

Indicators for an inclusive green economy: Advanced course

Syllabus

Background

The application of indicator methodologies often requires policymakers to make adjustments to their specific national contexts. Countries need to develop tailored and flexible national indicator frameworks that respond to their development priorities and statistical capacities whilst supporting their efforts in monitoring progress towards green economy.

This free e-learning experience is meant to introduce the concept of indicators to support policymaking for an inclusive green economy (IGE) and to illustrate the use of methodologies for selecting and applying indicators. It seeks to contribute to the capacity of countries to choose indicators for IGE relevant to their country contexts, particularly in light of the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The course has been developed under the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), in collaboration with the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILLO).

Target audience

Potential participants in this training include:

- policymakers in governments and international and regional organizations;
- policy analysts and statisticians in these organizations;
- academics from a range of disciplines concerned with the economy, environment and society.

Learning objectives

The course explores the conceptual underpinning of the GEP Measurement Framework and how it contributes to the “beyond GDP” measurement agenda. Firstly, it explains how progress (or regress) on a single indicator can be measured and how these indicators can be combined into the GEP Index, with its weighting system. Secondly, it describes how to measure progress on a Dashboard of Sustainability and how to combine this information with the GEP Index to create a system for ranking countries that is informative to policymakers.

After completing the course, participants will be able to:

- Illustrate the concepts, methodology and application of the GEP Measurement Framework
- Select indicators for a customized country application and interpret relevant results
- Explain how countries' progress can be compared in a global application of the GEP Measurement Framework

Methodology and format

The course is self-paced. It is divided into four modules (lessons) to help reach the learning objectives, for a total of two hours of learning. A glossary contains definitions of relevant concepts and technical terms.

The four lessons are interactive, meaning that they make use of clickable objects, such as buttons, hotspots, tabs, accordions, flipping cards, etc. Moreover, within each lesson, users will find some quizzes that will help them to focus on the key concepts presented. Finally, in order to complete each lesson and move to the following one, users will have to pass a short basic knowledge check (3 multiple choice questions) located at the end of each lesson.

Each lesson takes approximately 45 minutes to complete.

Course structure and content

The course is structured into four modules (lessons):

1. Concepts in measuring green economy progress
2. The Green Economy Progress Measurement Framework methodology
3. Selecting indicators for country-level applications
4. Global application of the GEP Measurement Framework

Lesson 1: Concepts in measuring green economy progress

Learning objectives

After completing the module, participants will be able to:

- Explain why GDP is not sufficient to measure economic progress;
- Describe how to build a better scheme for measuring progress, such as the Green Economy Progress Measurement Framework.

Sections

1. Moving beyond GDP
2. Building a better measure of progress

Lesson 2: The Green Economy Progress Measurement Framework methodology

Learning objectives

After completing the module, participants will be able to:

- Describe what is the GEP Measurement Framework and how it helps evaluate GE progress;
- Explain the specific objectives of the GEP Measurement Framework;
- Illustrate how to measure progress in the single indicator case and in the multidimensional case.

Sections

1. Elements of the GEP Measurement Framework
2. Measuring progress in the single indicator case
3. Measuring progress in the multidimensional case: the GEP Index
4. Moving beyond the GEP Index to measure sustainability

Module 3: Selecting indicators for country-level applications

Learning objectives

After completing the module, participants will be able to:

- Explain how the non-technical criteria of salience, parsimony, and system-wide influence can become the basis for indicator selection processes;
- Describe the steps needed to build a similarity matrix as well as an influence matrix.

Sections

1. Introduction to indicators' selection
2. The criterion of salience
3. Parsimony and the similarity matrix
4. Assessing system-wide influence

Module 4: Global application of the GEP Measurement Framework

Learning objectives

After completing the module, participants will be able to:

- Identify and categorise the indicators selected for the GEP Index and the Dashboard of Sustainability;
- Describe how to set targets and thresholds within the GEP Measurement Framework;
- Illustrate the results of the global application of the GEP Measurement Framework.

Sections

1. Selecting indicators for the global application
2. Components of the GEP Index
3. Components of the Dashboard of Sustainability
4. Targets and thresholds
5. Results of the global application

Certification

A final quiz composed of ten multiple choice questions serves to assess learners' achievement of the course's learning objectives. The quiz can be taken at any time and attempted up to three times. Learners need to pass the quiz with a score of at least 70%. Once the quiz is successfully passed, a certificate of completion will be available for download on the course's Certification page.

Technical requirements

Required browser settings for viewing courses: JavaScript & Cookies must be enabled. Browsers for viewing lessons in Rise 360-Articulate:

Windows	Mac	Mobile
Google Chrome (latest version)	Google Chrome (latest version)	Safari in Apple iOS 10 or later
Microsoft Edge (latest version)	Safari (latest version)	Google Chrome in Android OS 4.4 or later
Firefox (latest version)	Firefox (latest version)	