Publishers and research impact

Ian Mulvany, Head of Transformation
What do we talk about when we talk about impact?
What do we talk about when we talk about impact?

impact $\rightarrow$ momentum $\rightarrow$ change
Outputs vs Outcomes

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact
Outputs vs Outcomes

The things we do → The things we produce → The change we have in the world

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact

Changes in Behavior that drive results
Outputs vs Outcomes

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact

The things we produce

publishers
Outputs vs Outcomes

The things we produce

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact

publishers

assessment
How do we define the impact we want?

The change we have in the world

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact
How do we define the impact we want?

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact

The change we have in the world

start with what you value

Dr Elizabeth Gadd (@lizziegadd) – responsible metrics: what’s the state of the art?
https://repository.lboro.ac.uk/articles/Responsible_metrics_what_s_the_state_of_the_art_/10003274/1
http://humetricshss.org
How do we define the impact we want?

start with what you value

ask what behaviors embody those values?

ask how do you support those behaviors?
Outputs vs Outcomes

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact

The things we produce

publishers

assessment
Outputs vs Outcomes

activities → outputs → outcomes → impact

assessment

Changes in Behavior that drive results

publishers
What can we do as publishers to support this shift?
A core value of SAGE – the importance of the Social Sciences
A concern – metrics being used similarly across HSS and STM
A concern – metrics being used similarly across HSS and STM

Sporting analogy:

Score = 8
Score = 14
A concern – metrics being used similarly across HSS and STM

Sporting analogy:

Germany 8, San Marino 0

Score = 8

Ireland 14, New Zealand 46

Score = 14
What is SAGE doing?

- Workstream looking at how we can support the impact conversation
- Recognizing 5-year instead of 2-year Impact Factors for our HSS Journals
- Launching the 10-year awards
- Creating and supporting initiatives that celebrate social impact of HSS
- Creating opportunities for further debate
  - HSS Conferences
  - SocialScienceSpace.com/impact
  - Impact newsletter
    (sign up: info@socialsciencespace.com)
Welcome to Our Curated Section of Articles on Measuring Impact

We want to hear your thoughts, ideas, experiences and concerns about impact and its measurement. Comment below or write us at info@socialscience-space.com

Newest Posts

Share Your Story of Impact
As part of a SAGE project to demonstrate, measure and promote social science impact, we’re looking for short write-ups from members of the social science community that we can share widely to make the case that our disciplines routinely provide knowledge that can be used to improve the human condition.

Don’t Just Publish and Hope
‘Invisible research’ is a waste of time and money, because what is the point of spending months researching and writing up findings only for them to gather digital dust in an online archive?
The greatest value of research is the positive impact it has on society. Academically driven insights and discoveries have the ability to influence and inform policy, practice and public life. As the world’s foremost independent social science publisher, SAGE strives to publish high quality scholarship that transforms our understanding of individuals, groups, and cultures, and addresses the local, national and global challenges of our age.

Presented here is a broad range of research curated by SAGE’s own journal Editors, who based their nominations on the extent of the content’s real-world impact.
New book types to support the impact story

Immigration
Jonathan Portes

The Future of Work
Melanie Simms

Inequality
Mike Brewer
February Workshop

- Participants represented the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Altmetric, the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, Clarivate Analytics, Google, New York University, SAGE, School Dash, SciTech Strategies, the Social Science Research Council, and the University of Washington

The full scholarly community must believe that new impact metrics are useful, necessary, and beneficial to society.

Takeaway 1
A robust new regime of impact measurement must transcend, but not necessarily supplant, current literature-based systems.

Takeaway 2
A new regime of social science impact measures must integrate the experiences and expectations of how nonacademic stakeholders will define impact.

Takeaway 3
All stakeholders must understand that although social science impact is measurable, social science is not STEM, and social science’s impact measurements may echo STEM’s but are unlikely to mirror them.

Takeaway 4
Social science needs a global vocabulary, a global taxonomy, global metadata, and finally a global set of benchmarks for talking about impact measurement.

Takeaway 5
Read the report for more...

- Maps out stakeholder categories
- Defines key terms and questions
- Puts forward four models for assessing impact
- Proposes next steps
- Presents a list of 45 resources and data sources that could help in creating a model of SBS impact

sagepub.com/sageimpactreport
There are many other opportunities for publishers
Researchers’ needs are well-aligned with publishers’ competences

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<th>Service/Discipline</th>
<th>Already Receiving Support</th>
<th>Need Support</th>
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<td>Media engagement</td>
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In which communications areas do you feel you need more support?  

n = 6,819
Thank you!