition
[11]	Germany	ME	Resource efficiency = taxation	Unified	Perfect
[18]	Multiregional	CGE	Recycling + efficiency	Unified	Perfect
[63]	Spain	CGE	Tax on waste	Unified	Imperfect
[64]	China	CGE	Resource Tax	Unified	Imperfect
[65]	Belgium	CGE	Various taxes	Unified	Imperfect
[66]	China	CGE	Environmental taxes	Unified	Imperfect
[59]	Multiregional	IO	Product lifetime extension and other	Unified	Perfect
[67]	Multiregional	IO	Reuse of materials	Skill & Gender	Perfect
[68]	Multiregional	VCA	Reduction in production linked to reuse	Unified	Perfect
[69]	Multiregional	CGE	Innovation policy	Unified	Imperfect

Note: ME = Macro econometric, CGE = Computable General Equilibrium, IO = Input-Output, VCA = Value Chain Analysis.  
See [5, 8, 10, 12-14] for a more detailed review of the literature.

**Appendix B:** Mathematical summary of the DEMACRO model.

Production Technology	
<u>CES production</u>	$Y_{JT}$ – value added
$Y_{JT} = \psi_{IJ} C_j^{\sigma_j^Z} \left[ \frac{P_{JT}^X}{P_{JT}^Y} \right]^{\sigma_j^Z} X_{JT}$	$P_{JT}^Y$ – value added price
(B1)	$C_j^Y$ – calibrated coefficient for unit of output
$VV_{IJT} = \psi_{IJ} C_{IJ}^{\sigma_j^Z} \left[ \frac{P_{IJT}^X}{P_{IJT}^Q} \right]^{\sigma_j^Z} X_{JT}$	$\psi_{IJ}$ - Intermediate change parameter
(B2)	$X_{JT}$ – gross output
$Y_{JT} = \left[ \alpha_J (EK_{JT} KD_{JT})^{\rho_J^Y} + \beta_J (EL_{JT} LD_{JT})^{\rho_J^Y} \right]^{\frac{1}{\rho_J^Y}}$	$P_{IJT}^X$ – gross output price
(B3)	$VV_{IJT}$ – intermediate inputs
$LDU_{JT} = \left[ ELU_{JT}^{\rho_J^Y} \beta_{UJ} \frac{W}{W_U} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_J^Y}} LD_{JT}$	$P_{IJT}^Q$ – composite price
(B4)	$C_{IJ}^Y$ – calibrated coefficient for intermediate inputs I and J (Leontief)
$LDS_{JT} = \left[ ELS_{JT}^{\rho_J^Y} \beta_{SJ} \frac{W}{W_S} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_J^Y}} LD_{JT}$	$EL_{JT}$ – labour augmenting technology
(B5)	$ELU_{JT}$ – labour augmenting technology unskilled
$LD_{JT} = \left[ \beta_{SJ} ELS_{JT} LDS_{JT}^{\rho_J^Y} + \beta_{UJ} ELU_{JT} LDU_{JT}^{\rho_J^Y} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_J^Y}}$	$ELS_{JT}$ – labour augmenting technology skilled
(B6)	$EK_{JT}$ – capital augmenting technology
$RK_{JT} = P_{JT}^Y \alpha_J EK_{JT}^{\rho_J^Y} \left[ \frac{Y_{JT}}{KD_{JT}} \right]^{1-\rho_J^Y}$	$LD_{JT}$ – labour demand total
(B7)	$LDU_{JT}$ – labour demand unskilled
	$LDS_{JT}$ – labour demand skilled
	$W$ – firms' labour costs before tax
	$W_S$ – firms' labour costs before tax skilled
	$W_U$ – firms' labour costs before tax unskilled
	$KD_{JT}$ – capital demand
	$RK_{JT}$ – rate of return on capital
	$\alpha_J$ – calibrated CES parameter for capital
	$\beta_J$ – calibrated CES parameter for labour
	$\beta_{UJ}$ – calibrated CES parameter for unskilled labour
	$\beta_{SJ}$ – calibrated CES parameter for skilled labour
	$\sigma_{IJ}^Z$ – elasticity between value added and intermediate

