

THE DEVELOPMENT COMPASS ROSE

~ A FRAMEWORK FOR RAISING QUESTIONS

Questioning development involves taking a variety of factors into account when understanding a situation. The four 'domains' that the development compass rose encourages us to look at - and explore the links between - are: Economic, Natural, political [Who decides?] and Social/cultural.

The development compass rose is a tool which:

- ◆ encourages us to ask a range of questions about development issues in any place or situation [including our own]
- ◆ is used to raise questions about development issues and their interrelationship with environmental, social, economic and political issues ... as well as the relationship between these dimensions
- ◆ is particularly useful for helping us to focus on the commonality between what can appear to be quite different situations
- ◆ can be used to help enquiry about places, issues, or photographs representing a place or situation

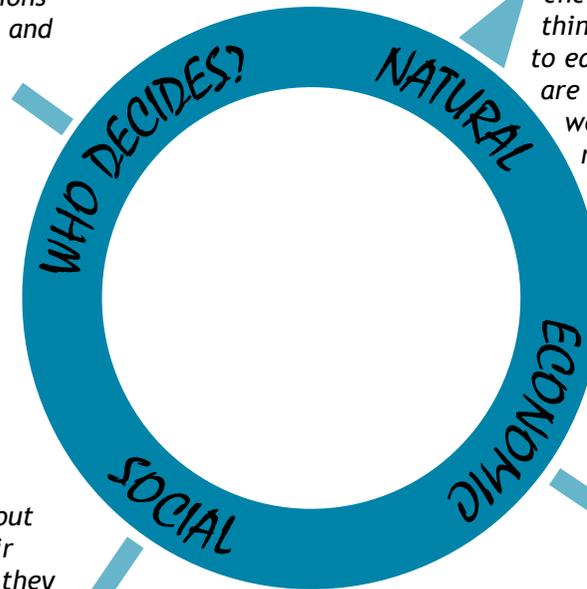
You can place an image or an 'issue' in the centre of the 'compass'. Questions can be generated for each of the four 'compass points'. These could then be compared with questions generated about an apparently different situation, and the commonalities between them then explored. These questions might also be a starting point for further enquiry.

Who decides? ~ These are questions about power, who makes choices and decides what is to happen, who benefits and loses as a result of these decisions and at what cost.

Social ~ These are questions about people, their relationships, their traditions, culture and the way they live. They include questions about how, for example, gender, race, disability, class and age affect social relationships.

Natural ~ These are questions about the environment - energy, air, water, soil, living things and their relationships to each other. These questions are also about the built as well as the 'natural' environment.

Economic ~ These are questions about money, trading, aid, ownership, buying and selling.



You may prefer to use a simpler explanation:

Natural: These are changes in the environment.

Social: These are changes to people and the way they live.

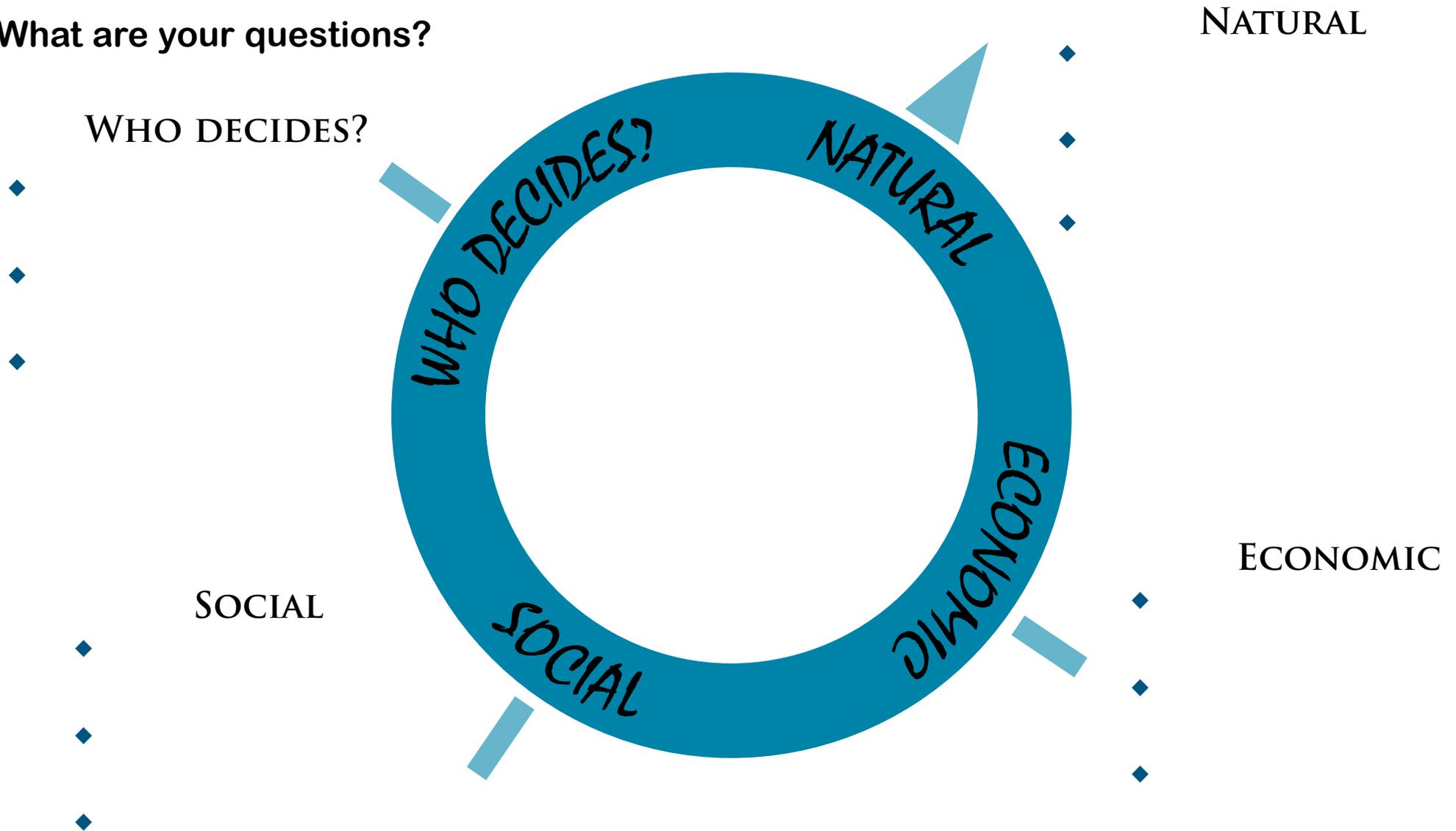
Economic: These are changes involving money.

