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3i Survey Instrument

Here, we provide a step-by-step walkthrough of the survey design to show how the 3i framework can be operationalised in practice. We show the 3i-focused survey questions only, with a commentary explaining what each item is measuring and how it connects to the conceptual framework.

Question	Commentary
[Respondents are provided with a description of the project.] **Are you aware of any organisations or groups in [*project area*] that may be relevant to these topics in any way?** [Radio box] Yes No Unsure	Following a description of the research project, the survey starts by asking respondents to assess their own awareness of organisations or groups that may be relevant to the planned work or aims of the project. This initiates the process of respondents reviewing their network in relation to the project, and defining specific relevant parties to answer subsequent 3i questions about.
At what level is this organization/group related to this research? [Checkbox] *(Tick all that apply)* Sub-national National International None of the above	Once a specific party has been named, the next question measures the level at which they are related to the research in terms of geographical scale, from the perspective of the respondent. The analytical purpose of this question is to understand the scope of the relevant party's interest, and to indicate from which geographical angle their perspective is likely to be informed by.
How is this organization/group related to this research project's work? [Checkbox]	This question directly measures which of the 3i concepts are perceived as relevant for the

(Tick all that apply)

Interest - They are likely to be interested in the project's work

Influence - They are likely to have some power to block or facilitate the project's work

Benefit - They might benefit from the project's work

Negative effect- They might be negatively affected by the project's work

named party.

The 'interest' checkbox constitutes a binary categorical variable measuring the respondent's perception of whether or not the relevant party is likely to want to pay attention to the project's work for any reason. It also serves as a screening question for follow up questions which dig deeper into the nature of their interest.

The 'influence' checkbox also constitutes a binary categorical variable measuring the respondent's perception of whether the relevant party possesses any level of power that may enable them to have influence on the project or its intended impacts or not. Selection of this checkbox triggers follow-up questions which dig deeper into the nature of their influence.

The 'impact' assessment is split into two binary categorical variables - 'benefit' or 'negative impact', to immediately assess the respondent's perception of whether or not the relevant party could be positively or negatively affected by the project.

Shown if 'Interest - They are likely to be interested in the project's work' selected:

How interested in the project's work do you think they are likely to be?

Not at all   **Extremely**
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Please explain [Text area]

This follow-up question measures the respondent's perception of the relevant party's level of interest in the project work. The 0-100 range response format provides ordinal data, and indicates the extent to which the relevant party is likely to want to pay attention to the project, learn about it and potentially engage with it. The survey item uses the scale anchors 'not at all' to 'extremely', which is drawn from a previously validated scale (Vagias, 2006).

After this, the respondent is given an open text-box to explain the nature of the interest the relevant party has to the project. This provides the space for respondents to indicate which aspects of the work they are

	likely to be interested in, as well as what values, beliefs or assumptions that might drive this interest.
Shown if 'Influence - They are likely to have some power to block or facilitate the project's work' selected: **How much power do you think they have to support the project to deliver its goals in [*project area*]?** Not at all — Extremely 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 **Please explain [Textarea]**	This follow-up question measures the respondent's perception of the relevant party's level of power to support the project's work and its potential impacts. The 0-100 range response format provides ordinal data, and ultimately indicates how influential or useful the relevant party could be in supporting the project to achieve its aims. The subsequent text-box provides space for the respondent to explain their understanding of the nature of the relevant party's influence in terms of supporting the project to achieve its aims. Here, they can elaborate on the type of power that the relevant party has (e.g. whether it is explicit, hierarchical "power over", or implicit, personal or transpersonal "power with"), and how it might be leveraged to facilitate the project's work and its potential impacts. Respondents can also use this space to describe the reach of the party's influence, in terms of who they can influence and at what geographical or social scale.
Shown if 'Influence - They are likely to have some power to block or facilitate the project's work' selected: **How much power do you think they have to block the project from achieving its goals in [*project area*]?** Not at all — Extremely 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 **Please explain** [Text area]	This follow-up question measures the respondent's perception of the relevant party's level of power to inhibit the project's work and its potential impacts. The 0-100 range response format provides ordinal data, and ultimately indicates how important it might be for the project to engage the party to invite them to help shape the project. This maximises the likelihood that they will be supportive of the project and its goals, so they do not utilise their power to block it. Following this, the 'please explain' text-box provides space for the respondent to explain their understanding of the nature of the