	$\rho_I^Y$ – substitution parameter for factors
<b>Taxes on Production, Import and Production Subsidies</b>	
$IBT_{IT} = BTAX_I X_{IT} P_{IT}^X$ <b>(B8)</b> $IMT_{JT} = \sum_I V M_{IJT} MTAX_J P_{IT}^M$ <b>(B9)</b> $SUBSY_{IT} = SUB_I X_{IT} P_{IT}^X$ <b>(B10)</b>	$IBT_{IT}$ – indirect business tax $BTAX_I$ – indirect business tax rate $X_{IT}$ – gross output $P_{IT}^X$ – gross output price $IMT_{JT}$ – indirect import tax $\sum_I V M_{IJT}$ – imported intermediate input from ROW $MTAX_J$ – import tax rate $P_{JT}^M$ – import price $SUBSY_{IT}$ – production subsidy $SUB_I$ – subsidy rate
<b>Intermediate Demand</b>	
$VV_{IJT} = \left( \delta_{IJ}^{VM} (\gamma_{IJ}^{VM} V M_{IJT})^{\rho_I^Y} + \delta_{IJ}^{VR} (\gamma_{IJ}^{VR} V R_{IJT})^{\rho_I^Y} \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho_I^Y}}$ <b>(B11)</b> $V M_{IJT} = VV_{IJT} \left[ \frac{\delta_{IJ}^{VM} \gamma_{IJ}^{VM} P_{IT}^R}{\delta_{IJ}^{VR} \gamma_{IJ}^{VR} P_{IT}^M} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_I^Y}}$ <b>(B12)</b> $TV_{JT} = \sum_I VV_{IJT}$ <b>(B13)</b> $TVR_{JT} = \sum_I V R_{IJT}$ <b>(B14)</b> $TVM_{JT} = \sum_I V M_{IJT}$ <b>(B15)</b>	$VV_{IJT}$ – intermediate inputs $\gamma_{IJ}^{VM}, \gamma_{IJ}^{VR}$ – shift parameters in Armington $\gamma_{IJ}^{TM}, \gamma_{IJ}^{TR}$ – shift parameters in Armington $\delta_{IJ}^{VM}, \delta_{IJ}^{VR}$ – share parameters $V R_{IJT}$ – Domestic input $V M_{IJT}$ – ROW input $P_{IT}^M$ – import price $\rho_I^Y$ – substitution parameter $P_{IT}^R$ – domestic good price $TV_{JT}$ – total intermediate inputs $TVR_{JT}$ – total domestic intermediate input $TVM_{JT}$ – total imported intermediate goods from ROW
<b>Goods market balance</b>	
$X_{IT} + M_{IT} = \sum_J VV_{IJT} + Q_{IT}^H + E_{IT}$ $+ Q_{IT}^V + Q_{IT}^G + TUTOT_{IT} + STOCKTOT_I$	$X_{IT}$ – gross output $E_{IT}$ – exports

<p>(B16)</p>	<p><math>M_{IT}</math> – imports</p> <p><math>\sum_j VV_{IJT}</math> – total intermediate imports in sector i</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^H</math> – household consumption</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^V</math> – investment demand</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^G</math> – government consumption</p> <p><math>TUTOT_{IT}</math> – tourism consumption</p> <p><math>STOCKTOT_I</math> – total stock</p>
Exports	
<p><math>X_{IT} = R_{IT} + E_{IT}</math></p> <p>(B17)</p> $E_{IT} = SIMROW_{IT} E_{0I}^{INT} \left( \frac{P_{IT}^E}{P_{IT}^Q} \right)^{\sigma_I^X}$ <p>(B18)</p> $R_{IT} = \sum_j VR_{IJT} + Q_{IT}^{HR} + Q_{IT}^{VR} + Q_{IT}^{GR} + TURREG_{IT} + STOCKREG_I$ <p>(B19)</p>	<p><math>X_{IT}</math> – gross output</p> <p><math>E_{IT}</math> – exports</p> <p><math>R_{IT}</math> – domestic goods</p> <p><math>SIMROW_{IT}</math> – simulation variables</p> <p><math>E_{0I}^{INT}</math> – exports to ROW in base year</p> <p><math>\sigma_I^X</math> – export elasticity</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^Q</math> – commodities price</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^E</math> – export price</p> <p><math>\sum_j VR_{IJT}</math> – total domestic intermediate input in sector j</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{GR}</math> – government domestic consumption</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{HR}</math> – household domestic consumption</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{VR}</math> – investment domestic demand</p> <p><math>TURREG_{IT}</math> – Tourists national consumption</p> <p><math>STOCKREG_I</math> – National stock</p>
Income and Output	
<p><math>LY_T = \sum_j LD_{jT} WF_T</math></p> <p>(B20)</p> <p><math>KY_T = \sum_j KD_{jT} RK_{jT}</math></p> <p>(B21)</p> $GRP_T = C_T + \sum_i Q_{iT}^G + \sum_i Q_{iT}^V + \sum_i TUTOT_{iT} + \sum_i E_{iT} - \sum_i M_{iT}$	<p><math>LY_T</math> – labour income</p> <p><math>\sum_j LD_{jT}</math> – total labour demand</p> <p><math>WF_T</math> – firms' labour costs before tax</p> <p><math>KY_T</math> – capital income</p> <p><math>\sum_j KD_{jT}</math> – total capital demand</p>

