

Draft programme for the international course on

# Assessing Impact of Science: Methods & Instruments

AESIS

NETWORK FOR  
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

**KING'S**  
*College*  
**LONDON**

Online, hosted from London,  
United Kingdom

3-5 November 2021



# ASSESSING IMPACT OF SCIENCE: METHODS & INSTRUMENTS

Science funders, research councils and universities, amongst others all over the world, put more and more emphasis on the societal impact of research. In the UK, for example, government spending has increased on mission-oriented funds such as ARPA, and knowledge-exchange activity assessment, such as KEF. However, assessing the societal impact of universities is complicated. The assessments need to account for all scientific disciplines and should ideally capture long-term impact in addition to direct impact in society. Recognising that it may not be possible to assess the full spectrum of impact of universities, it is useful to focus on which key performance indicators do make sense, especially if the data can be collected in a structured way. And even then there can often be a mismatch between what is assessed and what is meant to be assessed, which is why there is more attention needed for “responsible metrics”. This course will focus primarily on the questions of how research institutes may develop their own “Impact portfolio” and how they and other institutions can create assessment systems to serve their strategy, and it will create insight in the currently available information systems and methods to assess impact and how to implement this in a research strategy.

## Main discussion questions

- How can you create parameters of impact assessment that are appropriate for local, national and international purposes?
- To what extent do you need to take a shared or differentiated approach of assessing impact between different disciplines?
- How can parameters of impact assessment and research strategies reinforce each other and how can you avoid the risk of perverse incentives?
- What are the differences between assessing output, outcome and impact and how do you assess what you actually want to assess?
- How can you use existing Research Information Systems for your impact strategy and what are the possibilities to build your own system?

## Case study

An important element of this course is a case study. This enables more practical insights of the topic and promote a better understanding for the take-aways and recommendations of this course. An interactive discussion of the case study will also be good for the engagement with the course. With the case study we invite the participants to critically assess the landscape of current tools and systems along the spectrum of assessing the impact of research.

## Target Audience

Managers and Strategists at Research institutes, Funders for scientific research,  
Users and developers of Research Information Systems, Scientometricians & Librarians



# Draft Programme

## Wednesday 3 November

all times in GMT

8.30 - 9.00 Registration, Coffee and Tea

### OPENING & INTRODUCTIONS

9.00 Words of Welcome by AESIS

9.10 Introductions by the participants

- Why are you here, what do you want to take away?
- Where do you sit in the ecosystem of research activity?

9.45 What is impact and why should you assess it?

***Martin Kirk** Operations Director (Research & Researchers), King's College London*  
***& Anika Duut van Goor** Director of AESIS*

10.45 - 11.15 Break

### IMPACT DEFINITIONS, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

11.15 ***Ellen Hazelkorn** Joint Managing Partner, BH Associates; Professor emeritus, Technological University Dublin (Ireland), and Joint Editor, Policy Reviews in Higher Education*

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

### INTEGRATING IMPACT IN A RESEARCH STRATEGY

14.00 ***Jonathan Grant** Director and Founder, Different Angles - Former Professor Public Policy at the Policy Institute and Director of Different Angles, King's College, United Kingdom*

15.15 - 15.45 Break

15.45 Panel with Jonathan Grant, Ellen Hazelkorn, Martin Kirk & Anika Duut van Goor

16.15 Case Study session 1: Introduction

17.00 Reception

# Draft Programme

## Thursday 4 November

all times in GMT

8.30 - 9.00 Registration, Coffee and Tea

9.00 Words of Welcome by AESIS

### IMPACT EVALUATION FOR NATIONAL OR REGIONAL STRATEGY

9.15 Impact Evaluation to Inform National and Institutional Strategy

- ◇ How impact evaluation can inform strategy on a national, regional and/or institutional level
- ◇ The advantages to evaluating impact

**Steven Hill**

*Director of Research, Research England, UKRI*

10.30 - 11.00 Break

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORKS

11.00 Alternative Evaluation Approaches in Transformative Innovation

- ◇ Developing indicators for specific interventions and outcomes
- ◇ Alternative evaluation approaches on transformative innovation
- ◇ Indicators developed in consideration and the context of transformative innovation

**Jordi Molas  
Gallart\***

*Research Professor, Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), Spain*

12.15 - 13.30 Lunch

### TOOLS AND METHODS FOR IMPACT EVALUATION

13.30 **Michelle Herbert** *Engagement Manager, Alt Metrics, Digital Science*

14.15 **Representative\*** *Clarivate Analytics*

15.00 - 15.30 Break

15.30 Panel with Steven Hill, Jordi Molas Gallart, and TBD

16.15 Case Study session 2: Preparations

The Case Study groups get some time to work on their Impact Strategy and to ask questions related to the Case Study

18.00 Dinner

\* To be confirmed



# Draft Programme

## Friday 5 November

all times in GMT

**8.30 - 9.00 Registration, Coffee and Tea**

**9.00 Words of Welcome by AESIS**

### RESPONSIBLE METRICS FOR IMPACT PERFORMANCE

**9.15** ***James Britt*** *Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities, New Jersey Institute of Technology, United States*  
***Holbrook***

**10.30 - 11.00 Break**

**11.00** ***Laurens Hessels*** *Senior researcher & Coordinator (Research Quality), Rathenau Institute, Netherlands*

**12.15** ***Interactive Panel with the speakers***

**12.45 - 13.30 Lunch**

### PARTICIPANT PRESENTATIONS

**13.30** **Case Study session 3: Final preparations**

**14.15** **Case Study session 4: Presentations Part 1**

**15.00 - 15.30 Break**

**15.30** **Case Study session 4: Presentations Part 2**

**16.15** **Recap and final words**

***17.00 Reception***

\* To be confirmed