

AESIS

sbarc | spark, Cardiff University | 18-20 October 2023

Welcome to the 7th international AESIS conference on
**Societal Impact of Social Science,
Humanities, and Arts**



Words of Welcome

Anika Duut van Goor

Director, The AESIS Network, the Netherlands

Words of Welcome

Sally O'Connor

Director of Operations, SPARK, Cardiff

University, United Kingdom

Words of Welcome

Conference Chair

Claire Gorrara

*Dean, Research & Innovation, College of Arts,
Humanities and Social Sciences, Cardiff University,
United Kingdom*

Wednesday, October 18

Plenary Opening

Steven Hill

Heidi van Rooyen

Eppo Bruins

Wednesday, October 18

Steven Hill

Director of Research, Research England, United Kingdom

“Balancing Local and Global Impact”



Research
England

Balancing local and global impact

Steven Hill
Director of Research, Research England

AESIS
18 October 2023

Summary

- Are local and global impact from research in tension with one another?
- At both the national and institutional level local and global impact can co-exist
- Evidence from REF Impact Case Studies in the UK

The impact element of REF



“an effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia”

- Case study: short structured narrative
- ‘underpinning research’
- evidence and corroboration
- assessment by academics and research users

Impact case studies as an evidence source

The screenshot shows the REF2014 Impact Case Studies website. The header includes the REF2014 logo, navigation links (About, How to search, FAQs, API, REF2014 Home), and a user greeting. The main content area features a search bar with a 'Search' button and a 'See all case studies' button. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Browse the index' with categories: Submitting Institution, Unit of Assessment, Summary Impact Type, Research Subject Area, Impact UK Location, and Impact Global Location. The 'Unit of Assessment' tab is selected, showing a search input field and a table of results.

Main Panel A		Main Panel B	
1 - Clinical Medicine	(385)	7 - Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences	(171)
2 - Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care	(163)	8 - Chemistry	(125)

- 6,637 case studies
- All disciplines, almost all universities
- Underpinning research (36,244 with DOIs)
- Search, download, api
- Impact 2008-2013; research 1993-2013

Impact case studies as an evidence source

The screenshot shows the REF 2021 Research Excellence Framework website. The header includes the REF 2021 logo and navigation links for Results and submissions, Publications and Reports, Panels, Equality and Diversity, and FAQs. The breadcrumb trail indicates the current page is 'Home / Results and submissions / Impact database'. The main heading is 'Impact case study database', with a sub-heading explaining that the database allows browsing and searching for impact case studies submitted to the REF 2021. A search and filter sidebar is visible on the left, featuring a keyword search box, a 'Clear search and filter' link, and a 'Learn more about advanced searching' link. Below the search box are buttons for 'Clear' and 'Search'. The sidebar also includes filter sections for 'Higher education institution', 'Unit of assessment', 'Continued case study', 'Summary impact type', 'Impact UK location', and 'Impact global location', each with a 'Select' button and 'None selected' text. On the right side of the main content area, there are links for 'Download all impact case studies (spreadsheet)', 'REF 2014 impact case study database', 'Website help', 'View results', 'Submitted outputs' details', and 'Environment database'.

- 6,361 case studies
- All disciplines, almost all universities
- Underpinning research
- Search, download, api
- Impact 2014-2020; research 2000-2020

Impact analysis

- Analysis of full REF 2014 impact case study database
- <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/policy-institute/research-analysis/nature-scale-beneficiaries-research-impact>