<p>(B22)</p> $TRSNG_{DNGINS,DNGINS,T} = TRSNG_{0,DNGINS,DNGINS} CPI_T$ <p>(B23)</p> $YNG_T^H = LY_T - HTAX_T^H + DSHR_{HH} KY_T + TRSNG_{HH,Firms,T} + TRH_{HH,Gov} CPI_T + \sum_{FINS} SAM_{HH,FINS} * \varepsilon_T$ <p>(B24)</p> $YNG_T^F = DSHR_{Firms} KY_T + TRSNG_{Firms,HH,T} + SAM_{Firms,Gov} CPI_T + NIEMPL_T + \sum_{FINS} SAM_{Firms,FINS} \varepsilon_T$ <p>(B25)</p>	<p><math>RK_{JT}</math> – rate of return on capital</p> <p><math>GRP_T</math> – gross domestic product</p> <p><math>C_T</math> – household consumption</p> <p><math>\sum_I Q_{IT}^G</math> – total government consumption</p> <p><math>\sum_I Q_{IT}^V</math> – total investment</p> <p><math>\sum_I TUTOT_{IT}</math> – total stock</p> <p><math>\sum_I E_{IT}</math> – total exports</p> <p><math>\sum_I M_{IT}</math> – total imports</p> <p><math>YNG_T^F</math> – household income</p> <p><math>CPI_T</math> – consumer price index</p> <p><math>\varepsilon_T</math> – exchange rate</p> <p><math>YNG_T^F</math> – firms' income</p> <p><math>TRNSG_T</math> – transfers</p> <p><math>TRH_T</math> – Government transfers to households</p> <p><math>DSHR</math> – share of capital income</p> <p><math>NIEMPL_T</math> – Employer contribution</p> <p><math>SAM</math> – values as given in the SAM</p> <p><math>FINS</math> – foreign institutions</p> <p><math>HTAX_T^H</math> – Household taxes</p> <p><math>DNGINS</math> – domestic non-government institutions</p>
<b>Household Taxes and Savings</b>	
<p><math>SAV_T = (YNG_T^H - HTAX_T^H) MPSAV</math></p> <p>(B26)</p> $HTAX_T^H = DTR^H * (EIRPEF_T + ESSCEE_T) * LY_T$ <p>(B27)</p>	<p><math>SAV_T</math> – household saving</p> <p><math>MPSAV</math> – household savings rate</p> <p><math>YNG_T^H</math> – household income</p> <p><math>HTAX_T^H</math> – household tax paid</p> <p><math>LY_T</math> – labour income</p> <p><math>DTR^H</math> - Direct tax rate</p> <p><math>EIRPEF_T</math> – income tax rate</p> <p><math>ESSCEE_T</math> - Social security tax rate</p>

