
Empowerment through openness: the future of energy modelling

Monday, 8 December 2025, 15:00–16:30 (CET)

online

For decades, energy system planning has relied on commercial software. However, such tools can result in lock-in, high costs and reduced transparency. At the same time, for many low- and medium-income countries, increasing license fees and declining financial support from international partners have made continued access to these tools increasingly challenging, potentially slowing Paris-aligned energy transitions.

Open-source modelling frameworks such as PyPSA and OSeMOSYS have now reached a high-level of maturity and are used by leading institutions beyond academia, including ACER, Elia Group, ENTSO-E and TenneT. These models offer a cost-effective, transparent approach to policymaking and benefit from a vibrant global community that fosters innovation and collaboration.

To advance the use of open-source modelling for energy system planning, Agora Energiewende is hosting this event to discuss how open-source tools can strengthen science-based, transparent and robust energy planning. The discussion will be accompanied by the launch of our open-source model builder – PyPSA-SPICE (PyPSA-based Scenario Planning and Integrated Capacity Expansion).

Join us to hear from different high-level representatives on the needs and impact of open-source modelling. Leaders from a range of organisations – from governments, think tanks, academia and philanthropic organisations – will share how the community can best cooperate to build a stronger open-source modelling ecosystem. Building on Agora's long-standing experience connecting modelling with policymaking, this event will explore practical ways to connect the open-source modelling community with policy action.

Registration

Participation at this event is free of charge. You can register by <https://www.agora-energiewende.org/news-events/empowerment-through-openness-the-future-of-energy-modelling>

Recording

We are going to record the event and publish it on our website.

Programme

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- 15:00** **Welcome & Introduction**
Dimitri Pescia, Director Power System Transformation, Agora Energiewende
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- 15:05** **Key-Note: What are open energy models and what can they contribute**
Prof. Dr. Tom Brown, Professor of "Digital Transformation in Energy Systems",
 Technical University of Berlin
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- 15:20** **Panel 1: The need and impact of open-source modelling**
Moderation: Rena Kuwahata, Programme Lead Power Grid Modernisation and
 Electrification, Agora Think Tanks
Prof. Dr. Tom Brown, Professor of "Digital Transformation in Energy Systems",
 Technical University of Berlin
Antonio Lopez-Nicolas, Head of Unit, Unit A.4, DG Energy, European Commission
David Paoella, Research and Analytics, Breakthrough Energy
Tharinya Supasa, Head of Sustainable and Renewable Energy, ASEAN Center for
 Energy
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- 15:45** **Presentation: Introduction to PyPSA-SPICE (Scenario Planning and Integrated
 Capacity Expansion) model builder**
Samarth Kumar, Project Lead Int. Energy Data and Modelling, Agora Think Tanks
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- 16:00** **Panel 2: Building an open source modelling eco-system**
Moderation: Rena Kuwahata, Programme Lead Power Grid Modernisation and
 Electrification, Agora Think Tanks
Vautrin Anthony, Energy Modeller, International Energy Agency
Dr. Martha Maria Frysztacki, Co-founder & Head of Energy System Modelling,
 Open Energy Transition
Matt Grey, CEO & Co-Founder, TransitionZero
Roberto Emilio Hernandez, Director for Energy Policy, Institute for Climate and
 Sustainable Cities (ICSC)
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- 16:25** **Wrap-up and closing remarks**
Dimitri Pescia, Director Power System Transformation, Agora Energiewende
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- 16:30** End of event
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