

Snapshot of - IMAGE

Archive of IMAGE, version: 3.4

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Reference card - IMAGE

The reference card is a clearly defined description of model features. The numerous options have been organized into a limited amount of default and model specific (non default) options. In addition some features are described by a short clarifying text.

Legend:

not implemented

implemented implemented (not default option)

About

Name and version IMAGE framework 3.4

Model link <https://models.pbl.nl/image>

Institution PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL), Netherlands, <https://www.pbl.nl/en>.

Documentation IMAGE documentation consists of a referencecard and [detailed model documentation](#)

Process state published

Model scope and methods

Model documentation: [Model scope and methods - IMAGE](#)

Model type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated assessment model	<input type="checkbox"/> CGE
	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy system model	<input type="checkbox"/> CBA-integrated assessment model
Geographical scope	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional

Objective IMAGE is an ecological-environmental model framework that simulates the environmental consequences of human activities worldwide. The objective of the IMAGE model is to explore the long- term dynamics and impacts of global changes that result. More specifically, the model aims

1. to analyse interactions between human development and the natural environment to gain better insight into the processes of global environmental change;
2. to identify response strategies to global environmental change based on assessment of options and
3. to indicate key inter-linkages and associated levels of uncertainty in processes of global environmental change.

Solution concept

Partial equilibrium (price elastic demand)

Partial equilibrium (fixed

demand)

General equilibrium (closed economy)

Solution horizon

Recursive dynamic (myopic)

Intertemporal optimization (foresight)

Solution method

Simulation

Optimization

Anticipation

Simulation modelling framework, without foresight. However, a simplified version of the energy/climate part of the model (called FAIR) can be run prior to running the framework to obtain data for climate policy simulations.

Temporal dimension

Base year:1970, time steps:1-5 year time step, horizon: 2100

Spatial dimension

Number of regions:26

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Canada | 14. Ukraine + |
| 2. USA | 15. Asian-Stan |
| 3. Mexico | 16. Russia + |
| 4. Rest of Central America | 17. Middle East |
| 5. Brazil | 18. India + |
| 6. Rest of South America | 19. Korea |
| 7. Northern Africa | 20. China + |
| 8. Western Africa | 21. Southeastern Asia |
| 9. Eastern Africa | 22. Indonesia + |
| 10. South Africa | 23. Japan |
| 11. Western Europe | 24. Oceania |
| 12. Central Europe | 25. Rest of South Asia |
| 13. Turkey | 26. Rest of Southern Africa |

Time discounting type

Discount rate exogenous

Discount rate endogenous

Policies

Emission tax

Portfolio standard

Emission pricing

Capacity targets

Cap and trade

Emission standards

Fuel taxes

Energy efficiency standards

Fuel subsidies

Agricultural producer subsidies

Feed-in-tariff

Agricultural consumer subsidies

Land protection Pricing carbon stocks

Socio-economic drivers

Model documentation: Socio-economic drivers - IMAGE

Population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Population age structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Education level	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Urbanization rate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
GDP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Income distribution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Employment rate	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Labor productivity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Total factor productivity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)
Autonomous energy efficiency improvements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (exogenous)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (endogenous)

Macro-economy

Model documentation: Macro-economy - IMAGE

Economic sector

Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (physical)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (physical & economic)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (economic)	

- Energy** Yes (physical) **Yes (physical & economic)**
 Yes (economic)
- Transportation** Yes (physical) **Yes (physical & economic)**
 Yes (economic)
- Residential and commercial** Yes (physical) Yes (physical & economic)
 Yes (economic)
- Agriculture** Yes (physical) **Yes (physical & economic)**
 Yes (economic)
- Forestry** Yes (physical) **Yes (physical & economic)**
 Yes (economic)

