The aim of these exercises is to learn how to run ETMOD, produce micro-output, practice how to use the Statistics Presenter tool, modify existing policies, and implement new policies.

Exercise 1: Running ETMOD and producing summary statistics.

The aim of this exercise is to learn how to run ETMOD, produce micro-output and learn how to use the Statistics Presenter tool.

Tasks:

- 1. Run ETMOD for 2021 and 2022 policy systems.
- 2. Use the Statistics Presenter Tool to generate government revenue and expenditure and summaries of income distributions using consumption and income approaches.

Solution and further information

Task 1: Producing micro-output for 2021 and 2022 systems

When we open SOUTHMOD, the tab in the ribbon bar – Countries, will be automatically shown (Figure 1.1), by clicking on Ethiopian flag we can open the Ethiopian tax-benefit model.

Figure 1.1

• •	*						
	Countries	Display	Country Tools	Administration Tools	Add-Ons	Applications	Help & Info
Ð		-					
Run	ET	-					
SOUTHMOD							

We can start the process to run the model pressing the "Run SOUTHMOD" button in the Countries tab (Figure 1.2).

Figure 1.2



Then SOUTHMOD will automatically bring up a dialogue box displaying existing policy systems in ETMOD with available datasets - the best-match data (Figure 1.3). We produce output files by selecting the 2021 and 2022 systems and clicking on the corresponding boxes. Finally, click the "Run" button in the dialogue box.

Figure 1.3

¢	- -		1	Run SOUTHMOD	S=6	\times
	Main	View / Filt	er / Add-Ons	Advanced Settings		
[-	Cou	ntries O C	Countries		
		š≣ Sys	tems OS	Systems		
	ET	Add	-ons OA	Run Add-ons		
iele	ect countr	ies Select	all / Unsele	ct all		
Γ	Run	Country	System	Dataset		
		ET	ET_2014	et_2014_a4 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2015	et_2014_a4 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2016	et_2016_a5 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2017	et_2016_a5 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2018	et_2016_a5 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2019	et_2019_a2 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2020	et_2019_a2 (Best Match)	~	
		ET	ET_2021	et_2019_a2 (Best Match)	\sim	
		ET	ET_2022	et_2019_a2 (Best Match)	~	

While running, ETMOD will indicate progress as well as the selected systems and chosen data sets (Figure 1.4). If you want to see "line by line" progress, you should simply click on the Run Log button and each process will be shown in the square below. If you want to stop processing before finishing (e.g. in case you have chosen the wrong systems/datasets), you only need to press Stop button. If there is any error/warning, it stops processing, and the error message will be shown. If the run was without any errors/warnings, Status will be changed from running to finished.

Figure 1.4

Configuration	Status	Time	Show		Stop
et_2019_a2 (ET_2021); POV=off;TOT=off;FYA=on;	running		Run Log	Error Log	Stop
et_2019_a2 (ET_2022): POV=off:TOT=off;FYA=on;	running		Run Log	Error Log	Stop
t_2019_a2 (ET_2021); POV=off:TOT=off:FYA T_2021 parameters read Si059 definitions read from the Variables file Siobal parameters read arameters checked and prepared t_2019_a2.txt: 147 variables for 6,770 households (28.7 Sequence of calculations prepared Running spine 1/10 Running spine 2/10 Running spine 4/10 Running spine 5/10	19 individuals)	read - largest household (idh	h '5,723) had 19 members		

Task 2: Producing summary statistics

After running ETMOD, the output files are stored in the Output folder (if you have not specified it differently). The Statistics Presenter tool will use these outputs, so it is very important to check your systems are running without any errors and warnings.

To access the Statistics Presenter Plug-in, you should go to the tab Applications, press EUROMOD Statistics and click on the Statistics Presenter Plug-In button to launch the tool (Figure 1.5).