Impact analysis

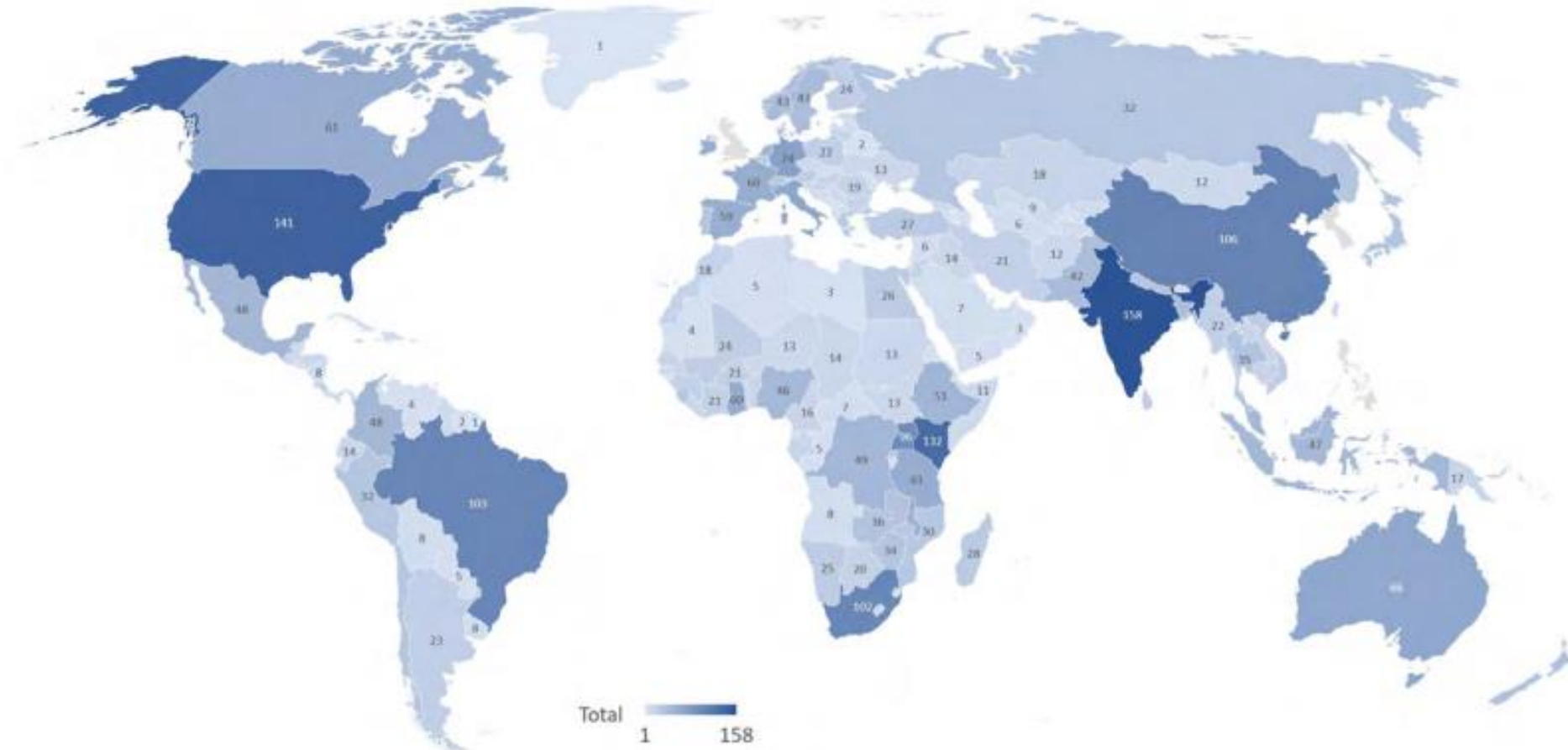
- Analysis of subset of REF 2021 impact case study database focussed on international development
- <https://ukcdr.org.uk/publication/the-landscape-of-development-research-impact-an-analysis-of-ref2021-impact-case-studies/>



