



@HumanomicsMap

Strategies for accelerating co-creation and impact in SSH

David Budtz Pedersen PhD
Professor of Impact Studies & Science Communication
Aalborg University Copenhagen

30 JANUARY 2018
ACCOMPLISSH FINAL CONFERENCE | UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

ACCOMPLISSH

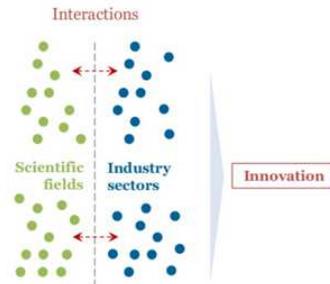
Background (WP2a)

- Comprehensive review of scientific and policy literatures on the social impact of the social sciences and humanities (SSH).
- 84 scientific papers, 108 policy papers.
- Definitions (incl. drivers - enablers) of social impact and instruments for measuring social impact.
- Input to other work packages: triangulation with WP2b & WP5 a.o.
- Co-investigators Jonas Grønvaad & Rolf Hvidtfeldt

A hot topic in SSH

Assessing the contributions of specific scientific disciplines to industrial innovation

- 3 Activity overview**
- In-depth analysis on **interactions** (including direction and intensity) between specific scientific fields & economic sectors
 - Identification of scientific fields contributing most to specific sectors
 - Methodologies** to enable systematic & cross-country analysis of science-industry links



- Objectives**
- Provide **cross-country evidence** on science-industry linkages, including hiring patterns of graduates from different disciplines by different industries
 - Discuss **methodologies** for best conducting such assessments



R-QUEST

Center for Research Quality and Policy Impact Studies

- [HOME](#)
- [RESEARCH](#)
- [PEOPLE & ORGANISATIONS](#)
- [PUBLICATIONS](#)
- [EVENTS](#)
- [NEWS](#)
- [CONTACT](#)

RESEARCH QUALITY AND POLICY IMPACT

Quality in research is a highly prioritized, but also a much debated issue in research policy. The Centre for Research Quality and Policy Impact Studies (R-QUEST) constitutes an 8-year commitment to explore the nature and mechanisms of research quality – funded by the RCN FORINNPOL initiative. The centre will address three closely related questions:

Local funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research programme under grant agreement No 883477

UiO University of Oslo For employees Norwegian website Search

OSIRIS - Oslo Institute for Research on the Impact of Science

A part of TIK Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture at Faculty of Social Sciences

