

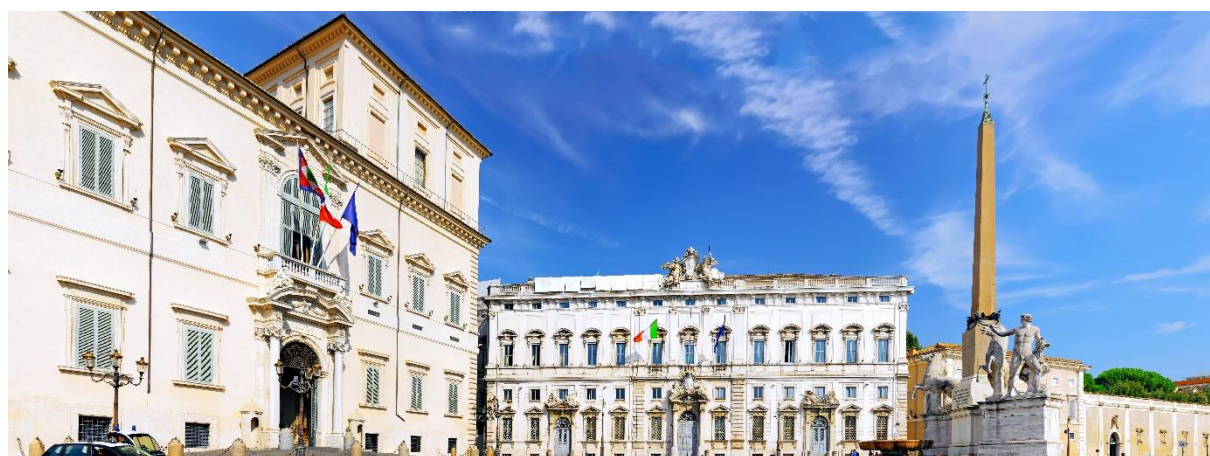
# Implementing a National Research Impact Strategy

*Quantitative and qualitative criteria for designing an effective  
policy framework for impact measurement*

**A 2-day international training course**

*22-23 March, 2018*

*Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome, Italy*



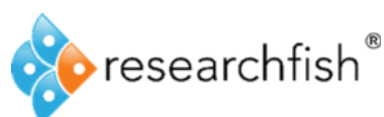
**Organised by:**

## AESIS

NETWORK FOR  
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

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# AESIS

NETWORK FOR  
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

## Implementing a National Research Impact Strategy

### 2 day International Seminar

*March 22-23 2018, Rome, Italy*

#### Background and reasoning

Science funders and research programme designers are constantly challenged to maintain an effective and efficient science funding system, while justifying the investments in scientific research towards politics. The pressure increases on governmental and non-governmental science funding organisations to increase the extent to which they demonstrate the economical and societal returns on their investments in science.

In countries in all parts of the world, experts are working on improving the process of measuring and demonstrating the impact of science on society. In the past years, new methods have been developed to better justify and demonstrate the societal impact of scientific research by universities and research institutions. Increasingly, research councils do not just ask to promise impact of new research ideas, but also plan activities to involve stakeholders and realise impact. Together policymakers, research councils and other stakeholders have to develop effective systems for the particular scientific climate in their country such as for example the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in the UK.

During this interactive training seminar, experts from multiple countries, leading the innovation in research funding approaches, will discuss their experiences. They provide insights on how you can organise a national research impact strategy. The seminar brings together experiences of organisations, insights in the dynamics of research impact, as well as a hands on case study.

#### Themes

- ✓ Qualitative and quantitative assessment of research impact;
- ✓ Connecting societal impact in national research strategies;
- ✓ Gaining support for impact from universities and researchers;
- ✓ Lessons from international best practices for developing an impact strategy;
- ✓ Tailor made approaches; comparing Impact Strategies for different scientific disciplines
- ✓ Case study – How to implement a new strategy with all stakeholders?

#### Target audience

Professionals from science funding organisations, policy bodies or academics that are considering to include or improve the integration of societal impact of science in the funding processes of scientific research.

- ✓ Members of research councils and research foundations;
- ✓ Managers of University research;
- ✓ Regional, national and international policymakers
- ✓ Professionals involved in promoting the impact of science;
- ✓ Experts on innovation or scientometrics

#### Programme Advisory Board

The board is involved in composing and realizing the course programme.

