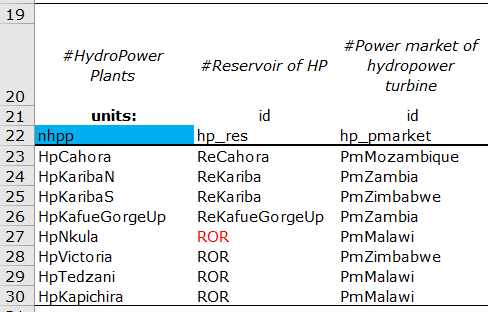
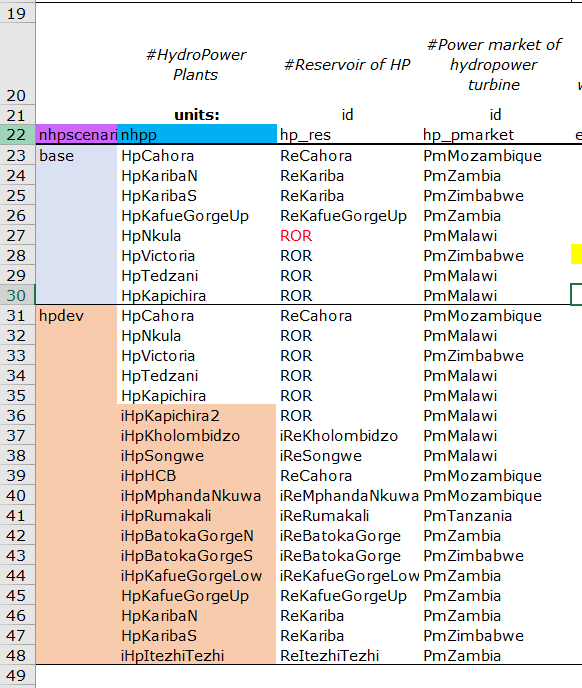
**CREATING, RUNNING AND COMPARING SCENARIOS**

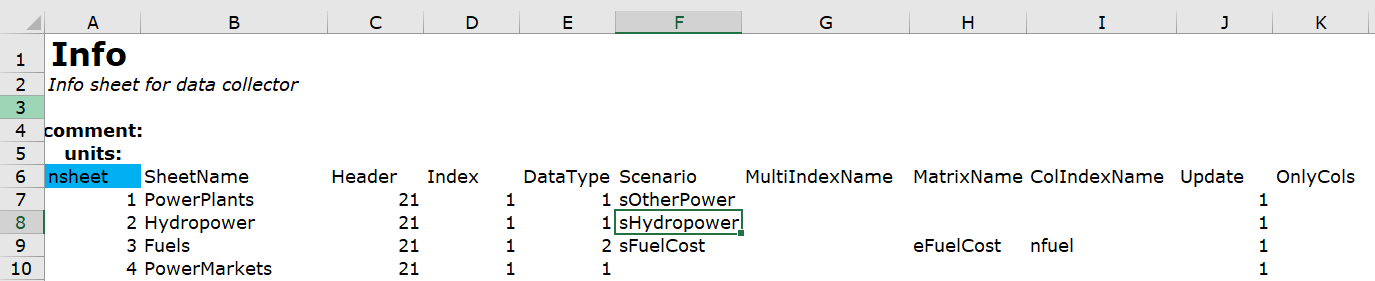
Most likely you want to compare different scenarios to evaluate different policies, the impact of infrastructure development or different climate change scenarios.

Here is how to create different scenarios, and rapidly compare them:

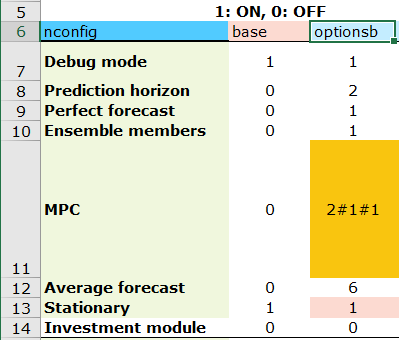
**1 Create scenarios in your data**

We use an example that applies to all data. In "EnergyModule.xlsx", sheet "Hydropower" you see the list of hydropower plants and their parameters.

To define different scenarios of Hydropower plants (e.g. different development plans), **insert a column to the left** – the name given to this column (*nhpscenario* here) does not matter as long as it is not an existing one. Then you can name your scenarios, here: "*base*" and "*hpdev*". The colors/lines do not matter, what matters is the position of the name.

Then in the "Info" sheet (first sheet of all data .xlsx files), specify that the "Hydropower" sheet has scenarios, **by entering a scenario parameter "Scenario" column** (here *sHydropower*). This parameter will then be used to communicate to the model which scenario to use in step 2.

Several data can have the same scenario parameter (*sHydropower* here), but then all scenarios need to exist for all these data (*base*, *hpdev* here). E.g. if you choose to link Reservoir and Hydropower scenarios, you proceed the same for Reservoirs, also give it the parameter *sHydropower*, and define a "*base*" and "*hpdev*" scenario.

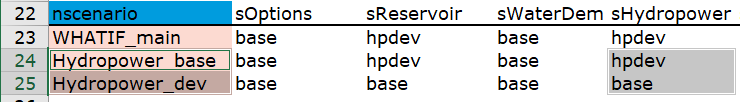
**One exception** is the definition of options scenarios. The options are defined in "MainFile.xlsx", sheet "Options". By default "sOptions" is defined as the scenario parameter in the Info sheet – this name is hardcoded and you should not change. For this data only – scenarios are defined by adding columns to the right of the existing one, the name of the scenario is the column header (*optionsb* here)

**rmq: you need to proceed to step 2 before running the model**

**2 Run different scenarios**

Now that we defined different scenarios in our data, we want to run those to compare them.

