
AETOS_model

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📌 Important

This documentation is under active development. All content is openly available to support transparency, reproducibility, and extensions by the modelling community.

OVERVIEW

This is the documentation for the **AETOS (Africa–Europe Energy Transition OSeMOSYS)** model, developed under the RE-INTEGRATE project (Horizon Europe, Grant No. 101118217).

The **Africa–Europe Energy Transition OSeMOSYS (AETOS)** model is a multi-country, open-source energy system model that explores long-term energy pathways and trade between Africa and Europe. It extends and integrates the **OSeMBE (Europe)** and **TEMBA (Africa)** frameworks, providing the most detailed representation to date of national power systems, intra-continental trade, and cross-continental grid interconnectors and gas pipelines.

AETOS is designed to analyze how Africa and Europe can transition toward net-zero energy systems while considering electricity and natural gas trade. The model enables researchers, policymakers, and analysts to explore scenarios that capture infrastructure investments, policy pathways, and sustainability targets across **78 countries**.

KEY FEATURES

- **Geographic coverage:** 48 African countries and 30 European countries (incl. Finland, UK, Switzerland) each modeled individually.
- **Time horizon:** 2021–2055 annual analysis.
- **Demand coverage:** National electricity generation and gas demand (other sectors such as transport, buildings, and services not explicitly modeled yet).
- **Energy trade representation:** Grid interconnectors, Natural Gas pipelines, LNG infrastructure.
- **Units & currency:** Capacities in GW, fuel flows in PJ, emissions in MtCO₂, and all costs in constant 2021 USD.

FINDING THE GITHUB REPOSITORY

All model code, data-processing scripts, and workflow tools are openly hosted in the [AETOS GitHub repository](#). You can browse the source, submit issues, or contribute improvements.

HOW TO CITE

If you use AETOS in your work, please cite:

E. Kousoulos et al. (2025).
The Africa–Europe Energy Transition OSeMOSYS (AETOS) Model:
A Multi-Country Framework for Cross-Continental Energy Trade.
Zenodo. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17638228>

4.1 Welcome

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4.1.3 Finding the GitHub Repository

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 Zenodo. DOI: <https://zenodo.org/records/17007181>

4.2 Model Architecture

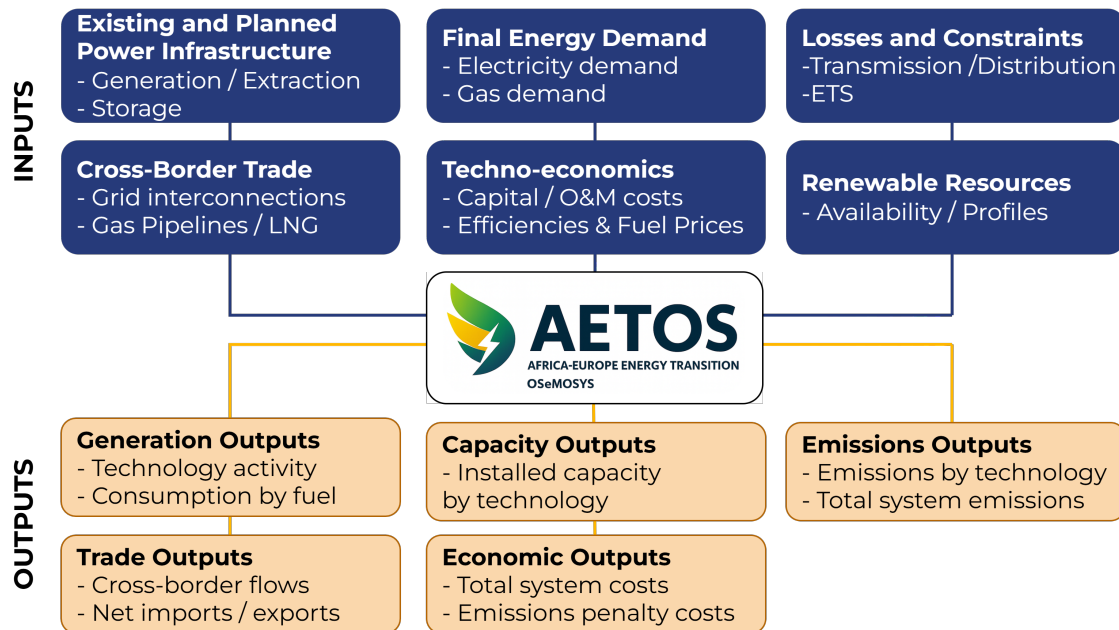
4.2.1 Model Structure

The AETOS model builds on the OSeMOSYS framework to provide a transparent, open-source tool for cross-continental energy system analysis. Its design philosophy emphasizes reproducibility, comparability across regions, and scalability from national to continental level.

