

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Joseph W. Bull**  
Wild Business Ltd  
joe@wildbusiness.org

**Julia Baker**  
Balfour Beatty  
Julia.Baker2@balfourbeatty.com

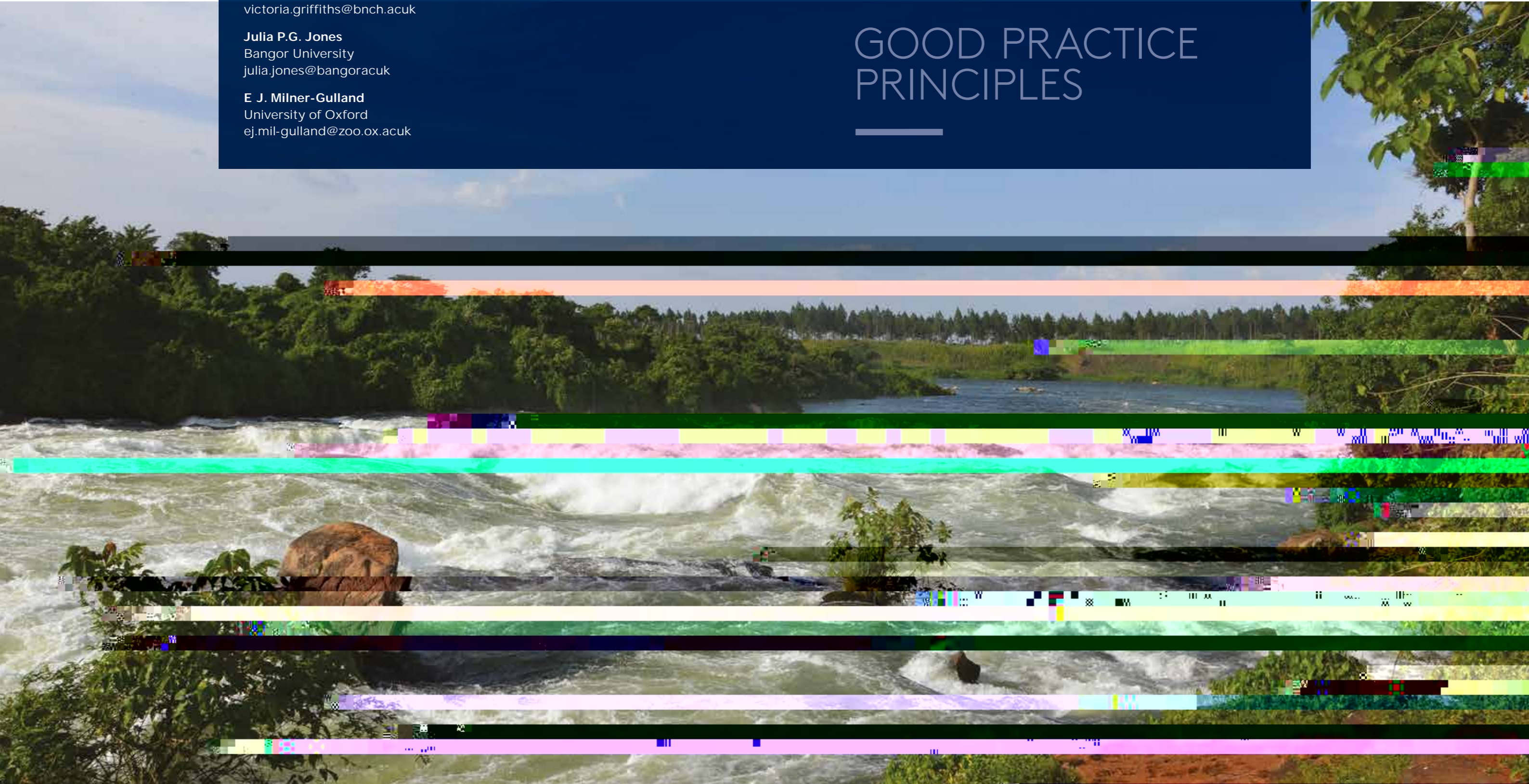
**Victoria Griffiths**  
Bangor University/University of Oxford  
victoria.griffiths@bnch.acuk