Impact has a global reach



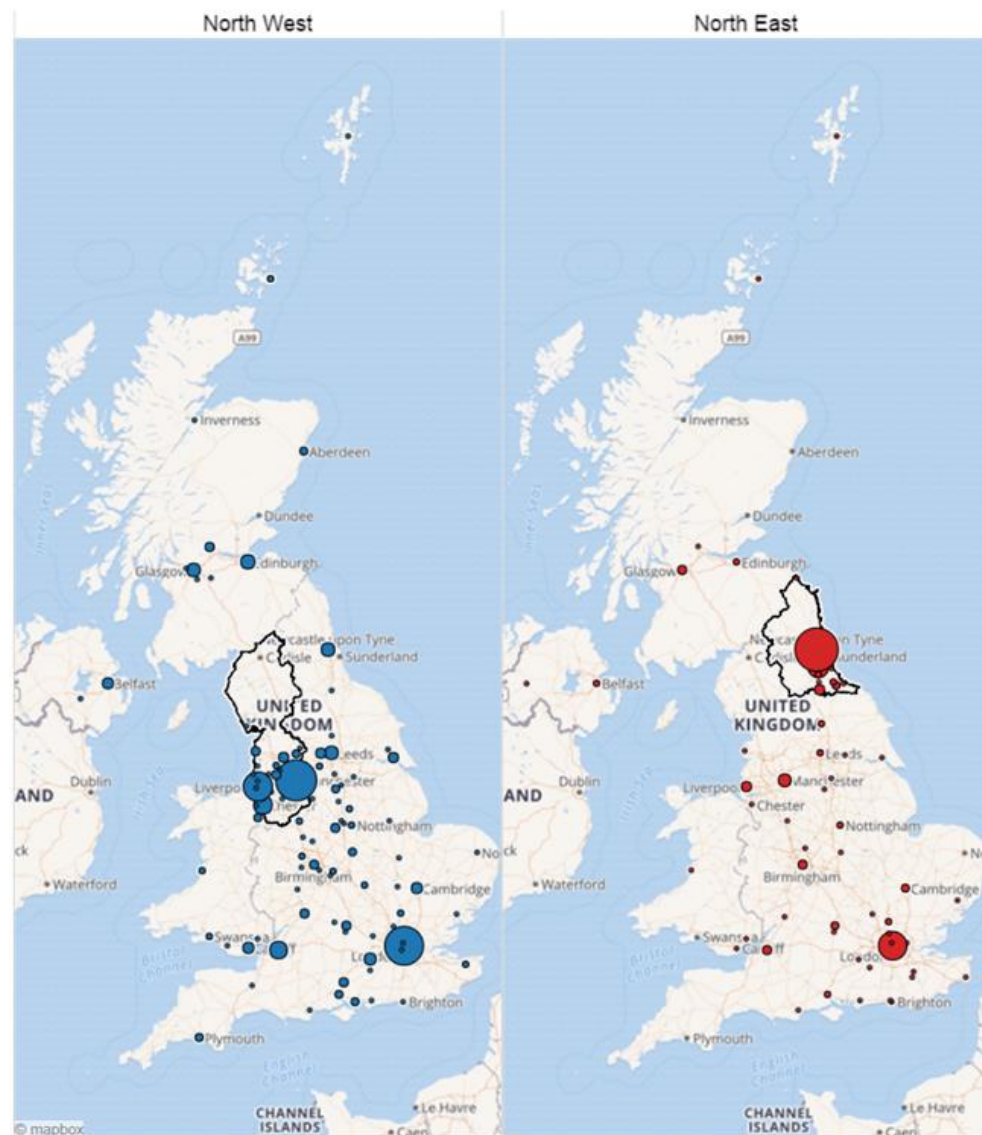
The global reach of international development impact



