

Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Modelling Tools Webinar Series 2023

# Introduction to **LEAP**: Low Emissions Analysis Platform

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# SEI's Energy Modeling Program

## Stockholm Environment Institute

- **Bridging science and policy** – an independent, non-profit research institute focused on sustainable development
- Commitment to **stakeholder inclusion, capacity development, and transparency**

## Energy Modeling Program

- Develop the **Low Emissions Analysis Platform (LEAP)** and **Next Energy Modeling system for Optimization (|nemo)**
- Host and administer **leap.sei.org** (> 62,000 members)
- Conduct **modeling, policy analysis, and capacity building projects** in support of climate mitigation, energy planning, and sustainable development



# What is LEAP?

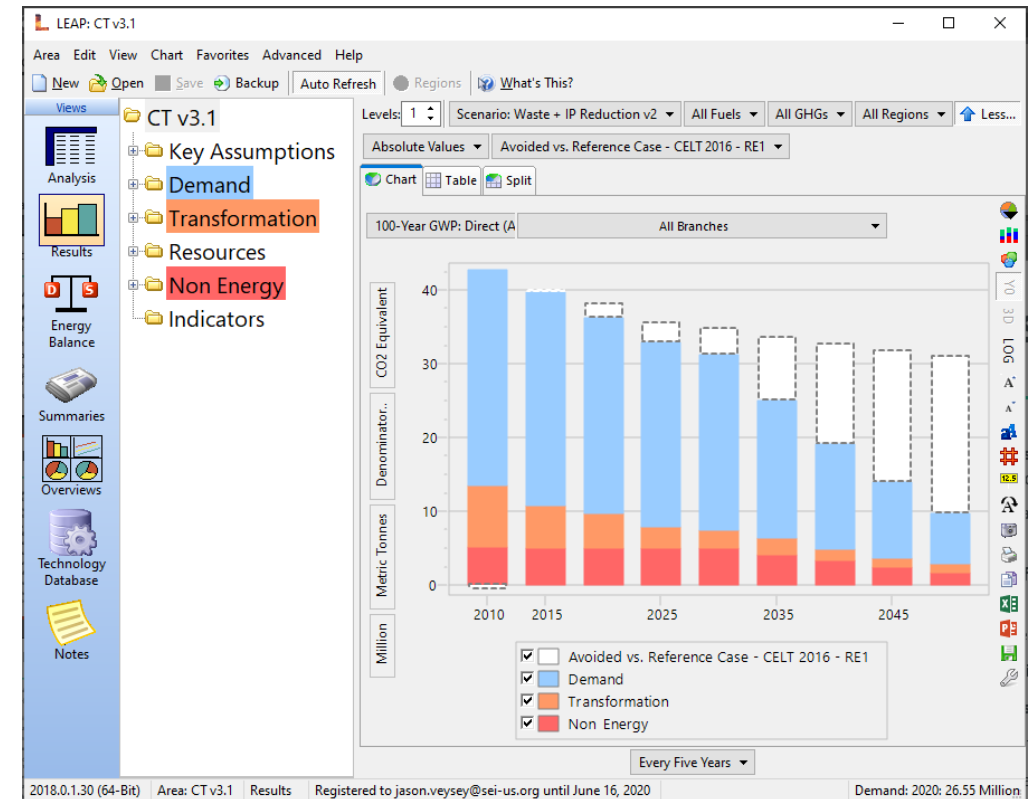
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- A software tool for **quantitative modeling of energy systems, pollutant emissions from energy and non-energy sources, costs and benefits**, and related externalities
- Created by SEI to **support sustainable development**
  - Inform decision making
  - Empower stakeholders to perform their own analyses
- Well-suited to **medium and long-term planning**
- Supports data management and **documentation, visualization** of results, and **stakeholder engagement.**

LEAP is not a model:  
it's a **tool for  
creating models**

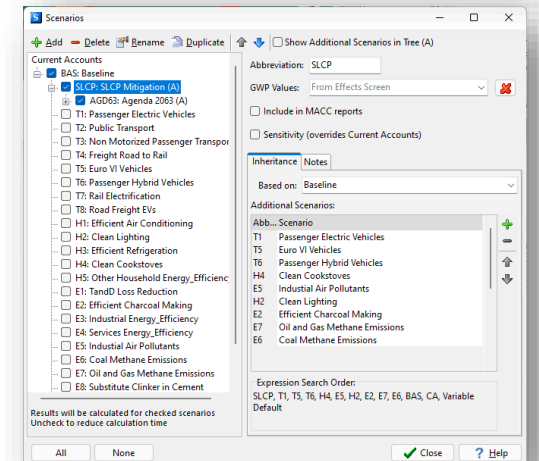
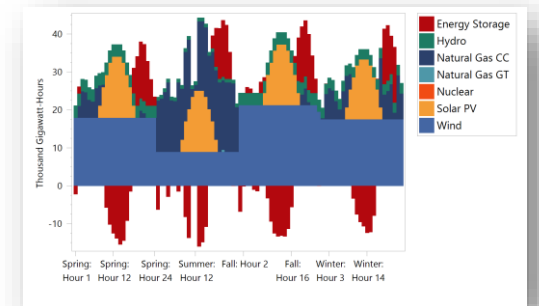
# Key characteristics