**Julia P.G. Jones**  
Bangor University  
julia.jones@bangor.acuk

**E J. Milner-Gulland**  
University of Oxford  
ej.mil-gulland@zoo.ox.acuk

# ENSURING NO NET LOSS FOR PEOPLE AS WELL AS BIODIVERSITY:

## GOOD PRACTICE PRINCIPLES







Extractive activities, the construction of infrastructure and changes in how we use land and sea are essential for development, yet they result in a significant



## 1.1 WHO IS THIS DOCUMENT FOR?

This document is for those involved with economic development projects who are



### 1.3 WHAT ARE THE SOCIAL IMPACTS OF BIODIVERSITY NNL/NG?

Development projects can cause losses and gains in biodiversity, which can affect





## BOX 2

### Terms for the relationship between people's wellbeing and nature

While NNL/NG is framed around biodiversity, discussions about social impacts in the context of environmental elements of the natural world that people value are not restricted to living organisms. Other elements might include those that are non-living but from which people derive services e.g. landscapes or seascapes, and these are included within this document.

Various terms describe the relationship between people and nature, including most prominently:

‡ 7KH FRPSRQHQWV RI SHRSOH-V that arise from nature via associated natural goods and services are collectively termed ecosystem services.

- Natural capital is the stock of naturally existing resources (biotic and abiotic) that generate flows of ecosystem service biological components and non-living landscape features e.g. waterfalls, but also extends to e.g. abiotic resources such as oil and gas reserves.

- Nature's Contribution to People is an emerging term that places an emphasis upon the role of culture in defining all links between people and nature. It has appeared on the international policy stage that the term ecosystem services inherently commodifies neFEFF0 (g)-13 (e)-1ur(en)13

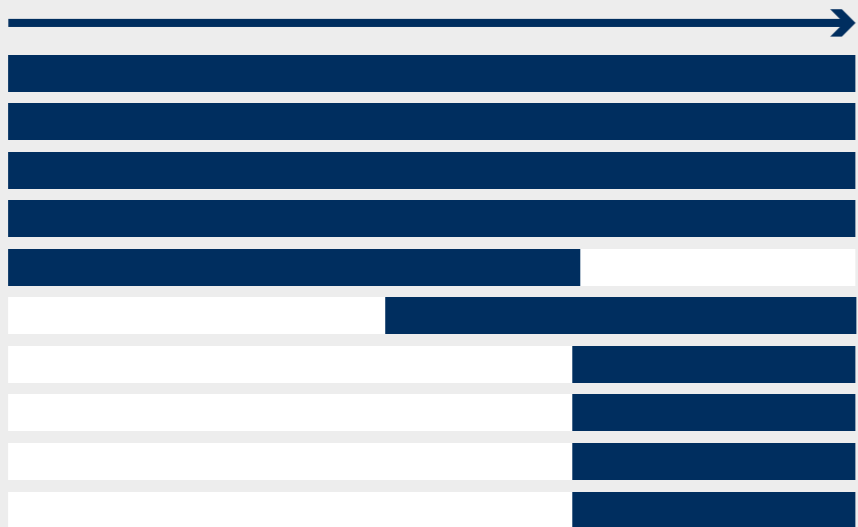
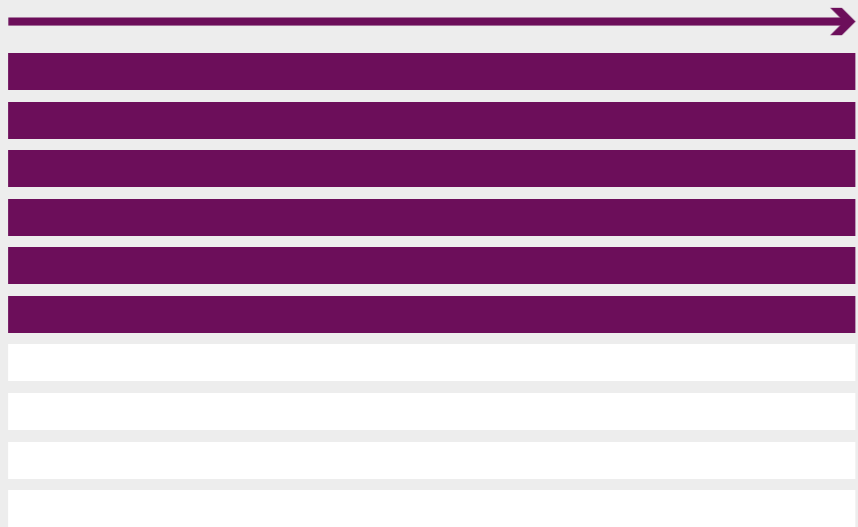
conservation gains make local people "no worse off" , for example, because of land and resource use restrictions created by a biodiversity offset.