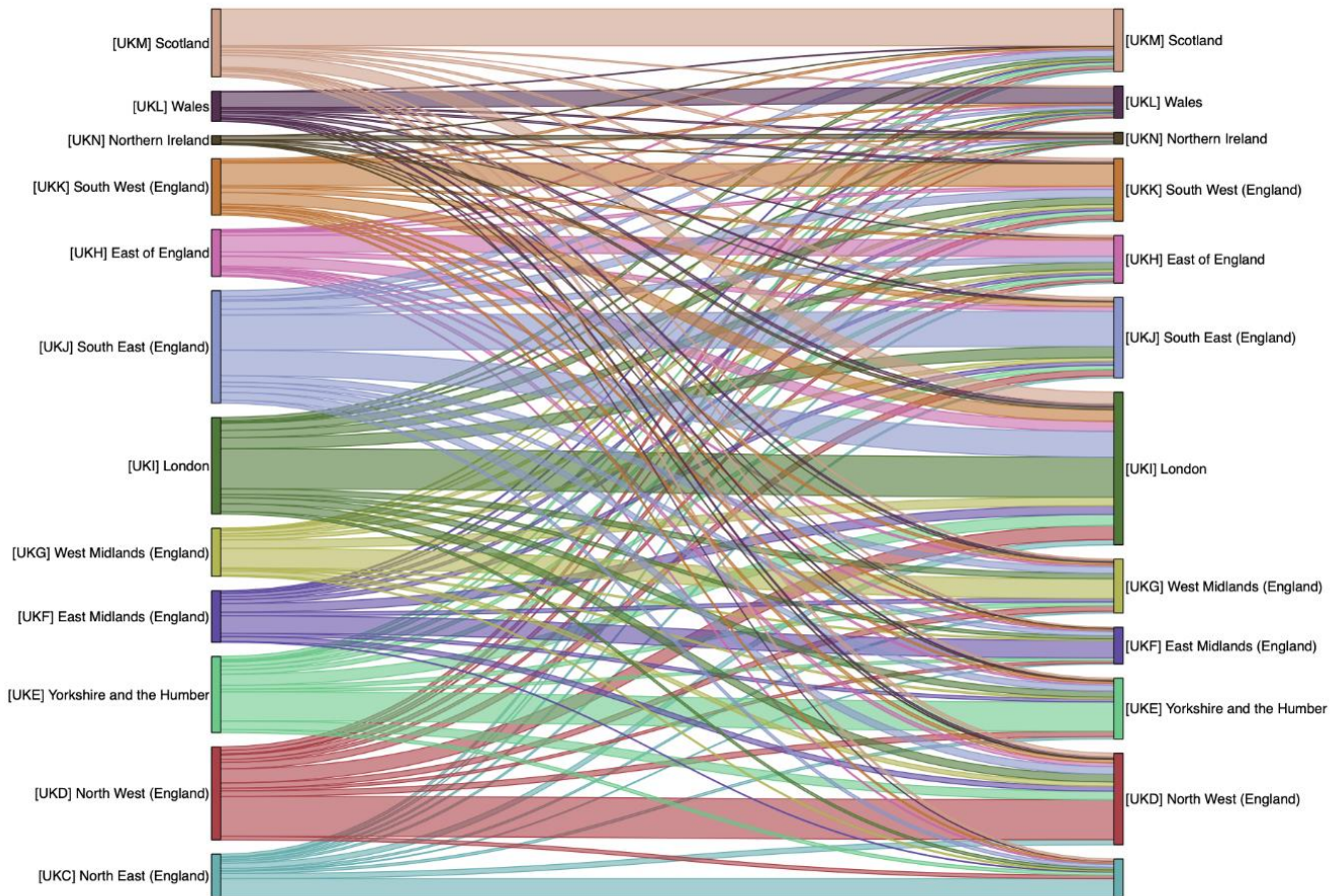
Impact is also local and national



Impact is also local and national



Impact 'flows' between regions



- 60% of impact occurs in a different region from where the research is conducted
- The biggest 'exporter' of impact in the UK is Southeast England (69%)

Summary

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- At both the national and institutional level local and global impact can co-exist
- Evidence from REF Impact Case Studies in the UK



Research
England

Steven Hill
Director of Research



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www.ukri.org/re

Wednesday, October 18

Heidi van Rooyen

Group Executive: Impact Centre, Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa

“Social Science and Humanities Critical for
Enhancing the Social Impact of Policy Research”

Wednesday, October 18

Eppo Bruins

*Chairman of the Advisory council for science, technology, and innovation
(AWTI), The Netherlands*

“Agenda setting and societal impact for
transformational innovation on a national and
regional level”



Agenda setting and societal impact for transformational innovation on a national and regional level

Eppo Bruins

International conference on Societal Impact of Social Science, Humanities and Arts