	relevant party's influence in terms of their ability to block the project from achieving its goals. Here, they can elaborate on the type of power that the relevant party has (e.g. whether it is explicit, hierarchical "power over", or implicit, personal or transpersonal "power with"), and how it might be leveraged to inhibit the project's work and its potential impacts. Respondents can also use this space to describe the reach of the party's influence, in terms of who they can influence and at what geographical or social scale.
Shown if 'Benefit - They might benefit from the project's work' selected: **To what extent would this organization benefit from the project's work in [*project area*]?** Not at all Extremely 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 **Please explain** [Text area]	This question measures the respondent's perception of the extent to which the relevant party might be able to benefit from the project's work. The 0-100 range response format provides ordinal data, and provides an indication of the significance of the benefits that the project's work or impacts might deliver for the party. The linked text-box invites respondents to explain the nature of this benefit, and gives them space to clarify other details, such as whether the benefits might be long-term or short term.
Shown if 'Negative effect - They might be negatively affected by the project's work' selected: **To what extent would this organization be negatively affected by the project's work in [*project area*]?** Not at all Extremely 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 **Please explain** [Text area]	This question measures the respondent's perception of the extent to which the relevant party might be negatively affected by the project's work. The 0-100 range response format provides ordinal data, and provides an indication of the significance of the negative impacts that the project's work or impacts might deliver for the party. The linked text-box invites respondents to explain the nature of the negative impact they might face, and gives them space to clarify other details, such as whether the impacts might be long-term or short term.

Is there anything else we should know about engaging with this relevant party? Yes No Unsure *Shown if 'Yes' selected:* **What should we know about when engaging with this relevant party?** [Text area]	This penultimate block of questions starts with a question assessing the respondent's awareness of any other useful information it would be useful for the project to know with regards to engaging the relevant party. This might include important context, such as their knowledge base, expertise, funding, or the political context they are embedded in.
Can you contact someone from this relevant party? Yes No Unsure **Would you be willing to invite your contacts to help shape this research work?** Yes No Unsure *Shown if 'Yes' selected:* Note: We can provide you with an email template and information about the project for you to personalise and share.	Finally, respondents are asked if they have the ability and willingness to invite someone from this relevant party to engage with the project. This is asked in order to lay the foundations for actual stakeholder engagement and impact planning work, and gain consent for asking the respondent to support this engagement.

Complete Survey Design Example

The following survey design shows how the 3i framework can be operationalized in practice. This survey was used for the EU-funded Wet Horizons project. It includes demographic and other questions. The survey was also adapted as a semi-structured interview schedule for the same project. Informed consent was gained from all participants via a consent block in the online survey, and the survey design was approved by the SRUC Ethics Board.

To identify participants for the survey, a call-out for participation was circulated within Wet Horizons researchers' networks, forming the basis for a snowball sample. Participation was requested of those with knowledge of the groups or organisations with a stake or relation to wetlands restoration in each catchment. Where survey responses were low, additional requests for participation were made via social media (Twitter and LinkedIn). This first survey received n=94 responses across the nine study catchments. Once data for each catchment had been collected, survey results were analysed to identify the nature and level of each relevant party's interest, influence and impact in relation to the Wet Horizons project. Each organisation was given an overall '3i score', with higher scores indicating the more important organisations to engage in the project.

SURVEY SPECIFICATION FROM WET HORIZONS 3I ANALYSIS
SURVEY - STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

Welcome!

This page is intended to answer any questions you may have about participating in research for the European Union-funded **Wet Horizons** project. Please read this information before providing your consent to participate.