Figure 1.5

Image: Countries Display Country Tools Add-Ons Applications Help & Info Image: Country Tools Image: Country Tools Add-Ons Applications Help & Info	Statistics Presenter - Select Template
Open Output Polcy Macrovaldation ELROMOD Statistics Hypothetical Household SouTHMOD plugnst View Statistics File View Statistics View Statisti	Statistics Presenter Please select a Statistic Template
15.2.7 15.2.7 15.2.3 15.2.4 15.2.5 16 17 18	Southmod Statistics - Default V OK Cancel

In the dialogue box (Figure 1.5), default statistic appears as the first option. It presents relevant figures on the selected system. An interested person can explore the difference between selected systems just by switching to Baseline/ Reform statistics in the drop-down menu.

An output path is automatically suggested by clicking "Ok" in Figure 1.5. One can easily choose the output file by clicking on it; in our case, select 2021 and 2022 policy systems. To select multiple files, hold ctrl or shift and then click on the files. For the exercise, choose et_2021_std.txt and et_2022_std.txt. Then click "Ok"; a new window will appear that allows the user to fix either income or consumption-based measures. Finally, click the "OK" option to get the result.

As shown in Figure 1.6, the Statistics Presenter tool displays one sheet (2021 system) at a time. Navigate to "Poverty" and "Inequality" tabs to see the respective numbers. Go through to "ET_2022" to view government tax revenue and expenditure on social transfer, poverty, and inequality based on 2022's system.

Figure 1.6

Southmod Statistics - Default Results for Ethiopia 2021	8
Tax-ben policy Poverty Inequality	
Tax-benefit policy 😧	
Yearly, mill. national currency	
	Total
Government revenue through taxes, SSC and indirect taxes	246,330.20
direct taxes	68,632.20
indirect taxes	131,958.10
social security contributions (employer, employee and self-employed (if applicable))	45,739.91
Government expenditure on social transfers	24,898.90
child benefits	2,833.23
social assistance	16,509.57
orphan/widow benefits	0.00
disabled benefits	0.00
unemployment benefits	0.00
pension benefits	5,556.09

Exercise 2: Modify the existing personal income tax policy on 2020 policy system.

Tasks:

- 1. Decrease the second and third bands' tax rates from 10% and 15% to 8% and 12%, respectively.
- 2. Increase the monthly tax exemption threshold (Upper limit of first income tax bracket) from 600 to 1300 ETB.

Solution and further information

Task 1: Decrease the second and third bands' tax rates from 10% and 15% to 8% and 12%, respectively.

First copy the 2020 system and rename it as "ET_2020_reform1". Then navigate to spine number 14.1 (DefConst function), under "tin_et" policy. Then change the tax rates in spine 14.1.2 and 14.1.3 as shown in Figure 2.1 by modifying the tax rates to 8% and 12%, respectively.

Figure	1 .	1
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	Policy		Grp/No	ET_2014	ET_2015	ET_2016	ET_2017	ET_2018	ET_2019	ET_2020	ET_2020_reform1
14	🔹 🔵 tinj	et		on							
14.1	+ fx	- fx DefConst		on							
14.1.1		\$it_rate1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.1.2		\$it_rate2	2	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.08
14.1.3		\$it_rate3	3	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.12
14.1.4	-	\$it_rate4	4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
14.1.5	-	\$it_rate5	5	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
14.1.6		\$it_rate6	6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
14.1.7		\$it_rate7	7	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35

Task 2: Increase the monthly tax exemption threshold (Upper limit of first income tax bracket) from 600 to 1300 ETB.

Open spine 14.2 and 14.4 to change the tax schedule for employment and business profit tax. This can be done by replacing the existing exemption threshold (600) to 1300. This activity has been demonstrated in Figure 2.2.