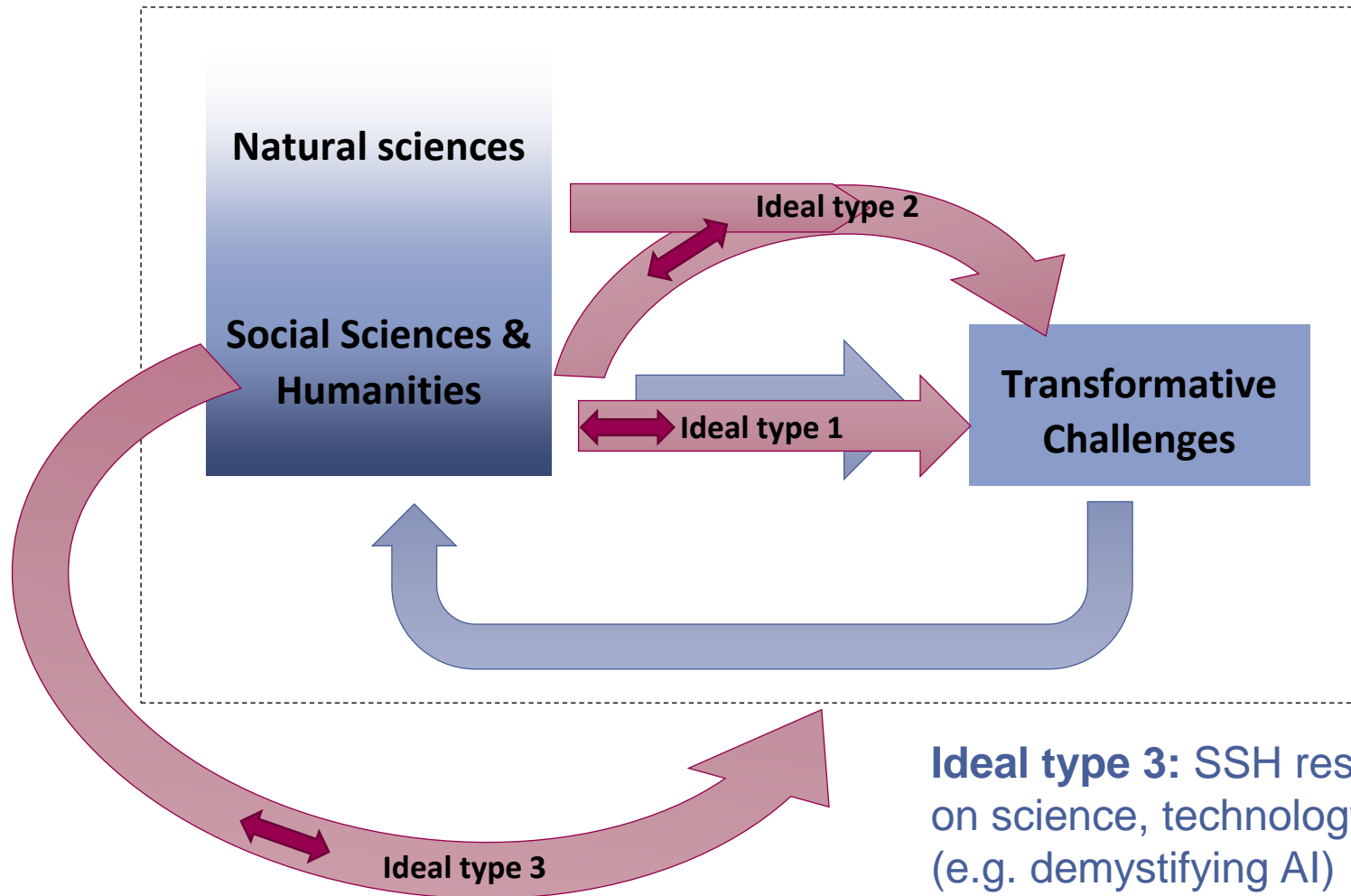
18 October 2023



SSH shapes our world

Social sciences and humanities can have different types of impact on challenges

Ideal type 1:
SSH research with societal impact
(e.g. new models measuring beyond GDP)

