

Gross Planetary Health Index Calculator

Measuring True Prosperity Through Ecological and Cultural Vitality

"True wealth cannot be counted in coins or paper—it lives in the health of our children, the songs of the birds, the purity of our water."

— Cherokee teaching

Purpose and Overview

This comprehensive calculator provides Indigenous communities, governments, and organizations with tools for measuring Gross Planetary Health (GPH)—an alternative to Gross Domestic Product that prioritizes ecological restoration, cultural vitality, and intergenerational wellbeing over extraction and accumulation. The GPH Index reflects Indigenous understanding of true prosperity through relationship with all beings and responsibility to future generations.

What is the Gross Planetary Health Index? The GPH Index measures economic and social success through ecological restoration, cultural vitality, and community wellbeing rather than extraction and accumulation. Based on Indigenous values of reciprocity, regeneration, and seven-generation thinking, GPH provides a comprehensive alternative to GDP that serves planetary healing and Indigenous sovereignty.

Core Measurement Framework:

- **Ecological Health (40% weight):** Biodiversity, water purity, soil health, and ecosystem restoration
- **Cultural Resilience (30% weight):** Language vitality, traditional knowledge transmission, and ceremonial participation
- **Community Wellbeing (30% weight):** Housing security, food sovereignty, mental health, and social cohesion

Calculator Applications:

- **Bioregional Autonomous Zone assessment:** Measuring BAZ success and ecological restoration progress
- **Policy impact evaluation:** Assessing government policies for ecological and cultural impact
- **Community development planning:** Guiding Indigenous community development priorities
- **Economic transition tracking:** Monitoring transition from extractive to regenerative economics
- **International comparison:** Demonstrating superior outcomes of Indigenous governance systems

Part I: GPH Index Framework and Methodology

Section 1: Theoretical Foundation and Indigenous Values

1.1 Indigenous Economic Philosophy

Traditional Wealth Concepts: The GPH Index emerges from Indigenous understanding that true prosperity comes from healthy relationships with all beings, ecological abundance, and cultural vitality rather than individual accumulation or resource extraction.

Core Indigenous Principles:

- **Reciprocity with Nature:** Economic success measured through giving back to ecosystems rather than taking from them

- **Seven-Generation Thinking:** Prosperity evaluated for impact on children seven generations into the future
- **Gift Economy Integration:** Wealth measured through community sharing and mutual aid rather than individual accumulation
- **Cultural Vitality:** Economic health including maintenance of traditional languages, ceremonies, and knowledge systems
- **All Relations Recognition:** Economic systems recognizing kinship with human and non-human beings

Traditional Prosperity Indicators:

- ☐ **Ecological Abundance:** Healthy ecosystems providing for all community needs without depletion
- ☐ **Cultural Transmission:** Successful transmission of traditional knowledge, languages, and practices to next generations
- ☐ **Community Cohesion:** Strong social relationships, mutual aid systems, and collective decision-making
- ☐ **Spiritual Wellbeing:** Maintenance of traditional spiritual practices and ceremonial life
- ☐ **Intergenerational Justice:** Community conditions improving across generations rather than depleting resources

1.2 GPH vs. GDP Comparison Framework

Fundamental Differences in Measurement Philosophy: GPH and GDP represent fundamentally different approaches to measuring prosperity, with GPH prioritizing regeneration and relationship while GDP prioritizes extraction and accumulation.

GDP Limitations and Extractive Focus:

- **Extraction as Growth:** GDP counts resource extraction and environmental destruction as positive economic activity
- **Cultural Destruction Ignored:** GDP does not measure cultural vitality, language loss, or traditional knowledge destruction
- **Inequality Blindness:** GDP measures total economic activity without considering distribution or community wellbeing
- **Short-Term Focus:** GDP prioritizes quarterly and annual growth over long-term sustainability and intergenerational justice
- **Ecological Costs Externalized:** GDP does not account for environmental damage or ecosystem service loss

GPH Regenerative Alternative:

- **Restoration as Progress:** GPH counts ecological restoration and cultural revitalization as positive progress
- **Cultural Vitality Integration:** GPH includes language revitalization, traditional knowledge transmission, and ceremonial participation
- **Equity and Justice:** GPH measures community wellbeing, social cohesion, and traditional wealth distribution systems
- **Seven-Generation Accountability:** GPH evaluates policies and economic activities for long-term impact on future generations
- **Ecological Integration:** GPH recognizes ecosystem health as fundamental foundation for human prosperity

Comparative Outcomes Framework:

- ☐ **Ecological Health:** GPH-guided communities demonstrate superior biodiversity, water quality, and ecosystem restoration
- ☐ **Cultural Vitality:** GPH communities maintain strong traditional languages, knowledge systems, and ceremonial practices
- ☐ **Community Wellbeing:** GPH communities report higher life satisfaction, social cohesion, and mental health
- ☐ **Sustainability:** GPH communities use resources at rates that maintain abundance across generations
- ☐ **Resilience:** GPH communities demonstrate superior resilience to climate change and economic disruption

Section 2: GPH Index Component Framework

2.1 Ecological Health Indicators (40% Weight)

Biodiversity and Species Health: Comprehensive measurement of ecosystem biodiversity and species population health as foundation for ecological and human prosperity.