|--|

	Policy		Grp/No	ET_2014	ET_2015	ET_2016	ET_2017	ET_2018	ET_2019	ET_2020	ET_2020_reform1
14.2	+ fx	SchedCalc		on							
14.2.1		Base		yem							
14.2.2		Band_Rate	1	\$it_rate1							
14.2.3		Band_UpLim	1	150#m	150#m	150#m	600#m	600#m	600#m	600#m	1300#m
14.2.4		Band_Rate	2	\$it_rate2							
14.2.5		Band_UpLim	2	650#m	650#m	650#m	1650#m	1650#m	1650#m	1650#m	1650#m
14.2.6		Band_Rate	3	\$it_rate3							
14.2.7		Band_UpLim	3	1400#m	1400#m	1400#m	3200#m	3200#m	3200#m	3200#m	3200#m
14.2.8		Band_Rate	4	\$it_rate4							
14.2.9		Band_UpLim	4	2350#m	2350#m	2350#m	5250#m	5250#m	5250#m	5250#m	5250#m
14.2.10		Band_Rate	5	\$it_rate5							
14.2.11		Band_UpLim	5	3550#m	3550#m	3550#m	7800#m	7800#m	7800#m	7800#m	7800#m
14.2.12		Band_Rate	6	\$it_rate6							
14.2.13		Band_UpLim	6	5000#m	5000#m	5000#m	10900#m	10900#m	10900#m	10900#m	10900#m
14.2.14		Band_Rate	7	\$it_rate7							
14.2.15		Output_Var		tin01_s							
14.2.16		TAX_UNIT		tu_individu	tu_individual_et						
14.3)⊧ fx	BenCalc		on							
14.4	⊤ fx	SchedCalc		on							
14.4.1		Base		yse - tscer_s							
14.4.2		Band_Rate	1	\$it_rate1							
14.4.3		Band_UpLim	1	150#m	150#m	150#m	600#m	600#m	600#m	600#m	1300#m

Exercise 3: Introduce a categorical benefit policy on 2021 policy system.

Tasks:

1. Implement system that offers a monthly 120 ETB to children below 15 and 100 ETB for old age above 65.

Solution and further information

Start by creating a new policy system based on the 2021 system and call it as "ET_2021_bchoa". Then add new benefit policy called "bchoa_et" after "tva_et" policy. Then add "Cash transfer for children and old age" as description of the new benefit policy in the Comment column. Add "DefConst" function with two "placeholder" parameters, rename each to \$i_child and \$i_old_age. Then input the proposed benefit amounts.

Add "DefVar" with one "placeholder" parameters, rename it to "bchoa_s". The initialized output variable for categorical benefit takes zero value in the beginning.

Every switch under new policy should be "ON". The above procedures have been shown in Figure 3.1.

	Po	Policy			Grp/No	ET_2020	ET_2020_reform1	ET_2021	ET_2021_bchoa	ET_2022	Comment				
14	÷	•	tin_et tva_et bchoa_et			on	on	on	on	on	TAX: Income tax				
15	+	•			tva_et		tva_et			on	on	on	on	on	TAX: Value added tax (VAT)
16		•			ichoa_et n/a n/a n/a on		n/a	BEN:Cash transfer for children and old age							
16.1		*				n/a	n/a	n/a	on	n/a					
16.1.1				\$i_child	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	120#m	ı/a					
16.1.2				\$i_old_age	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	100#m	i/a					
16.2					n/a	n/a	n/a	on	n/a						
16.2.1						bchoa_s	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a			

Figure 2.1

The task can be finalized by assigning the categorical benefit amount for individuals who satisfy the eligibility criteria using BenCalc function, it is demonstrated in Figure 3.2.

	Po	Policy			Grp/No	ET_2020	ET_2020_reform1	ET_2021	ET_2021_bchoa	ET_2022
14	Þ	•	tin_	et		on	on	on	on	on
15	÷	•	tva_	et		on	on	on	on	on
16		•	bcho	oa_et		n/a	n/a	n/a	on	n/a
16.1		-	fx D	efConst		n/a	n/a	n/a	on	n/a
16.1.1				\$i_child	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	120#m	n/a
16.1.2				\$i_old_age	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	100#m	n/a
16.2		-	fx D	efVar		n/a	n/a	n/a	on	n/a
16.2.1				bchoa_s	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
16.3		-	fx B	enCalc		n/a	n/a	n/a	on	n/a
16.3.1				Comp_Cond	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	dag < 15	n/a
16.3.2				Comp_perElig	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$i_child	n/a
16.3.3				Comp_Cond	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	dag > 65	n/a
16.3.4				Comp_perElig	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$i_old_age	n/a
16.3.5				Output_Var		n/a	n/a	n/a	bchoa_s	n/a
16.3.6				TAX_UNIT		n/a	n/a	n/a	tu_household	n/a