- **Scenario-based:** scenarios for different policies, assumptions, analytical questions
- Useful for **modeling at various scales:** national, subnational, regional, global
- **Designed for planners and decision-makers: not just for expert modelers.**
- Focus is on making relatively **complex modeling as easy as possible:**
  - Graphical user interface, powerful visualizations
  - Broad scope, flexible data structures
  - Capable of providing results in data-scarce environments
  - Important also for capacity building in many countries.
- **Regularly updated** with **support** available via the LEAP web forum.
- Comprehensive **training materials** are available on the website and the LEAP YouTube channel.
- Widely used for energy planning, **national communications**, low emission development strategies, SLCP action plans

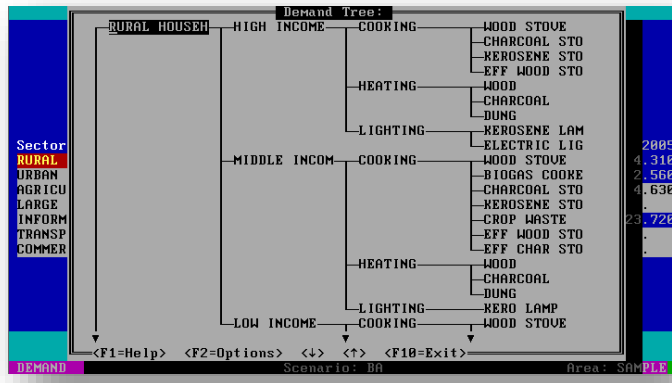
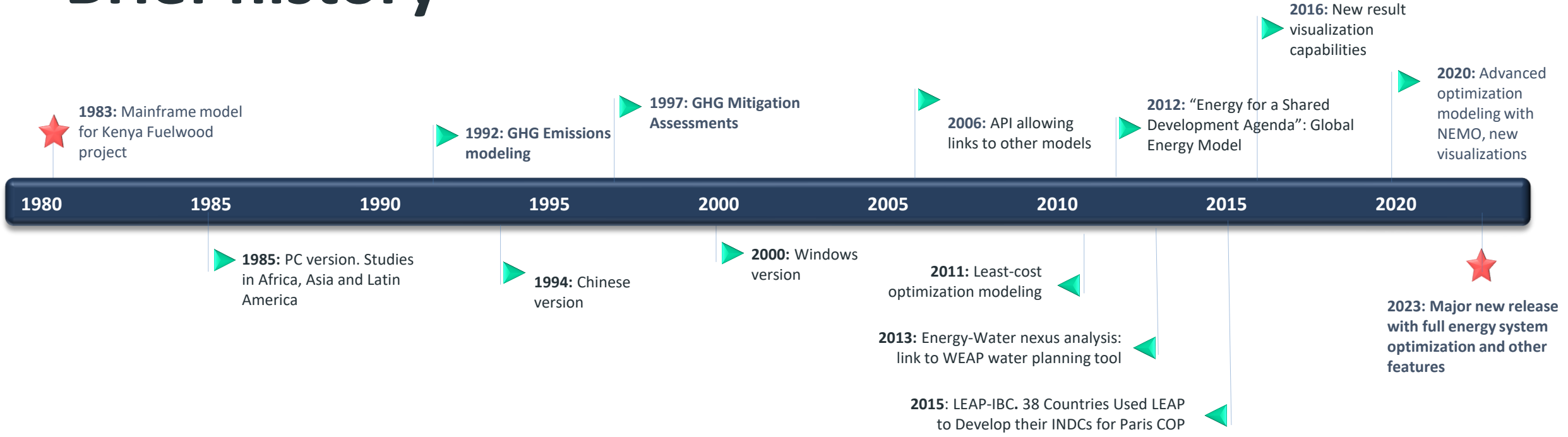


# Modeling Capabilities

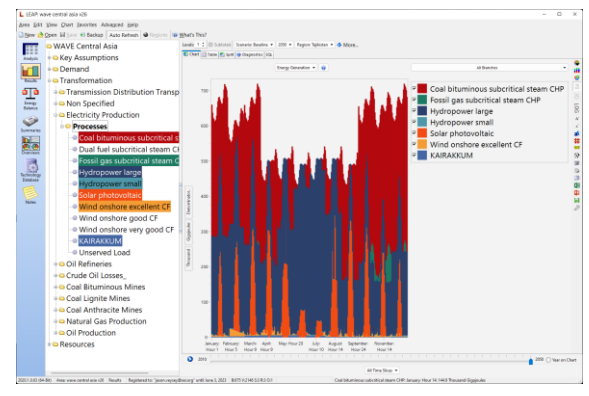
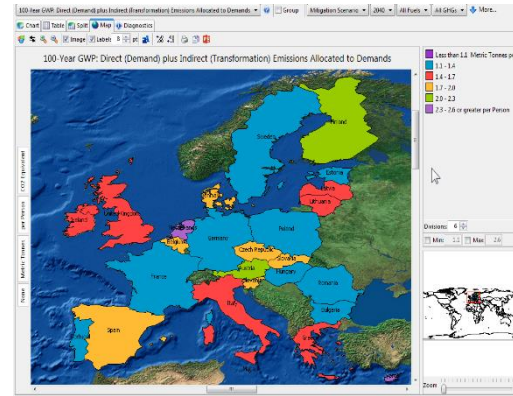
- Wide **variety of methods** to account for diverse modeling needs and data availability.
- Simulation methods embedded in a **framework of emissions, energy, and cost accounting**
- Highly **flexible and user-editable tree data structure**. Methods can be mixed and matched among sectors. Most aspects optional.
- **Demand** methods include top-down **econometric**, bottom-up **end-use-oriented** models, and detailed **stock-turnover** modeling (e.g. for transport modeling).
- **Transformation** methods range from simple **accounting-based** models to advanced **least-cost optimization** of capacity expansion and dispatch including energy storage and sub-annual time slices. Full energy system optimization modeling coming later this year.
- Optimization modeling utilizes **NEMO**: a high-performance, open-source optimization framework supporting multiple free and commercial solvers.
- The **Integrated Debugging Environment (IDE)** makes it easy to edit, import, and process data, visualize results, and systematically debug models.
  - The expression-based data definition language (DDL) allows input variables to themselves be modeled. E.G.: technology penetration can be specified exogenously or made a function of other variables such as fuel price, device cost, income, etc.
  - LEAP can be extended using its Application Programming Interface (API) and by adding additional user-defined variables.
  - To minimize data entry, LEAP's expressions are inherited across hierarchies of scenarios. Multiple scenario inheritance allows individual "mini" scenarios describing individual policy measures to be packaged into overall integrated strategies.



