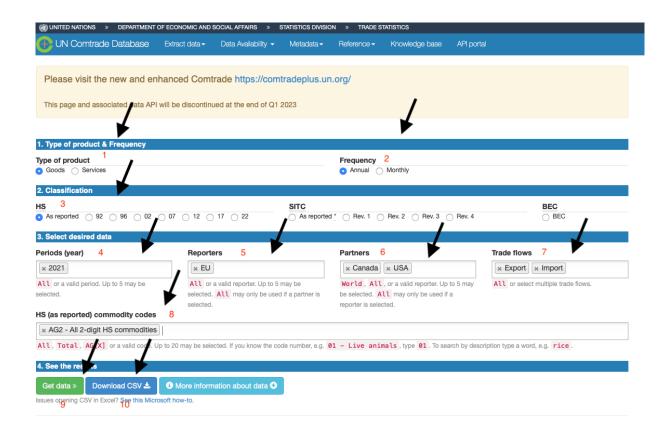
## Steps to download Comtrade data

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December 2022

To work with aggregated trade data at country level one can download the detailed trade flows from <u>The United Nations Comtrade database</u>. It contains aggregated annual and monthly statistics by product and trading partner (countries). It covers 200 countries and represents +99% of the world's merchandise trade.

There are several ways to download the information but I choose the one offered in the website (<a href="https://comtrade.un.org/data">https://comtrade.un.org/data</a>), following these steps:



- 1. Restrict the data to only goods.
- 2. Yearly data to exploit shocks (Free Trade Agreement FTA) that occur in a given year.
- 3. Select the product-classification system. Choose the standard Harmonised System (HS) "as reported". This system assigns a six-digits code to each commodity group that is traded. The first two digits are the "chapter" of the catalogue (e.g.: 01 = "live animals."). The following two digits correspond to the "heading" within the chapter (e.g.: 01.01 = "live horses, asses, mules and hinnies."). The last two digits correspond to the sub-heading within the heading (e.g.: 01.01.10 = "pure breeding animals."). Choose the first 2 digits (HS 2) in option #8, that corresponds to the product-**sector**. HS is revised every 5 years (1992, 1997, 2002, 2007,

- 2012, 2017, 2022), meaning that HS codes need to be standardised across years. HS revisions affect mostly HS-6. Therefore, download HS code as reported (without standardise the codes to a specific year).
- 4. Download the series from 2000-2021. There are some downloading restrictions (e.g.: no more than 5 years). Downloading each year individually will avoid technical issues.
- 5. Country reporting the trade: EU
- 6. Partner countries: Australia, Canada, India, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Rep. of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Turkey, USA.
- 7. Trade flows: Exports for simplicity
- 8. 2-digits HS
- 9. Visualise the data
- 10. Download the data (csv format)

The next step is to save the 22 files generated into the same folder called "COMTRADE" in your PC.