Firm Taxes	
$ETAX_T = DTRE(YNG_T^F)$ <b>(B28)</b> $CTAX_{IT} = RK_{IT}KS_{IT}TKT_{IT}$ <b>(B29)</b> $CTAXTOT_T = \sum_I CTAX_{IT}$ <b>(B30)</b>	$ETAX_T$ – firm taxes (excluding corporation tax) $YNG_T^H$ – firms' income $DTRE$ – effective firm tax rate (excluding CT) $CTAX_{IT}$ – corporation tax revenues by sector $RK_{IT}$ – interest rate $KS_{IT}$ – capital supply $TKT_{IT}$ – effective corporation tax rate $CTAXTOT_T$ – total corporation tax revenue
Foreign Debt	
$DEBT_T = (1 + IR - GINT_0)DEBT_{T-1} + BALPAY_{T-1}$ <b>(B31)</b> <u>In first period only:</u> $DEBT_T = DEBT_0$ <b>(B32)</b> <u>In final period only:</u> $-(IR - GINT_0)DEBT_T = BALPAY_T$ <b>(B33)</b>	$DEBT_T$ – foreign debt $IR$ – interest rate $GINT_0$ – variable in CALIB model $DEBT_0$ – base year debt $BALPAY_T$ – balance of payments
Prices, Wages and Balance of Payments	
$P_{IT}^M = \varepsilon_T P_I^{WM}(1 + MTAX_I)$ <b>(B34)</b> $P_{JT}^Y = \left[ \frac{P_{JT}^R(1 - BTAX_J - SUB_J)}{-\sum_I P_{JT}^Q CV_{IJ} \sigma_J^Z - P_{JT}^M CMT_J} \right] \frac{1}{CY_J \sigma_J^Z}$ <b>(B35)</b> $UCK_T = P_T^{INV}(IR + \delta)$ <b>(B36)</b> $P_T^{CON} = \frac{\sum_I P_{IT}^Q Q_{I0}^H}{\sum_I P_{I0}^Q Q_{I0}^H}$ <b>(B37)</b> $CPI_T = \frac{\sum_I P_{IT}^Q Q_{I0}^H}{\sum_I Q_{I0}^H}$	$P_{IT}^M$ – import price $P_I^{WM}$ – world import price $MTAX_I$ – import tax rate $\varepsilon_T$ – exchange rate $P_{JT}^Y$ – value added price $CY_J$ – calibrated coefficient for a unit of output $\sigma_J^Z$ – elasticity of substitution between value added and composite good $P_{JT}^R$ – national output price $P_{JT}^M$ – ROW output price



<p>(B38)</p> $WHG_T = \frac{WHN_T}{(1 - LABTAX_R)}$	<p><math>Q_{IT}^H</math> – household consumption</p> <p><math>P_{JT}^Q</math> – composite good price</p>
<p>(B39)</p> $WF_T = WHG_T(1 + LABTAX_R)$	<p><math>CV_{IJ}</math> – calibrated coefficient for intermediate inputs</p> <p><math>CMT_J</math> – share of import tariffs of total production</p>
<p>(B40)</p> $P_{IT}^E = \varepsilon_T P_I^{WE}(1 - TE_I)$	<p><math>BTAX_J</math> – indirect business tax rate</p> <p><math>SUB_J</math> – subsidy rate</p>
<p>(B41)</p> $P_{IT}^X = \frac{P_{IT}^R R_{IT} + E_{IT} P_{IT}^E}{R_{IT} + E_{IT}}$	<p><math>WF_T</math> – firms' labour cost (before tax)</p> <p><math>CPI_T</math> – consumer price index</p>
<p>(B42)</p> $P_{JT}^Q = \frac{R_{JT} P_{JT}^R + P_{JT}^M M_{JT}}{R_{JT} + M_{JT}}$	<p><math>UCK_T</math> – user cost of capital</p> <p><math>P_T^{INV}</math> – price of investment good</p>
<p>(B43)</p> $BALPAY_T = \sum_I M_{IT} + SAM_{ROW, Firms} + SAM_{ROW, Gov} - \left( \sum_{FINS} SAM_{Tur, FINS} + \sum_I E_{IT} + \sum_{FINS} SAM_{Gov, FINS} \varepsilon_T + \sum_{DNGINS, FINS} SAM_{DNGINS, FINS} \varepsilon_T \right)$	<p><math>IR</math> – interest rate</p> <p><math>\delta</math> – depreciation rate</p> <p><math>R_{JT}</math> – domestic good</p> <p><math>P_{JT}^R</math> – domestic good price</p> <p><math>R_{JT}</math> – imports good</p> <p><math>P_{JT}^M</math> – import good price</p>
<p>(B44)</p>	<p><math>P_T^{CON}</math> – household consumption price</p> <p><math>Q_{IH}^{0H}</math> – household consumption</p> <p><math>WHG_T</math> – household gross wage</p> <p><math>WHN_T</math> – household net wage</p> <p><math>LABTAX_R</math> – effective direct labour tax rates by type</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^E</math> – export price</p> <p><math>P_I^{WE}</math> – world export price</p> <p><math>TE_I</math> – export tax rate (=0)</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^X</math> – gross output price</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^R</math> – domestic good price</p> <p><math>R_{IT}</math> – domestic good</p> <p><math>E_{IT}</math> – export</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^E</math> – price of export</p>