# Brief history

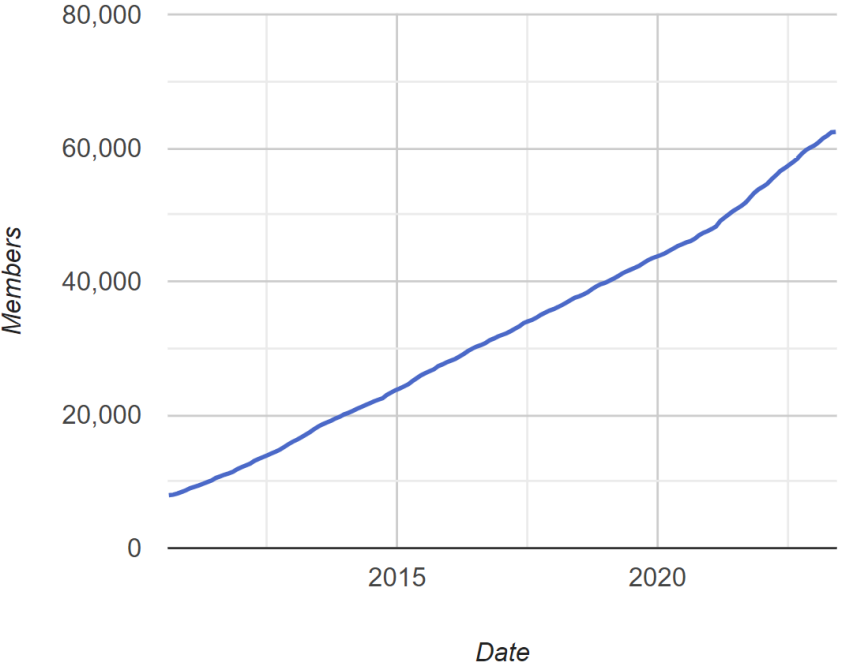


Four decades of development and implementation

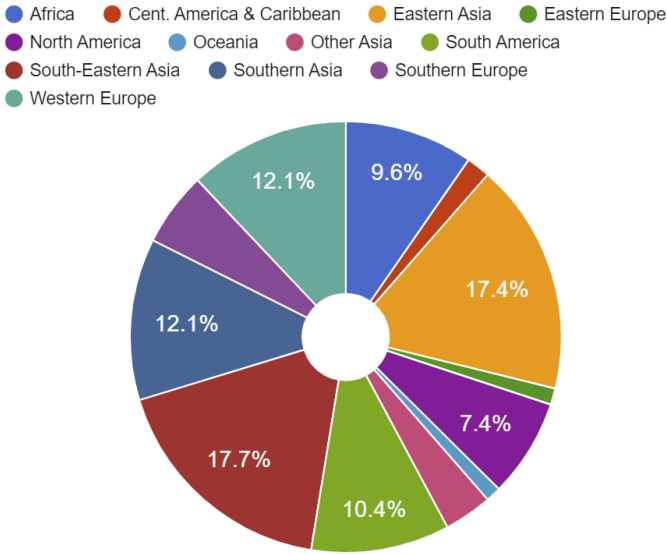


# Community of practice

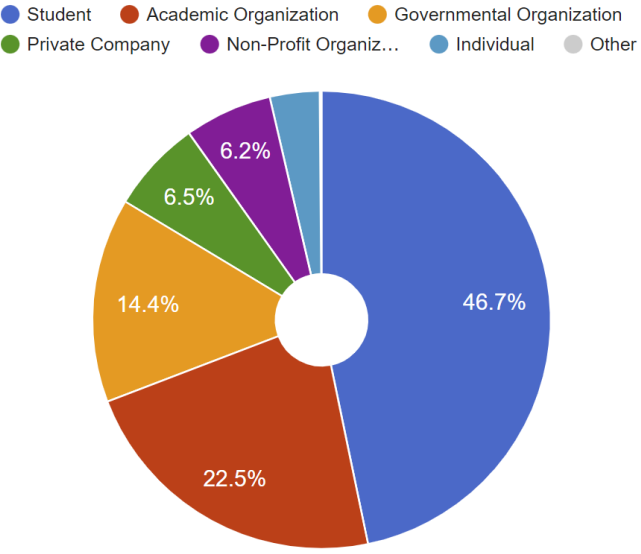
Number of LEAP users over time



Users by region



Types of users





# Use for GHG Mitigation Analysis

## At least 60 countries have used LEAP in their NDCs

Armenia	Ghana	Mozambique
Albania	Haiti	Myanmar
Antigua & Barbuda	Iraq	Niger
Azerbaijan	Israel	Nigeria
Bahamas	Jamaica	Palau
Bangladesh	Jordania	Palestina
Belarus	Líbano	Filipinas
Bosnia Herzegovina	Liberia	Serbia
Bostwana	Mauritania	Uganda
Cambodia	México	Vietnam
Chile	Mongolia	Yemen
Ecuador	Montenegro	Zambia
Micronesia	Marruecos	Zimbabwe