Framework & Philosophy

- Fully based on the OSeMOSYS open-source modeling framework.
- Emphasis on transparency, open data, and reproducibility.
- Designed for multi-regional, long-term scenario exploration.

The diagram below shows the **AETOS input–output structure**, linking key datasets to model outputs:



Regions & Countries

AETOS covers **78 countries** across Africa and Europe, with each country modeled individually.:

Africa (48)

Country	ISO
Algeria	DZ
Malawi	MW
Angola	AO
Mali	ML
Benin	BJ
Mauritania	MR
Botswana	BW
Morocco	MA
Burkina Faso	BF
Mozambique	MZ
Burundi	BI
Namibia	NA
Cameroon	CM
Niger	NE
Central African Rep.	CF
Nigeria	NG
Chad	TD
Rwanda	RW
Côte d'Ivoire	CI
Senegal	SN
Djibouti	DJ
Sierra Leone	SL
DR Congo	CD
Somalia	SO
Egypt	EG
South Africa	ZA
Equatorial Guinea	GQ
South Sudan	SS
Eritrea	ER
Sudan	SD
Eswatini	SZ
Tanzania	TZ
Ethiopia	ET
Togo	TG
Gabon	GA
Tunisia	TN
Gambia	GM
Uganda	UG
Ghana	GH
Zambia	ZM
Guinea	GN
Zimbabwe	ZW
Guinea-Bissau	GW
Kenya	KE
Lesotho	LS
Liberia	LR

continues on next page

Table 1 – continued from previous page

Country	ISO
Libya	LY

Europe (30)

Country	ISO
Austria	AT
Lithuania	LT
Belgium	BE
Luxembourg	LU
Bulgaria	BG
Latvia	LV
Switzerland	CH
Malta	MT
Cyprus	CY
Netherlands	NL
Czechia	CZ
Norway	NO
Germany	DE
Poland	PL
Denmark	DK
Portugal	PT
Estonia	EE
Romania	RO
Spain	ES
Sweden	SE
Finland	FI
Slovenia	SI
France	FR
Slovakia	SK
Greece	GR
United Kingdom	UK
Croatia	HR
Hungary	HU
Ireland	IE
Italy	IT

Technologies & Fuels

The AETOS model represents **3,283 technologies**, spanning all major fuels and system components.

Table 3: Fuels

Category	Fuels
Fossil	Coal, Lignite, Natural Gas, Fuel Oil / Heavy Fuel, Light Fuel, Diesel Oil, Refinery Gas, Derived Gas
Renewables	Solar, Wind, Hydropower, Biomass, Geothermal, Tidal, Ocean/Wave, Waste
Secondary / Vectors	Nuclear, Battery, Electricity

Temporal Resolution

- **Horizon:** 2021–2060 (yearly time steps).
- **Intra-annual resolution:** 16 time-slices (4 seasons × 4 daily periods), ensuring seasonal and daily demand peaks are fully captured.

Seasons (S)