	<p><math>BALPAY_T</math> – balance of payments</p> <p><math>SAM</math> – values as given in the SAM</p> <p><math>FINS</math> – foreign institutions</p> <p><math>TUR</math> – tourism</p> <p><math>DNGINS</math> – domestic non-government institutions</p>
<b>Household Consumption</b>	
<p><math display="block">U = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{1+\rho} \right)^t \frac{C_T^{1-\sigma}-1}{1-\sigma}</math></p> <p>(B45)</p> <p><math display="block">\frac{C_T}{C_{T+1}} = \left[ \frac{P_T^{CON}(1+\rho)}{P_{T+1}^{CON}(1+r)} \right]^{-\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}\right)}</math></p> <p>(B46)</p> <p><math display="block">Q_{IT}^H = HDEL_I \left[ \frac{P_T^{CON}}{P_{IT}^Q} \right]^{SIGINV} C_T</math></p> <p>(B47)</p> <p><math display="block">Q_{IT}^H = \gamma_I^{QH} \left[ \delta_I^{QHR} Q_{IT}^{HR \rho_I^H} + \delta_I^{QHM} Q_{IT}^{HM \rho_I^H} \right]^{\frac{1}{\rho_I^H}}</math></p> <p>(B48)</p> <p><math display="block">Q_{IT}^{HR} = Q_{IT}^{HI} \left[ \frac{\delta_I^{QHR}}{\delta_I^{QHI}} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_I^H}}</math></p> <p>(B49)</p>	<p><math>U</math> – household and other domestic institutions</p> <p><math>\rho</math> – rate of time preference</p> <p><math>r</math> – interest rate</p> <p><math>\sigma</math> – Constant elasticity of marginal utility</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^H</math> – household consumption by sector</p> <p><math>HDEL_I</math> – consumption share</p> <p><math>P_T^{CON}</math> – consumption price</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^Q</math> – composite price</p> <p><math>SIGINV</math> – elasticity of substitution (0.3)</p> <p><math>C_T</math> – total household consumption</p> <p><math>\gamma_I^{QH}</math> – shift parameter</p> <p><math>\delta_I^{QHM}, \delta_I^{QHI}, \delta_I^{QHR}</math> – share parameters</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{HM}</math> – household consumption of imports</p> <p><math>\rho_I^H</math> – elasticity</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{HR}</math> – domestic household consumption</p>
<b>Government Expenditure and Revenues</b>	
<p><math>GEXP_T = GEXP_0</math></p> <p>(B50)</p> <p><math display="block">GOVBAL_T = (GEXP_T P_T^{Gov} + SAM_{Firms, Gov} CPI_T + TRH_T CPI_T + SAM_{KFOR, Gov} + SAM_{ROW, Gov}) - (DSHR_{Gov} KY_T + \sum_I IBT_{IT} + \sum_I IMT_{IT} + HTAX_T + ETAX_T + CTAXTOT_T + \sum_I SUBSY_{IT})</math></p> <p>(B51)</p> <p><math display="block">P_T^{Gov} BF_T = \left[ 1 + IR - DIN + \left( \frac{CPI_T}{CPI_{T-1}} - 1 \right) \right] P_{T-1}^{Gov} BF_{T-1} + GOVBAL_{T-1}</math></p>	<p><math>DHSR_{Gov}</math> – capital share of government</p> <p><math>KY_T</math> – capital income</p> <p><math>\sum_I IBT_{IT}</math> – indirect business tax revenues</p> <p><math>CPI_T</math> – consumer price index</p> <p><math>\sum_I IMT_{IT}</math> – import tax revenues (= 0)</p> <p><math>HTAX_T</math> – household tax revenues</p> <p><math>ETAX_T</math> – firm tax revenues (excl. CT)</p>

