

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Biodiversity 2020: Developing indicators for measuring success

Response Form

August 2011

Please use this form to comment on the Technical Discussion Paper 'Biodiversity 2020: Developing indicators for measuring success.'

Responses can be sent by email (preferred) or post by November 11th 2011.

Email address: biodiversity@defra.gsi.gov.uk (please mark subject line: 'Response: indicators')

Postal address: Biodiversity Programme (Response:indicators), Zone 1/17, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol. BS1 6EB

Before you start

Your response will be used to develop an indicator set that makes best use of available data and is: relevant to the strategy, scientifically robust, compact, easily communicated and affordable. Please ensure that if you are commenting on particular indicator topics that you specify the indicator topic by number.

Defra and Natural England will publish a summary of the issues raised by respondents to this discussion document. This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details. We will also store individual responses on a secure hard drive as members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.

If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.

Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Please provide your name, organisation (if applicable) and contact details below. Please include an email address if you have one.

Name		
Organisation/company (if applicable)		
Job title (if applicable)		
Address		
email		
Telephone no. (including area code)		
Does your organisation provide data for the existing England Biodiversity Indicators?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Questions for respondents

Table 1 in the technical discussion document sets out 17 indicator topics intended to cover the range of Strategy priorities and outcomes. Within each topic, the intention is to develop an indicator using best available data. Each indicator may have more than one measure where it is not sensible to combine them (for example, the existing indicator on wild birds has four measures for wetland, woodland, farmland and sea birds and each is assessed separately).

Table 2 sets out, for each of the indicator topic areas, the existing indicators available, the data sets that might underpin any indicator refinements or development and a set of options for that refinement or development.

Questions are set out below. Please leave the response box blank for any question that you do not wish to answer. Boxes may be expanded as required.

Q1. *Ensuring development options have been adequately identified.* For those indicator topics assessed as amber or red in Table 2, are there any:

- a. Existing indicators (under development or used elsewhere); or
- b. Existing data sources,

that are not listed in the discussion document but which could be used to develop indicators for the Strategy ?

Enter your comments here. Please state which indicator topic(s) you are addressing.

Q2. *Identifying preferred options.* Indicators should be:

- a. Relevant to the Strategy
- b. Easily communicated to a non-specialist audience
- c. Based on suitable, high quality data sets (e.g. with a time series > 5 years, of known precision, with representative geographic coverage, regularly updated, and with a published methodology)

In addition, the indicator set should be compact and comprehensive and not place substantial financial burdens on the public sector.

Which of the options set out in the discussion document, or that you have identified in Q1 above, best meet these requirements?

Enter your comments here. Please state which indicator topic(s) you are addressing.

Q3. Do you have any other comments on the proposed set of indicator topics or development options?

Enter your comments here.