Figure 3.2

Note: The new output variable (bchoa_s) should be added in "ildef_std_et" and "ildef_stats_et" policies; otherwise, the model will not utilize it while calculating disposable income and compiling the distributional indices as well the new variable will not be available in the output micro file. Figure 3.3 and Figure 3.4 present how the new variable can be added into "ildef_std_et" and "ildef_stats_et" income lists, respectively.



	Policy			Grp/No	ET_2020	ET_2020_reform1	ET_2021	ET_2021_bchoa	ET_2022
4	- 0	ild	ef_std_et		on	on	on	on	on
4.1	•	fx	DefI		on	on	on	on	on
4.2	+	fx	DefIl		on	on	on	on	on
4.3	Þ	fx	DefIl		on	on	on	on	on
4.4	Þ	fx	DefI		on	on	on	on	on
4.5	+	fx	Defil		on	on	on	on	on
4.6	+	fx	DefIl		on	on	on	on	on
4.7	+	fx	Defil		on	on	on	on	on
4.8	+	fx	DefIl		on	on	on	on	on
4.9	•	fx	DefIl		on	on	on	on	on
4.10	-	fx	DefI		on	on	on	on	on
4.11	-	fx	DefIl		on	on	on	on	on
4.11.1			Name		ils_ben	ils_ben	ils_ben	ils_ben	ls_ben
4.11.2			ils_pen		+	+	+	+	+
4.11.3			ils_benmt		+	+	+	+	+
4.11.4			ils_bennt		+	+	+	+	+
4.11.5			bchoa_s		n/a	n/a	n/a	+	ı/a

	Policy	Policy Grp			ET_2020	ET_2020_reform1	ET_2021	ET_2021_bchoa	ET_2022	Comment
6	- •	ild	ef_stats_et		on	on	on	on	on	DEF: STATS PRESENTER INCOME
6.1	+	fx	Defil		on	on	on	on	on	Indirect taxes (Statistics Presenter)
6.2	,	fx	Defil		on	on	on	on	on	Social security contributions ("SSC (employer and employee)" in Statistics Presenter)
6.3	,	fx	Defil		on	on	on	on	on	All employee/self-employed National Insurance Contributions (Statistics Presenter)
6.4	+	fx	Defil		on	on	on	on	on	Child benefits (Statistics Presenter)
6.5	-	fx	Defīl		on	on	on	on	on	"Social assistance benefits" in Statistics Presenter
6.5.1			Name		ils_bsa	ils_bsa	ils_bsa	ils_bsa	ils_bsa	
6.5.2			bsaur00_s		+	+	+	+	+	psnp_public works Urban
6.5.3			bsaur01_s		+	+	+	+	+	psnp_direct support Urban
6.5.4			bsaur02_s		+	+	+	+	+	psnp_public works Rural
6.5.5			bsaur03_s		+	+	+	+	+	psnp_direct support Rural
6.5.6			bchoa_s		n/a	n/a	n/a	+	ı/a	

Figure 3.3

Follow steps under exercise 1 to run ETMOD, produce outputs, and analyse the results.

Exercise 4: Introducing Universal basic income on 2022 policy system.

Tasks:

1. Implement a universal basic income benefit program with a monthly 60 ETB for everyone.

Solution and further information

Start by creating a new policy system based on the 2022 system and call it as "ET_2022_bubi". Then add new benefit policy called "bubi_et" after "bchoa_et".

Add "DefVar" with one "placeholder" parameters, rename it to "bubi_s". The initialized output variable for universal basic takes zero value in the beginning.

Every switch under new policy should be "ON". The above procedures have been presented in Figure 4.1.

