Stepwise Approach to Assess the Impacts of Policy

1. Determine the objectives of the policy



2. Choose which sustainable development impact categories and indicators to assess



3. Identify specific impacts of the policy of action



4. Qualitatively assess each impact



5. Quantify impacts by estimating baseline and policy scenario values for selected impacts



6. Use results to evaluate synergies and trade-offs and inform decision-making

Examples of Impact Categories

Dimension	Impact category group	Examples of impact categories	Dimension	Impact category group	Examples of impact categories
Environmental impacts	Air	Climate change mitigation (SDG 13) Air quality and health impacts of air pollution	Social impacts	Welfare and equality	Poverty reduction (SDG 1) Protection of poor and negatively affected communities (SDG 12) Gender equality and empowerment of women (SDG 5)
	Water	 Availability of fresh water (SDG 6) Water quality (SDGs 6, 14) 		Labour conditions	Quality of jobs (SDG 8) Just transition of the workforce (SDG 8)
	Land	Biodiversity of terrestrial ecosystems (SDG 15) Land-use change, including deforestation, forest degradation and descriptions (SDC 15)		Communities	Traffic congestion (SDG 11) Road safety (SDGs 3, 11)
	Waste	Waste generation and disposal (SDG 12) Treatment of solid waste and wastewater (SDG 6)		Peace and security	Resilience to dangerous climate change and extreme weather events (SDG 13) Security (SDG 16)
	Other/cross-cutting	Resilience of ecosystems to climate change (SDG 13) Energy (SDG 7)		Overall economic activity	Economic activity (SDG 8) Economic diversification (SDG 8)
	Health and well-being	Access to clean, reliable and affordable energy (SDG 7)		Employment	Jobs (SDG 8) Wages (SDG 8)
	Education and culture	 Quality of life and well-being (SDG 3) Capacity, skills and knowledge development (SDGs 4, 12) 	Economic impacts	Business and technology	 New business opportunities (SDG 8) Competitiveness of domestic industry in global markets
		 Climate change education, public awareness, capacity-building and research 		Income, prices and costs	Income (SDG 10) Costs and cost savings
	Institutions and laws	 Quality of institutions (SDG 10) Public participation in policy-making processes		Trade and balance of payments	Government budget surplus/deficit Energy independence, security or sovereignty