Who decides?: The people who make decisions about the changes.

This development compass rose came out of discussions about thinking of the future and development at a global scale.

DEVELOPMENT COMPASS ROSE

What are your questions?



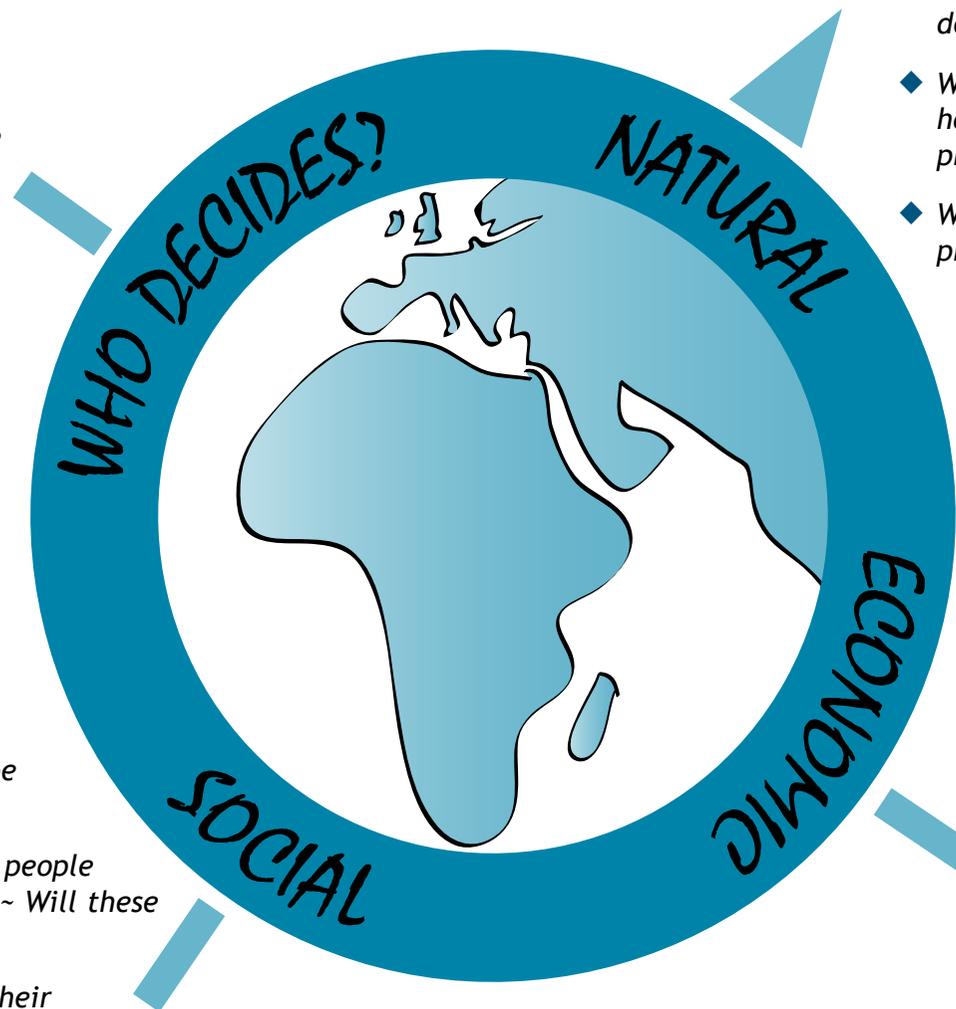
DEVELOPMENT: QUESTIONING THE FUTURE

WHO DECIDES?

- ◆ *What UN structures will be established to enable effective decision making at a global level?*
- ◆ *Will there be strong regional alliances and less conflict?*
- ◆ *Will the EU be more outward or inward looking?*
- ◆ *Will people feel they have a say?*

SOCIAL

- ◆ *Will international agreements on Basic Needs, the Right to Development and Human Rights be effective?*
- ◆ *What development priorities will people have for their own communities? ~ Will these be valued?*
- ◆ *Will people be able to maintain their identities and cultures in a more globalised society?*



NATURAL

- ◆ *Will international agreements on environmental protection and sustainable development be effective?*
- ◆ *Will there be significant climate change ~ how will this effect development priorities in different parts of the world?*
- ◆ *Will small-scale farmers be able to protect their livelihoods?*

ECONOMIC

- ◆ *Will international agreements on trade, investment and the behaviour of transnational companies be effective?*
- ◆ *Will development priorities be dominated by a few powerful international companies?*
- ◆ *Will small scale business and farming be sustained?*
- ◆ *Will there be jobs? [North & South]*