

The LED (Low Energy Demand Scenario) Motivation and Main Features

- Scenario of rapid transitions:
End-use, efficiency and granularity focus
- End-use change leverages and drives upstream transformation
- SDGs as overarching narrative and driver:
Climate mitigation (1.5 °C) integrated in SDGs,
but no longer singular objective (with SDG co-benefits)

LED Highlights

- Higher levels of energy services than even GEA High
- Assuring “decent standards of living” for all (well above access and poverty thresholds, but with efficient provisioning systems)
- (technological & service) efficiency driven “Peak” Energy
- Lowest demand scenario (<250 EJ FE by 2050) ever published
- End-use transformations (efficiency, electrification) drive upstream decarbonization
- Stays below 1.5 with no negative emission technologies
- Significant SDG synergies (>6 SDGs)

LED Key Lessons Learned

- Focus on scenario characteristics rather than modeling (use hybrid methods, provide inputs to IAMs)
- End-use detail (services) and institutional settings (provisioning systems) fundamental
- Avoid “lack of nerve” of forecaster (technology, behavior, and institutions are all malleable)
- Data challenge for heterogeneity (distributions) needs to be addressed (community efforts)
- Sustainable Development scenarios not possible within IPCC RCP/SSP framework