

Lecture 3: Hands-on-Exercise

Short written reflection (15 mins)

Purpose: This exercise asks you to use the concepts from Lecture 3 to reflect on the policy context in which your EMP modelling project sits, and to think critically about how, when, and why modelling evidence may (or may not) influence policy decisions.

You do not need detailed policy expertise. The aim is to demonstrate structured thinking, not exhaustive knowledge.

Part 1 — Public debate and policy options

- What are key ongoing debates in the policy area your EMP modelling project is aiming to inform?
- What policy and technological options are being discussed or could plausibly be considered?

Part 2 — Purpose of the modelling

What is your model trying to inform?

- Is your modelling intended to:
 - explore long-term pathways?
 - compare policy options?
 - inform near-term decisions?
 - support implementation or evaluation?
 - Other
- Be as specific as possible.

Part 3 — Mapping modelling to the policy cycle

- At which stage(s) of the policy cycle is your modelling most likely to be used?
 - problem identification
 - agenda setting
 - policy formulation
 - policy adoption
 - policy implementation
 - policy evaluation
- At which stage(s) do you expect political or institutional constraints to matter most? Why?

Part 4 — Critical reflection

Based on your answers above:

- What are the main limits of what your modelling can realistically influence?
- How might political realities affect how your results are interpreted or used?