

Table P1: Measuring Policy Coherence

Theme	#	Question	Answer	Points	Answer Criteria	Supporting Evidence
1. Political Commitment	1.1	Is there a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD? <i>For example, an explicit commitment to PCSD in national strategic documents, policies or legislation, including at sectoral level.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	There is a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD, implemented in all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has made a clear political statement at the highest level, demonstrating commitment to PCSD. The political leadership actively promotes PCSD and supports sustainable development goals, ensuring that policies, laws and institutional arrangements align with these goals, including at sectoral level, as applicable. This commitment is translated into concrete mechanisms and actions across all relevant sectors and policies. This includes integrating PCSD into relevant policies and legislative frameworks, strategic planning, and operational activities, fostering a culture of sustainability throughout the government. Stakeholders are engaged, public support is mobilised, and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to track progress and ensure accountability.)	
	1.2	Has the government defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD? <i>For example, clear priority areas for addressing issues where trade-offs need to be managed or potential transboundary impacts need to be addressed, defined within a national policy, strategy, law or action plan for advancing sustainable development.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD, and these are implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The defined priorities are integrated into sectoral policies, strategies, and time-bound action plans, guiding efforts to achieve sustainable development goals, capitalising on synergies across sectors and considering potential transboundary impacts of policies. There is active coordination across sectors to align initiatives with these priorities, fostering an integrated approach throughout the government.)	
	1.3	Has the government defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD? <i>For example, a law or administrative directive has established a central unit, ministry, or inter-ministerial committee that has the mandate to promote, oversee or implement PCSD.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD. In practice, these roles are comprehensively implemented in all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. A lead institution has been established with clear mandates to promote and oversee the implementation of PCSD across the government. The mandates and role of this institution are well known throughout the government in different sectors and at different levels.)	
	Subtotal Score for Theme 1. Political Commitment			12		
	2.1	Has the government developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence? <i>For example, a national vision statement, policy, strategy or action plan that sets objectives to identify, prevent, and mitigate actual and potential adverse impacts of decision-making on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence, which is implemented in all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. A long-term vision or strategy is in place establishing long-term goals and targets for sustainable development and guiding short-term decision-making to consider the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations. This strategic vision is integrated into all relevant sectoral strategies and policies and translated into concrete actions to identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on future generations. This process involves engaging stakeholders, securing legislative and public support, and developing robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks.)	

2. Long-term Vision	2.2	Does the government use long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence? <i>For example, the use of tools such as impact assessments, strategic foresight, scenario development, integrated modelling tools or systems-thinking approaches in the formulation and implementation of strategies and policies to identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government uses long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence, and these are implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government commonly uses long-term strategic planning tools (e.g. impact assessments, strategic foresight, scenario development, integrated modeling tools, or systems-thinking approaches) in formulating and implementing strategies and policies. These tools help identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations. These tools are proactively used to inform policy- and decision-making.)	
	2.3	Has the government established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD? <i>For example, independent bodies, a commissioner, council, or ombudsperson for future generations, can promote long-term vision for PCSD that outlives electoral cycles or government terms.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD. Their tasks are comprehensively implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has established a dedicated body with clear mandates and resources to ensure its commitment to PCSD extends beyond electoral cycles and government terms. This body has clear objectives, adequate resources, and supports effective communication, strong leadership, stakeholder engagement, and coordination across Ministries or departments. It also has robust monitoring and evaluation systems and the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.)	
	Subtotal Score for Theme 2. Long-term Vision			12		
3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance	3.1	Does the government have a budgetary process that integrates sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas? <i>For example, through the use of SDG budgeting (i.e. tagging budget measures, etc.) or checklists.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed a budgetary process to integrate sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas. Sustainability considerations are integrated in all phases of the budgetary process. (e.g. Sustainable development is effectively integrated into sectoral policies through budgetary process (e.g. budget formulation, approval, execution, oversight), promoting synergies across policy sectors, strategically balancing resource allocations for economic, social and environmental goals, and fostering collaboration and coordination between government departments and agencies).	
	3.2	Does the government have dedicated mechanisms or tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral or financing plans of line ministries? <i>For example, strategies, guidelines, regulations, provisions or coordination mechanisms for ministries and government agencies to align their mandates, policies and sectoral objectives with sustainable development priorities.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed dedicated mechanisms and tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral and financing plans of line ministries. These mechanisms have been comprehensively implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Established mechanisms and tools have ensured that sustainable development priorities are integrated into every sector and financial plan, contributing to effective progress towards sustainable development goals. These mechanisms and tools also foster a culture of sustainability across all levels and sectors of government, driving continuous improvement and innovation in sustainable development practices.)	
	3.3	Does the government have established mechanisms or measures to promote the mobilisation of public, private, domestic, and international resources for sustainable development? <i>For example, specific programmes or policies informed by policy coherence to enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development; incentives or frameworks to attract private investment for sustainable development projects; partnerships between the government and private sector to finance sustainable development initiatives, etc.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established mechanisms and implemented measures to promote the mobilisation of financial resources to support PCSD. These have been comprehensively applied, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The established mechanisms and implemented measures have resulted in specific programs or policies that enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development, or have created incentives to attract private investments for sustainable development or fostered public-private partnerships that support the mobilisation of financial resources to advance sustainable development.)	