Macro-economy

- Trade** **Coal** **Bioenergy crops**
 Oil **Food crops**
 Gas Capital
 Uranium **Emissions permits**
 Electricity **Non-energy goods**
- Cost measures** GDP loss **Area under MAC**
 Welfare loss Energy system cost mark-up
 Consumption loss
- Categorization by group** **Income** Gender
 Urban - rural Education level
 Technology adoption Household size
 Age
- Institutional and political factors** **Early retirement of capital allowed** **differentiated by country/region**
 Interest rates differentiated by country/region Technological change differentiated by country/region
 Regional risk factors included **Behavioural change differentiated by country/region**
 Technology costs Constraints on cross country financial transfers

Resource use

- Coal** Yes (fixed) **Yes (supply curve)**

Yes (process model)

Conventional Oil	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Unconventional Oil	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Conventional Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Unconventional Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Uranium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Bioenergy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Raw Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	
Land	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (fixed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (process model)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (supply curve)	

Technological change

Energy conversion technologies	<input type="checkbox"/> No technological change	change
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exogenous technological	<input type="checkbox"/> Endogenous technological change
Energy End-use	<input type="checkbox"/> No technological change	change
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exogenous technological	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endogenous technological change
Material Use	<input type="checkbox"/> No technological change	change
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exogenous technological	<input type="checkbox"/> Endogenous technological change
Agriculture (tc)	<input type="checkbox"/> No technological change	change
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exogenous technological	<input type="checkbox"/> Endogenous technological change

Energy

Model documentation: [Energy - IMAGE](#)

Behaviour

In the energy model, substitution among technologies is described in the model using the multinomial logit formulation. The multinomial logit model implies that the market share of a certain technology or fuel type depends on costs relative to competing technologies. The option with the lowest costs gets the largest market share, but in most cases not the full market. We interpret the latter as a representation of heterogeneity in the form of specific market niches for every technology or fuel.

Energy technology substitution

Energy technology choice

- No discrete technology choices
- Logit choice model**
- Production function

- Linear choice (lowest cost)
- Lowest cost with adjustment penalties

Energy technology substitutability

- Mostly high substitutability**
- Mostly low substitutability

- Mixed high and low substitutability

Energy technology deployment

- Expansion and decline constraints**

- System integration constraints**

Energy

Electricity technologies

- Coal w/o CCS**
- Coal w/ CCS**
- Gas w/o CCS**
- Gas w/ CCS**
- Oil w/o CCS**
- Oil w/ CCS**
- Bioenergy w/o CCS**
- Bioenergy w/ CCS**
- Geothermal power**
- Nuclear power**
- Coal to hydrogen w/o CCS**

- Solar power**
- Solar power-central PV**
- Solar power-distributed PV
- Solar power-CSP**
- Wind power**
- Wind power-onshore**
- Wind power-offshore**
- Hydroelectric power**
- Ocean power

- Coal to hydrogen w/ CCS**

Hydrogen production

- Natural gas to hydrogen w/o CCS**
- Natural gas to hydrogen w/ CCS**
- Oil to hydrogen w/o CCS**
- Oil to hydrogen w/ CCS**
- Biomass to hydrogen w/o**

CCS

- Biomass to hydrogen w/ CCS**
- Nuclear thermochemical hydrogen
- Solar thermochemical hydrogen**
- Electrolysis**

Refined liquids

- Coal to liquids w/o CCS
- Coal to liquids w/ CCS
- Gas to liquids w/o CCS
- Gas to liquids w/ CCS

- Bioliqids w/o CCS**
- Bioliqids w/ CCS**
- Oil refining**

Refined gases

- Coal to gas w/o CCS
- Coal to gas w/ CCS
- Oil to gas w/o CCS

- Oil to gas w/ CCS
- Biomass to gas w/o CCS**
- Biomass to gas w/ CCS**

Heat generation

- Coal heat**
- Natural gas heat**
- Oil heat**
- Biomass heat**

- Geothermal heat**
- Solarthermal heat
- CHP (coupled heat and power)**

Note: CHP also has a CCS option

Grid Infra Structure**Electricity**

- Yes (aggregate)**

- Yes (spatially explicit)