## Widely used for Nationally Determined Contributions, National Communications and Biennial Update Reports

Other countries have used LEAP to develop:

- National Communications (NCs)
- Biennial Update Reports (BURs)
- Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS)
- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)
- SLCP Action Plans
- Other



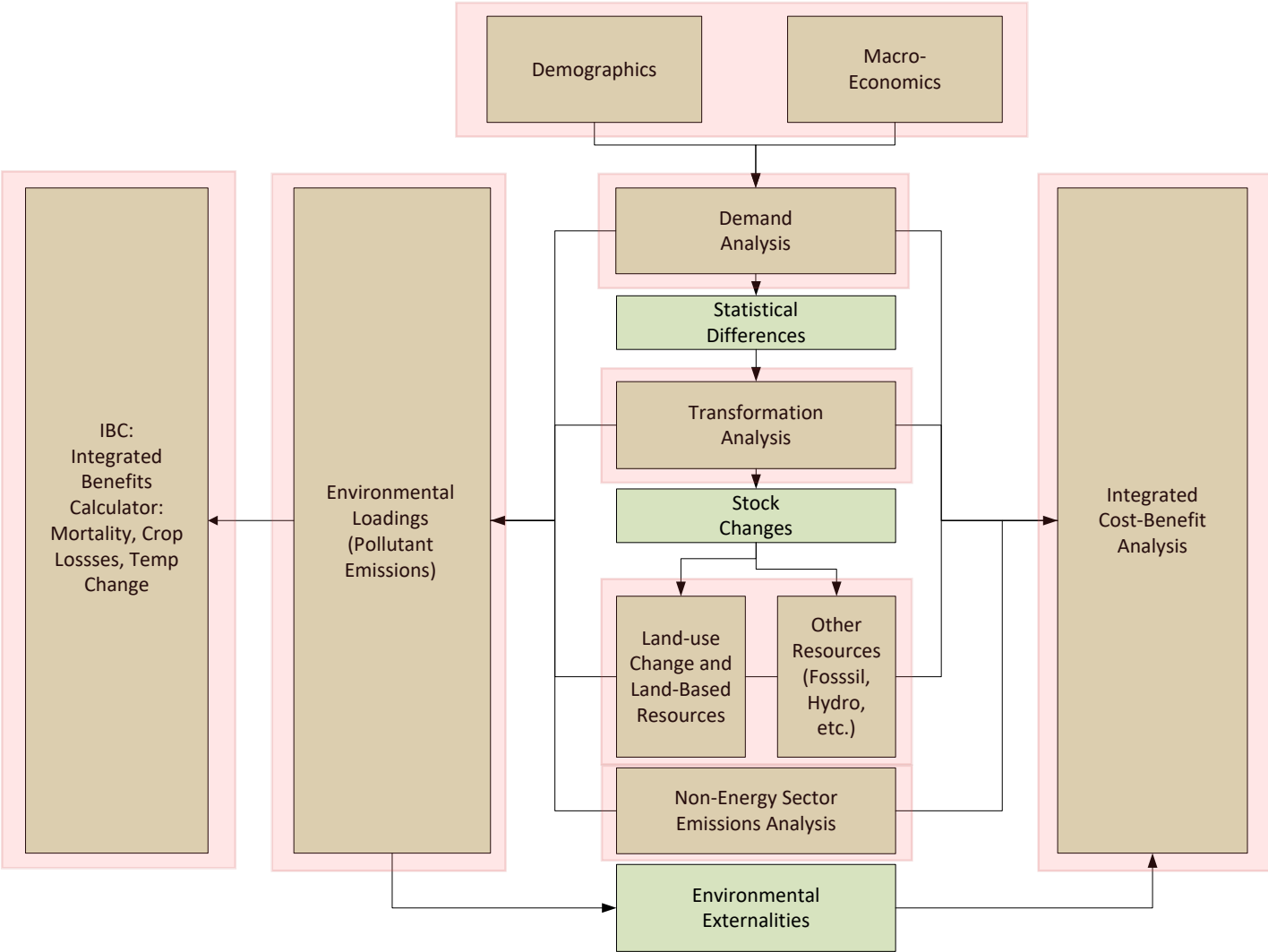
# Distribution

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***Access via the LEAP website: <https://leap.sei.org/>***

- **User name and password** required to fully enable software. Available on completion of a **license agreement**
- License cost
  - Free for all students
  - **Free for non-profit, academic, and governmental institutions in low-income and lower-middle-income countries**
  - Nominal cost for non-profit, academic, and government users in upper-middle income countries
  - Full-cost license for all other users
- Simple and quick to apply for a license online
- **Technical support** available through LEAP website or [leap@sei-us.org](mailto:leap@sei-us.org)

# Structure of a representative LEAP analysis



# User interface

Main menu and toolbar give access to major options.