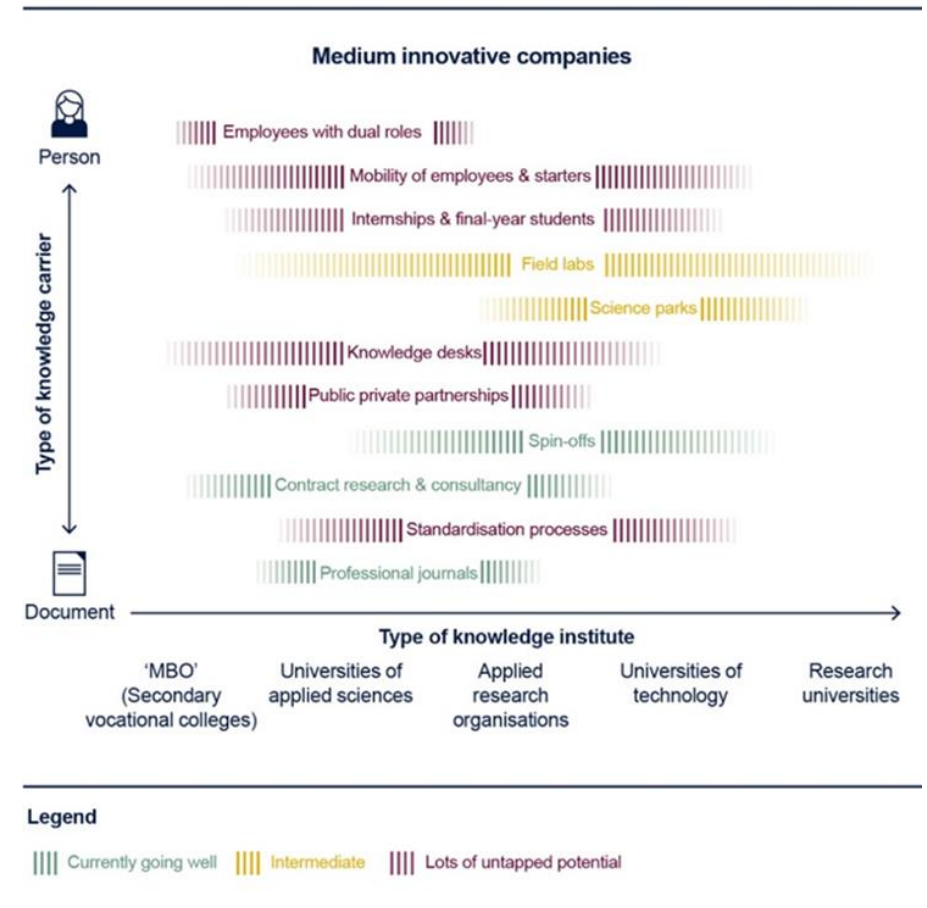


Ideal type 2:
SSH research supporting technological innovation
(e.g. avoiding gender / cultural biases in medical research)

Ideal type 3: SSH research reflecting on science, technology and innovation
(e.g. demystifying AI)

Research insights, also SSH, flow to society through various *impact pathways*

- ▶ Knowledge-sharing takes place in networks of different individuals and organisations and takes many forms.
- ▶ In practice, sharing knowledge via people is an important route by which a certain ‘state-of-the-art’ level of knowledge can reach companies (and others) but too little attention is given to this route in policy on knowledge-sharing.



The role of SSH in co-creation with government and society can be strong

- ▶ Greater potential for creative and workable solutions:
 - ▷ E.g. alternatives for medical protective equipment or easily and quickly manufactured ventilators.
 - ▷ E.g. Corona Warning App: co-created app protecting civil rights, fully tested for user requirements, widely used in society.
- ▶ More effective policies:
 - ▷ E.g. Fieldlabs Cultural and Sports events: 'opening plans' developed and tested by sector.
- ▶ Stronger problem-solving capacity of society:
 - ▷ E.g. Hackathons WIRvsVirus (Germany) #EUvsVirus (EU) followed by 'matchathons' for implementation



Currently, we are unable to optimally set the agenda and utilize SSH research for innovation

- ▶ Interdisciplinarity is necessary for applicable insights, but many barriers:
 - ▷ Career paths of individual researcher largely disciplinary
 - ▷ Insufficient skills of lack of common language to work together
 - ▷ Knowledge institutions organised in disciplinary manner
 - ▷ Funding, reward and evaluation over-based on disciplinary norms about quality
- ▶ SSH-insights are hard to utilize, because immaterial, gradual, long-term.
- ▶ SSH undervalued and considered as 'nice-to-have'.
- ▶ SSH impact pathways underdeveloped and undersupported.
- ▶ Hindering conditions for SSH in financing (co-financing), timing (short-term) and jargon used in research calls.
- ▶ Limited practical usability of SSH research results.
- ▶ Various impact pathways between research and entrepreneurs are underutilized.