Why we are asking for your help
You have been identified as having interests relevant to wetland restoration (including peatlands) in one of the study countries involved in the Wet Horizons project. For this reason, **we would like to invite you to share your knowledge of other groups or organisations interested in, involved or affected by restoration**.

How your insights can make a difference
Wet Horizons aims to boost wetlands knowledge and develop tools and approaches for fast-tracking large-scale restoration action. To do this, we need to understand who is interested in, involved or affected by the restoration of wetlands and peatlands, in and around specific catchments in each study country. This will help us engage the right people to shape our research and ensure it benefits EU citizens.

We will use findings from this research to help scale up wetland restoration to help tackle climate change and biodiversity loss, whilst protecting the livelihoods of local communities. This project is being conducted alongside three related projects, looking at other aspects of natural capital markets, and data will be shared between these projects, as described below under "How will my data be stored and used".

Who is conducting this research
This research is conducted by staff at the Thriving Natural Capital Challenge Centre at SRUC, including: Prof. Mark Reed (research lead), Prof. Eric Jensen (research fellow), and Sarah Noles (research assistant). The broader EU project team comprises 12 universities and research organisations from around Europe (details of this consortium can be found here).

How is this research funded
This research is being funded by the European Commission, under the Horizon Europe funding programme, and the Scottish government.

How to participate
This survey will take between 5-20 minutes. This depends on how much detail you provide in your responses. For example, this survey will take very little time if you do not know many others interested in, involved or affected by wetland restoration. We still ask that you answer any relevant questions.

If you cannot complete this questionnaire, you are welcome to forward the original invitation and survey link to another suitable individual(s) and encourage them to submit a response.

How data will be stored and used
Data will not be shared outside SRUC and its project partners for Wet Horizons, two related Scottish Government-funded projects being run by SRUC, "Galvanising Change via Natural Capital" (ref. JHI-D5-3) (including the James Hutton Institute) and "Provision of research with supply-side actors in Scotland's peatland natural capital markets" (ref. CR/2022/08) (including SAC Consulting and Finance Earth). Data will also be shared with the ALFAwetlands project, funded by the European Commission. Data may be used where relevant in publications for these related projects. All personal data will be anonymised before sharing beyond the SRUC and project partner research teams for the Wet Horizons project. Your contributions will remain anonymous by default in project publications, which may include peer-reviewed academic journals and publications aimed at research and policy professionals. Electronic data will be stored on encrypted, password-protected computers, and backed up on secure, encrypted EU-based servers in full compliance with GDPR.

Right to withdraw from participation

No risks associated with this research that would affect you as a participant have been identified. Participation is entirely voluntary, and you may withdraw yourself or your data at any time prior to data anonymisation, without providing any reason.

Research Team Contact
Please contact XXX if you have questions about participating in this research, would like to request a copy of your data (or request that it is destroyed), or withdraw from participation.

Agreement to participate
After reading the participant information page, please read the following statements and then indicate your understanding and consent:

1 I have read the participant information page and the Wet Horizons project objectives of this research study.
2 I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and clarify any doubts regarding the project.
3 My participation is voluntary and I am free to withdraw at any time before my responses are anonymised.
4 My personal information (name, organisational affiliation, contact details and research contributions) will be processed by SRUC.
5 My personal information may be retained for the duration of the Wet Horizons project (end of August 2026) and the three related projects (the longest of which ends March 2027).
6 My responses may be shared with partners of the Wet Horizons project and three related projects funded by the Scottish Government.

7   After my responses have been anonymised, the information I provide may be used to produce research outputs, including academic journal articles and policy briefings or be published as an open dataset (due to European Commission's open data requirements).

1.1. Please indicate whether you understand and agree with the statements above, and consent to participate in this survey: [Checkbox]

> I consent to participate in this survey and for my responses to be used as indicated above.