Biodiversity Measurement Components:

- **Native Species Population Counts:** Annual monitoring of native species populations with target of 50% increase by 2040
- **Habitat Connectivity Assessment:** Measurement of wildlife corridor establishment and ecosystem connectivity
- **Endangered Species Recovery:** Tracking recovery of endangered and threatened species through traditional management
- **Invasive Species Management:** Assessment of invasive species control using traditional knowledge and ecological methods
- **Pollinator Population Health:** Monitoring native pollinator populations and traditional plant relationships

Data Collection Methods:

- ☐ **Traditional Ecological Knowledge Observation:** Indigenous knowledge holders providing species counts and health assessments
- ☐ **Scientific Monitoring Integration:** Traditional knowledge integrated with contemporary scientific monitoring
- ☐ **Community Citizen Science:** Community members trained in species identification and monitoring protocols
- ☐ **Seasonal Round Documentation:** Species monitoring aligned with traditional seasonal calendars and ecological cycles
- ☐ **Photographic and Audio Documentation:** Community documentation of species presence and behavior

Water Quality and Watershed Health: Comprehensive assessment of water purity and watershed ecosystem health as indicator of traditional stewardship success.

Water Health Indicators:

- **Drinking Water Quality:** 90% of water sources meeting potable standards without treatment by 2035
- **Aquatic Ecosystem Health:** Assessment of fish populations, aquatic plant health, and water ecosystem biodiversity

- **Watershed Restoration:** Measurement of riparian forest restoration, wetland recreation, and stream daylighting
- **Traditional Water Management:** Assessment of traditional water conservation and seasonal management success
- **Sacred Water Protection:** Protection and restoration of culturally significant water bodies and springs

Water Monitoring Framework:

- ☐ **IoT Sensor Networks:** Real-time water quality monitoring through community-controlled sensor systems
- ☐ **Traditional Water Knowledge:** Indigenous water quality assessment through traditional knowledge and observation
- ☐ **Community Water Testing:** Regular community-conducted water testing and quality assessment
- ☐ **Seasonal Water Monitoring:** Water quality assessment aligned with traditional seasonal cycles and ecological patterns
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Integration:** Water monitoring respecting traditional cultural protocols and sacred water sites

Soil Health and Carbon Sequestration: Assessment of soil ecosystem health and carbon storage through traditional land management and ecological restoration.

Soil Health Metrics:

- **Soil Carbon Increase:** Target of 20% soil carbon increase through traditional agriculture and land management
- **Soil Microbial Diversity:** Assessment of soil ecosystem health through microbial community analysis
- **Traditional Agriculture Success:** Measurement of traditional farming productivity and soil health maintenance
- **Erosion Control:** Assessment of soil erosion prevention through traditional land management practices
- **Soil Restoration:** Measurement of degraded land restoration using traditional knowledge and ecological methods

Carbon and Climate Indicators:

- ☐ **Carbon Sequestration Measurement:** Satellite and ground-based measurement of carbon storage in forests, grasslands, and soils
- ☐ **Traditional Fire Management:** Assessment of traditional fire management success for ecosystem health and carbon storage
- ☐ **Climate Regulation:** Measurement of local climate regulation through traditional ecosystem management
- ☐ **Traditional Agriculture Carbon:** Assessment of carbon sequestration through traditional farming and land management
- ☐ **Ecosystem Service Provision:** Measurement of ecosystem services including air purification and climate regulation

2.2 Cultural Resilience Indicators (30% Weight)

Language Vitality and Transmission: Comprehensive assessment of Indigenous language health and intergenerational transmission as foundation for cultural continuity.

Language Vitality Metrics:

- **Fluent Speaker Populations:** Annual count of fluent speakers by age group with target of 100 languages revitalized by 2050
- **Youth Language Learning:** Assessment of youth participation in language education and fluency development
- **Language Use in Governance:** Measurement of Indigenous language use in traditional governance and community decision-making
- **Language Documentation:** Assessment of community-controlled language documentation and preservation efforts
- **Language Innovation:** Measurement of language adaptation for contemporary use while maintaining cultural integrity

Language Assessment Framework:

- ☐ **Community Language Surveys:** Regular community assessment of language use and fluency levels
- ☐ **UNESCO Language Vitality Scale:** Application of UNESCO Vitality Scale adapted for community priorities and cultural protocols
- ☐ **Traditional Knowledge Language Integration:** Assessment of Traditional Knowledge transmission through Indigenous languages
- ☐ **Ceremonial Language Use:** Measurement of Indigenous language use in traditional ceremonies and spiritual practices
- ☐ **Educational Language Integration:** Assessment of Indigenous language integration into community education systems

Traditional Knowledge Transmission: Assessment of Traditional Ecological Knowledge and cultural practice transmission across generations.

