

DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS

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Mitglied der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

1. INTRODUCTION

• Does "socio-economics" count?

• Why do we need socio-economic scenarios?



1. INTRODUCTION POTENTIALS AS LIMITING FACTORS





1. INTRODUCTION SOCIO-ECONOMICS FACTORS FRAMING ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY

| | Determining factors (1st order) | Determining factors (2nd order) |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Private households | Demand for living space | Individual preferences, prices, income |
| | | |
| Mobility | Car purchases and use of cars | Individual preferences with respect to e.g., design, comfort, safety, environmental awareness, prestige/image, power, fuel prices |
| | | |
| Industry | Investments in technologies, use of them | Preferences with respect to e.g., targeted profit rate, risk, expectations on development of markets |



1. INTRODUCTION SOCIO-ECONOMICS FACTORS FRAMING ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY

• Risk perception, attitudes toward risks

- Geopolitical risk
- Financial risk
- Technological risk

Perception and attitudes differ among stakeholders!

• Prioritization of policies

- Focus economic stability, employment
- Focus environment protection
- Focus international cooperation

Government on national and local level as well parties have different interests.



1. INTRODUCTION CHALLENGES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS

Need to deal with multiple factors on different scales:

- **Policies:** How to assess future priority settings? Priority to reduction of GHG emissions, economic growth, increase in welfare, fairness? R&D activities?
- Prices: More than "cost", end user prices as relevant factor, internalization of technological and geopolitical risks
- Preferences of stakeholders: Acceptance of technologies and policy measures, Greta-Effect? CCS?



Challenges

- Identification of relevant factors (quantitative and qualitative factors)
- Assessment of meaning of qualitative factors
- Specification of interactions between factors
- Transformation into quantitative figures



Approaches

• Workshops, consulting processes (e.g. "Netzentwicklungsplan")

Cross-Impact-Balance (approach for systematic construction of qualitative scenarios)



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Basics of CIB

- Identification of "descriptors" reflecting elements of the system under consideration
- Specification of 2 to 4 possible "states" (manifestations) for each descriptor
- Adjustment of interlinkages between states
- Balancing of impacts promoting or hindering mantifestations







Descriptor states

- Usually limited to 2 to 4 manifestations showing different possible outcomes for descriptor
- E.g. low, medium, high, "Incremental", "Increasing", constant, increasing, 5%, \$150

Example for descriptor states





Interdependencies among descriptors' states

- Descriptor states promote or hinder each other
- Relationship between descriptor states varies from strongly restricting to strongly promoting another state
- Usually scale from -3 (strongly hindering) to 3 (strongly supporting) with 0 as neutral



| | Growth | | GHG Poll | | | Trade | | | In | no | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-----|----------|-----|------|-------|-----|------|----|-----|-----|
| | sl | str | | amb | less | | low | high | | con | inc |
| Growth of GDP (global) | | | | | _ | _ | | | _ | | |
| slightly increasing | | | | 2 | -2 | | 1 | -1 | | 1 | -1 |
| strongly increase | | | | 3 | -3 | | -1 | 1 | | -2 | 2 |
| International climate change policy | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ambitious | 1 | -1 | | | | | 0 | 0 | | -2 | 2 |
| less ambitious | -1 | 1 | | | | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Trade restrictions | | | - | | | _ | | | | | |
| low | -2 | 2 | | 0 | 0 | | | | | -1 | 1 |
| high | 3 | -3 | | 0 | 0 | | | | | 1 | -1 |
| Innovation dynamics | | | | | | _ | | | _ | | |
| constant | 2 | -2 | | -2 | 2 | | -1 | 1 | | | |
| increasing | -2 | 2 | | 2 | -2 | | 1 | -1 | | | |
| Balance | -3 | 3 | | 2 | -2 | | 1 | -1 | | -3 | 3 |

Balance: Scenario consistent when no other variant's impact sum > impact sum of selected variant: this scenario is consistent!



Typical outcome of CIB analysis using the CIB software ScenarioWizard

| Scenario No. 1 | Scenario No. 2 | Scenario No. 3 | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Growth of G | Growth of GDP (global): | | | | | |
| slightly in | strongly increas | | | | | |
| International climate change policy: | International climate change policy: | | | | | |
| ambitious | ambitious | | | | | |
| Trade re: | Trade restrictions: | | | | | |
| hi | low | | | | | |
| Innovation | Innovation dynamics : increasing | | | | | |



Strength

- Able to integrate qualitative and quantitative knowledge
- Reduces risks of inconsistencies and incompleteness compared with intuitive scenario construction.
- More traceable, objective, and reproducible than intuitive approaches
- Learning effects resulting from discussions on (inter)disciplinary scenario teams

- Restricted number of descriptors (typical size 10-20) => high aggregation level
- Conditioned influences are difficult to represent by pair wise impact assessments
- Coding by experts or by interpreting literature is not free of subjectivity and uncertainty.
- CIB storylines usually cannot completely define a model run: additional reasoning and interpretation required



Weakness

Examples for applications:

- I. Provision of consistent framework data for e.g., techno-economic models (context scenarios)
- II. Development of socio-techno-economic scenarios
- III. Consistency check of storylines



3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS I. PROVISION OF CONSISTENT FRAMEWORK DATA

Research topic:

Futures of energy consumption of private households

Energy Volume 120, 1 February 2017, Pages 937-946

Building scenarios for energy consumption of private households in Germany using a multilevel cross-impact balance approach

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3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS II. PROVISION OF CONSISTENT FRAMEWORK DATA