Subtotal Score for Theme 3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance				12	
4. Whole-of-government Coordination	4.1	Has the government established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level? <i>For example, a high-level coordinating mechanism or body whether located within the Centre of Government or a lead line ministry as appropriate, with a clear mandate, resources and capacities to anticipate and resolve policy divergences, including on potential negative impacts of policies, and tensions arising from diverging priorities and different sectoral interests.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. A high-level coordinating mechanism operates regularly to support whole-of-government coordination for Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD). This mechanism has a clear mandate, adequate resources, and the capacity to anticipate and resolve policy divergences, including potential negative impacts of policies and tensions arising from diverging priorities and different sectoral interests.)
	4.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD? <i>For example, inter-ministerial committees that stimulate open exchange of ideas and innovative thinking to address cross-cutting policy objectives and develop integrated solutions.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The establishment of these structures and channels has led to improved collaboration, coordination, and information sharing across all sectors of government. This has strengthened the alignment of policies with the Sustainable Development Goals and fostered a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in public administration.)
	4.3	Are there specific capacity-building programs or other resources in place for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development? <i>For example, to improve skills that take civil servants beyond their traditional operating environment and challenge them to think and act in new, cross-disciplinary ways to foster coherence in policymaking.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed capacity-building programs or other resources for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development. These programmes have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Competency frameworks have been designed to target cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills to foster coherence in policymaking. Training has been developed to strengthen these skills, and rolled out to all relevant civil servants.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 4. Whole-of-government Coordination				12
	5.1	Are there provisions or mechanisms in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, or regulatory frameworks for sustainable development? <i>For example, National Sustainable Development Strategies outline relevant action and mandate sub-national engagement; or data exchanges and other engagements between government levels are institutionalised in other ways.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The provisions or mechanisms are in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, and regulatory frameworks for sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. National Sustainable Development Strategies are territorialised at the sub-national level and complemented by local indicators and monitoring systems on sustainable development objectives. Best practices and common challenges are documented, shared and incorporated across government levels, promoting continuous improvement. These mechanisms are effectively used to engage sub-national levels of government in PCSD and to promote coordinated action on relevant economic, social and environmental goals.)

5. Sub-national Engagement	5.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government for enhancing PCSD? <i>For example, interterritorial commissions, the participation of local governments in National Councils for the 2030 Agenda, and focal points for the implementation of SDGs at the regional and local level.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Platforms such as interterritorial commissions are in place to collect inputs from subnational entities and initiate formal exchanges between government levels. These mechanisms are active and stimulate open exchange of ideas and innovative thinking to address cross-cutting policy objectives and facilitate multi-level dialogue around success stories and persistent challenges.)	
	5.3	Are there mechanisms or processes in place to ensure coordinated action between national and subnational agencies on international initiatives or development co-operation for sustainable development? <i>For example, national agencies provide advisory services, networks, or matchmaking for sub-national entities engaging in international initiatives or development cooperation.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established mechanisms or processes to coordinate national and sub-national action on international initiatives or development cooperation for sustainable development, but these are only partially implemented. (e.g. The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by insufficient resources, bureaucratic resistance, poor coordination among ministries or departments, inadequate engagement, or complex legal frameworks.)	
	Subtotal Score for Theme 5. Sub-national Engagement			11		
6. Stakeholder engagement	6.1	Are there participatory mechanisms in place to ensure stakeholders are informed and engaged proactively in different phases of the policy cycle for sustainable development, or in the development of PCSD initiatives through a whole-of-society approach? <i>For example, dedicated laws, public consultations, advisory committees, focus groups, online platforms, regular meetings or other means enable engagement and participation in decision-making making, to gather feedback, address coherence issues, and collaborate on solutions involving different levels of society.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The participatory mechanisms are in place for stakeholder engagement in sustainable development policy making through a whole-of-society approach, and in the development of PCSD initiatives, and these mechanisms are fully implemented through participatory approaches. (e.g. Dedicated forums and opportunities are in place to develop recommendations for enhancing policy coherence and to provide analytical and strategic input on sustainable development, supported by dedicated normative provisions. Engagement concerns relevant representatives from civil society, academia, the private sector and trade- and employers' unions, in coordination with government Ministries. Consultations are mandated to take place in a comprehensive manner at various stages of the policy cycle. Preparatory information and feedback on the outcomes of the process is provided to involved stakeholders.)	
	6.2	Are there mechanisms in place to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their needs and participation in decision-making to advance inclusive sustainable development? <i>For example, to consult or engage different groups as co-designers on action plans that mainstream, in an integrated manner, the principle of leaving no one behind in public policies and reform measures, placing emphasis on targeted measures which support those who are furthest behind and promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established mechanisms to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their participation in decision-making, to advance inclusive sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. These initiatives have been rolled out to key marginalised and vulnerable groups. Findings have been fed back into strategies designed to advance inclusive social and economic development, such as action plans that mainstream, in an integrated manner, the principle of leaving no one behind in public policies and reform measures, placing emphasis on targeted measures which support those who are furthest behind and promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion.)	
	6.3	Has the government put mechanisms in place to promote stakeholder engagement in policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, to advance best practice and encourage peer learning? <i>For example, engagement through global or national campaigns, policy dialogues, intergovernmental processes, capacity building initiatives, and societal mobilisation.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has worked with various stakeholders on initiatives to raise public awareness, mobilise support, and advocate for policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has worked with stakeholders to support their engagement in a wide range of initiatives on sustainable development issues. Specific campaigns have been designed and delivered to build consensus on priorities for enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development and they have been promoted in international settings to advance best practice and encourage peer learning.)	