Home News Events About

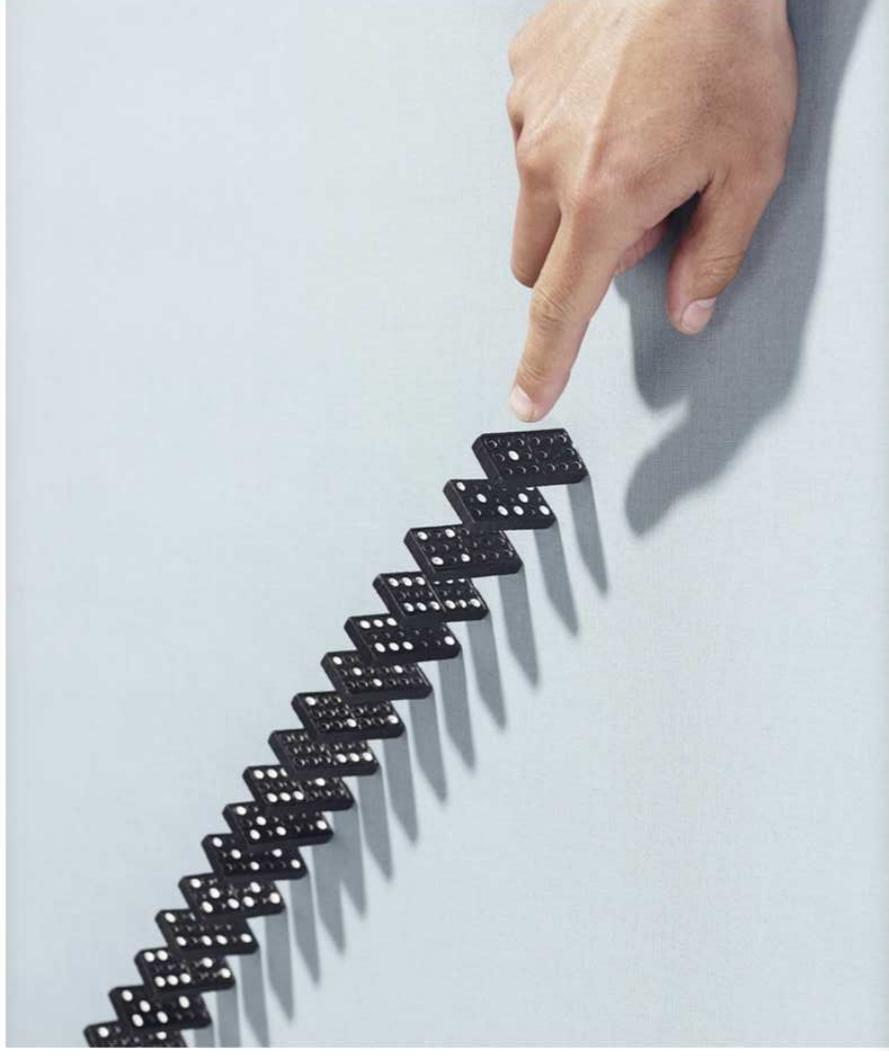
ACCOMPLISSH

ACcelerate CO-creation by setting up a Multi-actor Platform for Impact from Social Sciences and Humanities

Partners

Participant No*	Participant organisation name	Country
1	University of Groningen	NL
2	University of Glasgow	UK
3	University of Copenhagen	DK
4	Dalhousie University	SE
5	Newcastle University	UK
6	University of Zagreb	HR
7	University of Tartu	EE
8	Sapienza University of Rome	IT
9	University of Göttingen	DE
10	University of Debrecen	HU
11	University of Osnabrück	BE
12	University of Barcelona	ES
13	Tallinn University	EE
14	University of Coimbra	PT