Crucially, in practice , the implementation of NNL/NG is likely to prove easier and more efficient in the long term with local engagement and buy-in, which in turn is more likely when impacts on local people are addressed. Further, without local buy-in, development projects can face costly delays or rectification measures from objections and protests, especially during the process of obtaining regulatory approval to proceed. One reason for setting biodiversity NNL/NG targets for development projects is to secure a social license to operate and prevent risk of local conflicts; again this is more likely when the social impacts from biodiversity NNL/NG are addressed and people engaged L Q WKH SURFHVV 'HPRQVWUDWLQJ DGKHUHQFH WR good practice can also generate commercial advantages, such as more efficiently secured permits, improved brand perception, and access to finance.

Regional and national regulations in place or under development for up to 108 countries (according to the Global Inventory of



BOX 3



## Conceptual

### 1. Measurement

6 RFLDO RXWFRPHV IURP ELRGLYHUVLW\ 11/ 1\* are measured in terms of wellbeing.

Wellbeing includes material assets, health, social relations, security, and freedom of choice and action; as well as individual perceptions and expectations in relation to all of these (see Technical Note B). Individual components of wellbeing affected by biodiversity losses and gains should be measured separately rather than aggregated into a single number. A different measurement may be used if it is justified as being appropriate following engagement with affected people. But simple economic indicators, such as income, are not sufficient for measuring the social outcomes from biodiversity NNL/NG. Biodiversity losses may substantially impact SHRSOH-V IXWXUH ZHOEHLQJ ZLWKRXW WKHP necessarily being currently aware of it, e.g. habitat that provides flood regulation services. These potential impacts should also be included.

### 2. Spatial scale

on appropriate geographic, socio-economic and wellbeing groupings (e.g. household, age, gender, wealth, livelihood). The choice of aggregation unit should be transparently communicated and justified and should pay particular attention to vulnerable groups. This principle recognises that it is unlikely that every single relevant individual will consider their wellbeing to be at least as good as a result of NNL/NG, and that the choice of groups for aggregation is critical to ensuring that social outcomes from NNL/NG are equitable. Aggregated groups of people may have some overlap, which should be recognised to avoid double-counting.

#### 7. People affected by losses and gains

3 HRSOH DIIHFWHG E\ ORVVHV DQG JDLQV LQ biodiversity from a development project and its NNL/NG activities, directly or indirectly, should benefit from the compensation. These people should perceive the compensation (biodiversity offsets or otherwise) to be commensurate with the losses they incur.

Implementing this principle should incorporate UHOHYDQW JXLGDQFH DQG VWDQGDUGV H J ,)& 36 DQG , \$ , \$-V 6 , \$ SULQFLSOHV IRU DGKHULQJ WR WKH mitigation hierarchy and compensating for any residual impacts, and for maximising positive social outcomes where possible. Loss of access to any ecosystem services legitimately used by people (this may include traditional use even if not

## BOX 5

### Applying the principles: rural case study in an industrialised country

#### Scenario

\$Q XQG H U J U R X Q G R L O S L S H O L Q H L V E H L Q J X S J U D G H G W R L Q F U H D  
S D V V H V W K U R X J K D 1 D W L R Q D O 3 D U N D Q G X S J U D G L Q J L W Z L O O P  
F R Q V W U X F W L R Q D F W L Y L W L H V , Q N H H S L Q J Z L W K W K H D S S O L F D W L  
E L R G L Y H U V L W \ L P S D F W V L W K H S L S H O L Q H X S J U D G H G H Y K W V E H H Q  
W K H 3 D U N Z K H U H Y H U S R V V L E O H L L F R Q V W U X F W L R Q K D V W D N H G  
Y X O Q H U D E O H F R P S R Q H Q W V R I E L R G L Y H U V L W \ D U B L D E W X L O E V D Q R F H G R  
W R Z L O G O L I H D Q G L L L W K H S L S H O L Q H I W R R W F S X U L L Q W H K S D V D Q W H Q J e r f  
Y H J H W D W L R Q 7 R o f f s e t W H P S R U D U \ J U D V V O D Q G K D E L W D W F O H D U D G  
W R F D U U \ R X W H T X L Y D O H Q W K D E L W D W U H V W R U D W L R Q P H D V X U H V  
S U R S R V D O V Z H U H E D V H G R Q D S D U W L F L S D W R U \ D S S U R D F K W R L G  
Z L W K O R F D O V W D N H K R O G H U V