<p><b>(B52)</b></p> <p><u>In first period only:</u></p> $BF_T = BF_0$ <p><b>(B53)</b></p> <p><u>In final period only:</u></p> $-(IR - DIN)BF_T = GOVBAL_T$ <p><b>(B54)</b></p> $Q_{IT}^G = GDEL_I GEXP_T$ <p><b>(B55)</b></p> $Q_{IT}^{GM} = Q_{I0}^{GM}$ <p><b>(B56)</b></p> $Q_{IT}^{GR} = Q_{I0}^G - Q_{I0}^{GM}$ <p><b>(B57)</b></p> $P_T^{GOV} = \frac{\sum_I P_{IT}^Q Q_{I0}^G}{\sum_I P_{I0}^Q Q_{I0}^G}$ <p><b>(B58)</b></p>	<p><math>CTAXTOT_T</math> – CT revenues</p> <p><math>\sum_I SUBSY_{IT}</math> – subsidies</p> <p><math>GOVBAL_T</math> – government deficit</p> <p><math>SAM</math> – values as given in the SAM</p> <p><math>GEXP</math> – current government spending</p> <p><math>P_T^{GOV}</math> – government price index</p> <p><math>TRH</math> - transfers to households</p> <p><math>BF_T</math> – gov. borrowing</p> <p><math>IR</math> – interest rate</p> <p><math>DIN</math> – calibrated variable</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^G</math> – government consumption</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{GR}</math> – government domestic consumption</p> <p><math>GDEL_I</math> – consumption share</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{GM}</math> - imports by government (= 0)</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^Q</math> – composite price</p> <p><math>SAM</math> – values as given in the SAM</p> <p><math>Q_{I0}^{GM}</math> – imports by government</p> <p><math>Q_{I0}^G</math> – government consumption</p>
<b>Investment “Demand” (investment by sector of origin)</b>	
<p><math>Q_{IT}^V = \sum_J KMATRIX_{IJ} JINV_{JT}</math></p> <p><b>(B59)</b></p> $Q_{IT}^V = \gamma_I^{QV} \left[ \delta_I^{QM} (Q_{IT}^{VM})^{\rho_I^V} + \delta_I^{QVR} (Q_{IT}^{VR})^{\rho_I^V} \right]^{\frac{1}{\rho_I^V}}$ <p><b>(B60)</b></p> $Q_{IT}^{VM} = Q_{IT}^{VR} \left[ \frac{\delta_I^{QM} P_{IT}^R}{\delta_I^{QVR} P_{IT}^M} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_I^V}}$ <p><b>(B61)</b></p> $Q_{IT}^{VR} = Q_{IT}^{VI} \left( \frac{\delta_I^{QVR} P_{IT}^R}{\delta_I^{QVT} P_{IT}^X} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_I^V}}$ <p><b>(B62)</b></p>	<p><math>Q_{IT}^V</math> – investment demand by sector</p> <p><math>KMATRIX_{IJ}</math> – parameter linking investment by destination and origin</p> <p><math>JINV_{JT}</math> – Investment by destination (incl. adjustment costs and tax credits)</p> <p><math>\gamma_I^{QV}</math> – shift parameter</p> <p><math>\delta_I^{QM} \delta_I^{QVR}</math> – share parameters</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{VM}</math> – imported investment</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^R</math> – domestic price</p> <p><math>P_{IT}^M</math> – export price</p> <p><math>Q_{IT}^{VR}</math> – domestic investment</p>