**You Don't Need a
Breakthrough, You
Need a Microshift**



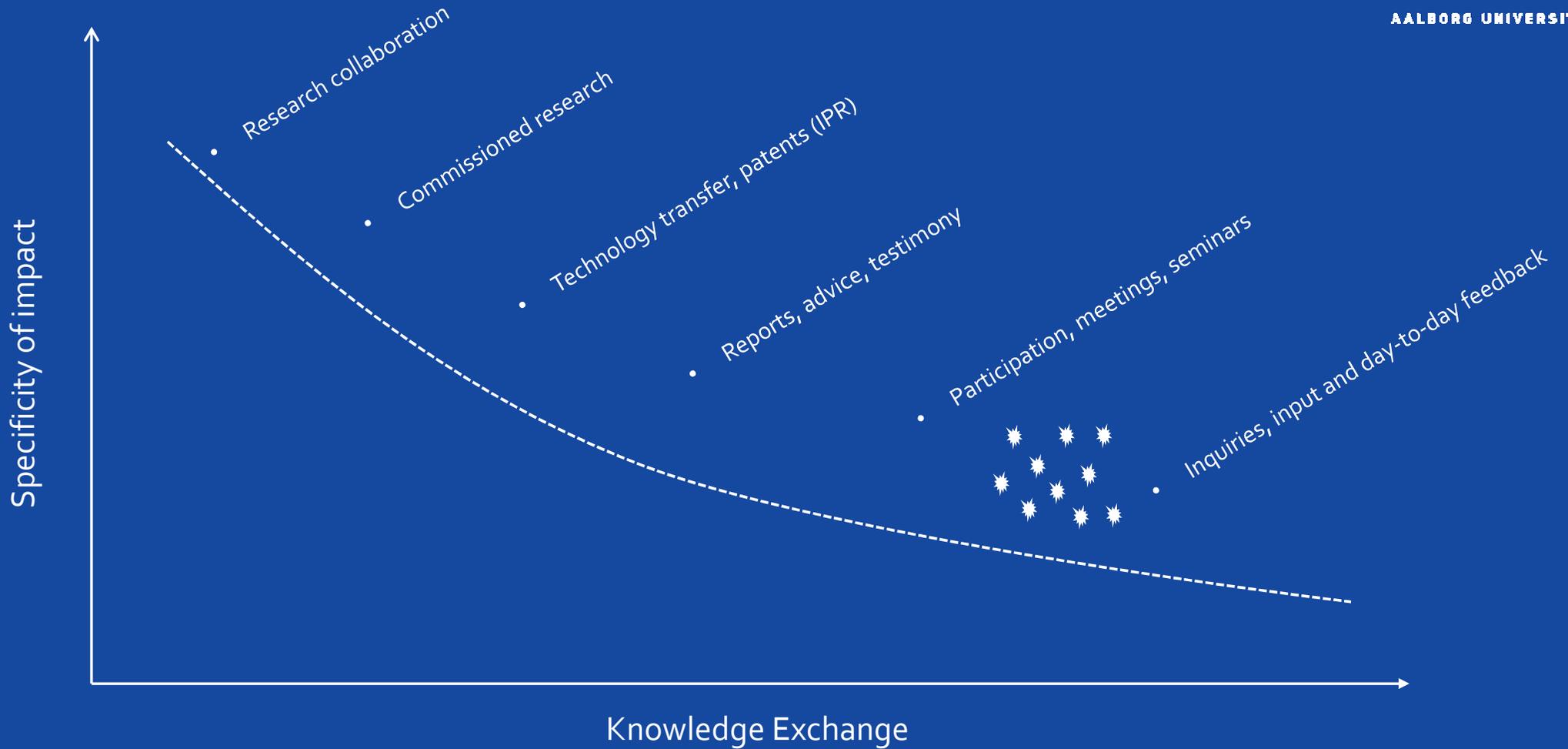
Breakthrough impacts vs microshifts

- If you're stuck in your department, team or unit to identify research impact, it's probably because you're waiting for the big bang.
- The breakthrough moment in which all research efforts dissolve and you're overcome with clarity about "the change" you created.
- Your research's transformation into practice stands out loud and clearly, and you wake up to take credit for the change you created.
- **That moment will never come.**

ACCOMPLISSH

Impacts do not occur spontaneously. They are **tipping points**

- Societal impact occur when collaborative efforts that you have been working on for a period of time, finally get momentum and adds-up.
- These “clicking moments”, the moments when research is taken up, is the result of co-creation, collaboration and knowledge exchange over a longer time (SIAMPI etc.).
- It’s not radical moments of action that give us long-lasting, permeating change – it’s the slow restructuring of practice.



Knowledge exchange in the humanities

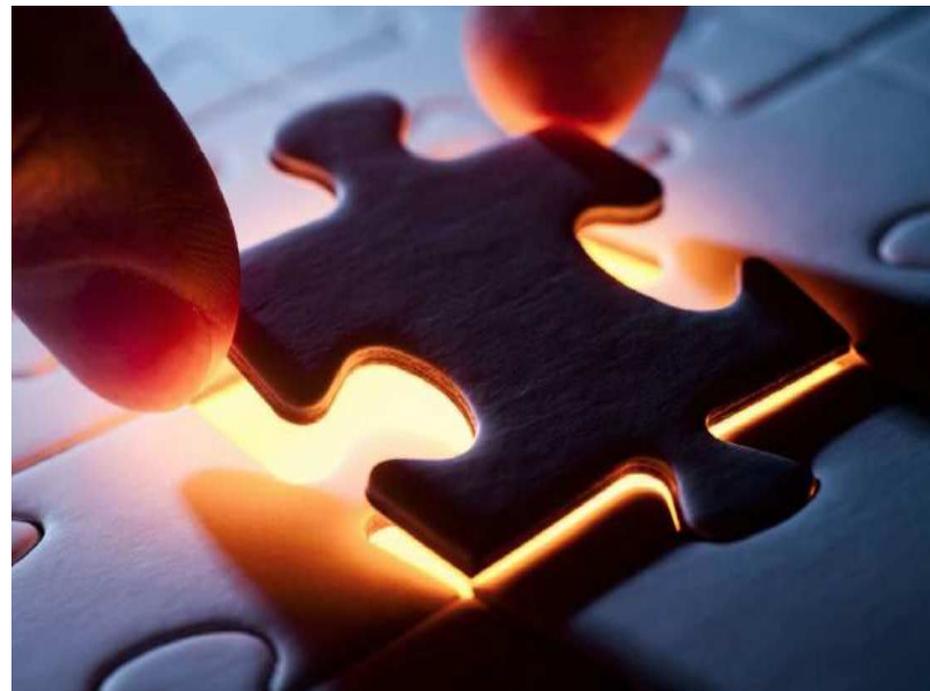
“The survey shows that a large part of humanities scholars at Danish universities actively participate in knowledge exchange and collaboration. 82 per cent of faculty has collaborated with actors and institutions outside academia within a reference period of three years”