Code	Season	Days
S1	Winter	90
S2	Spring	92
S3	Summer	92
S4	Autumn	91
	Total	365

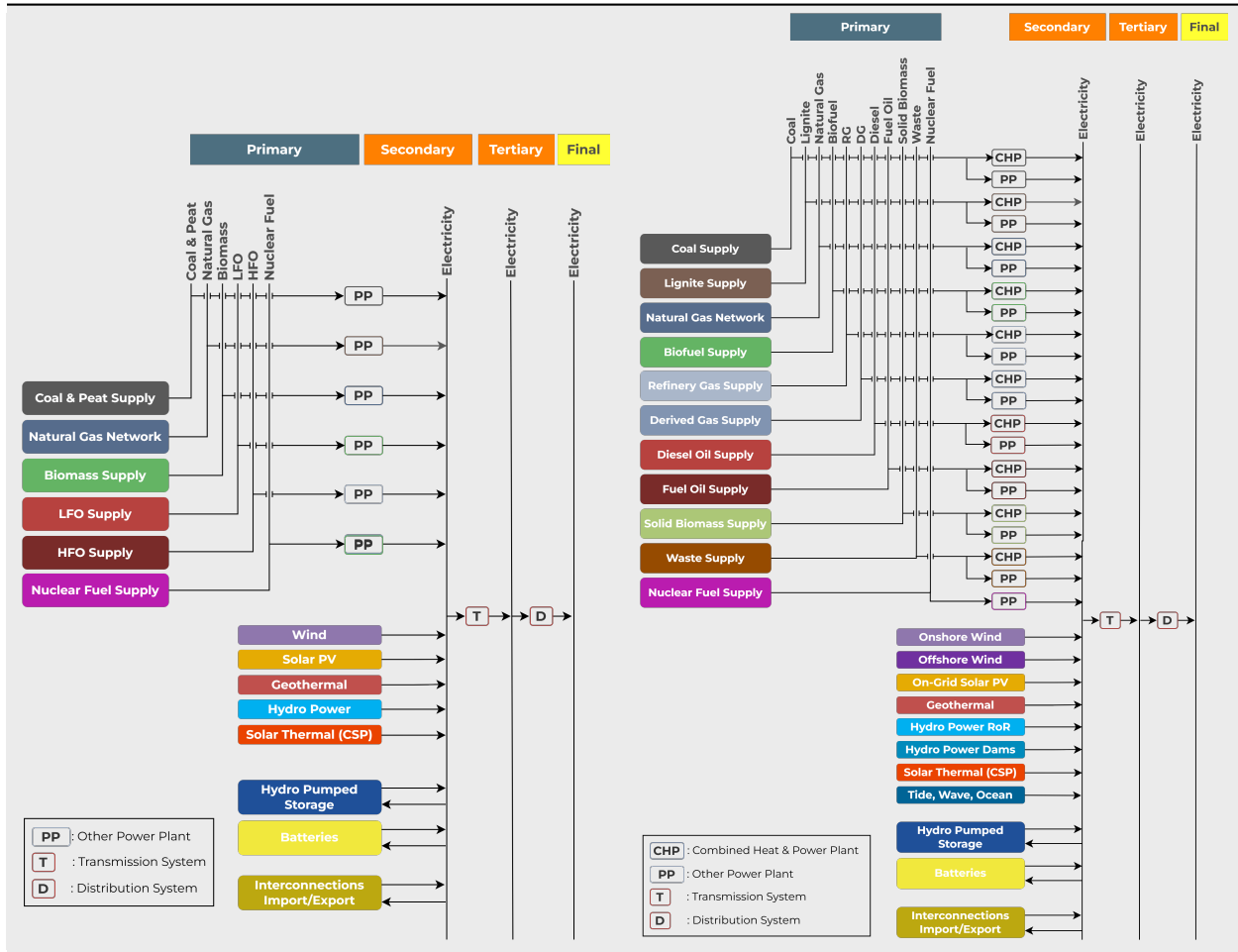
Daily parts (P)

Code	Start (h)	End (h)	Duration (h)
P1	0	7	7
P2	7	17	10
P3	17	21	4
P4	21	24	3
		Total	24

4.2.2 System Design

Reference Energy System

These Reference Energy Systems (RES) provide a schematic view of how **energy resources, technologies, and demand sectors** are connected within the model. They illustrate flows from **primary resources** (fossil, renewable, imports) through **conversion technologies** (power plants, trade infrastructure, storage) to meet **final electricity and gas demand**.