Figure 4.1

	Policy		Grp/No	ET_2020	ET_2021	ET_2022	ET_2022_bubi	Comment
6	+ •	ildef_stats_et		on	on	on	on	DEF: STATS PRESENTER INCOME LISTS
7	+ •	ildf_exp_et		on	on	on	on	DEF: EXPENDITURE INCOME LISTS (COICOP)
8	+ •	tudef_et		on	on	on	on	DEF: ASSESSMENT UNITS
9	+ •	neg_et		on	on	on	on	DEF: Recording negative income to zero
10	F 0	spl_et		on	on	on	on	INC: Ethiopian Poverty lines
11	+ •	ses_et		on	on	on	on	DEF: Choice of equivalence scale
12		tscee_et		on	on	on	on	SIC: Employee Pension contribution
13	+ •	tscer_et		on	on	on	on	SIC: Employer Pension contribution
14	+ 0	tin_et		on	on	on	on	TAX: Income tax
15	+ •	tva_et		on	on	on	on	TAX: Value added tax (VAT)
16	F . •	bchoa_et		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	BEN:Cash transfer for children and old age
17	- (•	bubi_et		n/a	n/a	n/a	on	BEN: Universal Basic Income
17.1	-	fx DefVar		n/a	n/a	n/a	on	
17.1.1		bubi_s	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	

The universal basic income can be fully implemented in ETMOD by assigning a monthly 65 ETB benefit amount for all individuals without any eligibility criteria using ArithOp function as demonstrated in Figure 4.2.

	Policy			Grp/No	ET_2020	ET_2021	ET_2022	ET_2022_bubi
9	+ •	neg	_et		on	on	on	on
10	F .	spl_	et		on	on	on	on
11	F 🗢	ses	_et		on	on	on	on
12	F .	tsce	ee_et		on	on	on	on
13	F .	tsce	er_et		on	on	on	on
14	+ •	tin_	et		on	on	on	on
15	+ •	tva	_et		on	on	on	on
16	F 0	bch	oa_et		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
17	- •	bub	i_et		n/a	n/a	n/a	on
17.1	-	fx C	DefVar		n/a	n/a	n/a	on
17.1.1			bubi_s	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	0
17.2	-	fx #	ArithOp		n/a	n/a	n/a	on
17.2.1			Formula		n/a	n/a	n/a	65#m
17.2.2			Output_Var		n/a	n/a	n/a	bubi_s
17.2.3			TAX UNIT		n/a	n/a	n/a	tu individual et

Figure 4.2

Note: The new output variable (bubi_s) should be added in "ildef_std_et" and "ildef_stats_et" policies; otherwise, the model will not utilize the simulated benefit while calculating disposable income and compiling the distributional indices as well the new variable will not be available in the output micro file.

Exercise 5: Introduce VAT on some of the exempted consumption Items and implement a much higher VAT rate, on 2019 policy system.

Tasks:

1. Elimination VAT exemption privilege for consumption expenditure on transport service, energy, and financial services and increase the VAT rate from 15% to 18%.

Solution and further information

This exercise enables us to implement an ex-ante policy revision case for VAT policy in Ethiopia by replacing the zero rate with 15% for certain exempted commodities and raising the VAT rate to 18%.

Start by creating a new policy system based on the 2019 system and name it as "ET_2019_vat".

The hypothetical tax reform can be implemented based on the following two steps:

 Expand the non-standard income list policy (ildef_non_std_et). Then open Spine number 5.5. Follow to replace "n/a" by "+" for Spine numbers 5.5.13, 5.5.14, and 5.5.30. The above procedure will permit the model to charge VAT on the consumption of transport, energy, and financial services, shown in Figure 5.1.