#### Social impacts identified

' H V S L W H W K H S U R S R V H G P L W L J D W L R Q P H D V X U H V  
3 D U N U H V L G H Q W V D Q G W K H F R Q V H U Y D W L R Q R I I L F H U V  
Z R U N L Q J L Q W K H 3 D U N S H U F H L Y H W K H X S J U D G H

to (i) substantially reduce the natural appeal  
of the area (a subjective assessment), and

(#)pre050a2isk<041eenn <03>

## Applying the principles: urban case study in an industrialised country

### Scenario

\$ UDLOZD\ VWDWLRQ LV EHLQJ H[SDQG HG WR LQFUHDVH WUDLQ FRQQHFWLRQ ERWLRQV WKH VWDWLRQ LV LQ D FLW\ FHQWUH DQG LWV H[SDQVLRQ ZLOO GHVWUR\ FRQVLGHUH unavailability XVH RWKHUZLVH EXVLQHVVHV UHVLGHQWLDO KRPH ZRXOG EH GHPROLVKHG 7KH SDUN KDV OLPLWHG ELRGLYHUVLW\ YDOXH OLQHG E\ WUHHV WKDW DUH RFFDVLRQDOO\ XVHG WKH FRVWV RIELUGV 7R QHVWLQJ ELUG KDELWDW WKH FRPPLVLRQLQJ DJHQF\ LQVWUXFWV WKH RSSRUWXQLWLHV LQ WKH VWDWLRQ GHVLJQ LQ ZD\V WKDW GR QRW FRPH UHTXLUHPHQWV 7KH DJHQF\ DOVR PDQGDWHV WKDW ORVV RI WKH SDUN - PHDVXUDEOH HQKDQFHPHQWV RI VLPLODU KDELWDWV LQ RWKHU SXEOLF SDUNV QHDUE\ VR WKH RIIVHW LV ZLWKLQ D SDUN NP DZD\ \*LYHQ WKH YDOXH WKH QDWLRQDO FRQVHQWLQJ DXWKRULW\ DFFHSWV WKH GHVLJQ QHVWLQJ ELUG PLWLJDWLRQ SOXV RIIVHW ZLOO DFKLHYH DQ RYHUDOO

WKH FKLOGUHQ -V SOD\ DUHD WKH VFKRRO XQGHUWDNHV educational activities there; a runners group include the park in their circuits; and the local council run a volunteer group to maintain the park, which is a valuable social interaction for

the volunteers. The team then assesses what happens if the station expansion did not occur, using local development plans and forecasts for economic growth and population density. This shows that the park is protected from development, but housing density around it will increase. While this will likely increase use of the park (and require additional resources for maintenance), it will also mean that more people are directly affected by loss of the park (#11), to develop compensation measures that

### Social impacts

While the design is predicted to achieve NNL, it causes a net loss in green space because biodiversity loss was offset by enhancing existing KDELWDW 7KLV DIIHFWV WKH ORFDUHQW. To increase habitat cover within the city to benefit both wildlife and people. In addition, people benefitting from the biodiversity offset are not the VDPH DV WKRVH ORVLQJ -WKHLU SDUHQW. So these social impacts, the commissioning agency instructs the designer to address the social impacts using the good practice principles.

### Addressing social impacts

To address the loss of habitat cover within the city, the commissioning agency funds the conversion of disused industrial areas on city outskirts into new public parks. To understand the impacts on people using the park to be lost, WKH GHVLJQHUV ELRGLYHUVLW\ DQG VRFLDO DVVHVV DQG PHDVXUH SHRSOH -V ZHOOEHLQJ associated with the park (#11). They find that the park is well-used and loved by different groups RIILFH ZRUNHUV PHHW FROOHDJXHV IRU OXQF

H[FHHG H[LVWLQJ REOLJDWLRQV

- Design of the station expansion  
Changing the design to retain space for small JUDVV\ DUHDV OLQHG E\ WUHHV IRU WKH SXEOLF -V XVH substantially increasing green infrastructure features including green walls, trees and wildflower borders along public paths.