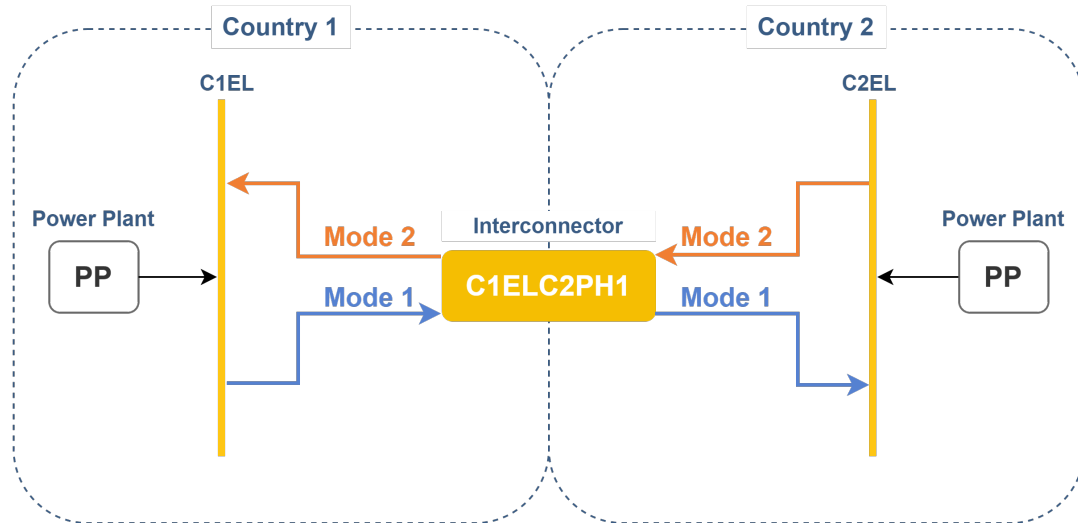


Interconnection Structure

The model represents electricity interconnections explicitly. Each link between two countries is modeled as a **bidirectional interconnector** with two modes:

- **Mode 1:** Power flow from *Country 1* → *Country 2*
- **Mode 2:** Power flow from *Country 2* → *Country 1*

This structure allows detailed accounting of **imports, exports, and trade balances**, while consistently linking power plants, demand, and regional grids.



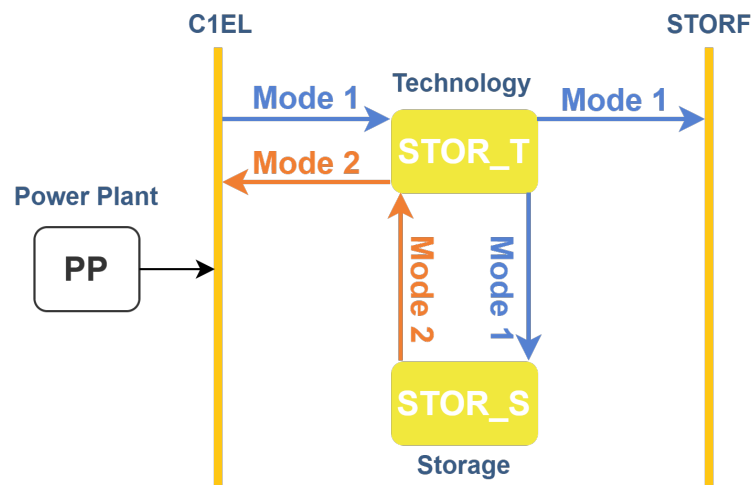
Storage Structure

The model represents storage explicitly by separating **technology operation** and **storage content** into two linked components:

- **STOR_T (Technology):** governs charging and discharging of energy.
- **STOR_S (Storage):** tracks stored energy across time periods.

Two modes are used:

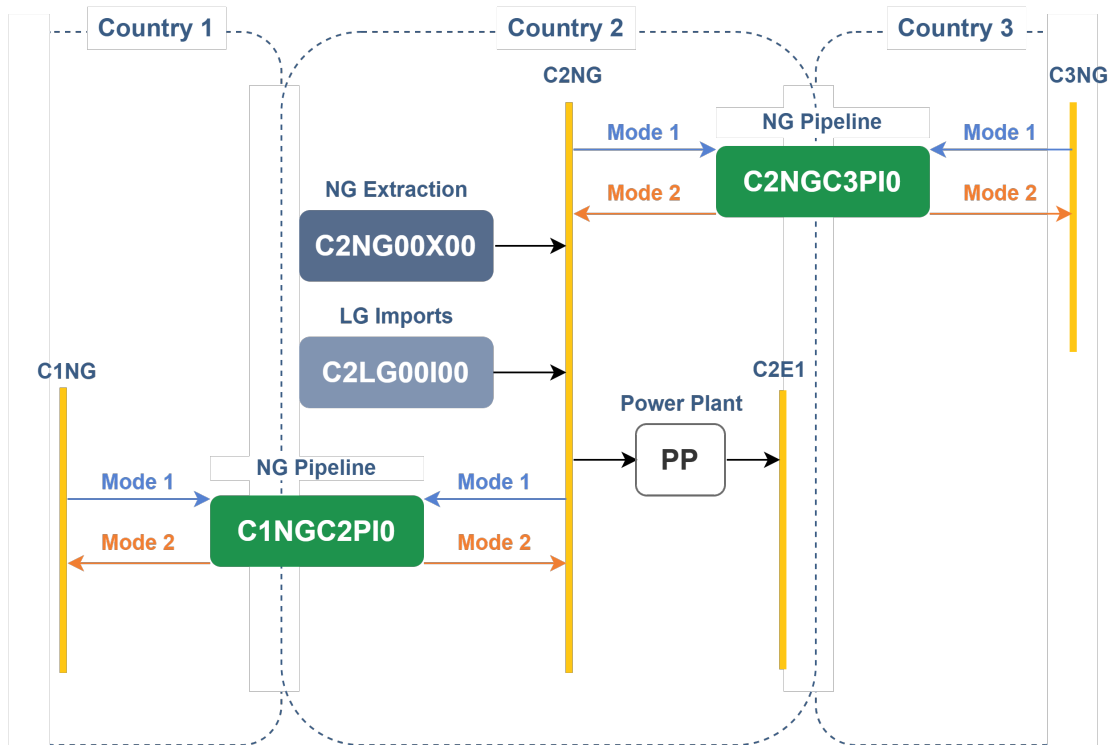
- **Mode 1:** Charging (from grid/plant → storage).
- **Mode 2:** Discharging (from storage → grid/plant).



