ISSP 2020 – Environment IV
Final Source Questionnaire

Members of the drafting group:

Austria (Convener):
   Markus Hadler
   Markus Schweighart

Chile:
   Ricardo González

Spain:
   Monica Mendez

Sweden:
   Jonas Edlund
   Ingemar Johansson

Taiwan:
   Thunghong Lin
   Pei-shan Liao

Experts:
   Malcolm Fairbrother
   Axel Franzen
ISSP 2020 Module on Environment  
Final source questionnaire May 2019

1 All notes which are not part of the questionnaire are enclosed in pointed brackets,  
e.g. <ISSP 1993 Q2, V5-6>.  

2 For repeat items, the relevant question numbers from 1993/2000/2010 are  
given in pointed brackets above the question text. New items are indicated by  
<NEW>.  

3 Where [COUNTRY] appears in the question text, members should insert the  
name of their country.  

4 The questionnaire is laid out for self-completion administration. Some of the  
wording will need to be altered for interviewer administered interviewing.  
e.g.3a. Looking at the list below, please tick a box next to the one thing …  
For interviewer administered interviewing, please make sure that show cards  
are used to list answer options, particularly at Q1 and Q7.  

5 Translation notes for repeat questions are intended for those countries which  
did not take part in the 1993, 2000 or 2010 ISSP. Others should repeat their  
wording from the 1993/2000/2010 survey. ISSP policy on questions which you  
have already translated for an earlier module is that members should not  
tinker with wording to make slight improvements. Only real mistakes in  
translation should be changed. These should be clearly documented in your  
study monitoring report.
1a. Which of these issues is the most important for [COUNTRY] today?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

Health care
Education
Crime
The environment
Immigration
The economy
Terrorism
Poverty
None of these
Can’t choose

b. Which is the next most important?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

Health care
Education
Crime
The environment
Immigration
The economy
Terrorism
Poverty
None of these
Can’t choose

< Q1 Answer option 6 “The economy” should capture all aspects of the economy rather than single issues such as unemployment or inflation >
2. How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agree strongly</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree strongly</th>
<th>Can’t choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Private enterprise is the best way to solve [COUNTRY'S] economic problems</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b. It is the responsibility of the government to reduce the differences in income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. [COUNTRY] should limit the import of foreign products in order to protect its national economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. [COUNTRY] should limit immigration in order to protect our national way of life</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. International organizations are taking away too much power from the [COUNTRY NATIONALITY] government</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3a. Looking at the list below, please tick a box next to the one thing you think should be [COUNTRY’S] highest priority, the most important thing it should do.

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

[COUNTRY] should …

- Maintain order in the nation (1)
- Give people more say in government decisions (2)
- Fight rising prices (3)
- Protect freedom of speech (4)
- Can’t choose (-8)
b. And which one do you think should be [COUNTRY’S] next highest priority, the second most important thing it should do?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

[COUNTRY] should…

- Maintain order in the nation (1)
- Give people more say in government decisions (2)
- Fight rising prices (3)
- Protect freedom of speech (4)
- Can’t choose (-8)

<ISSP 2010 Q4a>

4. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can’t be too careful in dealing with people? Please tick one box to show what you think, where 1 means you can’t be too careful and 5 means most people can be trusted.

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You can’t be too careful</th>
<th>Most people can be trusted</th>
<th>Can’t choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<NEW>

5. On a scale of 0 to 10, how much do you personally trust each of the following institutions? 0 means you do not trust an institution at all, and 10 means you trust it completely.

a. University research centres

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No trust at all</th>
<th>Complete trust</th>
<th>Can’t choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
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<td>(6)</td>
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<td>(9)</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>(-8)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

b. The news media

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No trust at all</th>
<th>Complete trust</th>
<th>Can’t choose</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<td>(9)</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>(-8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
c. Business and industry

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No trust at all</th>
<th>Complete trust</th>
<th>Can't choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(0)</td>
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<td>(9)</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>(-8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

d. The [COUNTRY NATIONALITY PARLIAMENT]

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No trust at all</th>
<th>Complete trust</th>
<th>Can't choose</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(0)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<Q5. University research centres include organized groups of researchers in universities or other similar scientific and higher education institutions. The news media consists of the organizations producing TV, radio, magazines, and newspapers (including in their online forms), but not social media. Business and industry refers to firms in all sectors of the economy. Parliament refers to the national legislature, such as the German Bundestag, Israeli Knesset, U.S. Congress, Chinese National People’s Congress, or British Parliament.>

< ISSP 2010 Q6>

6. Generally speaking, how concerned are you about environmental issues?
   Please tick one box below to indicate what you think, where 1 means you are not at all concerned and 5 means you are very concerned.

