Research Impact through Strategic Engagement

A Reflexive Toolkit for Evidencing the Beyond Scholarly Impact of Research

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Things to Consider as You Reflect on the Impact of Your Research

Table 1. Phases of the Research Cycle

In the table below, we provide definitions for each phase, some reflection prompts, and examples of the impacts that can be seen. These are not meant to be an exhaustive list of the considerations or reflection questions related to each stage, but a starting point for discussion and planning. In this table, "groups" can refer to individuals, communities, professional bodies, or any other type of stakeholder in the research process. In some cases it might be possible to directly collaborate with the population being studied, but in other cases due to pragmatic or access issues, researchers may have more indirect access to a group's needs. For example, collaborating with clinicians to understand the needs of children and youth living with mental illness.

Phase	Definition	Considerations	Actors and Included Groups	Examples
Question(s)	Developing your research question. In this stage you are identifying your topic of interest and laying the rationale for your planned work.	" What is the overall purpose of your research? " What are the potential and/or intended impacts of your research? Which ones are proximal? Which are distal?	" Who is your research serving (directly and indirectly)? " Who helped in identifying these issues? " What groups do you need to engage with to determine your questions?	" Co-creating research questions with practitioners to articulate community needs _____ _____
Inputs	The material and non-material investments to carry out your project.	" How will your inputs target your outputs? " Will your choice of inputs affect your overall impact? " What is the nature of the collaboration with any communities or groups that are involved with this project?	" What groups are you collaborating with in this project? " What positionality and theoretical perspectives do you and the research team bring to the project? " To what extent does the research team reflect the populations being studied?	" Collaborators and community partners _____ _____

Process	The course of action taken to carry out your procedures of data collection and analyses.	” What data, methods, and analyses will give you the most information for your intended impact?	” Who are your participants and how are they being impacted by the research process?
		” What is the most productive way to conduct this research for the community?	” Have we added or removed barriers for participants in accessing resources?
			”

| Monitoring / Tracking | The evidence of your research impact on an individual, group, community, or global level through tracking tools and indicators of research impact | ” | What is the impact you want to sustain and at which level? |

Research Impact through **Strategic Engagement (RISE)**

	TARGET OF IMPACT					
	Community Engagement	Innovations & Inventions	Knowledge Production / Theory Building	Policy	Practice	Other
DOMAIN OF IMPACT — Arts & Culture						
Economics						
Education						
Environment & Sustainability						
Health & Wellbeing						
Justice						
Other						

Tool 3: Knowledge Mobilization Activities *Table*

Knowledge mobilization (KM) is the reciprocal and complementary flow and uptake of research knowledge between researchers, knowledge brokers and knowledge users in such a way that may benefit users and create positive impacts. The process of KM involves a researcher planning KM activities. Within our framework, KM activities act as a link between research outputs and research impact. These activities allow the research knowledge to reach knowledge users. Planning and conducting KM activities does not guarantee that impact will be created. Therefore, KM activities are necessary but not sufficient condition for creating impact and without KM we cannot have impact.

The table below contains examples of KM activities in different categories; other examples not 1 (e)-1 (s)6Bvit-1 (b)1 (e)-1 (l)2 (ow)3 (co

CONVERSATIONS & NETWORKS	EVENTS	MEDIA & WEB PRESENCE	OTHER

Tool 4: Monitoring & Tracking Indicators of Impact *Table*

Monitoring and tracking are distinct activities within the research process and are necessary to gather evidence of your potential research impact. These activities should be planned and incorporated into your research process. We cannot assume that our research has made an impact; we need evidence of it. The tables below contain examples of monitoring and tracking methods and indicators associated with impact; other examples not listed may be applicable to your research and can be added to this table. The methods are meant to be used to identify indicators that show awareness of your outputs and KM activities, and to identify indicators that show evidence of the uptake of your outputs and KM activities. This process of monitoring and tracking will help in identifying any impacts that were intended or unintended.

METHODS	EVIDENCE OF CHANGED PERSPECTIVES	CHANGED PROCE.8186y4ES

B Citations in policy and practice documents			

Altmetrics

B Social media analytics (e.g., retweets, views, followers, likes)1 (e)-1 (.)1 (g.)1 (,)1 ( )TJ-0.002 Tc.J-0.002 To3 (w)-T002 w.g.,

Resources

Useful Readings & Resources

Bornmann, L. (2013). What is societal impact of research and how can it be assessed? a literature survey. In Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (Vol. 64, Issue 2, pp. 217–233). https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.22803

SSHRC (2019). Guidelines for Effective Knowledge Mobilization. Government of Canada. Retrieved May 10, 2022: https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/knowledge_mobilisation-