	$P_{IT}^X$ – gross output price $\delta_I^{QV}$ – share parameter $\rho_I^V$ – share parameter
<b>Investment and Capital Accumulation</b>	
$KST_{JT} = \left( \frac{EK_{JT}^{\rho_J^Y} \alpha_J P_{JT}^Y}{UCK_T} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\rho_J^Y}} Y_{JT}$ <p>(B63)</p> $JINV_{IT} = IND_{IT} (1 - BOP_{0I} + COP_{0I} - TAXC_I + \frac{ADJ}{2} \frac{IND_{IT}^2}{KS_{IT}})$ <p>(B64)</p> $PINV_T = \frac{\sum_{IJ} PQ_{JT} (1 - TKT_{IT})^{-1} KMATRIX_{IJ}}{\sum_{IJ} PQ_{J0} (1 - TK_I)^{-1} KMATRIX_{IJ}}$ <p>(B65)</p>	$IND_{IT}$ – (net) investment $KS_{IT}$ – capital supply $KST_{IT}$ – desired level of capital stock $JINV_{JT}$ – investment by destination $BOP_{0I}$ – calibrated parameter (rate of distortion or incentive to invest) $COP_{0I}$ – calibrated parameter $TAXC_I$ – rate of tax credit to investment $ADJ$ – cost parameter $PQ_{JT}$ – composite price $KMATRIX_{IJ}$ – parameter linking investment by destination and origin $PINV_T$ – price of investment $TKT_{IT}, TK_I$ – effective CT rate $EK_{IT}$ – capital augmenting technical change $\alpha_J$ – CES parameter for capital $\rho_J^Y$ – elasticity of substitution between labour and capital $P_{JT}^Y$ – value added price $UCK_T$ – user cost of capital $Y_{JT}$ – value added
<b>Labour Market Closures</b>	
<p><u>Bargained real wage:</u></p> $\ln(rw_{zt}) = \beta - \epsilon_z \ln(un_{zt})$ <p>(B66)</p> <p><u>Fixed nominal wage:</u></p>	$WHN_T$ – household wage after tax $CPI_T$ – price level $\beta$ – calibrated parameter (based on real wage and unemployment in base) $WHG_T$ – gross household wage

$WHG_T = WHG_0$ <b>(B67)</b> <u>Real Wage Resistance:</u> $\frac{WHN_T}{CPI_T} = \frac{WHN_0}{CPI_0}$ <b>(B68)</b>	$\varepsilon_z$ – unemployment rate elasticity $rw_{zt}$ – Real wage after tax by labour type z $un_{zt}$ – Unemployment rate by labour type
<b>Capital Market Equilibrium</b>	
$KS_{IT} = KD_{IT}$ <b>(B69)</b> <u>In first period only:</u> $KS_{IT} = KS_{0I}$ <b>(B70)</b> <u>In final period only:</u> $KS_{IT}\delta = IND_{IT}$ <b>(B71)</b> $IND_{IT} = \tau[KST_{IT} - KS_{IT}] + \delta KS_{IT}$ <b>(B72)</b>	$KS_{IT}$ – capital supply $KD_{IT}$ – capital demand $\delta$ – depreciation of physical capital $IND_{IT}$ – investment by sector of destination $KST_{IT}$ – desired level of capital stock $\tau$ – Speed of adjustment parameter
<b>Labour Supply</b>	
$LSU_T(1 - UNU_T) = \sum_J LDU_{JT}$ <b>(B73)</b> $LSS_T(1 - UNS_T) = \sum_J LDS_{JT}$ <b>(B74)</b> $LSU_T = LSU_{T=0}$ <b>(B75)</b> $LSS_T = LSS_{T=0}$ <b>(B76)</b> $LS_T = LSU_T + LSS_T$ <b>(B76)</b>	$LSU_T$ – labour supply unskilled $LDU_{JT}$ – labour demand unskilled $UNU_T$ – unemployment rate unskilled $LSS_T$ – labour supply skilled $LDS_{JT}$ – labour demand skilled $UNS_T$ – unemployment rate skilled $LS_T$ – labour supply total

**Appendix C:** Long-run effects at the individual sector level of a 15% decrease in intermediates-use in the Construction sector. Bargained real wage closure. Values are % changes from base year.