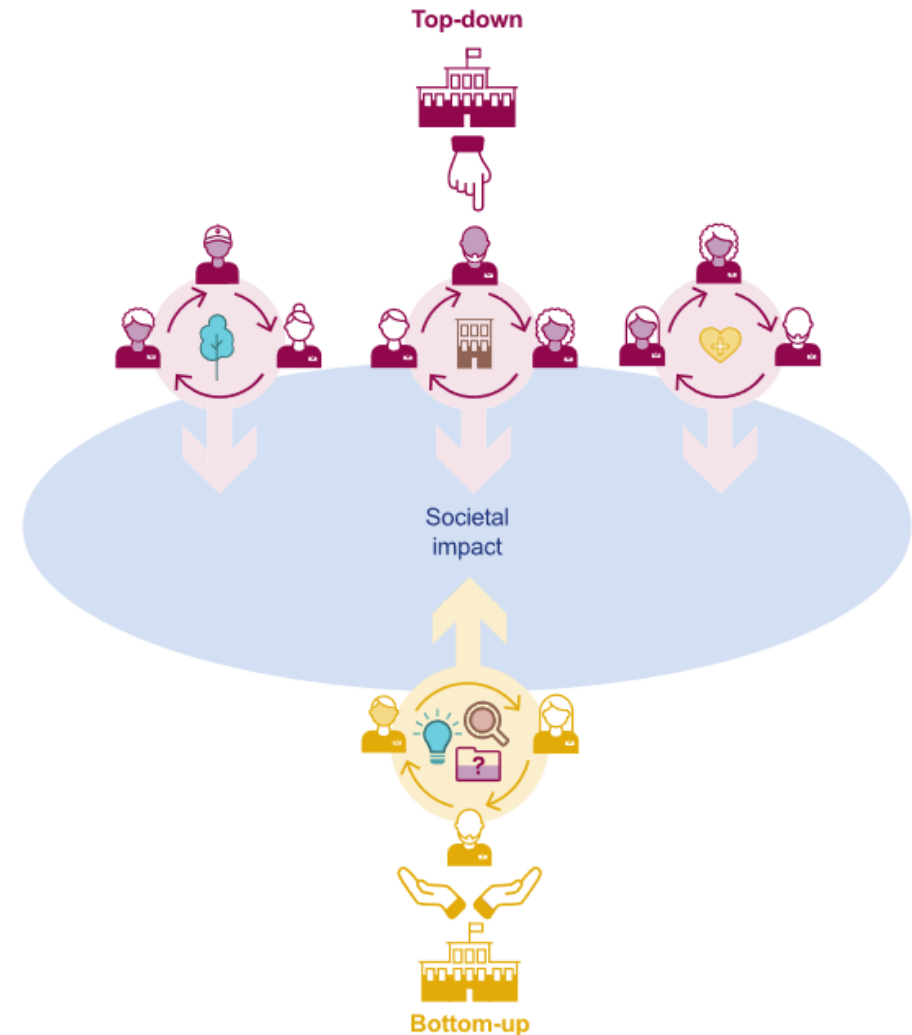
What to do? – Vision for the future

- ▶ We need an appealing narrative/vision for the future:
 - ▷ Connects, fascinates and provides direction to researchers, entrepreneurs, societal organisations, citizens, policy makers etc.
 - ▷ Helps to streamline interests at national and regional levels.
 - ▷ Builds on clear choices based on fundamental values and interests, made by parliament .
 - ▷ Provides clear frameworks within which society can make its own decisions and research, innovate, experiment and apply.



What to do? - Promote interdisciplinarity

- ▶ Facilitate bottom-up interdisciplinarity more wholeheartedly, and apply less conditions.
- ▶ Make clearer choices to concentrate research in a limited number of research platforms for achieving societal transitions
- ▶ Promote interdisciplinary research through higher education.
- ▶ Connect and apply knowledge on interdisciplinarity more effectively in policy and practice.