Data organized in a tree hierarchy.

Edit data by typing here.

Model variables shown as tabs.

Select scenarios here.

Select units and scaling factors here.

Switch between views of an area here.

The screenshot displays the LEAP software interface for Africa 2.9. The main menu includes 'Area', 'Edit', 'View', 'Analysis', 'Tags', 'General', 'Tree', 'Chart', 'Advanced', and 'Help'. The toolbar contains icons for 'New', 'Open', 'Save', 'Email', 'Backup', 'Find', 'Settings', 'Tags', 'Scenarios', 'Fuels', 'Regions', 'Effects', 'Units', and 'What's This?'. The left sidebar shows a tree hierarchy of data areas: Africa, Key Assumptions, Demand, Industry (1A2), Transport (1A3), International Shipping (1A3d), Services (1A4a), Households (1A4b), Historical, Natural Gas, Electricity, Gas works gas, Diesel, LPG, Kerosene, Wood, Charcoal, Bituminous coal, Gasoline, Anthracite, Fuel oil, Projections, Urban, Cooking, Lighting, Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, Other, Rural, Agriculture and Fishing (1A4c), and Non Energy Use. The main window shows a data table for 'Historical: HistFuelUse (Thousand TOE)' with columns for Branch, Expression, Scale, and Units. The table lists various fuels and their historical usage from 1990 to 2018. Below the table is a stacked area chart titled 'Historical: HistFuelUse (Thousand TOE)' showing the total fuel use from 2000 to 2018, broken down by fuel type. The chart includes a legend with checkboxes for Natural Gas, Electricity, Gas works gas, Diesel, LPG, Kerosene, Wood, Charcoal, Bituminous coal, Gasoline, Anthracite, and Fuel oil. The x-axis is labeled 'All years' and the y-axis is 'Thousand TOE'.

Branch	Expression	Scale	Units
Natural Gas	Interp(1990, 0, 2016, 0, 2017, 4.74, 2018, 4.934) ? IEA Energy Balances (2020)	Thousand	TOE
Electricity	Interp(1990, 1929.751, 1991, 1983.749, 1992, 1667.584, 1993, 1852.279, 1994, 1901.548, 1995, 2095.357...	Thousand	TOE
Gas works gas	Interp(1990, 11.608, 1991, 8.383, 1992, 8.168, 1993, 9.652, 1994, 11.135, 1995, 10.017, 1996, 10.103, 19...	Thousand	TOE
Diesel	Interp(1990, 0, 1997, 0, 1998, 91.226, 1999, 91.226, 2000, 71.751, 2001, 55.35, 2002, 49.2, 2003, 45.1, 20...	Thousand	TOE
LPG	Interp(1990, 149.126, 1991, 158.164, 1992, 164.942, 1993, 102.765, 1994, 103.882, 1995, 77.074, 1996, 8...	Thousand	TOE
Kerosene	Interp(1990, 478.088, 1991, 483.319, 1992, 471.811, 1993, 527.867, 1994, 555.759, 1995, 553.693, 199...	Thousand	TOE
Wood	Interp(1990, 5588.994, 1991, 5708.417, 1992, 5780.071, 1993, 5899.494, 1994, 6018.917, 1995, 6162.224...	Thousand	TOE

Data echoed back in chart or table format to aid in spotting data entry errors.

# Typical inputs...

- Demographic and macroeconomic data and projections
- Energy balances, surveys, and audits
- GHG inventories
  - Activity data
  - Emission factors
  - Emission totals
- Grid operator reports
- Equipment stock, sales, and performance data
- Natural resource reserves and potentials
- Plans and policies
  - Climate
  - Energy
  - Air pollution
- Costs
  - Equipment capital, operation and maintenance
  - Fuel and other consumables
  - Policy implementation

**iea**

**MSW activity data** % of population disposing to SWDS=

Enter population, waste per capita and MSW waste composition into the yellow cells.  
 Help and default regional values are given in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.  
 Industrial waste activity data must be entered separately starting in Column Q.