		Subtotal Score for Theme 6. Stakeholder-engagement		12	
7. Impact Assessment	7.1	Does the government have any mechanisms or tools in place to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development? <i>For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, indicator frameworks for tracking policy effectiveness, or other tools such as Regulatory, Environmental, Gender and Social Impact, and Strategic Assessments are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate and align policies with sustainable development objectives.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed mechanisms or tools to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has integrated principles of sustainable development into Regulatory Impact Assessments, and made these mandatory for legislative proposal by ministries. Available data is used to measure impact and make informed decisions on resource allocation, performance improvement, incentive changes and cost reductions. This leads to an important feedback loop for the policy design and delivery phases. Sufficient technical capacity and methodological skills have been built to facilitate the use of these impact assessment tools.
	7.2	Has the government established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts? <i>For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, transboundary impact assessments, multistakeholder consultations, indicator frameworks or other tools are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate the transboundary impacts of policies on sustainable development.</i>	In place, not implemented	2	The government has established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts, but these are not implemented. (e.g. These mechanisms or tools are not used to inform decision-making in the policy and planning process due to limited capacity, resources, or training or normative gaps.)
	7.3	Does the government have any mechanisms in place to build capacity in the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development? <i>For example, training designed to allow civil servants to strategically address positive and negative impacts of policies, laws or regulations on sustainable development.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has mechanisms in place to provide capacity building for the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development, and these initiatives have been fully implemented and rolled out to civil servants. (e.g. Training designed to allow civil servants to strategically address positive and negative impacts of policies on sustainable development, rolled out to all relevant staff. Competency frameworks have been developed to identify and strengthen the right skills of public servants, to make civil servants fit to deliver on national objectives on sustainable development.)
		Subtotal Score for Theme 7. Impact Assessment		10	
	8.1	Does the government have any information management systems or similar mechanisms in place to coherently identify and centralise data, indicators and (or) other information for monitoring progress on sustainable development? <i>For example, centralising existing reliable data, indicators, and information to monitor economic, social, and environmental externalities imposed beyond national borders (transboundary impacts).</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The information management systems or similar mechanisms exist, and the government has identified data, indicators and (or) other information to monitor transboundary impacts. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has identified reliable and timely data and indicators to effectively monitor progress on sustainable development. Information management systems or their mechanisms are in place and they facilitate the public availability, accessibility and comparability of centralised and harmonised data on sustainable development. This may include indicators used to monitor trends in based on income and resources flows that impact the well-being of people in other countries. For example, on trade and aid (Official Development Assistance, remittances, imports of goods) and environment and resources (fossil fuel imports, imports of metals, greenhouse gas footprints).)

8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting	8.2	Does the government have mechanisms in place to provide regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies (e.g. Parliament, ministerial or other bodies) on progress on PCSD? <i>For example, regular reports to the parliament, ministerial or other bodies about progress on PCSD. Information on progress can also be included in VNRs and in reporting on development co-operation activities.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The mechanisms for regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies are in place. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Reports for parliament, ministerial or other bodies and the wider public about progress on PCSD are regularly published, outlining progress made on the achievement of policy priorities and on how policies are being implemented regarding sustainable development issues.)	
	8.3	Does the government have mechanisms in place to ensure that findings on PCSD are regularly evaluated and used to take adaptive action, including with regards to synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies? <i>For example, evaluation systems systematically assess the coherence of policies with different sectoral priorities and policies, providing actionable insights for policymakers.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The mechanisms are in place for the evaluation of PCSD, including synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies, but they are only partially implemented and used to inform decision making and ensure that adaptive action is taken. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include the administrative burden, limited technical capacity or a lack of data, normative gaps persist, or the mechanisms are not yet fully used to take adaptive action)	
	Subtotal Score for Theme 8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting			11		
Total Score				92		