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# Insights from scenario comparison

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Theme 1: Using scenarios for decision making in the in a specific context of the clean energy transition Long Term Energy Scenarios – Clean Energy Ministerial Campaign, 24 January 2019



### **Knowledge for the Energy Union Unit**

#### **European Commission**

**Joint Research Centre** *The European Commission's science and knowledge service* 



To **support policies** related to the **Energy Union**, by anticipating, mapping, collating, analysing, quality checking and communicating all **relevant data/knowledge**, including knowledge gaps, in a systematic and digestible way



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#### Energy scenario publications





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## Our approach: Data in energy scenarios



## Our approach: Data in energy scenarios



#### Scenario selection and application: Market growth





### Scenario selection and application: Technology investment costs



Wind onshore, low specific capacity, high hub height

Li-ion electric vehicle battery pack cost



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## Meta-analysis







## Meta-analysis



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# Other application of scenario analysis

 In-depth comparison / benchmarking of studies

Support scenario design

• Contribution to open debate



Commission

## Scenario selection and application: Outputs

#### Publications



#### Internal Datasets



Contribute to open debate





# Implications: shadow play in Plato's Cave

In many studies we lack transparency

#### Assumptions (Inputs):

- Nondisclosed investment costs
- <u>Unspecified</u> discount rate
- <u>Widely varying</u> socio-economics factors
- <u>Unknown</u> population and GDP assumptions

#### Outputs

- <u>Vague</u> definitions
- <u>Noncomparable</u> indicators



# Implications: comparing apples with pears

- Technology coverage
- Technology boundaries
  - Biomass, waste
  - Electric vehicles
- Sectoral coverage
  - Heating and cooling
  - Residential, Transport, etc.
- Regional coverage
  - Europe vs. EU vs. OECD Europe
- Temporal coverage





### Take-away messages

Comparative scenario analysis is useful tool for decision making

- $\circ$  Identify common trends
- $\circ$  Analyse differences
- $\circ$  Understand transition
- $_{\odot}\,$  Support analysis and decision making

However, insights are based heterogeneous datasets supplemented by qualitative\semi-quantitative assumptions

More transparency is needed !



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