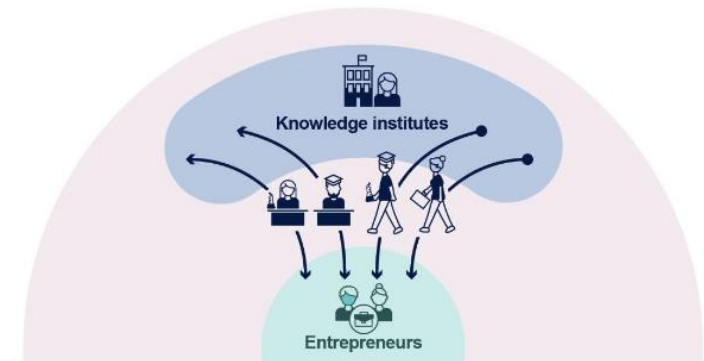
What to do? - Better conditions for co-creation

- ▶ Give social partners a better financial basis and incentives to participate
- ▶ Develop key enabling methodologies & involve designers and makers to help integrate the citizen's perspective
- ▶ Organise new financial and legal arrangements for public-civilian & private-civilian partnerships
- ▶ Facilitate access to data and research results
- ▶ Invest in further development and implementation of co-creation results
- ▶ Appreciate and recognise efforts by scientists to involve society and work interdisciplinary



What to do? - Strengthen the links between research and entrepreneurs

- ▶ Make knowledge better accessible (i.e. findable and understandable) for non-scientists
- ▶ Bridge the gap between research and business through close collaboration right along the 'chain' from fundamental to applied and practical research.
- ▶ Improve the matching between the knowledge needs of entrepreneurs and researchers
- ▶ Encourage collaboration through joint research and development agendas and co-location and co-creation.
- ▶ Facilitate the sharing of knowledge by people, through increased mobility, dual roles, and graduates.
- ▶ Develop 'valorisation' culture in SSH. Encourage customised SSH valorisation with professional support.



What to do? – Coherent policy mixes

- ▶ Develop research and innovation policy instruments target SSH for innovation by taking into account the specificities of SSH.
- ▶ Ensure a coherent mix of European, national and regional policies aimed at achieving the transformation goals:
 - ▷ Both reinforcing and complementing policies!



Thank you for your
attention!



The Dutch advisory council for science, technology and innovation



Monday, June 19

Panel Discussion

Chaired by Claire Gorrara

Steven Hill

Heidi van Rooyen

Eppo Bruins

Wednesday, October 18

Good Practices of Impact

Paul Twose

Imelda McCarthy

Winfred Dotse-Gborgbortsi

Learned Society of Wales

Wednesday, October 18

Simulation Technology for Healthcare Training

Paul Twose

Simulation Technology for Healthcare Training – A CCR Challenge Fund Project

Paul Twose, Consultant Therapist for Critical Care, Cardiff and Vale UHB



15,000 per year
20-30% adverse event



Virtual reality tracheostomy safety course—
as good as the real thing?

British Journal of Anaesthesia
Volume 131, Issue 3, September 2023, Page e99

	n	Pre-course	Post-course	Mean score change	t-test 2-tailed p
Face-to-face	16	21.1(3.2)	23.1(2.1)	+ 2.0	0.042
All VR	21	17.2(3.3)	20.8(3.7)	+ 3.6	<0.001
t-test 2-tailed p		0.002	0.058	0.208	



Wednesday, October 18

Productivity from Below

Imelda McCarthy

Wednesday, October 18

**Geospatial analysis for Ghanaian maternal healthcare
delivery and international policy**

Winfred Dotse-Gborgbortsi

Wednesday, October 18

Good Practices of Impact Introduction

Learned Society of Wales

Wednesday, October 18

Dutch Embassy

Laura van Voorst Vader

Thank you!

Now for the group photo and coffee break!

Afterwards, at 12.00, you will have the following parallel sessions:

Changing the culture for more impact and innovation	Regional Collaboration for Development
Room 0.47	Room 1.17
Open Science and Credibility in Society	Integrating Impact in an Institutional Strategy
Room 2.40	Room in Building TRH