

Dalhousie University | 19-21 June 2023

Welcome to the 11th international AESIS conference on **Impact of Science on Society**

SSHRC  CRSH





Words of Welcome

Conference chairs:

Barbara Hamilton-Hinch

Rohini Bannerjee



Tuesday, June 20

Plenary Opening

Mario Pinto

Tatiana Rincón

Britta Fiander



Tuesday, June 20

Mario Pinto

Vice President (Research & International),
University of Manitoba, Canada



Tuesday, June 20

Tatiana Rincón

President of Gender, Social Promotion and
Livelihoods at Fundación capital, Colombia

Scaling the impact of innovation and research

A Call to Action from the Global South



scaling
science



Call to Action from the Global South on Scaling Impact

www.scalingxchange.org

This Call sets out eight actions that funders and development agencies can take to help transform how they support scaling.

It is a result of the scalingXchange—a virtual gathering of researchers and innovators from across the Global South to learn from scaling experiences and discuss how funders and development agencies can better support scaling efforts.



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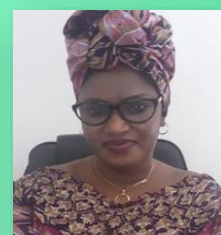
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The call: Eight actions to help transform how you support scaling

www.scalingxchange.org

1. Keep your focus on scaling impact

2. Broaden your understanding of participatory approaches

3. Make equity of impact an equal measure to magnitude of impact

4. Address the environment as a part of the scaling system

5. Move beyond a “project logic” to fund impact

6. Scaling only “what works” doesn’t work; support a learning culture instead

7. Support Southern solutions

8. Invest in the science of scaling

1. Keep your focus on scaling impact

Too **many scaling efforts focus on scaling ‘up’** an innovation or initiative. Impact is limited to reaching larger numbers of people.

The focus should be on scaling the positive impact that an innovation or initiative has on lives, livelihoods and our natural environment.

Rather than thinking ‘bigger scale’, we call for thinking terms of impact at ‘optimal scale’.

Ex: Microcredit industry.

2. Broaden your understanding of participatory approaches

Broad and evolving participation in the scaling process is critical to navigate the **different ways in which scaling will** involve and **affect different stakeholders**, and to balance potentially competing interests.

Considering not only those who may support a scaling process or be impacted by it, but also potential conflicts. Need to proactively identify and mitigate these challenges in a transparent manner.

We call on:

- Support **participatory and transparent approaches** to scaling.
- Consider the perspectives of, and is endorsed by, a **diverse and evolving group of stakeholders**.
- We know **this takes time and resources**; but it is a non-negotiable for sustainable development.

3. Make equity of impact an equal measure to magnitude of impact

We are not only in a **fight against poverty and environmental degradation**
We are also in a **fight against inequality and social injustice**

The root cause of poverty and instability is often inequities between and across social groups.

We must place equal emphasis and scrutiny on **who exactly we are helping and who is being left behind.**

We have to be **constantly assessing the implications of our actions on equity of impact** – for example how scaling might affect different groups based on factors such as gender, ethnicity, or age, in different ways. This requires qualitative and dynamic approaches for assessing impact.

4. Address the environment as a part of the scaling system

Scaling affects and is affected by **more than just people**.

The **effects** of a scaling process on the natural **environment** must be considered among the variety of impacts to be weighed up.

The climate crisis poses **disproportionate risks** for populations that are socially, economically or otherwise **marginalised**.

We call for explicit and focused attention to our natural environment in support for scaling impact.

5. Move beyond a 'project logic' to fund impact

While **project funding cycles tend to last around two to three years**, it takes significantly longer to scale the impact of research and innovation.

Scaling demands paying greater attention to the **root causes of the challenges**. A **'systems approach'** is necessary. A single project, or even a single organization, is unlikely to be able to implement this successfully in isolation.

Call: **a) Multi-phase programming**. **b) Build coalitions** with others with complementary mandates and interests to support scaling. **c) Encourage collaboration** among researchers and innovators across geographical borders, sectors or disciplines.

6. Simply scaling 'what works' doesn't work, support a learning culture instead

Scaling is a dynamic process that happens in a **dynamic world**.
Change is happening faster than ever.

Learn to live with uncertainty, and be ready to learn about and respond to new challenges and opportunities. This requires an **open mind and quick responses** during implementation phases, adapting even the best laid plans.

Call: Support a **learning culture** that values multiple forms of evidence, **embraces humility**, and enables more **dynamic evaluation**.

7. Support Southern solutions

There is a **wealth** of existing **research** and innovation in the **Global South** that has had a positive impact and has not gained sufficient traction with funders.

Locally generated evidence is often overlooked - whether for failing to fit criteria defined in the Global North or based on preference for partners or innovations developed and validated in the North.

Call: a) Learn from Southern experiences. b) Formally and purposely include Southern experience in scaling efforts. c) Work together to identify and overcome systematic biases against evidence from the Global South.

Ex: Chagas

Example: Chagas Disease

- Vector borne disease endemic to 21 Latin American countries.
- Affects 10 million people, kill 10,000 annually.
- Transmitted by an insect.
- **Traditional program:** spraying pesticides and use bednets.
- Ecohealth Project (University of San Carlos, Guatemala)
- Home renovation to make houses less hospitable to the insect
- Small community in Guatemala
- Scaled in other communities in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDz4YO2wzyE&t=190s>

8. Invest in the science of scaling

No one in isolation will solve the global challenges of today.

Must work with each other.

Call: investment in collective learning

- * By supporting and building communities of practice,
- * Testing models and commissioning research within and across project portfolios,
- * Sharing that learning with others.
- * Supporting research, debate, and continuous improvement will reap benefits now and for generations to come, in the Global South and Global North.

What can we do about it?

Based on these eight actions, what changes can we make to improve how we support scaling impact?

See how others are responding and contribute your own response at:

www.scalingxchange.org

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Learn more about



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Tuesday, June 20

Britta Fiander

Director of Innovation Programs,
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Impact of Science

Tuesday, June 20

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Tuesday, June 20

Panel Discussion

AESIS

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Monday, June 19

Panel Discussion

Chaired by Barbara Hamilton-Hinch & Rohini Bannerjee

Mario Pinto

Tatiana Rincón

Britta Fiander



Tuesday, June 20

Family Feud Questions



Up next

10.50 – 11.20	Coffee and Tea break	Lobby
11.20 – 12.35	Parallel sessions + Workshop	
	Impact Frameworks & Infrastructure	2016
	Evidence Informed Policy Making	2021
	Research Security and Ethics	2017
	Monitoring Societal Impact to inform Institutional Strategy	Ondaatje Hall
	From EDI to Inclusive Research and Societal Impact	2102
	Workshop: Impact through Business & Entrepreneurship for all Disciplines	2116