**IPCC Regional defaults**

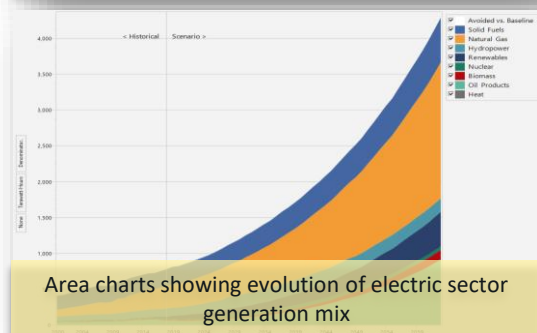
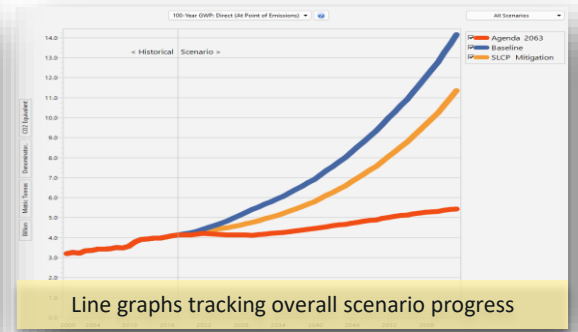
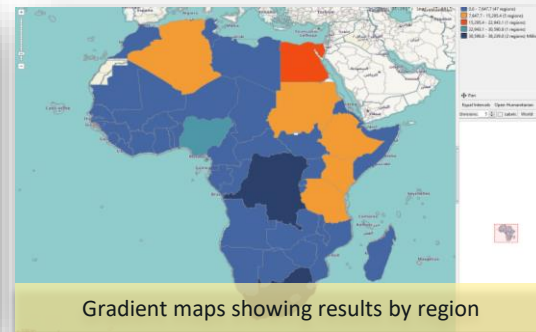
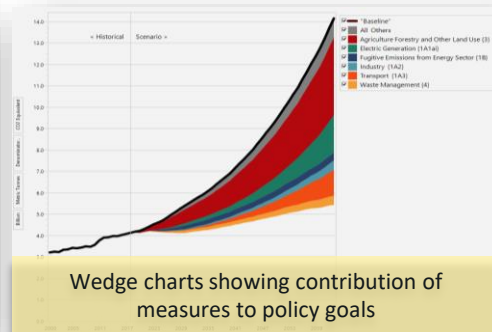
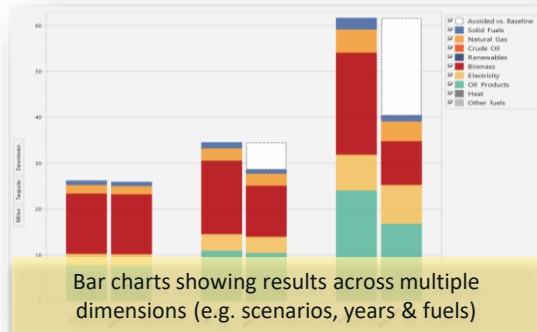
490	83%	47%	0%	17%	2%
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**Composition of waste going to solid waste**

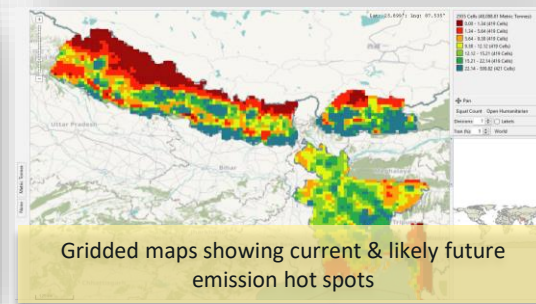
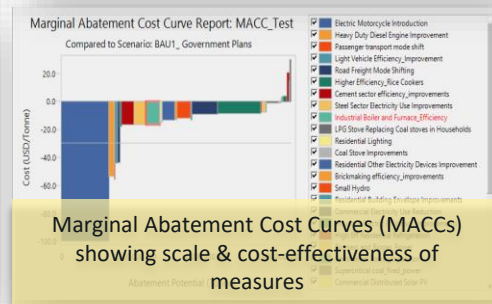
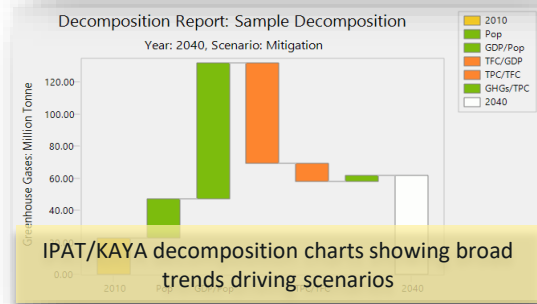
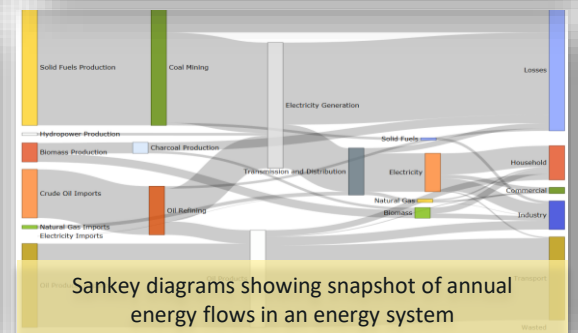
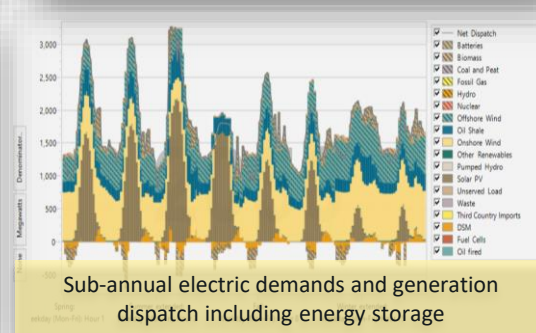
Year	Population	Waste per capita	Total MSW	% to SWDS	Food	Garden	Paper	Wood	Textile
	millions	kg/cap/yr	Gg	%	%	%	%	%	%
1990	1.57163161	273.75	445	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			449	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			438	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			441	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			445	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			449	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			461	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	
			466	67%	31%	10%	16%	0%	



