



## Meeting information needs: mapping information for reporting and impact assessment.

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15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

# Session plan



Aims & background

Bev (10 mins)

How are we doing & what is next for impact? (& introduce exercise)

Sarah (15 mins)

Group discussions/exercise

All (40 mins)

Feedback from groups

All (15 mins)

# Aim of workshop



To think about the strategic information/reporting needs of your organisation, using 'domains of interest' as a structure.

- identify strategic information needs/reporting frameworks
- future direction of travel
- identify any research outputs, outcomes and impacts that are poorly accommodated/not accommodated in the current question set
- areas of redundancy
- please note, not just about Researchfish!

# Background – why assess impact?



Ever increasing need to be able to:

- demonstrate the benefits and value of the research being funded
- track/monitor/articulate research progress & impact
- improve and optimise impacts
- evidenced based policy and investment decision making
- understand research pathways and the subsequent impacts to inform the above ('science of science' research)

# The 4 A's



- Advocacy:** to demonstrate the benefits of supporting research
- Accountability:** to show that money has been used efficiently and effectively
- Analysis:** to understand how and why research is effective, feeding into research strategy
- Allocation:** making the best use of limited funding pot

Source: Guthrie, S., Wamae, W., Diepeveen, S., Wooding, S., & Grant, J. (2013). *Measuring research: A guide to research evaluation frameworks and tools*. Cambridge, UK: RAND Europe.

# Background – how?



Use of frameworks is common – impact/success/reporting

Benefits of having some form of framework:

- clear end goals
- agreed and defined steps & priorities
- demonstrate & monitor progress
- easy way to articulate this to disparate audiences
- leads to structured evidence base

.....enable all of the 'why's' mentioned earlier.

# Some frameworks:

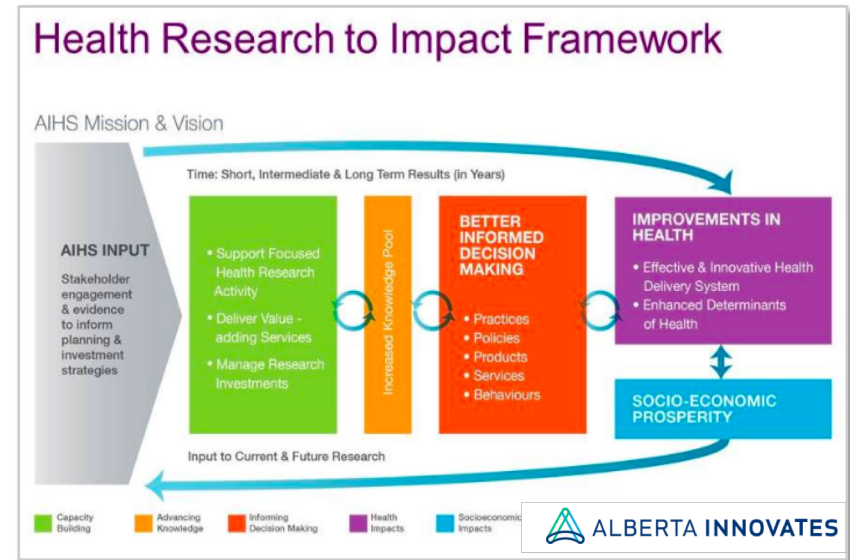


'Making a difference'  
- 5 key areas of impact

**Guidance for standardising the use of quantitative indicators of impact within REF case studies**

Style guide	Specific guidance
<p>This consists of general stylistic items that can be standardised to make quantitative indicators of impact, and specific formulations of them, more discoverable in the case studies. The style guide would apply across all of the specific guidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numbers</li> <li>Percentages and rates</li> <li>Measures of change</li> <li>Time periods</li> <li>Units</li> <li>Currency</li> </ul>	<p>This covers more specific and commonly occurring quantitative indicators that have been used as evidence of impact in the case studies. Standardisation could improve discoverability of quantitative indicators of impact and their potential aggregation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement</li> <li>Mentions in non-academic documents and the media</li> <li>Employment</li> <li>Financial figures</li> <li>Emissions</li> </ul>

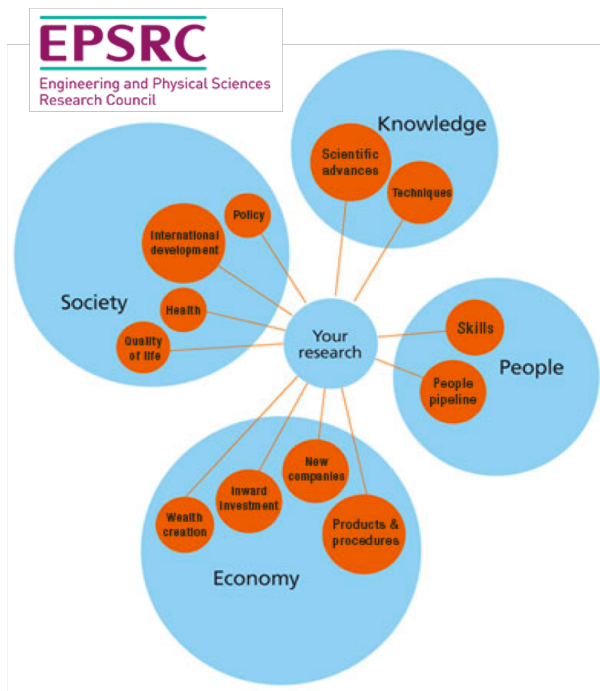
**REF2021** Research Excellence Framework



## Common Outcomes

researchfish®

Publications	Intellectual Property & Licensing
Collaborations	Medical Products, Interventions and Clinical Trials
Further Funding	Artistic & Creative Products
Next Destination	Software & Technical Products
Engagement Activities	Spin Outs
Influence on Policy	Awards and Recognition
Research Tools & Methods	Other Outputs & Knowledge
Research Databases & Models	Use of Facilities & Resources





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