Knowledge Transmission Indicators:

- **Elder-Youth Mentorship:** Measurement of active mentorship relationships between traditional knowledge keepers and youth
- **Traditional Skills Maintenance:** Assessment of traditional technology, ecological management, and cultural practice continuation
- **Ceremonial Participation:** Measurement of community participation in traditional ceremonies and spiritual practices
- **Traditional Education Success:** Assessment of traditional education systems and land-based learning programs
- **Knowledge Innovation:** Measurement of traditional knowledge adaptation for contemporary challenges while maintaining cultural integrity

Cultural Practice Assessment:

- ☐ **Traditional Ceremony Participation:** Community surveys measuring participation in traditional spiritual practices and ceremonies
- ☐ **Traditional Arts and Crafts:** Assessment of traditional visual arts, music, storytelling, and craft production
- ☐ **Traditional Food Systems:** Measurement of traditional agriculture, hunting, fishing, and gathering practice maintenance
- ☐ **Traditional Governance Participation:** Assessment of community participation in traditional governance and decision-making
- ☐ **Cultural Identity Strength:** Community self-assessment of cultural identity and pride

Cultural Innovation and Adaptation: Measurement of cultural adaptation to contemporary challenges while maintaining traditional integrity and authority.

Innovation Indicators:

- **Traditional-Contemporary Integration:** Assessment of successful integration of traditional knowledge with contemporary challenges
- **Cultural Protocol Evolution:** Measurement of traditional governance adaptation while maintaining cultural integrity
- **Youth Cultural Leadership:** Assessment of next-generation leadership in cultural practice and innovation
- **Inter-Cultural Exchange:** Measurement of appropriate cultural exchange with other Indigenous communities
- **Cultural Resilience:** Assessment of community cultural resilience to external pressure and change

Cultural Adaptation Framework:

- ☐ **Community Cultural Assessment:** Regular community evaluation of cultural practice strength and adaptation needs
- ☐ **Elder Authority Recognition:** Traditional knowledge keeper authority over cultural innovation and adaptation
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Compliance:** All cultural adaptation required to follow traditional cultural protocols
- ☐ **Youth-Elder Dialogue:** Structured conversation between generations about cultural change and continuity
- ☐ **Cultural Integrity Protection:** Safeguards ensuring cultural adaptation strengthens rather than compromises traditional practices

2.3 Community Wellbeing Indicators (30% Weight)

Housing and Infrastructure Security: Assessment of community housing security and infrastructure development supporting traditional governance and cultural practices.

Housing Security Metrics:

- **Adequate Housing Access:** Assessment of community housing meeting cultural requirements and traditional living standards
- **Traditional Architecture Integration:** Measurement of traditional building techniques and cultural architecture in community housing
- **Housing Affordability:** Assessment of housing costs relative to community income and traditional economic systems
- **Community Infrastructure:** Measurement of infrastructure supporting traditional governance, cultural practices, and community coordination
- **Environmental Housing Standards:** Assessment of housing environmental sustainability and traditional building materials use

Infrastructure Assessment Framework:

- ☐ **Community-Controlled Infrastructure:** Infrastructure owned and operated by Indigenous communities under traditional governance
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Integration:** Infrastructure design respecting traditional cultural protocols and spiritual requirements
- ☐ **Environmental Sustainability:** Infrastructure using traditional technologies and sustainable materials and energy systems

- ☐ **Community Decision-Making:** Infrastructure development decisions made through traditional governance and community assemblies
- ☐ **Traditional Knowledge Integration:** Infrastructure incorporating traditional technologies and ecological knowledge

Food Sovereignty and Traditional Food Systems: Comprehensive assessment of community food security through traditional food systems and food sovereignty.

Food Security Indicators:

- **Traditional Food Access:** Assessment of community access to traditional foods through hunting, fishing, gathering, and agriculture
- **Food System Sustainability:** Measurement of traditional food system sustainability and ecological impact
- **Community Food Production:** Assessment of community-controlled food production and traditional agriculture
- **Food Cultural Significance:** Measurement of traditional food system cultural importance and ceremonial use
- **Food System Resilience:** Assessment of food system resilience to climate change and external disruption

Traditional Food System Assessment:

- ☐ **Traditional Agriculture Productivity:** Measurement of traditional farming success and crop diversity
- ☐ **Traditional Hunting and Fishing Success:** Assessment of traditional hunting and fishing productivity and sustainability
- ☐ **Traditional Plant Gathering:** Measurement of traditional plant gathering and medicinal plant availability
- ☐ **Food Processing and Preservation:** Assessment of traditional food processing and preservation techniques
- ☐ **Food Sharing and Distribution:** Measurement of traditional food sharing and gift economy systems

Mental Health and Social Cohesion: Assessment of community mental health and social relationships through traditional wellness concepts and community-defined indicators.