- Before construction starts  
Expanding the project footprint (to 6 (au;As0 ( (n)-08.n (1t)5.2-11r)8.3 (c)-8 (t)-2.7 (i)3.5 (on)8 ( s)0.8 (tf 0.5T)t)18





This document is to encourage joint-working on biodiversity NNL/NG projects between biodiversity and social specialists, throughout the lifespan of the development project from scoping and feasibility through to project design, construction, operation, decommissioning and post-development monitoring.

The good practice principles reflect policy guidance, practitioner experience and the academic literature on delivering sustainable and equitable social outcomes from biodiversity NNL/NG. They provide a framework for all parties involved with biodiversity NNL/NG to follow at the project level.

The principles are broad by necessity so that they apply to wide-ranging industries at the international level. To build on these principles, I X W X U H Z R U N V K R X O G L Q F O X G H

- 5 H Y L H Z L Q J S U D F W L F D O D S S O L F D W L R Q R I  
the principles so that they are refined and updated;
- 3 U R G X F L Q J S U D F W L W L R Q H U J X L G D Q F H I R U V S H F L I L F  
industry sectors and specific countries;
- The collation of case studies to share lessons learnt;
- Consideration of how cumulative impacts

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# A

## Affected people

3 HUVRQV ZKR OLYH QHDUE\ ZLO or smell the proposed project; are forced to relocate either voluntarily or involuntarily; have an interest in the project or policy changes (whether or not they live in primary or secondary zones of influence); are interested in the potentially impacted resources; might normally use the land affected; could be affected by the influx of seasonal, temporary, or permanent residents associated with the project.

## Area of influence

The landscape in the vicinity of the project containing people likely to be significantly affected by project activities. This includes the project itself, unplanned but predictable developments caused by the project, and other developments that would not have been constructed or expanded if the project did not exist and without which the project would not be viable.

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# B

## Baseline

The conditions that would pertain in the absence of the proposed project at the time that the project would be constructed / operated / decommissioned.

## Biodiversity

The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of

## Biodiversity offset

Conservation interventions that (1) provide additional substitution or replacement for unavoidable negative impacts of human activity on biodiversity, (2) involve measurable, comparable biodiversity losses and gains, and (3) therefore enable the project as a whole to demonstrably achieve, as a minimum, no net loss of biodiversity.

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# C

## Compensation

, Q RUGHU WR GLVWLQJXLVK -FRPSHQVDWLRQ- IURP -ELRGLYHUVLW\ RIIVHWV- VHH DERYH &RPSHQVDWLRQ here involves recompense for some loss of or damages to biodiversity, and associated services. But compensation may fall short of full recompense (i.e. not meet the No Net Loss objective) and might be financial (which is typically

HFRV\VWHPV &RQYHQWLRQ RQ %LRORJLFDQ 'LYHUVLW\

## IN TEXT

<sup>1</sup> IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature).

,8&1 SROLF\ RQ ELRGLYHUVLW\ RIIVHWV \$YDLODEOH DW  
KWWSV ZZZ LXFQ RUJ WKHPH EXVLQHVV DQG ELRGLYHUVLW\  
our-work/business-approaches-and-tools/biodiversity-  
offsets).

<sup>2</sup> %%23 %XVLQHVV DQG %LRGLYHUVLW\ 2IIVHWV 3URJUDPPH  
6WDQGDUG RQ ELRGLYHUVLW\ RIIVHWV %%23  
:DVKLQJWRQ '& 86\$