<b>Emanuela Reale</b>	<i>Senior researcher at Research Institute on Sustainable Economic Growth, Italy</i>
<b>David Phipps</b>	<i>Executive Director, Research &amp; Innovation Services, Division of Vice-President Research &amp; Innovation, York University, Canada</i>
<b>David Sweeney</b>	<i>Executive Chair Designate, Research England, United Kingdom</i>
<b>Paul Wouters</b>	<i>Professor of Scientometrics &amp; Director of the Centre for Science and Technology Studies, Leiden University, the Netherlands</i>
<b>Brigida Blasi</b>	<i>Italian Agency for University and Research Evaluation (ANVUR). Italy</i>

# Thursday 22 March

**08:30**                      *Registration with coffee and tea*

**09:00**                      **Word of welcome by CNR & ANVUR**

**09:15**                      **Word of welcome by the course-directors:**  
**David Phipps, David Sweeney & Paul Wouters**

**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?
- What are we talking about and why is it important?

**Overview:**

- What is a National Impact Strategy?
- How can you initiate such a strategy and who needs to be involved?
- Role of the Ministry of Science, the Research Councils, Universities, Research Partners

**09:45**                      **David Phipps**  
*Executive Director, Research & Innovation Services, York University, Canada*

**Policy Frameworks for impact of science. What are the conditions for embracing impact?**

Governments have demanded it. Funders are asking for it. How do universities create spaces where researchers and research partners (from private, public and non-profit sectors) collaborate and share knowledge to maximise the social, economic, cultural, environmental and health impacts of research? This session will present lessons from Research Impact Canada, a network of 15 universities investing in different methods for creating and assessing impacts of research (and we're doing this without any government mandated impact assessment framework!).

**11:00**                      *Break*

**11:30**                      **Course-directors**  
**Case Study Session 1:** Introducing the case study and group forming

**12:30**                      *Lunch*

## Thursday 22 March (cont.)

13:30

**Leanne Harvey**

*Executive General Manager of the Australian Research Council*

### **Instruments for a national impact strategy - Lessons and prospects Australia**

- Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA), developments since 2010
- Engagement and Impact Assessment (EI), pilot and launch in 2018
- Impact ratings & methodologies
- Translating research for the public and encouraging collaboration

14:30

**David Sweeney**

*Executive Chair Designate, Research England, United Kingdom*

### **Instruments for a national impact strategy - Lessons and prospects UK**

- Research Excellence Framework (REF), development to 2021
- Strategic insights derived from impact assessment
- What are the challenges of assessment as incentive for impact
- Issues to consider in the International context

15:30

***Break***

16:00

**Claudio Colaiacomo**

*VP Global Academic Relations Elsevier*

### **Comparing national performances**

An overview of how UK specific data from the BEIS report is extrapolated to suit a comparison between France and Italy. We will zoom in on a few indicators centered around research performance as well as researcher's behaviour in term of tech transfer and international mobility.

**Interactive discussion of participant with Leanne Harvey, David Sweeney and Claudio Colaiacomo based on the findings of the BEIS report**

17:15

**Recap & remaining questions**

## Thursday 22 March (cont.)

17:30

### *Reception*

At restaurant: *Efeso il barrocciaio*

18:30

### *Optional dinner*

At restaurant: *Efeso il barrocciaio*

*(Only for attendees who opted for dinner)*

## Friday 23 March

08:30

### *Registration with coffee and tea*

09:00

### **Welcome & Summary**

09:30

### **Paul Wouters**

*Director of Centre for Science and Technology (CWTS)*

### **Impact as performance**

Increasingly, the assessment of the scientific quality of research is supplemented by assessments of its societal impact. But how do we define impact? And how do academic excellence and societal relevance and impact relate to each other? In this talk, the performative effects of research evaluation in general and impact assessment in particular are discussed.

10:30

### *Break*

## Friday 23 March (cont.)

- 11:00**            **Stefan Hornbostel**  
*Head of the research area: Research System and Science Dynamics, at the German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW)*
- Framework for assessing impact – German perspective**
- Discussant: **Emanuela Reale**
- Senior Researcher at CNR IRCRES Research Institute on Sustainable Economic Growth*
- 12:30**            *Lunch*
- 13:30**            **Brigida Blasi**  
*Responsible for the Unit on Third Mission Evaluation at the Italian Agency for University and Research Evaluation (ANVUR).*
- The evaluation of the Third Mission of Italian Universities – a focus on the impact of Health research.**
- Discussant: **Emanuela Reale**
- Senior Researcher at CNR IRCRES Research Institute on Sustainable Economic Growth*
- 14:30**            **Case Study Session 2:** Brainstorm and preparation
- 15:45**            *Break*
- 16.15**            **Case Study Session 3:** Presentations of Participants
- 17:15**            **Course-directors**
- Problem solving: going into collected practical issues of the past days**
- Closing presentation & discussion with summary & most important lessons**
- 18:00**            **End of the course**