1.2. In addition, please also indicate whether you opt-in to the following uses of your data: [Checkbox]

> *(This will not affect your eligibility to participate in the survey)*
> Yes, you may indicate my name (or other professional identifier) as a research participant (e.g., in the acknowledgements of the report not linked to any specific responses).
> Yes, you may keep me up to date on project news using the contact details I have provided (e.g., an invitation to presentations/webinars on findings).
> Yes, you may re-contact me for the purposes of this study.
> Yes, you may re-contact me for future studies on related topics.

Please click Next to continue

[PAGE BREAK]

CONTACT DETAILS

First name

Last name

2.2. Email [Email]

2.3. Organisation/Institution name [Text line]

2.4. Current job title [Text line]
(If you have more than one, please indicate the one you consider primary)

Note: If you have more than one institution or job title, please indicate the one you consider primary

Please click Next to continue

[PAGE BREAK]

3.1. Which country and catchment areas are you familiar with? [Checkbox (Button)]
> Denmark [various rivers along the Kattegat]

Finland [Kokemäenjoki, region of Lounais-Häme]
Finland [Kemi, region of Kittilä, Muonio & Enontekiö]
France [Garonne]
Germany [Peene River]
Netherlands [incl. Lower Rhine, Ljssel]
Poland [Biebrza]
Romania [Danube]
Scotland [Dee]
None of the above
Other (please specify)

3.2. Which country and catchment area are you the most familiar with? [Dropdown]

Please select the area in which you are most aware of groups or organisations relevant to improving wetlands or peatlands restoration processes. This is the catchment area we will focus on for this survey.

Denmark [various rivers along the Kattegat]
Finland [region of Lounais-Häme]
Finland [region of Kittilä, Muonio & Enontekiö]
France [Garonne]
Germany [Peene River]
Netherlands [incl. Lower Rhine, Ljssel]
Poland [Biebrza]
Romania [Danube]
Scotland [Dee]
Other (please specify)

Please click Next to continue

Shown if Denmark [various rivers along the Kattegat], Finland [region of Lounais-Häme], Finland [region of Kittilä, Muonio & Enontekiö], France [Garonne], Germany [Peene River], Netherlands [incl. Lower Rhine, Ljssel], Poland [Biebrza], Romania [Danube] OR Scotland [Dee] selected in 3.2. [Applies to text below, to 4.1.]

[PAGE BREAK]

Please answer the following questions relevant to the country and catchment area you are the <u>most</u> familiar with.

4.1. What role(s) have you held relevant to [Most familiar catchment areas]? [Checkbox (Button)]

(Tick all that apply)
Researcher
Local community member
NGO representative
Government or policy representative
Land-use business representative (e.g. farmer)

Land-planning or environmental management representative
Commercial organisation representative (e.g., with a link to the catchment)
Other (please specify)

Please click Next to continue

[PAGE BREAK]

The Wet Horizons project

Help us engage with the right people
We want to engage with organisations or groups interested in, involved or affected by the restoration of wetlands and peatlands around this country and catchment area: **[Most familiar catchment areas]**

Sharing your knowledge will help shape our understanding of which stakeholders will be most affected by our research and impact work so that we can more effectively improve the process of restoring wetlands and peatlands.

The key features of Wet Horizons overall plans include the following:

- Use of citizen science for data collection
- Developing digital tools for upscaling wetland restoration, including an app for the visualisation of wetland status and a decision support system for policy makers
- New governance models in land manager organisations
- Use of ecosystem markets to increase private investment in place-based governance of restoration and sustainable wetland management
- Blending public and private finance for wetland restoration in Europe
- Policy recommendations for the protection and restoration of wetlands across Europe

5.1. Are you aware of any organisations or groups in [Most familiar catchment areas] that may be relevant to these topics in any way? [Radio box]
Yes
No
Unsure

Shown if Yes selected in 5.1. [Applies to text below]

Wonderful!

We would greatly appreciate you continuing the survey.

Please respond to our questions on the following pages for as many relevant parties as possible.