<sup>3</sup> %%23 %XVLQHVV DQG %LRGLYHUVLW\ 2IIVHWV 3URJUDPPH





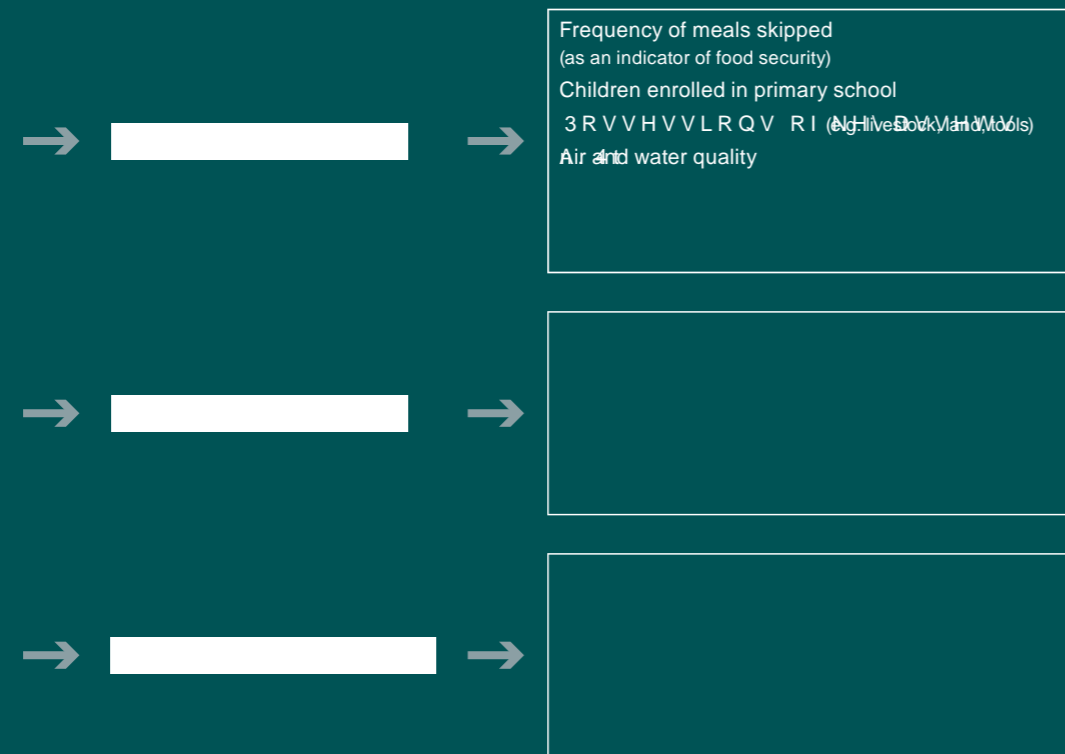


Figure 3: + R Z G L I I H U H Q W L Q G L F D W R U V R I Z H O O E H L Q J P D S R Q W R W K H G L I I H U H Q  
 The example indicators are to show which types of indicator relate to which dimension; actual indicators will be case-specific and should be developed in a participatory manner.  
 Source: Woodhouse et al. (2016) <sup>5</sup>.

## TECHNICAL NOTE D:

### Defining the competent authority

7KH VRFLDO SULQFLSOHV IRU ELRGLYHUVLW\ 11/ 1\* UHIHU WR -DQ DSSURSUULDWH DQG FRPSHWHQW DXWKRULW\ -  
\$V WKH SULQFLSOHV GUDZ RQ ZLGHO\ DFFHSWHG LQWHUQDWLRQDO JRRG SURJUDGLFH IRU (6,\$V DQG 6,\$V  
IRU WKHVH SULQFLSOHV WKH FRPSHWHQW DXWKRULW\ LV GHILQH DV

Any person or organisation who has the legally-delegated or invested authority, capacity or power to grant an environmental licence for a development project to proceed <sup>1</sup>.

In this context, essentially the competent authority is responsible for granting an environmental licence for the development project based on findings of an impact assessment. Country-specific definitions of competent authority are provided in the table below.

**UK**  
An organisation or individual who is responsible for determining an application for consent for a [development] project. The authority determines whether the mitigated project complies with legal requirements.

The authority reviews environmental information (typically an impact assessment) to determine whether the proposed development project, with mitigation measures, complies with legal requirements for the environment, such as legal protection for wildlife and sites. The competent authority also determines whether conditions are required as part of the consent, and would specify the stage of the project lifespan when the conditions need to be discharged (e.g. at design, construction or operational stage).

It is vital that the competent authority is provided with all the information needed to assess and evaluate the likely environmental effects of a proposed development project. The information is often provided in the form of an environmental impact assessment. Environmental impact assessments are a material consideration in the consent process.