# Wide range of interactive results visualizations

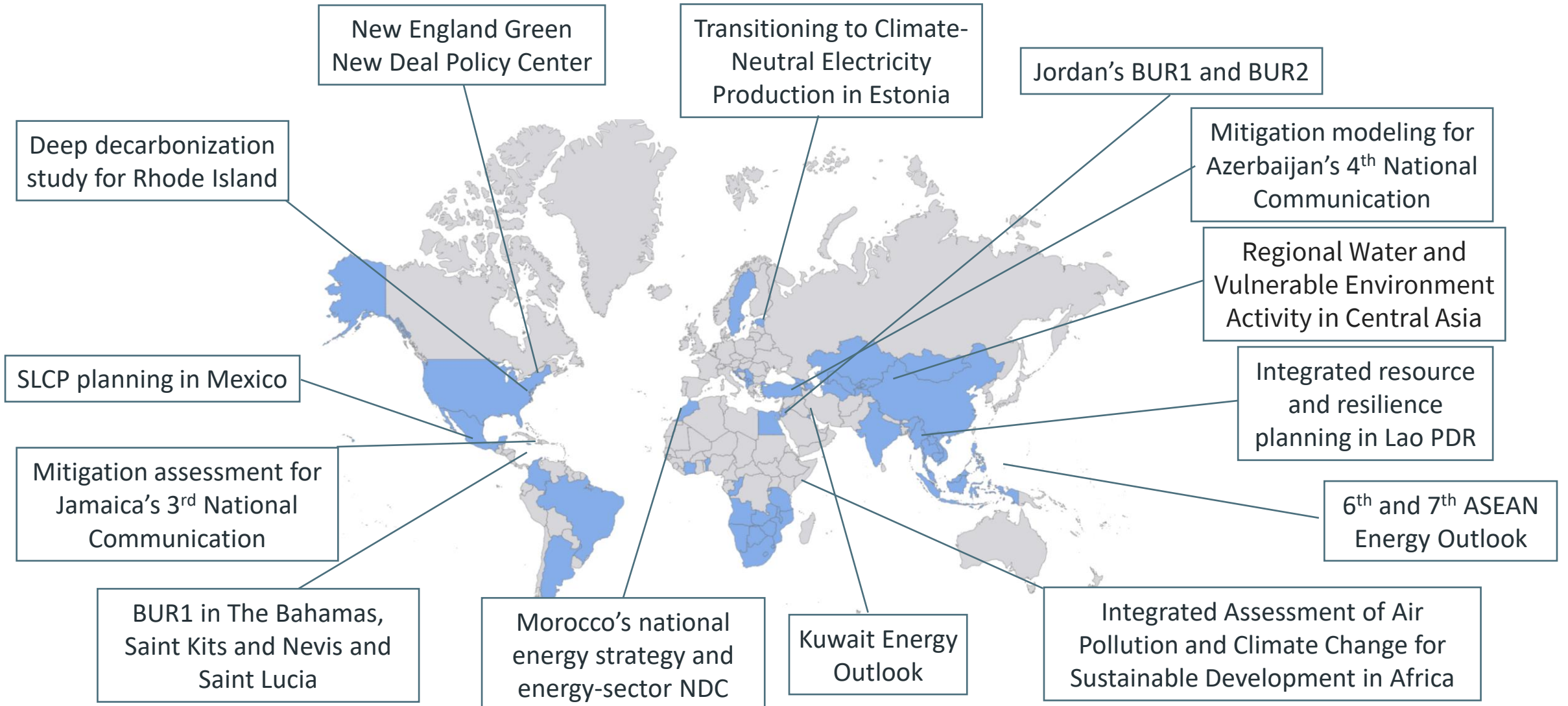


Scenario	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060
Urban	4,794.1	5,887.5	6,513.9	7,471.8	8,383.4	9,273.4	10,074.3	10,751.6	11,208.0
Cooking	4,195.2	4,964.4	5,599.4	6,310.5	7,013.5	7,666.2	8,260.4	8,786.1	9,246.9
Electricity	76.9	98.6	98.5	112.2	133.1	146.6	165.5	194.7	226.2
Natural Gas	411.1	454.9	502.3	543.5	586.1	631.0	676.2	719.8	760.4
LPG	413.2	474.0	544.6	606.1	735.0	861.6	1,070.0	1,187.3	1,297.7
Kerosene	53.2	62.4	70.5	78.1	84.6	89.6	92.0	90.7	84.5
Wood	2,237.0	2,681.0	3,105.2	3,508.2	3,877.1	4,180.8	4,371.1	4,430.6	4,284.4
Chemical	736.4	889.1	1,020.9	1,221.2	1,391.8	1,532.4	1,690.0	1,791.5	1,837.5
Other Biomass	18.7	22.7	26.4	29.7	32.6	34.8	35.9	35.4	32.8
Dung	5.5	6.6	7.9	9.2	10.6	11.8	12.9	13.5	13.6
Other Fuels	146.9	183.0	183.0	178.3	169.6	157.6	142.2	122.6	97.8
Lighting	102.8	118.5	136.0	155.7	177.7	201.8	227.2	254.0	281.8
Grid Electricity	86.0	98.3	111.8	126.9	143.8	162.3	181.7	201.9	222.7
Off-Grid Electricity	3.4	6.5	7.8	9.3	10.9	12.7	14.6	16.8	19.0
Kerosene	8.7	10.5	12.6	14.9	17.5	20.4	23.5	26.9	30.4
LPG	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Solar	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.3
Other	2.2	2.7	3.3	3.9	4.6	5.4	6.3	7.2	8.2
Refrigeration	104.5	121.9	141.5	163.9	189.5	218.3	249.7	283.7	320.5
Air Conditioning	195.5	269.0	348.4	429.4	530.4	653.4	796.2	956.3	1,123.8
Existing	195.5	269.0	348.4	429.4	530.4	653.4	796.2	956.3	1,123.8
Other	272.0	313.7	360.2	412.3	470.3	533.7	600.9	671.6	745.3