	Output	Invest- ment	Total employ- ment	Employ- ment skilled	Employ- ment Unskilled	Exports
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	0.39	1.49	0.51	0.43	0.52	0.59
Mining	-1.25	-2.78	-1.23	-1.26	-1.22	0.62
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	0.37	1.84	0.51	0.49	0.53	0.61
Textiles, Wood, Paper & Printing	-0.14	0.39	-0.02	-0.04	0.00	0.65
Chemicals	0.40	1.31	0.54	0.52	0.55	0.58
Rubber & Plastics	-0.47	-0.97	-0.37	-0.39	-0.36	0.72
Other Non-Metallic Mineral	-3.09	-7.06	-3.03	-3.06	-3.02	0.67
Metals	-1.61	-4.23	-1.52	-1.54	-1.50	0.70
Machinery	0.67	2.27	0.79	0.77	0.81	0.74
Electrical Equipment	0.09	1.08	0.21	0.18	0.22	0.67
Transport Equipment	0.81	3.52	0.96	0.94	0.97	0.59
Manufacturing	0.21	1.03	0.34	0.31	0.35	0.65
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	-1.01	-3.96	-0.93	-0.94	-0.91	0.60
Construction	-1.34	-6.40	-1.23	-1.28	-1.22	0.49
Wholesale & Retail Trade	-0.32	-0.69	-0.23	-0.25	-0.22	0.91
Hotels & Restaurants	0.19	0.90	0.31	0.28	0.33	0.71
Transport	-0.19	0.46	-0.08	-0.11	-0.07	0.73
Post and Telecommunications	-0.07	0.42	0.04	0.02	0.06	0.74
Financial Intermediation	-0.38	-0.59	-0.28	-0.29	-0.26	0.71
Real Estate Activities	-0.43	-1.29	-0.30	-0.31	-0.29	0.45
Other Business Activities	-0.50	-1.97	-0.40	-0.41	-0.38	0.72
Public Admin and Defence	-0.26	-1.15	-0.19	-0.20	-0.17	1.09
Education	0.01	0.14	0.07	0.06	0.08	1.12
Health & Social Work	-0.03	-0.02	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.96
Social & Personal Services	0.10	1.39	0.22	0.20	0.24	0.69

**Appendix D:** Long-run effects at the individual sector level of a 15% decrease in intermediates-use in the Construction sector. Fixed nominal wage closure. Values are % changes from base year.

	Output	Invest- ment	Total employ- ment	Employ- ment skilled	Employ- ment Unskilled	Exports
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	-0.22	1.26	-0.21	-0.21	-0.21	-
Mining	-1.90	-3.15	-2.06	-2.06	-2.06	-
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	-0.17	1.42	-0.18	-0.18	-0.18	-
Textiles, Wood, Paper & Printing	-0.93	-0.33	-0.96	-0.96	-0.96	-
Chemicals	-0.40	1.09	-0.41	-0.41	-0.41	-
Rubber & Plastics	-1.06	-1.41	-1.10	-1.10	-1.10	-
Other Non-Metallic Mineral	-4.10	-7.74	-4.19	-4.19	-4.19	-
Metals	-2.68	-5.12	-2.72	-2.72	-2.72	-
Machinery	-0.33	1.54	-0.34	-0.34	-0.34	-
Electrical Equipment	-0.83	0.09	-0.85	-0.85	-0.85	-
Transport Equipment	-0.07	2.72	-0.07	-0.07	-0.07	-
Manufacturing	-0.51	0.42	-0.53	-0.53	-0.53	-
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	-1.65	-4.52	-1.72	-1.72	-1.72	-
Construction	-2.64	-9.61	-2.70	-2.70	-2.70	-
Wholesale & Retail Trade	-1.16	-1.78	-1.17	-1.17	-1.17	-
Hotels and Restaurants	-0.37	0.41	-0.39	-0.39	-0.39	-
Transport	-1.00	-0.50	-1.03	-1.03	-1.03	-
Post and Telecommunications	-0.71	-0.11	-0.74	-0.74	-0.74	-
Financial Intermediation	-0.99	-1.06	-1.02	-1.02	-1.02	-
Real Estate Activities	-0.90	-1.75	-0.94	-0.94	-0.94	-
Other Business Activities	-1.56	-5.28	-1.59	-1.59	-1.59	-
Public Admin & Defence	-0.39	-0.94	-0.40	-0.40	-0.40	-
Education	-0.12	0.39	-0.12	-0.12	-0.12	-
Health & Social Work	-0.07	0.62	-0.07	-0.07	-0.07	-
Social & Personal Services	-0.40	0.72	-0.41	-0.41	-0.41	-

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