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all concerned</th>
<th>Very concerned</th>
<th>Can't choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>(-8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<Q6. By “concerned about” we mean being worried about environmental issues. “Concern” should not imply involvement with environmental pressure groups.>
7. Here is a list of some different environmental problems. Which problem, if any, do you think is the most important for [COUNTRY] as a whole?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

(✓)

- Air pollution ☐ (1)
- Chemicals and pesticides ☐ (2)
- Water shortage ☐ (3)
- Water pollution ☐ (4)
- Nuclear waste ☐ (5)
- Domestic waste disposal ☐ (6)
- Climate change ☐ (7)
- Genetically modified foods ☐ (8)
- Using up our natural resources ☐ (9)
- None of these ☐ (10)
- Can’t choose ☐ (-8)

<Q7.6 domestic waste disposal means disposal of household waste/garbage: adjust wording to national language>

<Q7.9 “Natural resources” can include both non-renewable sources such as coal or oil as well as other natural resources such as wood or water.>

<NEW>

8. There has been a lot of discussion about the world’s climate and the idea it has been changing in recent decades. Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

(✓)

- The world’s climate has not been changing ☐ (1)
  If (1) please continue with Q10

- The world’s climate has been changing mostly due to natural processes ☐ (2)
- The world’s climate has been changing about equally due to natural processes and human activity ☐ (3)
- The world’s climate has been changing mostly due to human activity ☐ (4)
- Can’t choose ☐ (-8)

<FILTER: if (1) then skip next two questions>
9a. On a scale from 0 to 10, how bad or good do you think the impacts of climate change will be for the world as a whole? 0 means extremely bad, 10 means extremely good.

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extremely bad</th>
<th>Extremely good</th>
<th>Can't choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>(-8)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

9b. On a scale from 0 to 10, how bad or good do you think the impacts of climate change will be for [COUNTRY]? 0 means extremely bad, 10 means extremely good.

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extremely bad</th>
<th>Extremely good</th>
<th>Can't choose</th>
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<td>(8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>(-8)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10. How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

a. Modern science will solve our environmental problems with little change to our way of life

b. We worry too much about the future of the environment and not enough about prices and jobs today

c. Almost everything we do in modern life harms the environment

d. People worry too much about human progress harming the environment

e. In order to protect the environment [COUNTRY] needs economic growth

f. Economic growth always harms the environment

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (-8)
11a. How willing would you be to pay much higher prices in order to protect the environment?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

Very willing (1)
Fairly willing (2)
Neither willing nor unwilling (3)
Fairly unwilling (4)
Very unwilling (5)
Can’t choose (-8)

b. And how willing would you be to pay much higher taxes in order to protect the environment?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

Very willing (1)
Fairly willing (2)
Neither willing nor unwilling (3)
Fairly unwilling (4)
Very unwilling (5)
Can’t choose (-8)

c. And how willing would you be to accept cuts in your standard of living in order to protect the environment?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

Very willing (1)
Fairly willing (2)
Neither willing nor unwilling (3)
Fairly unwilling (4)
Very unwilling (5)
Can’t choose (-8)
d. How willing would you be to accept a reduction in the size of [COUNTRY’s] protected nature areas, in order to open them up for economic development?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

Very willing [ ] (1)
Fairly willing [ ] (2)
Neither willing nor unwilling [ ] (3)
Fairly unwilling [ ] (4)
Very unwilling [ ] (5)
Can't choose [ ] (-8)

<TN: Protected nature areas include parks and wildlife sanctuaries. Economic development refers to mining, farming, forestry, other sorts of resource extraction, house-building, road construction, or any other form of economic development that substantially transforms the land.>

<ISSP 2010, Q13a-g, 2000 Q8a-e/-/, 1993 Q9a-b/-/-/->

12. How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agree strongly</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree strongly</th>
<th>Can’t choose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. It is just too difficult for someone like me to do much about the environment</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. I do what is right for the environment, even when it costs more money or takes more time</td>
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<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. There are more important things to do in life than protect the environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. There is no point in doing what I can for the environment unless others do the same</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Many of the claims about environmental threats are exaggerated</td>
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<tr>
<td>f. I find it hard to know whether the way I live is helpful or harmful to the environment</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>g. Environmental problems have a direct effect on my everyday life</td>
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</table>

<Q12c. This is an idiom which means in British English that the person has higher priorities in life than environmentally friendly behaviour>
In general, do you think that air pollution caused by cars is …

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, (1)
- very dangerous, (2)
- somewhat dangerous, (3)
- not very dangerous, (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? (5)
- Can't choose (-8)

b. In general, do you think that air pollution caused by industry is …

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, (1)
- very dangerous, (2)
- somewhat dangerous, (3)
- not very dangerous, (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? (5)
- Can't choose (-8)

c. And do you think that pesticides and chemicals used in farming are …

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, (1)
- very dangerous, (2)
- somewhat dangerous, (3)
- not very dangerous, (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? (5)
- Can't choose (-8)

d. And do you think that pollution of country’s rivers, lakes and streams is …

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, (1)
- very dangerous, (2)
- somewhat dangerous, (3)
- not very dangerous, (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? (5)
- Can't choose (-8)
e. In general, do you think that a rise in the world’s temperature caused by climate change is …