82,29%

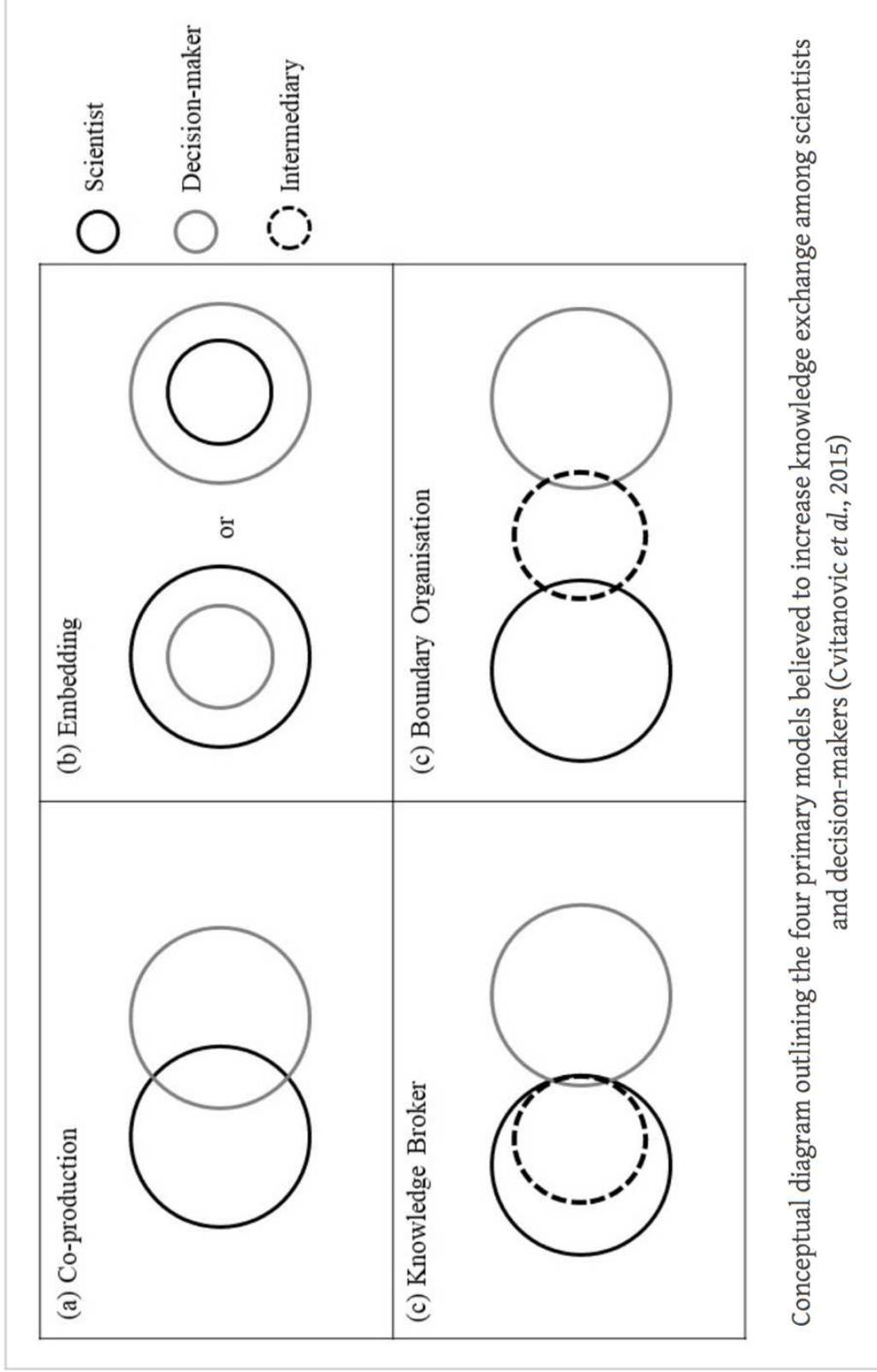


Productive interactions

- Co-creation
- Skips knowledge dissemination and linear notions of 'uptake'.
- Continuous involvement.
- No gap to bridge
- Build boundary skills / promote knowledge brokers / organisations



ACCOMPLISSH



Conceptual diagram outlining the four primary models believed to increase knowledge exchange among scientists and decision-makers (Cvitanovic *et al.*, 2015)

Three lessons for successful co-creation

Relationships based on mutual understanding and trust

- Learning between the partners to align motivations, needs, values & missions.
- Interpersonal, communicative and dialogue skills