In "MainFile.xlsx", sheet "Scenarios" you can define a list of scenario combinations. By default, only "sOptions" exist. Now **you need to add columns with the scenario parameters you created** (e.g. *sHydropower*).



In "nscenario" you define the name of your global scenario (*Hydropower\_base*, *Hydropower\_dev* here), in your scenario parameter *sHydropower*, you define the specific (Hydropower) scenario data that should be used for that global scenario (*hpdev*, *base* here). The global scenario name is used to generate output files – hence do not use special characters! (avoid in general)

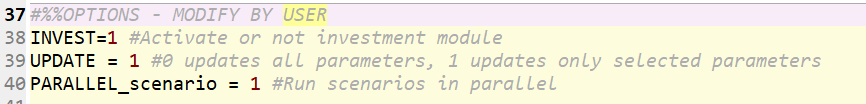
The "WHATIF\_main" is the default scenario if you run WHATIF\_main.py – you can modify this within the script by changing *'WHATIF\_main'* by the name of the scenario you would like to run. (e.g. *Hydropower\_base, Hydropower\_dev*)



**However, most likely, you want to run those scenarios in batch.**

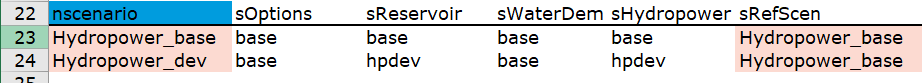
For this use the script "WHATIF\_scenario.py" it will run all scenarios defined in the "Scenario" sheet (MainFile.xlsx) – you do **not need** to have *WHATIF\_main* defined.

**TIP:** define all the scenarios of interest in a separate sheet e.g. *Scenarios\_save,* and then paste only those you want to run in *Scenarios*).

In the script, the option PARALLEL\_scenario enables you to runs scenarios in parallel (=1), or in series (=0). Parallel computing is only possible if you have several cores – or use a server. 

By default WHATIF\_scenario.py will create in the "Results" folder a folder with *.txt* and *.xlsx* files with the individual scenario results, and summary excel file "Scenario\_compare.xlsx"

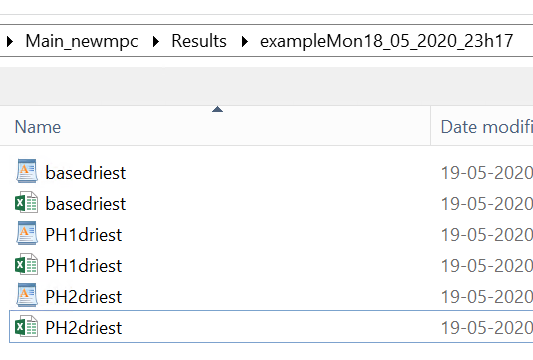
An additional feature you might want to use, is to assign a "reference" scenario to your different scenarios. This will show the indicators in the summary results as relative to this reference scenario (in addition to absolute values). To do this **add a column "sRefScen"** (if not existing), and **define the reference scenarios**. Here for example the reference scenario of *Hydropower\_dev* is *Hydropower\_base,* hence in the "Scenario\_compare.xlsx" you will be able to visualize the relative impact of the new hydropower plants you defined previously.



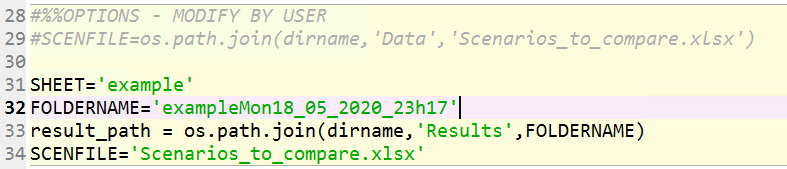
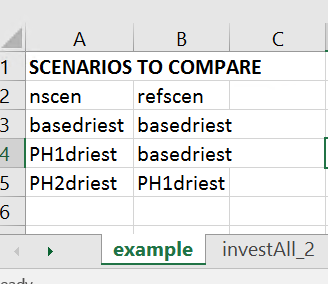
If you ran scenarios individually or in different batches and want to compare them in a summarized file, follow step 3.

**3 Comparing different scenarios**

By default, when running scenarios (with WHATIF\_main.py or WHATIF\_scenario.py) .txt files are created with some selected key indicators for the scenario. These have the name of the global scenario, e.g. *Hydropower\_dev.txt* and *Hydropower\_base.txt*. If you want to compare those efficiently, you can combine the key indicators in a single excel output (rmk: this is done by default when running scenarios in Batch as seen in step 2).

To do so, **drop all the corresponding .txt files in a same folder** (by default script will assume this folder to be in the "Results" folder). Rmk: .xlsx files **are not** necessary.

In the "Scenarios\_to\_compare.xlsx" (by default located in the main folder) file **create a sheet with the different scenarios** (column "nscen") and their reference scenarios (column "refscen")."nscen" and "refscen" are hard coded (and at line 2), you can modify the other names.



Open WHATIF\_scenario\_to\_xlsx.py and **enter the sheetname and foldername to use**, here: *'example'* and *'exampleMon\_18\_05\_2020\_23h17'*

**Run the script.** It should have created a file SCENARIO\_compare.xlsx in this folder. **If you want a method to compare scenarios in depth, look at "How\_to\_Use\_WHATIF\_visualize.docx"**