Gas

- Yes (aggregate)**

- Yes (spatially explicit)

Heat

- Yes (aggregate)

- Yes (spatially explicit)

CO₂

- Yes (aggregate)**

- Yes (spatially explicit)

Hydrogen

- Yes (aggregate)**

- Yes (spatially explicit)

Energy end-use technologies**Passenger transportation**

- Passenger trains**
- Buses**

- Light Duty Vehicles (LDVs)**
- Electric LDVs**

Hydrogen LDVs Hybrid LDVs Gasoline LDVs Diesel LDVs Passenger aircrafts**Freight transportation** Freight trains Heavy duty vehicles Freight aircrafts Freight ships**Industry** Steel production Aluminium production Cement production Petrochemical production Paper production Plastics production Pulp production**Residential and commercial** Space heating Space cooling Cooking Refrigeration Washing Lighting

Land-use

*Model documentation: Land-use - IMAGE***Land cover** Cropland Cropland irrigated Cropland food crops Cropland feed crops Cropland energy crops Forest Managed forest Natural forest Pasture Shrubland Built-up area**Agriculture and forestry demands** Agriculture food Agriculture food crops Agriculture food livestock Agriculture feed Agriculture feed crops Agriculture feed livestock Agriculture non-food Agriculture non-food crops Agriculture non-food livestock Agriculture bioenergy Agriculture residues Forest industrial roundwood Forest fuelwood Forest residues**Agricultural commodities** Wheat Rice Other coarse grains Oilseeds Sugar crops Ruminant meat Non-ruminant meat and eggs Dairy products

Emission, climate and impacts

Model documentation: Emissions - IMAGE, Climate - IMAGE, Non-climate sustainability dimension - IMAGE

Greenhouse gases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO2 fossil fuels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N2O land use	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO2 cement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N2O other	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO2 land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CFCs	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CH4 energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HFCs	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CH4 land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SF6	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CH4 other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PFCs	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N2O energy		
Pollutants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SO2 other	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BC energy	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CO other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BC land use	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOx energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BC other	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOx land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OC energy	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOx other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OC land use	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VOC energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OC other	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VOC land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NH3 energy	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VOC other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NH3 land use	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SO2 energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NH3 other	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SO2 land use		
	Climate indicators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concentration: CO2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: Kyoto gases
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concentration: CH4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: aerosols
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concentration: N2O		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: land albedo	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concentration: Kyoto gases		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: AN3A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: CO2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: total	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: CH4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temperature change	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: N2O		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sea level rise	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radiative forcing: F-gases		<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean acidification	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Soil carbon enhancement	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct air capture	
Carbon dioxide removal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bioenergy with CCS	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhanced weathering	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reforestation		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Afforestation		
Climate change impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy demand	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy supply	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic output	

Built capital

Inequality

Co-Linkages

- Energy security: Fossil fuel imports & exports (region)
- Energy access: Household energy consumption
- Air pollution & health: Source-based aerosol

emissions

- Air pollution & health: Health impacts of air Pollution
- Food access
- Water availability
- Biodiversity

Model Documentation - IMAGE

Introduction

Integrated Model to Assess the Global Environment (IMAGE) 3.0 is a comprehensive integrated modelling framework of interacting human and natural systems. The model framework is suited to large scale (mostly global) and long-term (up to the year 2100) assessments of interactions between human development and the natural environment, and integrates a range of sectors, ecosystems and indicators. The impacts of human activities on the natural systems and natural resources are assessed and how such impacts hamper the provision of ecosystem services to sustain human development.

The model identifies socio-economic pathways, and projects the implications for energy, land, water and other natural resources, subject to resource availability and quality. Unintended side effects, such as emissions to air, water and soil, climatic change, and depletion and degradation of remaining stocks (fossil fuels, forests), are calculated and taken into account in future projections.

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- GHGs
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- Modelling of climate indicators
- Climate damages, temperature changes

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References

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