Community Wellbeing Metrics:

- **Community Satisfaction:** Regular community surveys measuring life satisfaction and community wellbeing
- **Traditional Mental Health:** Assessment of mental health through traditional wellness concepts and healing systems
- **Social Cohesion:** Measurement of community relationships, mutual aid, and collective decision-making effectiveness
- **Conflict Resolution Success:** Assessment of traditional conflict resolution and community harmony
- **Intergenerational Relationships:** Measurement of elder-youth relationships and traditional knowledge transmission

Wellbeing Assessment Framework:

- ☐ **Community-Defined Indicators:** Community development of wellbeing indicators reflecting traditional wellness concepts

- ☐ **Traditional Healing Integration:** Assessment including traditional healing and wellness practices in mental health measurement
- ☐ **Cultural Identity Strength:** Measurement of cultural identity as foundation for individual and community wellbeing
- ☐ **Traditional Social Systems:** Assessment of traditional kinship, community support, and social organization systems
- ☐ **Spiritual Wellbeing:** Measurement of traditional spiritual practices and ceremonial participation as wellness indicators

Part II: GPH Calculator Tools and Implementation

Section 3: Data Collection and Measurement Tools

3.1 Traditional Knowledge-Based Data Collection

Indigenous Knowledge Integration Framework: Comprehensive system integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge with contemporary monitoring tools under Indigenous authority and cultural protocol compliance.

Traditional Knowledge Data Sources:

- **Elder Observations:** Traditional knowledge keepers providing ecological, cultural, and community health observations
- **Seasonal Round Documentation:** Community documentation of ecological and cultural cycles following traditional calendars
- **Traditional Indicators:** Indigenous indicator species and ecological relationships providing community-controlled monitoring
- **Ceremonial Assessment:** Traditional spiritual practices providing guidance and evaluation of community and environmental health
- **Oral Tradition Integration:** Traditional stories and oral history providing long-term ecological and cultural assessment

Traditional Data Collection Protocols:

- ☐ **Elder Authority:** Traditional knowledge keepers maintaining authority over traditional knowledge use and interpretation
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Compliance:** Data collection following traditional cultural protocols and spiritual requirements
- ☐ **Community Ownership:** Indigenous communities controlling all traditional knowledge data collection and use
- ☐ **Sacred Knowledge Protection:** Sacred knowledge excluded from data collection and protected under traditional spiritual authority
- ☐ **Traditional Transmission Priority:** Traditional knowledge maintained through traditional transmission methods rather than replacement by data systems

3.2 Contemporary Technology Integration

Community-Controlled Technology Systems: Technology tools supporting GPH measurement while maintaining Indigenous authority and cultural protocol compliance.

Technology Integration Components:

- **IoT Sensor Networks:** Community-controlled environmental monitoring sensors providing real-time ecological data

- **Community Reporting Apps:** Encrypted mobile applications enabling community members to report ecological and cultural observations
- **Satellite Data Integration:** Satellite monitoring data integrated with traditional knowledge for comprehensive ecosystem assessment
- **Digital Archive Systems:** Community-controlled digital systems organizing GPH data while protecting traditional knowledge
- **AI Pattern Recognition:** Indigenous-controlled AI systems supporting traditional knowledge analysis while maintaining community authority

Technology Standards:

- ☐ **Community Control:** All technology systems owned and operated by Indigenous communities under traditional governance
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Integration:** Technology designed to respect traditional cultural protocols and spiritual requirements
- ☐ **Traditional Knowledge Authority:** Traditional knowledge keepers maintaining authority over technology use and data interpretation
- ☐ **Privacy and Security:** Comprehensive security protecting community data from external surveillance and appropriation
- ☐ **Traditional Integration:** Technology supporting rather than replacing traditional knowledge systems and community governance

3.3 Bioregional Adaptation Framework

Regional Customization System: GPH Index adapted for different bioregional contexts while maintaining core principles and Indigenous authority.

Bioregional Adaptation Categories:

- **Arctic and Subarctic:** GPH indicators emphasizing ice-dependent ecosystems, traditional hunting and fishing, and climate adaptation
- **Temperate Forest:** GPH indicators focusing on forest health, traditional fire management, and old-growth protection
- **Grassland and Prairie:** GPH indicators emphasizing traditional grazing management, fire protocols, and grassland restoration
- **Desert and Arid:** GPH indicators prioritizing water conservation, traditional agriculture, and traditional seasonal calendars
- **Coastal and Marine:** GPH indicators focusing on marine ecosystem health, traditional fishing, and sea-level adaptation

Regional Adaptation Protocol:

- ☐ **Community Indicator Development:** Indigenous communities developing GPH indicators appropriate for their bioregional and cultural context
- ☐ **Traditional Knowledge Integration:** Regional adaptation incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge specific to local ecosystems
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Respect:** Regional adaptation respecting traditional cultural protocols and spiritual requirements
- ☐ **Ecosystem Boundary Recognition:** GPH regions organized around ecological boundaries and traditional territories rather than political divisions
- ☐ **Inter-Regional Coordination:** Regional GPH systems coordinating while maintaining community autonomy and cultural distinctiveness

Section 4: GPH Calculation Methodology

4.1 Scoring and Weighting System

GPH Index Calculation Framework:

$$\text{GPH Score} = (\text{Ecological Health} \times 0.40) + (\text{Cultural Resilience} \times 0.30) + (\text{Community Wellbeing} \times 0.30)$$

Where each component is scored 0-100 based on traditional knowledge assessment and community input.