Natural Gas Network Structure

The model represents natural gas flows through **pipelines**, **LNG terminals** and **domestic extraction technologies**.

- Pipelines are modeled as **bidirectional links** (Mode 1 = export, Mode 2 = import).
- LNG imports and exports are included as separate technologies.
- Domestic extraction is captured explicitly via NG00X00 technologies.



4.2.3 Naming Manual

This manual explains the **AETOS naming conventions** for technologies, fuels, backstops, and infrastructure. Codes are **systematic, compact, and interpretable**, ensuring reproducibility and transparency.

Technologies

i Technology Structure

COUNTRY FUEL TECHNOLOGY CLASS

Fuel Codes

Fuel Code	Fuel Name
NU	Nuclear
CO	Coal
LI	Lignite
NG	Natural Gas
SO	Solar
WI	Wind
HYD	Hydropower
BM	Biomass
BATT	Battery
WS	Waste
DG	Derived Gas
HF	Fuel Oil / Heavy Fuel
LF	Light Fuel
RG	Refinery Gas
DS	Diesel Oil
GO	Geothermal
TID	Tidal
OCWV	Ocean / Wave

Technology Codes

Tech Code	Description
CHP	Combined Heat & Power
STP	Steam Turbine Plant
CCP	Combined Cycle Plant
GCP	Gas Turbine Plant
GCC	Gas Combined Cycle
HPF	Internal Combustion Engine
CCS	Carbon Capture Storage
ON	Wind Onshore
OF	Wind Offshore
UTP / U1P	Solar Utility Plant
STH / C1P	Solar Thermal
MP / MS	Hydro Reservoir
SP	Pumped Storage
RP	Hydro Run-of-River
RCP	Reciprocating Engine
CVP	Geothermal
SCP	Sub-critical Pulverised Coal
NDP	Wind (Africa)

Class Codes

Class Code	Meaning
H1	Historical
N1	New

Example

CY SO UTP H1 = Cyprus, Solar Utility Plant, Historical

Backstops

i Backstops Structure

COUNTRY BACKSTOP_TYPE

Backstop Codes

Backstop	Meaning
BACKSTOP	Technology capacity issues
CO2BACKSTOP	Emissions issues
NGBACKSTOP	Natural gas supply issue

Example CY CO2BACKSTOP = Cyprus, CO₂ emissions backstop

Feed-in Fuel Technologies

i Feed-in-Fuels Structure

COUNTRY FUEL 00I00

Example CY NG 00I00 = Cyprus, Natural Gas Import node

Transmission

i Transmission Structure

COUNTRY EL00T00

Example CY EL00T00 = Cyprus, Electricity Transmission

Distribution

i Distribution Structure

COUNTRY EL00D00

Example CY EL00D00 = Cyprus, Electricity Distribution

LNG Imports

i LNG Imports Structure

COUNTRYLG00I00

Example CY LG00I00 = Cyprus LNG Import

LNG Exports

i LNG Exports Structure

COUNTRY LG00E00

Example CY LG00E00 = Cyprus LNG Export

Natural Gas Extraction

i Natural Gas Extraction Structure

COUNTRY NG00X00

Example DZ NG00X00 = Algeria, NG Extraction

Natural Gas Pipelines

i Natural Gas Pipelines Structure

COUNTRY1 NG COUNTRY2 PI0

Example DZ NG IT PI0 = Algeria → Italy NG Pipeline

Grid Interconnections

i Grid Interconnections Structure

COUNTRY1 EL COUNTRY2 PH1

Example AO EL NA PH1 = Angola Namibia Electricity Interconnection

Storages

i Storage Structure

COUNTRY STORAGE_TYPE CLASS

Storage Code	Description
BATT	Battery Storage
HYDSP	Hydrogen Storage
HYDSS	Hydro Reservoir Storage