3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS II. PROVISION OF CONSISTENT FRAMEWORK DATA

| | Future I "Dark Green" | Future II "light grey" | Future III "Green" | Future IV "Green mod" | Future V "Black" |
|--|--|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| | [Global Future I, National | [Global Future II, National | [Global Future III, Nationa | Global Future III, National | [Global Future IV, National |
| Set of futures | Future II | Future I | Future III | Future IV | Future V |
| | Sectoral Future IV | Sectoral Future I | Sectoral Future V | Sectoral Future VI | Sectoral Future VII |
| Growth of GDP (global) | str. incr. | strong increase | str. incr. | str. incr. | str. incr. |
| Growth of GDP (Ger.) | str. incr. | strong increase | str. incr. | str. incr. | str. incr. |
| Population | slight dec. | slight decline | slight decline | slight decline | slight dec. |
| International climate policy | EU as Forerunner | EU as Forerunner | EU as Forerunner | EU as Forerunner | EU as Forerunner |
| CO ₂ -reduction policy EU | new amb. targets | new mod. targets | new amb. targets | new amb. targets | new mod. targets |
| Climate change/energy policy (national) | focus ambitious CO ₂ reduction | focus moderate CO ₂ reduction | focus ambitious CO ₂ reduction | focus ambitious CO ₂ reduction | focus mod. CO_2 red. |
| Expansion of electr. grid | restrained | unrestrained | unrestrained | restrained | unrestrained |
| Energy demand: Priv. households | strong decline | grad. decline | grad./str. decline | strong decline | grad./str. decline |
| Energy demand: Ind. | strong decline | grad. Decline | grad./str. decline | strong decline | grad./str. decline |
| Fuel prices | strong increase | strong increase | moderate increase | moderate increase | moderate increase |
| Use of Renewables | strong increase | moderate increase | strong increase | strong increase | moderate increase |
| Energy perfor. (build.) | high | medium | medium | medium | medium |
| Rental charge/price of buildings and flats | increasing | const. | constant | constant | constant |



3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS PROVISION OF CONSISTENT FRAMEWORK DATA

| | Scenario Trend | Scenario Transfor. |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Future used as frame | Future "Black" | Future "Dark Green" |
| Growth of GDP (Germany) | 1.0 %/year | 1.0 %/year |
| Oil price | 125\$/bbl | 175\$/bbl |
| Population | 79.0 million | 79.0 million |
| CO ₂ -reduction policy EU | -30 % | -40 % |
| Climate change/ energy policy | -40 % | -60 % |
| Innovation dynamics | 1.0 %/year | 2.0 %/year |
| Fuel prices | 1.5 %/year | 3.0 %/year |
| Use of Renewables | 30 % | 50 % |
| Energy performance of buildings | 140 kWh/(m²a) | 100 kWh/(m²a) |
| Rental charge/ price of buildings | 1.5 %/year | 2.5 %/year |

Final energy consumption for space heating and hot water





3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS II. DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIO-TECHNO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS

Research topic:

Dissemination of PV-Battery systems in the German residential sector up to 2050: Technological diffusion from multidisciplinary perspectives

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Energy

ENERGY

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Future of PV-Battery systems in the German residential sector up to 2050"

➔ Which techno-economic scenarios are feasible from socio-economic point of view and vice versa?



3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS PROVISION OF CONSISTENT FRAMEWORK DATA





3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS PROVISION OF CONSISTENT FRAMEWORK DATA

Results

| | Storyline/context scenario | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|-----------|---|-------|-----------|--------|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|----|----|
| | | | | F | rom s | ocio-eco | onomic | point o | of view | possil | ble PV- | Batter | y syste | em – sc | enario | s | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | | | Cluster 3 | | | Cluster 2 | | Cluster 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| | nic io | "Low pursuit for self-sufficiency" | | | | | | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х |
| | echnc onorr cenari | "Medium pursuit for self-sufficiency" | | | | Х | Х | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ec St | "High pursuit for self-sufficiency" | Х | Х | X | | | | | | | | | | | | |



3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS III. CONSISTENCY CHECK OF STORYLINES

Research topic

- Usually, storylines are results of intensive consulting processes
- In principle, these storylines have not to be consistent.
- A consistency check is required

Example: Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP)



3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS III. CONSISTENCY CHECK OF STORYLINES

IPPC Storylines



Source: IPPC (2007)

Identification of Driving forces

| Descriptors | States |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Population | Low: <8 billion, Medium: 8–12 billion High: >12 billion |
| Economic development | Low: <1.4%, Medium: 1.4%–2.0% High: 2.0%–2.6%, Very high: >2.6% |
| Energy resources (availability) | Low fossil availability Low fossils, high coal availability High fossil availability |
| Carbon intensity | Very low: <6%, Low: 10%–29% Balanced: 30%–49%, High: >50% |
| Primary energy intensity | Low: <4.3 MJ/\$, Medium: 4.3–6.5 MJ/\$ High: >6.5 MJ/\$ |
| Economic policy orientation | Regional, Global |
| Environmental policy orientation | Regional, Global |

CIB Analyses: Objective: Identification of consistent sets of Driving forces

Source: Schweizer/Kriegler (2012)



3. APPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENARIOS III. CONSISTENCY CHECK OF STORYLINES





4. CONCLUSIONS

- Socio-economics factors frame future developments
- They do have to be taken into consideration like other factors.
- A consistency check is needed.
- Dealing with uncertainties is essential for provision of reliable scenarios



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