Workshop on the Development of the System of the Assessment of Research Impact

Comments to the SAIQoR document prepared by Team UTM + UiTM

Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education Assessing and Improving Research Performance at South East Asian Universities

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General comments to the document

- The document maps the current practices of research management within the the consortium members
- It proposes a framework that include various aspect of research process (input, output, etc.)
- It is a good start to open further discussion on:
 - Development of research quality assessment
 - Impact of research to community and industry





The architecture of research

"Impact"

Input

- Funding
- Roadmap
- Skilled researchers
- Supporting policies
- Infrastructure
- Etc.

Process

- Empirically relevance
- Theoretically grounded
- Methodologica lly sound
- Student involvement
- Collaboration (interdisciplin ary, triple helix, international)
- Etc.

Output

- Publication (journal, conference, book, media, etc.)
- Exhibition
- Performance
- Policy brief
- Technology/ar tifact (e.g. method, drug, design)
- New subject
- Etc.

Outcome

- Citation
- Commercial
- Cultural
- Etc.

Impact

- Policy making
- Economic
- Society
- Industry
- Etc.

Time horizon





The document can be developed further by ...

- Synthesizing/mapping the extant literature and/or the current practices, e.g.
 - The rationale
 - A variety of defining impact (e.g. output, outcome, impact)
 - Various assessment methods (pros, cons)
 - Principles in assessing research impact (e.g. the Leiden Manifesto)
- Eliciting problems in assessing research impact
 - Time lag, the developmental nature of impact, gathering evidence, discipline specificity, etc.
- Providing our [multifaceted] framework in assessing research impact
 - Getting the mix right (?)
- Proposing strategies to improve the impact





The multifaceted framework

Approach

• parsimonious, comprehensive

Time horizon

• output, outcome, impact

Level of analysis

• project, individual, group, school, university, country

Data

• quantitative/metrics (no of papers, citations, etc.), qualitative/narratives (expert judgment)

Level of impact

• international, national, local, institutional, individual

Scope

• economic, society, etc.

Discipline specificity

• medical, engineering, social science, etc.

Perspective

• donor, researcher, employer, society, student, etc.





Areas for further discussion

- Indicative nature of research impact measurement (degree of measurability)
- No one-size-fits-all measurement
 - Discipline specificity (?)
 - Country/institution specificity (?)
 - Etc.
- Ideality vs. legitimacy
- Effective (indicator, for comparison) vs. comprehensive (takeaway, guidance)
- Strategies to foster impact
 - Can impact be designed from the outset? (e.g. through engaged scholarship/co-production)