Example MA BATT N1 = Morocco, Battery, New

Fuels**i Fuels Structure**

COUNTRY FUEL

Fuel Codes

Fuel Code	Description
E1	Electricity Transmission
E2	Electricity Distribution
E3	Electricity Supply
BATF	Battery Fuel
NGE	Natural Gas Export

Example CY E1 = Cyprus, Electricity Transmission

Emissions**i Emissions Structure**

COUNTRYCO2

Example CY CO2 = Cyprus, CO₂ emissions

4.3 Datasets

The AETOS model is built on openly available and institutional datasets, processed into a consistent OSeMOSYS-ready format to support transparent and reproducible analysis.

4.3.1 Input Assumptions

Input Assumption Files

The AETOS model uses a collection of Excel files for assumptions on capacity, demand, fuel supply, trade, and technoeconomics. Each file is linked to openly available datasets and institutional sources.

Category	Sources
Electricity Capacity	JRC-IDEES, ENTSO-E, ENTSO-G, IRENA, EU Reference Scenario 2020
Fuel Supply & Extraction	IEA, IRENA Statistics, UN Energy Data, Africa Continental Master Plan (CMP)
Natural Gas & LNG	ENTSO-G, IEA Gas Market Reports, Africa CMP, IRENA
Interconnections	ENTSO-E TYNDP, Africa Continental Master Plan
Techno-economics	EU Reference Scenario 2020, IRENA, CMP, Energy Price Databases
Transmission & Losses	ENTSO-E, IEA Africa Energy Outlook
Demand	TIAM-ECN Projections, EU Reference Scenario 2020, Africa CMP
Climate Policy	EU ETS, European Commission Climate Targets

Processing Methods

Data Harmonization & Preparation

The input datasets were processed into **consistent OSeMOSYS-ready formats** to ensure transparency, comparability, and reproducibility. The main steps included:

- **Unit Harmonization** → All energy and capacity data converted into consistent units (PJ, TWh, bcm, GW).
- **Code Mapping** → Alignment of national ISO codes with the OSeMOSYS regional and technology structure.
- **Gap-Filling** → Missing data filled using proxies from trusted sources (IEA, IRENA, UN datasets).
- **Transformation Pipelines** → Automated Python scripts standardize raw data into clean CSV templates ready for the model.

4.3.2 Zenodo Repository

Important

All processed datasets, model files, and scenario outputs are openly available on Zenodo: [AETOS Dataset](#)

The full model runner and source code are also available on GitHub: [AETOS-model](#)

Please cite this Zenodo record alongside the model documentation when using AETOS in your research.

4.4 Installation & Setup

4.4.1 Setup Steps

Setting up the AETOS model is straightforward. Follow the four steps below to get started:

Warning

Make sure you have [Python](#) and [Miniconda](#) installed beforehand.

Step 1 – Clone the Github Repository

Clone the [Github repository](#), which contains everything from data editing to running and visualisation:

```
git clone https://github.com/ekousoulos/AETOS_model.git
cd AETOS_model
```

Step 2 – Create a Python Environment

Use **Miniconda** (or Anaconda) to create a clean Python environment for running the provided scripts:

```
conda create -n aetos python=3.11
conda activate aetos
```

Step 3 – Install a Solver

You need GLPK to generate the LP file, and a high-performance solver (CPLEX or Gurobi) to solve it efficiently:

- **GLPK** (open-source, **mandatory** for LP file creation)
- **CPLEX** (fast & robust, academic license available)
- **Gurobi** (powerful commercial solver, free academic license)
- **CBC** (open-source, decent performance for medium models)
- **HiGHS** (very fast open-source solver, promising alternative for LP/MIP)

Example installation for GLPK (Linux/Mac):

```
conda install -c conda-forge glpk
```

Example installation for CPLEX (Linux/Mac/Windows):

```
conda install -c ibmdecisionoptimization cplex
```

Step 4 – Install Otoole

Otoole is the main utility for handling OSeMOSYS input/output.

```
pip install otoole
```

4.4.2 Additional Packages for Visualisation

For plotting and analysis, you will also need **pandas**, **numpy** and **matplotlib** withing your **aetos** Python environment:

```
pip install pandas numpy matplotlib
```

You're all set! After these steps, you can run the AETOS workflows, edit data, solve scenarios, and visualise results.

