Policy Questions
A proposed indicator identification mechanism

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Recap: NETGREEN’s Output

- Online tool
- Open access

To identify and compare indicators that can be used to measure progress towards a Green Economy

- Returns indicators, and provides links to data
Search mechanism

- How will users identify indicators?

- Propose 3 search mechanisms:
  1. Keyword search
  2. Filter by indicator criteria
     Who produced the indicator? How is the indicator produced (methodology)? What data is available for the indicator? Etc.
  3. Filter/key word search using policy questions
Why use a policy questions search mechanism?

- Helps us ensure we meet users’ search needs
  - Database will have to be updated as these evolve

- Users **don’t need to have prior knowledge** about the types of indicators needed

- Can be used to **sense check** users’ thinking

- Helps users take account of **connected issues** and see the bigger picture
How do we structure the policy questions?

- Overarching, broad headline questions

  “Will our current economic strategy enable us to achieve/accelerate progress towards a green economy?”

  “To the extent that change is needed, what is the relative importance of different drivers for achieving change? And which of these drivers are susceptible to influence?”
How do we structure the policy questions?

Second, third and fourth-level questions delve into increasing levels of detail.
How do we structure the policy questions?

**Broad** Questions: Return *many* indicators

**Specific** Questions: Return *few* indicators

- **Headline Question**
  - 2nd level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
        - Environmental sustainability
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level

- **Headline Question**
  - 2nd level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level

- **Headline Question**
  - 2nd level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
      - Economic resilience & sustainability
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level

- **Headline Question**
  - 2nd level
    - 3rd level
      - 4th level
      - Economic performance & well-being
A worked example

Which indicators can we use to identify the best opportunities to influence consumption away from damaging patterns?
Browse for relevant questions

Environmental Sustainability question set – 2nd Level Questions

1. What is the risk of infringing environmental limits and incurring very large costs?
2. What is the projected cost of non-catastrophic damage to the environment?
3. What is our nation’s contribution to the risk and cost posed by environmental damage, compared to other countries?
4. How efficiently are we delivering wellbeing in terms of the risk and cost implied by environmental damage?
5. What is the impact of changing population levels on our contribution to environmental risk and costs?
**Environmental Sustainability question set – 3rd Level Questions**

1. What is the contribution to environmental risks and costs of the degradation of environmental assets?

2. How does each sector & product group contribute to environmental degradation, now and in the future?

3. How is environmental degradation by different sectors and product groups affected by changes to drivers?

4. What impact is technological innovation likely to have on the efficiency of different sectors & product groups?

5. How likely are consumption switches from high impact sectors and product groups?
Browse for relevant questions

Environmental Sustainability question set – 4th Level Questions

2.5.1 What changes in sectoral/product group consumption patterns are visible?

2.5.2 What changes in leisure time/consumption preferences are visible?

2.5.3 Are relative price changes pushing consumption into less environmentally harmful consumption or the other way around?

Relevant indicators and information about them are returned – users can then filter search results using indicator criteria
A worked example

What is the key issue I need to understand how we’re progressing on?

– Jobs
### Keyword search returns relevant questions

8. What is the proportion of total wages/total value added in jobs that are ‘green’? How does it compare to other countries?

8.1 How many green jobs are there?

8.4 What is happening to the number of good jobs in green industries?

10. Is the economy delivering four of the key economic drivers of wellbeing – household income, good jobs, quality public services and a healthy environment?

10.6 What is happening to the number/proportion of good jobs?

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Relevant indicators and information about them are returned – users can then filter search results using indicator criteria.
Discussion

- What types of questions need to be included?
- Does the **structure** we’re proposing seem to enable users to quickly navigate to the question they’d like to answer?
- Are the **different levels of detail** appropriate?
- Compared to searching for indicators **using specific criteria** (methodology, data availability etc.) would this approach be:
  - Preferable
  - Inferior
  - Complementary