	Solid Fuels	Natural Gas	Crude Oil	Hydropower	Biomass	Electricity	Oil Products	Total
Production	14,331.0	-	-	325.4	2,341.4	-	-	16,997.7
Imports	-	411.0	6,000.0	-	-	0.0	10,337.1	16,748.1
Exports	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Primary Supply	14,331.0	411.0	6,000.0	325.4	2,341.4	0.0	10,337.1	33,745.8
Coal Mining	-2,866.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2,866.2
Oil Refining	-	-	-6,000.0	-	-	-	5,700.0	-300.0
Charcoal Production	-	-	-	-	-1,047.3	-	-	-1,047.3
Electricity Generation	-11,155.2	-	-	-325.4	-	5,385.8	-4,039.5	-10,134.3
Transmission and Distribution	-	-6.2	-	-	-	-	-646.3	-652.5
Total Transformation	-14,021.4	-6.2	-6,000.0	-325.4	-1,047.3	4,739.5	1,660.5	-15,000.2
Household	-	165.8	-	-	720.9	2,616.8	719.9	4,223.3
Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	439.9	94.3	762.2
Total Demand	-	-	-	-	-	4,739.5	11,997.5	18,745.0

# LEAP applications worldwide



# A few of SEI's LEAP applications in the region



# Many more examples of LEAP applications are available in LEAP's website

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## LEAP: Applications (All)

Search All

Yr	Title
2021	Vermont GHG Reduction Pathways
2019	Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria's Power Sector
2017	Assessing the Impacts of Transport Policies in Medellín, Colombia.
2017	EnergyVision 2030 (for the Northeast United States)
2017	Thailand Energy Outlook 2016
2016	SAMSET: Supporting African Municipalities in Sustainable Energy Transitions
2016	CCAC SNAP: Supporting National Planning for Action on SLCPs
2016	B-LEADERS Philippines: Building Low Emission Alternatives to Develop Economic Resilienc...
2016	GREAT: The Green Resources & Energy Analysis Tool for China
2016	Long-Term Energy and Climate Mitigation Planning in Morocco
2016	80 Gigawatts of Change: Egypt's Future Electricity Pathways
2016	Reinventing Fire: China - A Roadmap for China's Revolution in Energy to 2050

### Vermont GHG Reduction Pathways

2021

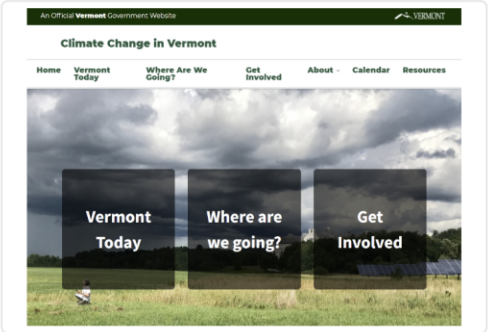
#### Vermont GHG Reduction Pathways

Working with the [Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management \(NESCAUM\)](#), Vermont's [Agency of Natural Resources](#), and its [Department of Public Service](#), SEI developed a LEAP model of Vermont to explore scenarios that achieve the GHG reduction targets for 2025, 2030 and 2050 set out in the state's Global Warming Solutions Act.

The resulting LEAP model is [available here](#) and can be viewed by anyone using LEAP. Users who wish to explore more deeply (e.g. adjust inputs or calculate results), should obtain the latest versions of LEAP and NEMO ([available here](#)). The model is setup to use the commercial CPLEX solver (available separately for purchase), but users can also select one of the other solvers supported by LEAP. We recommend using CBC which is both fast and free.

For additional information, contact [Taylor Binnington](#).

[Link to this Application.](#)





# What we're working on...

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## New version planned for 2023. Highlights to include:

- **Plugins:** Support for mini-models developed by subject-matter experts and maintained in online repositories. Will make model development easier and more modular: providing users with new methods and better, geographically-appropriate default data.
- **Energy System Optimization Modeling:** LEAP is currently limited to doing least-cost planning for a single sector (e.g., electric generation). The new version will support full energy system optimization (similar to tools like TIMES & MESSAGE).
- **Cloud-based Data:** A new system for connecting LEAP models to internet-hosted databases. Will simplify data collection and allow users to automatically update their models as new data becomes available. Connects to international open-source databases covering energy, emissions, and development topics (U.N. population prospects, U.N. energy statistics, World Bank development indicators, etc., plus SEI-developed databases such as default emission factors).
- **Better Accessibility:** new translations of the software, data, training materials, and user manuals in multiple languages.

## Coming a bit later:

- **Land Use Change and Forestry:** Can already be used for modeling biomass energy demand & supply and land-use change. Future versions to support modeling of the GHG emissions implications of these sectors, based on the IPCC GHG inventory guidelines.
- **LEAP for the Web:** A new web-based portal will allow users to publish the results of their LEAP models for interactive browsing by a much broader audience, without the need to download, install or license LEAP itself.

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# Thanks!!

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For more information:



<https://leap.sei.org>



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<https://leap.sei.org/Youtube>