4.5 Running Model & Results

4.5.1 Project Structure

The **AETOS** [GitHub repository](#) is organised into two main components:

- **AETOS_Assumptions**, which contains all input datasets, and
- **AETOS_Runner**, the full model-runner environment.

Inside **AETOS_Runner**, you will find:

CSVFiles → OSeMOSYS parameters in CSV format (generated by Otoole)

input_data → User-edited input data in Excel format (multiple versions)

model → OSeMOSYS model in TXT format (used for solver runs)

output_data → Converted input (XLSX → TXT) for solver execution (via Otoole)

results → Solver output in TXT format

scripts → Python scripts for data processing and automation

visualisation → Plots and reports (PDF/PNG)

commands_AETOS.txt → Example command-line workflow (Miniconda + Otoole + solver)

config_otoole_AETOS.yaml → Otoole configuration file (parameters + defaults)

4.5.2 Running the Model

This section walks you through the **complete AETOS workflow** — from preparing inputs to exporting results.

When running commands, replace <SCENARIO_NAME> with your chosen scenario tag (e.g. AETOS_BSNZ).

Step 1 – Prepare Input Data

Once you have edited your scenario Excel file (.xlsx), convert it into CSV and then into the OSeMOSYS datafile for solver execution:

```
otoole convert excel csv input_data/<SCENARIO_NAME>.xlsx CSVFiles config_otoole_v3_AETOS.
↪yaml

otoole convert csv datafile CSVFiles output_data/<SCENARIO_NAME>.txt config_otoole_v3_
↪AETOS.yaml
```

Step 2 – Generate LP File (GLPK)

Use **GLPK** to generate the LP problem file:

```
glpsol -m model/osemosys_fast_v8_AETOS.txt -d output_data/<SCENARIO_NAME>.txt --wlp_
↪results/results.lp --check
```

Step 3 – Solve the Model (e.g. CPLEX)

Run **CPLEX** to solve the optimization problem:

```
cplex
read results/results.lp
optimize
write results/results.sol
quit
```

Step 4 – Process and Sort Results

Transform and sort the solver output:

```
python scripts/transform_31072013.py results/results.sol results/trans_results.txt
sort results/trans_results.txt > results/trans_results_sorted.txt
```

Step 5 – Export Results to Excel

Finally, export the processed results into Excel format for analysis and visualisation. The generated files will be saved in the `results/` folder, automatically named according to the current date and version tag.

```
python scripts/export_to_excel.py
```

4.6 Visualisation

4.6.1 Visualization & Plotting

The repository includes dedicated plotting scripts for analysing key outputs, such as **installed capacity** and **generation activity**. Run them by passing the results file and scenario tag as arguments.

Replace <RESULTS_FILE> with the name of your results file (e.g. 20250912_UNNZv1.csv), and <TAG> with the scenario tag (e.g. UNNZ):

```
python scripts/totalcapnorm.py results/<RESULTS_FILE> <TAG>
python scripts/totalactnorm.py results/<RESULTS_FILE> <TAG>
```

The first script produces **normalised capacity plots**, while the second produces **normalised activity plots**. Figures are saved automatically into the visualisation folder.

4.7 Scenario Example

This section demonstrates the full workflow of running the model with the scenario AETOS_UNNZ20250911 (*Unrestricted Trade, Net-Zero by 2050*).

The steps below show how to prepare inputs, solve the model, process results, and generate visualisations.

4.7.1 Step 1 – Transform Input Data

- **Input:** Excel file: input_data/AETOS_UNNZ20250911.xlsx & Config: config_otoole_v3_AETOS.yaml (defines parameter mappings, sets, and units)
- **Output:** CSV files: CSVFiles/ & Datafile (TXT, solver-ready): output_data/AETOS_UNNZ20250911.txt

```
otoole convert excel csv input_data/AETOS_UNNZ20250911.xlsx CSVFiles config_otoole_v3_
↪AETOS.yaml
otoole convert csv datafile CSVFiles output_data/AETOS_UNNZ20250911.txt config_otoole_v3_
↪AETOS.yaml
```

4.7.2 Step 2 – Generate LP File with GLPK

Run **GLPK** to convert the OSeMOSYS model and scenario data into a **linear program (LP) file**.