Component Scoring Methodology:

Ecological Health Scoring (40% weight):

$$\text{Ecological Health} = (\text{Biodiversity Score} \times 0.40) + (\text{Water Quality} \times 0.30) + (\text{Soil Health} \times 0.30)$$

$$\text{Biodiversity Score} = (\text{Species Population Health} + \text{Habitat Connectivity} + \text{Traditional Land Use}) / 3$$

$$\text{Water Quality} = (\text{Drinking Water Standards} + \text{Aquatic Ecosystem Health} + \text{Traditional Water Management}) / 3$$

$$\text{Soil Health} = (\text{Carbon Sequestration} + \text{Soil Microbial Health} + \text{Traditional Agriculture}) / 3$$

$$\text{Air Quality} = (\text{Air Purity} + \text{Climate Regulation} + \text{Traditional Fire Management}) / 3$$

Cultural Resilience Scoring (30% weight):

$$\text{Cultural Resilience} = (\text{Language Vitality} \times 0.40) + (\text{Traditional Knowledge} \times 0.30) + (\text{Cultural Practice} \times 0.30)$$

$$\text{Language Vitality} = (\text{Fluent Speakers} + \text{Youth Learning} + \text{Traditional Use} + \text{Documentation}) / 4$$

$$\text{Traditional Knowledge} = (\text{Elder-Youth Transmission} + \text{Traditional Skills} + \text{Knowledge Integration}) / 3$$

$$\text{Cultural Practice} = (\text{Ceremonial Participation} + \text{Traditional Arts} + \text{Cultural Identity}) / 3$$

Community Wellbeing Scoring (30% weight):

$$\text{Community Wellbeing} = (\text{Housing Security} \times 0.30) + (\text{Food Sovereignty} \times 0.30) + (\text{Mental Health} \times 0.40)$$

$$\text{Housing Security} = (\text{Adequate Housing} + \text{Traditional Architecture} + \text{Community Infrastructure}) / 3$$

$$\text{Food Sovereignty} = (\text{Traditional Food Access} + \text{Food System Sustainability} + \text{Community Food Production}) / 3$$

$$\text{Mental Health} = (\text{Community Satisfaction} + \text{Traditional Wellness} + \text{Social Cohesion}) / 3$$

4.2 Data Input and Processing Tools

GPH Calculator Input Framework:

Community Data Entry System:

=== GPH Index Calculator - Community Assessment ===

Community/Territory: _____

Bioregion: _____

Assessment Period: _____ to _____

Traditional Governance Authority: _____

ECOLOGICAL HEALTH INDICATORS (40% weight)

Biodiversity Assessment:

- Native species count change (%): _____

- Habitat connectivity (% restored): _____

- Endangered species recovery (#): _____

- Traditional management areas (acres): _____
- Community biodiversity satisfaction (1-10): _____

Water Quality Assessment:

- Drinking water quality (% potable): _____
- Fish population health (1-10): _____
- Wetland restoration (acres): _____
- Traditional water management (1-10): _____
- Sacred water protection (% protected): _____

Soil Health Assessment:

- Soil carbon change (%): _____
- Traditional agriculture productivity (1-10): _____
- Erosion control success (1-10): _____
- Soil restoration (acres): _____
- Traditional land management (1-10): _____

CULTURAL RESILIENCE INDICATORS (30% weight)

Language Vitality Assessment:

- Fluent speakers (#): _____
- Youth in language programs (#): _____
- Language use in governance (1-10): _____
- Community language satisfaction (1-10): _____

Traditional Knowledge Assessment:

- Active elder-youth mentorships (#): _____
- Traditional skills practiced (#): _____
- Traditional knowledge innovation (1-10): _____
- Community knowledge transmission (1-10): _____

Cultural Practice Assessment:

- Ceremonial participation rate (%): _____
- Traditional arts practitioners (#): _____
- Cultural identity strength (1-10): _____
- Traditional governance participation (1-10): _____

COMMUNITY WELLBEING INDICATORS (30% weight)

Housing Security Assessment:

- Adequate housing rate (%): _____
- Traditional architecture use (1-10): _____
- Community infrastructure satisfaction (1-10): _____

Food Sovereignty Assessment:

- Traditional food access (1-10): _____
- Community food production (1-10): _____
- Food system sustainability (1-10): _____
- Traditional food sharing (1-10): _____

Mental Health and Social Cohesion:

- Community life satisfaction (1-10): _____
- Traditional wellness practice (1-10): _____

- Social cohesion strength (1-10): _____
- Conflict resolution effectiveness (1-10): _____

4.3 Results Analysis and Interpretation

GPH Score Interpretation Framework:

GPH Score Ranges and Meanings:

- **90-100:** Exceptional regenerative prosperity with thriving ecosystems and cultural vitality
- **80-89:** Strong regenerative prosperity with healthy ecosystems and active cultural transmission
- **70-79:** Good regenerative foundation with ecosystem restoration and cultural practice maintenance
- **60-69:** Moderate prosperity with ecosystem improvement and cultural revitalization in progress
- **50-59:** Basic prosperity with ecosystem stabilization and cultural practice recovery beginning
- **40-49:** Limited prosperity with ecosystem degradation and cultural practice decline
- **30-39:** Poor prosperity with significant ecosystem damage and cultural disruption
- **20-29:** Critical condition with severe ecosystem destruction and cultural breakdown
- **10-19:** Emergency condition requiring immediate intervention and comprehensive restoration
- **0-9:** Collapse condition requiring complete regenerative transformation

Component Analysis Framework:

=== GPH Index Results Analysis ===

Overall GPH Score: _____ / 100

Component Breakdown:

- Ecological Health: _____ / 100 (40% weight = _____ points)
- Cultural Resilience: _____ / 100 (30% weight = _____ points)
- Community Wellbeing: _____ / 100 (30% weight = _____ points)

Strengths (scores >80):

- _____
- _____
- _____

Areas for Improvement (scores <60):

- _____
- _____
- _____

Priority Actions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Traditional Knowledge Guidance:

Community Priorities:

Part III: Implementation and Policy Integration

Section 5: GPH Policy Integration Framework

5.1 Government Policy Application

Policy Evaluation Using GPH Metrics: Framework for evaluating government policies using GPH indicators rather than GDP growth to guide decision-making toward regenerative outcomes.

Policy Assessment Categories:

- **Environmental Policy:** Assessment of environmental regulations and conservation programs using ecological health indicators
- **Economic Policy:** Evaluation of economic development programs using community wellbeing and cultural resilience metrics
- **Education Policy:** Assessment of education systems using cultural transmission and traditional knowledge indicators
- **Health Policy:** Evaluation of health programs using traditional wellness concepts and community-defined wellbeing
- **Infrastructure Policy:** Assessment of infrastructure development using traditional knowledge and community priorities

Policy Integration Standards:

- ☐ **Indigenous Consultation:** All policy evaluation including meaningful Indigenous consultation and traditional governance input
- ☐ **Seven-Generation Impact:** Policy assessment considering impact on seven generations rather than electoral cycles
- ☐ **Cultural Protocol Compliance:** Policy evaluation respecting traditional cultural protocols and spiritual requirements
- ☐ **Community Benefit Priority:** Policy assessment prioritizing community and ecological benefit over corporate profit
- ☐ **Traditional Knowledge Integration:** Policy evaluation incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Indigenous governance wisdom

5.2 Economic Transition Planning

GDP to GPH Transition Framework: Comprehensive strategy for transitioning from GDP-based to GPH-based economic measurement and policy development.

Transition Phases:

- **Phase 1 (2025-2030):** Parallel GPH measurement alongside GDP demonstrating superior community and ecological outcomes
- **Phase 2 (2030-2040):** Policy integration using GPH metrics for environmental, cultural, and community development decisions
- **Phase 3 (2040-2050):** GPH replacement of GDP as primary economic indicator with comprehensive regenerative economic systems

Economic Transition Components:

- **Regenerative Business Standards:** Business evaluation using GPH contribution rather than GDP growth
- **Investment Redirection:** Investment criteria prioritizing GPH improvement over financial return maximization

- **Tax and Budget Reform:** Government budgets and taxation systems supporting GPH improvement rather than GDP growth
- **International Trade:** Trade agreements evaluated for GPH impact rather than pure economic growth
- **Corporate Accountability:** Corporate performance measured through GPH contribution rather than shareholder profit

Transition Implementation Standards:

- ☐ **Indigenous Leadership:** Economic transition led by Indigenous communities with traditional governance authority
- ☐ **Community Control:** Economic transition under community control rather than imposed by external economic interests
- ☐ **Cultural Integrity:** Economic transition supporting traditional governance and cultural practices
- ☐ **Ecological Priority:** Economic transition prioritizing ecological restoration over economic growth
- ☐ **Intergenerational Justice:** Economic transition considering seven-generation impact rather than short-term profit

5.3 International Comparison and Advocacy

Global GPH Implementation Strategy: International advocacy for GPH adoption as alternative to GDP while demonstrating superior outcomes for community and ecological wellbeing.

International Advocacy Framework:

- **UN Sustainable Development Goals Integration:** GPH integration with UN SDGs demonstrating Indigenous knowledge contributions to global sustainability
- **International Economic Forum Participation:** Indigenous participation in international economic forums advocating for GPH adoption
- **Bilateral Government Agreements:** International agreements using GPH metrics for development cooperation and aid
- **Academic Research Collaboration:** International research demonstrating GPH superior outcomes compared to GDP measurement
- **Corporate Global Standards:** International corporate accountability standards using GPH contribution rather than profit maximization

Global Implementation Standards:

- ☐ **Indigenous Sovereignty:** International GPH implementation respecting Indigenous sovereignty and traditional governance
- ☐ **Cultural Diversity:** Global GPH standards respecting diverse Indigenous cultures and traditional knowledge systems
- ☐ **Bioregional Adaptation:** International GPH implementation adapted for different bioregional and cultural contexts
- ☐ **Traditional Knowledge Protection:** Global GPH implementation protecting Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous intellectual property
- ☐ **Community Benefit:** International GPH standards prioritizing community and ecological benefit over economic extraction

Section 6: Success Examples and Case Studies

6.1 Bioregional Autonomous Zone GPH Success

Amazon Indigenous Alliance BAZ: By 2035, the Amazon Indigenous Alliance Bioregional Autonomous Zone achieves a 60% GPH score through traditional agroforestry, demonstrating superior outcomes compared to extractive development.

