Policy and Project Screening Tools

Methodology

The GNH screening tools can be applied in two phases, at project level and policy level.

Generally, it consists of three types:

1. For all ministries and sectors (e.g. good governance)
2. For respective ministries (e.g. education, health)
3. For individual sectors (e.g. youth, employment)

However, the calculations are the same for all the three forms of screening tools.

Screening question

Each screening question has 4-pointer scale ranging from 1 to 4. This 4- pointer scale is ranked from the most negative to the most positive score. For the given example below, 1 denotes a negative score, 2 uncertain, 3 is a neutral score and 4 denotes a positive score.

Stress

Will increase levels of stress in the population	Do not know the effects on levels of stress in the population	Will not have any appreciable effects on levels of stress in the population	Will decrease levels of stress in the population

1	2	3	4
↓	↓	↓	↓
Negative	Uncertain	Neutral	Positive

CBS has developed such screening questions covering nine domains of GNH. So, all policies and projects have to pass through these questions in order to test their applicability in enhancing the values of GNH.

Calculation

Lets consider for example: policy A is being tested on its impacts on stress levels, culture and physical exercise. Therefore in this example, policy A will be subjected to GNH screening tool containing only three screening questions; stress, culture and physical exercise.
Positive score = 4 X Number of screening questions
= 4 X 3 = 12
Neutral score = 3 X Number of screening questions
= 3 X 3 = 9
Policy A has to score at least 9 which is the average neutral score to be accepted. If it scores below 9, then it calls for either review or rejection of the policy.

1. **Stress**

Will increase levels of stress in the population	Do not know the effects on levels of stress in the population	Will not have any appreciable effects on levels of stress in the population	Will decrease levels of stress in the population
1	2	3	4

2. **Culture**

Will decrease the Opportunity for people to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions	Do not know the effect on opportunity to learn about or participate in cultural practices	Will have no effect on opportunity to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions	Will increase opportunity to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions.
1	2	3	4

3. **Physical exercise**

Will discourage physical exercise	Not sure if it will discourage physical exercise	Will not discourage physical exercise	Will encourage physical exercise
1	2	3	4

In the current example, policy A scores 4 in stress, 3 in culture and physical exercise. The combined score is 4+3+3 = 10. Since, the combined score is above 9 (neutral score) we accept policy A and conclude that it has no negative impacts on culture, physical exercises and that it does not increase stress levels. Similarly, various policies and projects can be tested with respect to all the key issues of GNH under domains of health, psychological wellbeing, ecology, community vitality etc.