- **Input:** Model: model/osemosys_fast_v8_AETOS.txt & Data: output_data/AETOS_UNNZ20250911.txt
- **Output:** LP file: results/results.lp

```
glpsol -m model/osemosys_fast_v8_AETOS.txt -d output_data/AETOS_UNNZ20250911.txt --wlp_
↪results/results.lp --check
```

4.7.3 Step 3 – Solve the Model with CPLEX

Run **CPLEX** to solve the optimization problem from the LP file.

- **Input:** LP file: results/results.lp (generated in Step 2)
- **Output:** Solution file: results/results.sol

```
cplex
read results/results.lp
optimize
write results/results.sol
quit
```

4.7.4 Step 4 – Transform and Sort Results

Process the raw solver output into a readable format and sort it.

- **Input:** results/results.sol (CPLEX solution file)
- **Output:** - results/trans_results.txt (converted results) - results/trans_results_sorted.txt (sorted results, ready for export/analysis)

```
python scripts/transform_31072013.py results/results.sol results/trans_results.txt
sort results/trans_results.txt > results/trans_results_sorted.txt
```

4.7.5 Step 5 – Export Results to Excel

Convert the processed results into an Excel file for further analysis and visualisation.

- **Input:** results/trans_results_sorted.txt
- **Output:** results/<DATE_TAG>_v1.xlsx (Excel file saved in the results folder)

```
python scripts/export_to_excel.py
```

4.7.6 Step 6 – Visualise Results

Generate plots for **installed capacity** and **annual activity shares** using the provided Python scripts.

- **Input:** Processed results in CSV format (e.g. results/20250912_UNNZv1.csv)
- **Output:** Plots (PDF/PNG) saved in the visualisation folder

```
python scripts/totalcapnorm.py results/20250912_UNNZv1.csv UNNZ
python scripts/totalactnorm.py results/20250912_UNNZv1.csv UNNZ
```

4.8 Troubleshooting & FAQ

4.8.1 Troubleshooting

Attention

If you encounter problems, check these common issues first:

- **Solver not found** → Make sure glpsol (GLPK) or cplex is installed and available in your system PATH.

Adding to PATH:

- On **Linux/macOS**: edit ~/.bashrc (or ~/.zshrc) and add: export PATH=\$PATH:/path/to/solver
- On **Windows**: go to *System Properties* → *Environment Variables* → *Path* → *Edit*, then add the folder path containing glpsol.exe or cplex.exe.

- Restart your terminal or IDE for changes to take effect.
- **Memory issues** → Try solving with CPLEX (`--solver cplex`) or increase available RAM.
- **Long runtimes** → Test the workflow with fewer years or a reduced temporal resolution before running the full scenario.
- **No LP/SOL file created** → Double-check the input/output paths and confirm that the `results/` directory exists.

Important

The AETOS model is computationally heavy. For a full-scale scenario such as AETOS_UNNZ20250911: - Generating the LP file can take **~2 hours** - Solving with CPLEX on HPC can take **~6 hours**

If your run fails or hangs, it is most likely due to **insufficient memory**, not an error in the workflow. Consider reducing the problem size or running on a machine with more RAM/cores.

If issues persist, please open an issue on GitHub: [Report an Issue on GitHub](#)

When reporting an issue, please include:

- **Step** → At which stage of the workflow the error occurs (e.g. Step 1: Transform Input Data, Step 3: Solve with CPLEX)
- **Solver** → Which solver was used (e.g. CPLEX) and version if known
- **System details** → Operating system, Python version, and hardware specs (CPU/RAM, HPC vs local)
- **Logs** → Full error message, warnings, or relevant log output (copy-paste or attach)

4.8.2 FAQ

Which solver should I use?

Use **CPLEX** if available (faster, more memory-efficient).

Where do I find the input data?

All processed inputs are hosted on Zenodo: [AETOS Dataset on Zenodo](#)

How do I install the model?

Follow the steps under *Installation & Setup*. Clone the repo, create an environment, and install either GLPK or CPLEX.

How do I run a quick test?

Run with smaller horizon outlook, or a smaller temporal resolution to ensure everything works before attempting the full model.

My model run is too slow, what can I do?

Try switching solvers, reduce the horizon outlook, or run on HPC with more memory.

Can I contribute improvements?

Yes! Contributions are welcome. You can:

- Open a pull request on GitHub
- Submit an issue with your suggestion or bug report

Can I reuse AETOS data for my own research?

Yes, the data is open under a CC-BY license. Please cite the Zenodo repository and relevant publications.

How can I add a new country or technology?

You'll need to extend the dataset and model definition. Check the documentation on *Model Architecture* before making changes.