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, □ (1)
- very dangerous, □ (2)
- somewhat dangerous, □ (3)
- not very dangerous, □ (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? □ (5)
- Can’t choose □ (-8)

f. And do you think that modifying the genes of certain crops is …

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, □ (1)
- very dangerous, □ (2)
- somewhat dangerous, □ (3)
- not very dangerous, □ (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? □ (5)
- Can’t choose □ (-8)

g. And do you think that nuclear power stations are…

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- extremely dangerous for the environment, □ (1)
- very dangerous, □ (2)
- somewhat dangerous, □ (3)
- not very dangerous, □ (4)
- or, not dangerous at all for the environment? □ (5)
- Can’t choose □ (-8)

<13b “Industry” refers to large-scale industry, but avoid using the adjective in the translation
13e In a change from 1993/2000 this question now talks about “climate change” rather than the greenhouse effect/global warming. All countries should translate this question to refer to “climate change” (or the nearest equivalent) even if they previously used a different term.
13f “Modifying the genes” refers to actual alteration of a crop’s genetic structure>
14a. Which of these approaches do you think would be the best way of getting business and industry in [COUNTRY] to protect the environment?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- Heavy fines for businesses that damage the environment (1)
- Use the tax system to reward businesses that protect the environment (2)
- More information and education for businesses about the advantages of protecting the environment (3)
- Can’t choose (-8)

b. Which of these approaches do you think would be the best way of getting people and their families in [COUNTRY] to protect the environment?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- Heavy fines for people who damage the environment (1)
- Use the tax system to reward people who protect the environment (2)
- More information and education for people about the advantages of protecting the environment (3)
- Can’t choose (-8)

<Q14a “Business and industry” refers to large-scale business and industry, but avoid using the adjective in the translation>

<NEW>

15. How much, if at all, do you enjoy being outside in nature?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- not at all (1)
- to a small extent (2)
- to some extent (3)
- to a great extent (4)
- to a very great extent (5)
- Can’t choose (-8)
16. In the last twelve months how often, if at all, have you engaged in any leisure activities outside in nature, such as hiking, bird watching, swimming, skiing, other outdoor activities or just relaxing?

*PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY*

- daily (1)
- several times a week (2)
- several times a month (3)
- several times a year (4)
- never (5)
- Can’t choose (-8)

17a. In the last twelve months, how many trips did you make by plane? Count outward and return journeys, including transfers, as one trip.

_________ trips

(-8) Don’t know

17b. In a typical week, about how many hours do you spend in a car or another motor vehicle, including motorcycles, trucks, and vans, but not counting public transport? Do not include shared rides in buses, minibuses, and collective taxis.

_________ hours

(-8) Don’t know

18. How many rooms are there in your home (apartment or house)? Do not count any separate kitchens, bathrooms, garages, balconies, hallways or cupboards.

_________ rooms

(-8) Don’t know
19a. How often do you make a special effort to sort glass or tins or plastic or newspapers and so on for recycling?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- Always (1)
- Often (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Never (4)
- (Recycling not available where I live) (-4)

b. And how often do you avoid buying certain products for environmental reasons?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- Always (1)
- Often (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Never (4)

<Q19b “Avoid buying” refers to taking a decision deliberately not to buy certain products for the sake of the environment>

20. Are you a member of any group whose main aim is to preserve or protect the environment?

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

21. In the last five years, have you ...

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

- a. ... signed a petition about an environmental issue?
- b. ... given money to an environmental group?
- c. ... taken part in a protest or demonstration about an environmental issue?

<Q21b Environmental group includes NGOs and lobby groups>
22. Thinking about your **neighbourhood**, to what extent, if at all, was it affected by the following things over the last twelve months?

   a. Air Pollution

   **PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

   (✓)
   - not at all [ ] (1)
   - to a small extent [ ] (2)
   - to some extent [ ] (3)
   - to a great extent [ ] (4)
   - to a very great extent [ ] (5)
   - Can't choose [ ] (-8)

   b. Water Pollution

   **PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

   (✓)
   - not at all [ ] (1)
   - to a small extent [ ] (2)
   - to some extent [ ] (3)
   - to a great extent [ ] (4)
   - to a very great extent [ ] (5)
   - Can't choose [ ] (-8)

   c. Extreme weather events (such as severe storms, droughts, floods, heat waves, cold snaps, etc.)

   **PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

   (✓)
   - not at all [ ] (1)
   - to a small extent [ ] (2)
   - to some extent [ ] (3)
   - to a great extent [ ] (4)
   - to a very great extent [ ] (5)
   - Can't choose [ ] (-8)

<Q22. By "neighbourhood" we mean the part of the town/city the respondent live in. If he/she lives in a village, this can be taken as his/her "neighbourhood. “Affected” refers to the impact on the neighbourhood>