GPH Component Success:

- **Ecological Health (65/100):** 40% biodiversity increase through traditional management, 90% water quality improvement, 30% soil carbon increase
- **Cultural Resilience (70/100):** 15 languages revitalized, 80% youth ceremonial participation, traditional knowledge transmission active
- **Community Wellbeing (50/100):** Traditional food sovereignty achieved, 85% community satisfaction, traditional governance functioning

Success Factors:

- Traditional governance authority over 50 million hectares
- \$2 billion international carbon payments supporting Indigenous economic development
- 400+ Indigenous nations coordinating through traditional confederacy systems
- Traditional agroforestry replacing cattle ranching and industrial agriculture

6.2 Great Lakes Bioregional Success

Great Lakes Indigenous Alliance: By 2040, the Great Lakes Bioregional Autonomous Zone achieves an 85% GPH score representing full ecological recovery and cultural renaissance.

GPH Component Achievement:

- **Ecological Health (90/100):** Salmon runs restored, 60% water quality improvement, traditional fire management success
- **Cultural Resilience (85/100):** 12 languages with fluent speaker communities, traditional governance authority recognized
- **Community Wellbeing (80/100):** Traditional food systems restored, 95% community satisfaction, traditional economy thriving

Implementation Strategies:

- Traditional water management coordinating across US-Canada borders
- \$10 billion in reparations funding traditional territory restoration
- Traditional governance recognition by 25 municipal and regional governments
- Traditional education systems serving 100,000 students annually

6.3 Pacific Northwest Demonstration

Pacific Northwest Regenerative Economy: By 2045, the Pacific Northwest Bioregional Autonomous Zone demonstrates GPH superior outcomes to GDP measurement through comprehensive regenerative transformation.

Comparative Outcomes:






- **GDP Comparison:** Regional GDP growth 2% annually vs. GPH improvement 15% annually
- **Ecological Comparison:** GPH regions show 50% biodiversity increase vs. GDP regions showing 20% decline
- **Community Comparison:** GPH regions report 95% life satisfaction vs. GDP regions reporting 60% satisfaction
- **Cultural Comparison:** GPH regions maintain 90% traditional practice vs. GDP regions showing cultural decline

Transformation Elements:

- Traditional governance coordinating across Washington, Oregon, British Columbia
- \$50 billion regenerative economy supporting 2 million jobs in ecological restoration
- Fossil fuel industries replaced by Indigenous-led renewable energy cooperatives
- Traditional forest management providing superior carbon storage and biodiversity outcomes

Contact Information and Implementation Support

Current Status Note: The Global Governance Framework is in active development. Currently available:

-  GPH Index calculation tools and methodology
-  Community assessment and policy integration guidance
-  General support via globalgovernanceframework@gmail.com
-  International coordination networks (in development)
-  Government policy integration support (in development)

Contact Information:

- **Primary Contact:** globalgovernanceframework@gmail.com
- **Website:** globalgovernanceframework.org
- **Subject Lines for Specific Support:**
 - "GPH Index Implementation" - for community GPH assessment and calculation support
 - "Policy Integration" - for government and organizational policy evaluation using GPH metrics
 - "Economic Transition" - for GDP to GPH transition planning and implementation
 - "International Coordination" - for global GPH advocacy and implementation networks

Implementation Priority Actions:

1. **Community GPH Assessment:** Begin with comprehensive community assessment using GPH calculator tools
2. **Traditional Knowledge Integration:** Integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge with contemporary monitoring systems
3. **Policy Evaluation:** Use GPH metrics to evaluate current policies and development proposals
4. **Economic Transition Planning:** Develop transition strategy from GDP to GPH-based economic measurement
5. **Bioregional Coordination:** Connect with other Indigenous communities for GPH implementation and comparison
6. **International Advocacy:** Participate in international advocacy for GPH adoption as alternative to GDP

Additional Framework Resources:

- [Reparations Calculation & Campaign Toolkit](#)
- [Traditional Knowledge Documentation Kit](#)
- [Indigenous Data Sovereignty Framework](#)
- [BAZ Readiness Assessment & Setup Guide](#)

GPH Implementation Pathway:

1. **Community Readiness Assessment:** Evaluate community capacity for GPH implementation using traditional governance and elder authority
2. **Baseline GPH Calculation:** Conduct initial GPH assessment establishing baseline scores for future comparison

3. **Priority Area Identification:** Identify areas for improvement based on GPH component analysis and community priorities
4. **Traditional Knowledge Integration:** Develop Traditional Knowledge monitoring systems under elder authority and cultural protocols
5. **Policy Integration:** Begin using GPH metrics for community policy and development decisions
6. **Progress Monitoring:** Regular GPH assessment tracking progress and adjusting strategies based on community feedback

Success Vision: By 2040, the Gross Planetary Health Index demonstrates that Indigenous governance and Traditional Ecological Knowledge create superior outcomes for ecological restoration, cultural vitality, and community wellbeing compared to GDP-based extractive economic systems, providing the foundation for global economic transformation toward regenerative prosperity.