Please click Next to continue

We appreciate you taking the time to respond to our questions.

We may follow up with you should we require any further information.

Have a wonderful day!

Please click Submit to send your responses.

[PAGE BREAK]

Relevant Party 1

Please complete the following information about the first relevant party that comes to mind. You may answer these questions about yourself if you are a relevant party for the project. You will have the opportunity to add information about other relevant parties later in the survey.

Organisation/group Details

6.1. Name of organisation or group [Textarea]

6.2. Organisation/group website link(s) [Textarea]

6.3. Organisation or group description [Textarea]
Provide a short description (1-2 sentences) of this organisation or group from your perspective, and how it connects to wetland restoration in and around this catchment.

Please click Next to continue

[PAGE BREAK]

Assessment of project relevance for the organisation or group

We want to provide you with a description of the **Wet Horizons project**, so you can more fully understand its aims to improve the process of restoring wetlands and peatlands areas around Europe. The following external link will take you to Wet Horizons' website.
View Project Description

After reviewing this information, let us know how you think this organisation or group can connect to our project.

7.1. At what level is this organisation/group related to this research? [Checkbox (Button)]

> *(Tick all that apply)*
>
> [Most familiar catchment areas]
>
> National
>
> International
>
> None of the above

7.2. How is this organisation/group related to this research project's work? [Checkbox (Button)]

> *(Tick all that apply)*
>
> Interest - They are likely to be interested in the project's work
>
> Influence - They are likely to have some power to block or facilitate the project's work
>
> Benefit - They might benefit from the project's work
>
> Negative impact - They might be negatively affected by the project's work

Shown if Interest - They are likely to be interested in the project's work selected in 7.2. [Applies to to 7.4.]

7.3. How interested in the project's work do you think they are likely to be?
Range slider from 0 to 100 with 11 labels.

7.4. Please explain [Textarea]

Shown if Influence - They are likely to have some power to block or facilitate the project's work selected in 7.2. [Applies to to 7.8.]

7.5. How much power do you think they have to support the project to deliver its goals in [Most familiar catchment areas]?
Range slider from 0 to 100 with 11 labels.

7.6. Please explain [Textarea]

7.7. How much power do you think they have to block the project from achieving its goals in [Most familiar catchment areas]?
Range slider from 0 to 100 with 11 labels.

7.8. Please explain [Textarea]

Shown if Benefit - They might benefit from the project's work selected in 7.2. [Applies to to 7.10.]

7.9. To what extent would this organisation benefit from the project's work in [Most familiar catchment areas]?

Range slider from 0 to 100 with 11 labels.

7.10. Please explain [Textarea]

7.11. To what extent would this organisation be negatively affected by the project's work in [Most familiar catchment areas]?
Range slider from 0 to 100 with 11 labels.

7.12. Please explain [Textarea]

	Yes	No	Unsure	Not applicable / No opinion
7.13. Is there anything else we should know about engaging with this relevant party? [Likert Scale (3-point: Yes - No - Unsure)]				

7.14. What should we know about when engaging with this relevant party? [Textarea]

	Yes	No	Unsure	Not applicable / No opinion
7.15. Would you be able to contact someone from this relevant party? [Likert Scale (3-point: Yes - No - Unsure)]				
7.16. Would you be willing to invite your contacts to help shape the Wet Horizons project? [Likert Scale (3-point: Yes - No - Unsure)]				

Note: We can provide you with an email template and information about the project for you to personalise and share.

	Yes	No	Unsure	Not applicable / No opinion
7.17. Are you willing to provide information on an additional specific relevant party? [Likert Scale (3-point: Yes - No - Unsure)]				

Shown if No OR Unsure selected in 7.17. [Applies to text below]

On behalf of the Wet Horizons team, thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. If further details are needed, we will follow up with you soon.

Please click Submit to send your responses.

Shown if Yes selected in 7.17. [Applies to text below]

Please click Next to continue

Survey questions 6.1-7.17 repeated for however many 'relevant parties' are known.