	1. Equity			
	Will favour higher income groups more than lower income groups	Do not know the differential effects on income groups	Should not have any appreciable effects on income group	Will favour lower income groups more than higher income groups
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	2. Economic security			
	Will decrease economic security within the population	Do not know the differential effects on economic security within the population	Should not have any appreciable effects on economic security within the population	Will increase economic security within the population
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	3. Material wellbeing			
	Will decrease material well-being within the population	Do not know the differential effects on material well-being within the population	Should not have any appreciable effects on material well-being within the population	Will increase in feelings of material well-being within the population
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	4. Engagement in productive activities			
	Will decrease opportunities for engaging in productive activities	Do not know the effect on productive activities.	Should have no effect on productive activities	Will increase opportunities for engaging in productive activities
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	5. Decision-making opportunity			
	Will decrease opportunity for participating in decision-making	Do not know the effect on opportunity for participating in decision-making.	Should have no effect on opportunity for participating in decision-making	Should increase opportunity for participating in decision-making
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	6. Corruption			
	Will increase opportunity for corrupt behaviour in societies	Do not know the effect on opportunity for corrupt behaviour in societies	Should have no effect on opportunity for corrupt behaviour in societies	Should decrease opportunity for corrupt behabiour in societies
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	7. Judiciary efficiency			
	Should decrease efficiency of judicial system	Do not know the effect on efficiency of judicial system	Should have no effect on efficiency of judicial system	Should increase efficiency of judicial system
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	8. Judiciary access			
	Should decrease access to judicial services	Do not know the effect on access to judicial services	Should have no effect on access to judicial services	Should increase access to judicial services
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	9. Rights			
	Should decrease protection for individual rights	Do not know the effect on protection for individual rights	Should have no effect on protection for individual rights	Should increase protection for individual rights
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	10. Gender equality			
	Will increase gender inequality	Do not know its impact on gender equality	Should have no effect on gender equality	Will promote gender equality
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	11. Information			
	Will decrease the amount of information that most people have about government activities	Do not know the effect on the amount of information that most people have about government activities	Should have no effect on the amount of information that most people have about government activities	Should increase the amount of information that people have about government activities.
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	12. Learning			
	Will decrease the number of persons who have an opportunity to increase skills and learning	Do not know the effect on persons opportunities for increasing skills and learning.	Should have no effect on persons opportunities for increasing skills and learning.	Will create an net increase in the number of persons who have an opportunity to increase skills and learning
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	13. Health			
	Will increase public health risk	Do not know its impact on the health of the population	Should have no effect on health risk	Should improve the health of the population
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	14. Water pollution			
	Will increase the amount of water pollution	Do not know the effects on water pollution	Will not have any effect on water pollution	Will decrease the amount of water pollution
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	15. Air pollution			
	Will increase the amount of air pollution	Do not know the effects on air pollution	Will not have any effect on air pollution	Will improve the quality of air
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	16. Land degradation			
	Will lead to land degradation	Do not know the effects on land degradation	Will not have any effect on land degradation	Will improve land quality
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	17. Conservation of plant			
	Will decrease the health and diversity of plants	Do not know the effects on plants	Should have no effect on the health and diversity of plants	Will improve the health and diversity of plants
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	18. Conservation of animals			
	Will decrease the health and diversity of animals	Do not know the effects on animals	Should have no effect on the health and diversity of animals	Will improve the health and diversity of animals
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	19. Social support			
	Will decrease the amount of social support available to people in time of need.	Do not know the effect on the amount of social support available in time of needs	Should have no effect on amount of social support available in time of needs	Should increase the amount of social support available to people in time of need.
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	20. Family			
	Will decrease time for interacting with family members	Do not know its impacts on time for interacting with family members	Should have no impacts on time for interacting with family members	Will increase time for interacting with family members
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	21. Nature			
	Will provide a net decrease in the number of persons who can access and enjoy nature	Do not know the effects on people's ability to access and enjoy nature	Should have no effect on people's ability to access and enjoy nature	Will provide a net increase in the number of persons who can access and enjoy nature
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	22. Recreation			
	Will decrease the opportunities that people have to spend time in recreational pursuits	Do not know the effect on opportunities that people have to spend time in recreational pursuits	Should have no effect on opportunities that people have to spend time in recreational pursuits	Should increase the opportunities that people have to spend time in recreational pursuits
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	23. Culture			
	Should decrease the opportunity for people to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions	Do not know the effect on opportunity to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions	Should have no effect on opportunity to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions	Should increase opportunity to learn about or participate in cultural practices and traditions.
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	24. Values			
	Will undermine the importance of values such as compassion and generosity	Do not know the effect on compassion and generosity values	Should have no effect on the importance of values such as compassion and generosity	Will reinforce the importance of compassion and generosity values
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	25. Spiritual pursuits			
	Will decrease the opportunities that people have to spend time in spiritual pursuits.	Do not know the effect on opportunities that people have to spend time in spiritual pursuits.	Should have no effect on opportunities that people have to spend time in spiritual pursuits.	Should increase the opportunities that people have to spend time in spiritual pursuits.
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				

	26. Stress			
	Will increase the number of people feeling stressed in the population	Do not know the effect on the number of people feeling stressed in the population	Should have no effect on the number of people feeling stressed in the population	Should decrease the number of people feeling stressed in the population
	1	2	3	4
Rationale (reasons for choosing a certain indicator)				