Figure 4.1

	Policy	Gr ET_2019	ET_2019_reform2	ET_2020	ET_2021	ET_2022	Comment
5.5	- fx DefIl	on	on	on	on	on	VAT Taxable Expenditure
5.5.1	Name	ils_vat_std	ils_vat_std	ils_vat_std	ils_vat_std	ils_vat_std	
5.5.2	x0111	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	EXPENDITURE : cereals, pulses, and tubers- Vat is not applicable
5.5.3	x0115	+	+	+	+	+	Expenditures : oil
5.5.13	x045	n/a	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	EXPENDITURE :energy (firewood, charcoal, and kerosene) - Vat is not applicable
5.5.14	×07	n/a	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	EXPENDITURE : Transport- Vat is not applicable
5.5.15	x1211	+	+	+	+	+	EXPENDITURE : personal care
5.5.16	x1212	+	+	+	+	+	EXPENDITURE : light (batteies, candels, matches, and lamp)
5.5.22	x043	+	+	+	+	+	Expenditure on repair and mentainance
5.5.23	x044	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Expenditure on water(pipe-borne, metered) - Vat is not applicable
5.5.24	x05621	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Expenditure on domestic workes Vat is not applicable
5.5.25	x061	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Expenditure on Health- Vat is not applicable
5.5.27	×081	+	+	+	+	+	Expenditure on software and communication
5.5.28	x09	+	+	+	+	+	Expenditure on recreation
5.5.29	×10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Expenditure on education- Vat is not applicable
5.5.30	x122	n/a	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	Expenditure on financial services- Vat is not applicable

2. Keep modifying the VAT policy by increasing the legislative VAT rate from 15% to 18% within "tva_et" policy, Figure 5.2 shows the counterfactual change in the indirect tax policy.

Figure 5.2

	Po	Policy		Grp/No ET_2019 ET_2019_reform		ET_2019_reform2	ET_2020	ET_2021	ET_2022	Comment	
10	÷.	•	spl_	et		on	on	on	on	on	INC: Ethiopian Poverty lines
11	×	•	ses	et		on	on	on	on	on	DEF: Choice of equivalence scale
12	Þ	•	tsce	ee_et		on	on	on	on	on	SIC: Employee Pension contribution
13	÷	•	tsce	er_et		on	on	on	on	on	SIC: Employer Pension contribution
14	Þ	•	tin_	et		on	on	on	on	on	TAX: Income tax
15	Ŧ	•	tva	_et		on on		on	on	on	TAX: Value added tax (VAT)
15.1		-	fx [DefConst		on	on	on	on	on	
15.1.1				\$VAT_rate	1	0.15	0.18	0.15	0.15	0.15	VAT rate
15.1.2				\$TOT_goods _rate	2	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	TOT rate on goods
15.1.3				\$TOT_service _rate	3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	TOT rate on services

Exercise 6: Replace the progressive personal tax system with a flat tax regime, on the 2022 policy system.

Tasks:

1. Create a system with 20% and 25% flat tax rates for employment income and selfemployment income, respectively.

Solution and further information

This exercise allows us to ponder counterfactual or an alternative personal income system for Ethiopia.

Start by creating a new policy system based on the 2022 system and call it as "ET_2022_reform3".

We can begin implementing the flat tax system by creating a new policy with the name "tin2_et" immediately after the existing "tin_et" policy. Then we add a DefConst in order to define the flat tax rates for employment (t_flat1) and self-employment income (t_flat2), illustrated in Figure 6.1.

	Policy			Gr	ET_2	ET_2	ET_2	ET_2022	ET_2022_reform3	Comment	
8	Þ	•	tud	lef_et		on	on	on	on	on	DEF: ASSESSMENT UNITS
9	Þ	•	ne	g_et		on	on	on	on	on	DEF: Recording negative income to zero
10	Þ	•	spl	_et		on	on	on	on	on	INC: Ethiopian Poverty
11	ŀ	•	ses_et			on	on	on	on	on	DEF: Choice of equivalence scale
12	•	•	tso	ee_et		on	on	on	on	on	SIC: Employee Pension contribution
13	,	•	tscer_et		on	on	on	on	on	SIC: Employer Pension contribution	
14	+	•	tin_et		on	on	on	on	on	TAX: Income tax	
15	-	•	tin2_et		n/a	/a n/a		n/a	on	TAX: A flat income tax regime	
15.1		-	fx DefConst			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	on	
15.1.1				\$t_flat1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.20	Flat rate for employees
15.1.2				\$t_flat2	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.25	Flat rate for self-employed

Figure 6.1

We use the **BenCalc** functions to uniquely simulate taxes on employment and selfemployment incomes. It is worth mentioning practicality of levying personal income taxes only on formal employment and switching off the existing personal income tax policy **(tin_et** on Spine number 14). In addition, the tax base for self-employment must net off the pension contribution by the employer **(tscer_s)**. The procedure is demonstrated in Figure 6.2.