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Cultural Protocol Reminder: GPH Index implementation must follow appropriate Indigenous cultural protocols and traditional governance systems. All measurement and evaluation activities should strengthen rather than compromise traditional knowledge transmission and occur under traditional authority and elder guidance. Sacred knowledge and cultural information require protection throughout GPH assessment and monitoring processes.

Appendix: Quick Reference GPH Calculator

Simplified GPH Assessment Tool

Community Quick Assessment:

=== GPH Quick Calculator ===

Community: _____

Date: _____

Assessment Period: _____

ECOLOGICAL HEALTH (40% weight)

Rate each area 1-10:

☐ Biodiversity and species health: ____

☐ Water quality and watershed health: ____

☐ Soil health and carbon storage: ____

☐ Air quality and climate regulation: ____

Ecological Health Average: ____/10

CULTURAL RESILIENCE (30% weight)

Rate each area 1-10:

☐ Language vitality and use: ____

☐ Traditional knowledge transmission: ____

☐ Cultural practice participation: ____

☐ Cultural identity strength: ____

Cultural Resilience Average: ____/10

COMMUNITY WELLBEING (30% weight)

Rate each area 1-10:

- ☐ Housing security and infrastructure: ____
- ☐ Food sovereignty and traditional foods: ____
- ☐ Mental health and social cohesion: ____
- ☐ Community satisfaction and resilience: ____

Community Wellbeing Average: ____/10

FINAL GPH CALCULATION:

GPH Score = (Ecological Health × 4) + (Cultural Resilience × 3) + (Community Wellbeing × 3)

GPH Score = (____ × 4) + (____ × 3) + (____ × 3) = ____/100

GPH INTERPRETATION:

- ☐ 90-100: Exceptional regenerative prosperity
- ☐ 80-89: Strong regenerative prosperity
- ☐ 70-79: Good regenerative foundation
- ☐ 60-69: Moderate prosperity with improvement in progress
- ☐ 50-59: Basic prosperity with stabilization beginning
- ☐ Below 50: Requires comprehensive regenerative intervention

PRIORITY ACTIONS:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE GUIDANCE:

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES:

GPH vs GDP Comparison Template

Economic Measurement Comparison:

=== GPH vs GDP Comparison Analysis ===

Region/Community: _____

Comparison Period: _____

GDP METRICS:

- Total Economic Output: \$_____
- Growth Rate: _____%
- Per Capita Income: \$_____
- Employment Rate: _____%

GPH METRICS:

- Overall GPH Score: _____/100
- Ecological Health: _____/100
- Cultural Resilience: _____/100
- Community Wellbeing: _____/100

COMPARATIVE OUTCOMES:

Economic Prosperity:

- GDP Focus: _____
- GPH Focus: _____

Environmental Health:

- GDP Impact: _____
- GPH Impact: _____

Cultural Vitality:

- GDP Impact: _____
- GPH Impact: _____

Community Satisfaction:

- GDP Communities: _____
- GPH Communities: _____

CONCLUSION:

Which measurement system better serves:

- ☐ Community wellbeing: GDP / GPH
- ☐ Environmental health: GDP / GPH
- ☐ Cultural vitality: GDP / GPH
- ☐ Future generations: GDP / GPH
- ☐ Overall prosperity: GDP / GPH

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Policy Impact Assessment Template

GPH Policy Evaluation Framework:

=== Policy Impact Assessment Using GPH ===

Policy/Program: _____

Implementation Period: _____

Evaluation Date: _____

POLICY DESCRIPTION:

Objectives: _____

Methods: _____

Budget: \$_____

Timeline: _____

GPH IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Ecological Health Impact:

- ☐ Biodiversity: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Water Quality: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Soil Health: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Air Quality: Positive / Neutral / Negative

Cultural Resilience Impact:

- ☐ Language Vitality: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Traditional Knowledge: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Cultural Practices: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Cultural Identity: Positive / Neutral / Negative

Community Wellbeing Impact:

- ☐ Housing Security: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Food Sovereignty: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Mental Health: Positive / Neutral / Negative
- ☐ Social Cohesion: Positive / Neutral / Negative

SEVEN-GENERATION IMPACT:

Long-term consequences for:

- ☐ Future ecological health: _____
- ☐ Future cultural vitality: _____
- ☐ Future community wellbeing: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

- ☐ Proceed with policy (high GPH benefit)
- ☐ Modify policy (mixed GPH impact)
- ☐ Reject policy (negative GPH impact)

MODIFICATIONS NEEDED:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE INPUT:

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:

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