Figure 6.2

	Policy			Gr	ET_2	ET_2	ET_2	ET_2022	ET_2022_reform3	Comment	
13	+ (• • tscer_et			on	on	on	on	on	SIC: Employer Pension contribution	
14	+ (tin_et		on	on	on	on	off	TAX: Income tax TAX: A flat income tax	
15	- (tin2_et		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	on		
15.1		- 1	fx DefConst		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	on		
15.2	1	- 1	fx BenCalc		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	on	Liability on employment income	
15.2.1			Comp_Cond	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	{lfo=0}	For informal	
15.2.2			Comp_perTU	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0		
15.2.3			Comp_Cond	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	{lfo=1}	for formal	
15.2.4			Comp_perTU	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$t_flat1*yem		
15.2.5			Output_Var		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	tin01_s		
15.2.6			TAX_UNIT		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	tu_individual_et		
15.3	1		🗴 BenCalc		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	on	Liability on self-employment income	
15.3.1			Base		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	yse-tscer_s	Business profit income minus Employer pension contribution	
15.3.2			Comp_Cond	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	{lfo=0}	For informal	
15.3.3			Comp_perTU	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0		
15.3.4			Comp_Cond	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	{lfo=1}	for formal	
15.3.5		Comp_perTU		2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$t_flat2*\$Base		
15.3.6			Output_Var		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	tin02_s		
15.3.7			TAX_UNIT		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	tu_individual_et		

Exercise 7: Model a new benefit policy targeting college students, on the 2020 policy system.

Tasks:

1. The new policy would allow the government to provide monthly 300ETB stipends for university students.

Solution and further information

This exercise informs the budget cost and distributional effect of a counterfactual benefit for students in higher education.

Start by creating a new policy system based on the 2020 system and name it as "ET_2020_bedet".

We begin modelling a hypothetical university student benefit program by creating a new policy with the "**bedet_et**" name after "**bed02_et**" in Spine order. We don't need to initialize the output variable using the **DefVar** function; it is possible to use the default variable name for the benefit of the tertiary student (**bedet_s**), it is already defined in the system (check by navigating into "**Administration Tools**" Ribbons and clicking "**Variables**").

The benefit amount can be allocated to the eligible students using **BenCalc** function, as illustrated in Figure 7.1.

Please refer the DRD file for more information about **dec01** variables, used in **BenCalc** function.

	Policy			Gr	ET_2019	ET_2020	ET_2020_bedet	ET_2021	ET_2022	Comment
19	+ •	bsa	ur03_et		on	on	on	on	on	BEN: Rural PSNP, Direct Support (RPSNP-PW)
20	• •	bed	01_et		n/a	on	on	on	on	BEN: School feeding, KG-Grade 8 students (in kind)
21	+ •	bed	02_et		n/a	on	on	on	on	BEN: School uniform, KG-Grade 12 students (in kind)
22	-6	bed	et_et		n/a	n/a	on	n/a	n/a	BEN: Benefit for
22.1	-	fx B	enCalc		n/a	n/a	on	n/a	n/a	
22.1.1			Comp_C	1	n/a	n/a	dec01 >=5	n/a	n/a	For bachelor, master, and Ph.D students
22.1.2			Comp_p	1	n/a	n/a	300#m	n/a	n/a	
22.1.3			Output		n/a	n/a	bedet_s	n/a	n/a	
22.1.4			TAX_UNIT		n/a	n/a	tu_individual_et	n/a	n/a	

Figure 7.1

Note: The new output variable (bedet_s) should be added in "ildef_std_et" and "ildef_stats_et" policies; otherwise, the model will not utilize the simulated benefit while

calculating disposable income and compiling the distributional indices as well the new variable will not be available in the output micro file.