Institutional infrastructure and incentives

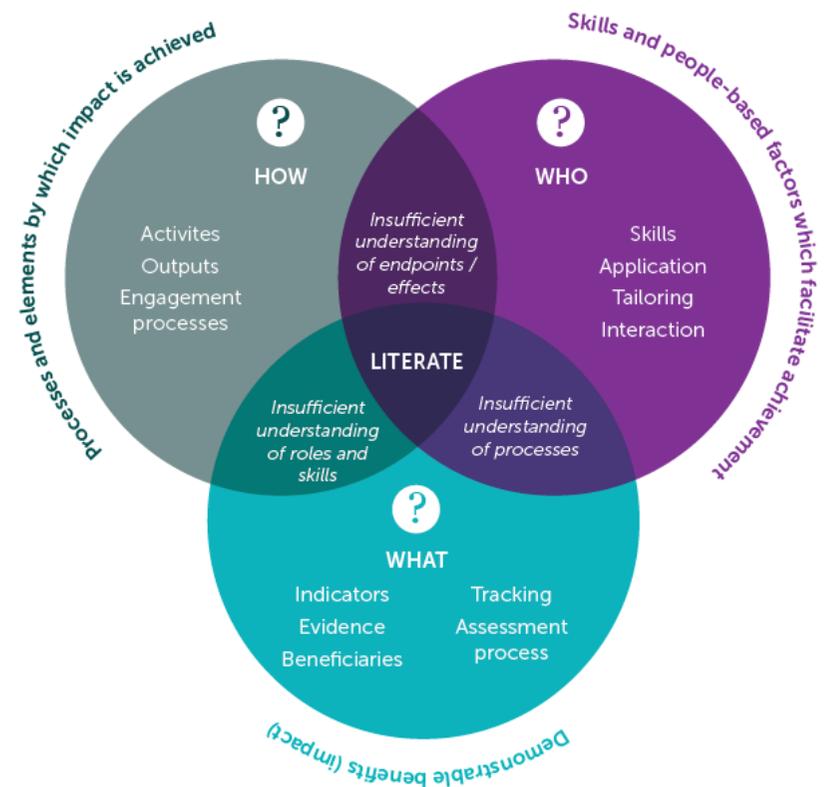
Academic reward system

Funding, organizational infrastructure and institutional culture

Knowledge mobilization & knowledge utilization

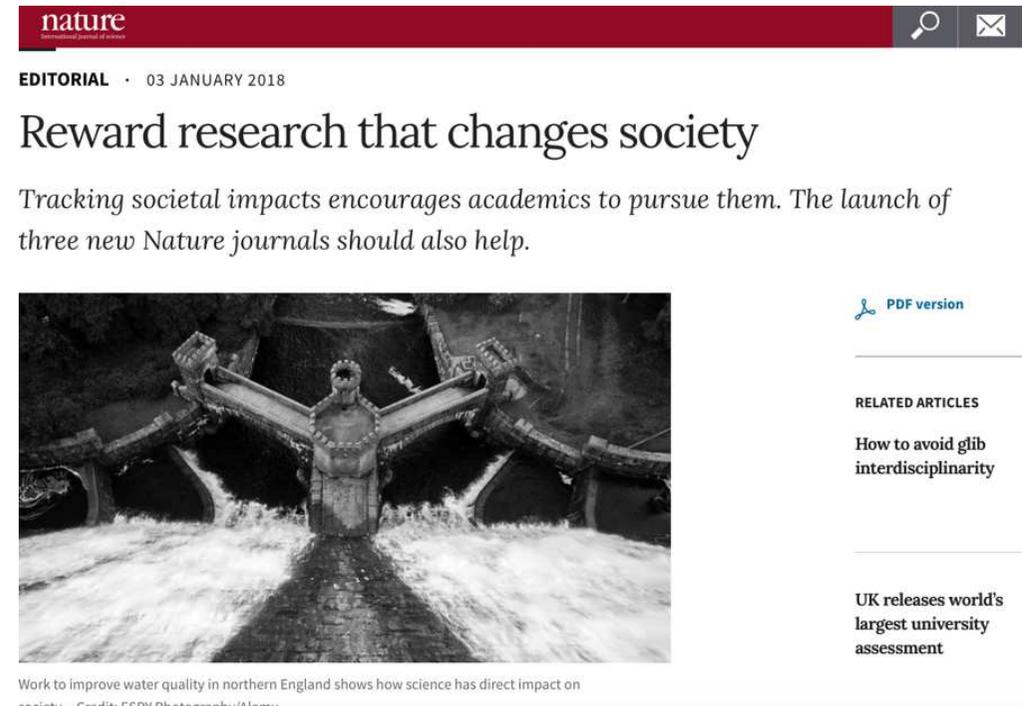
Co-creation leads to dynamic effects rather than one pay-off

Importance of “organisational champions” / “impact rewards



Reward and infrastructure

- Missing incentives and reward systems can lead to barriers such as a lack of resources spent on impact-related activities
- Many researchers in SSH and beyond see valorisation and societal impact as separate from methods to assess research quality

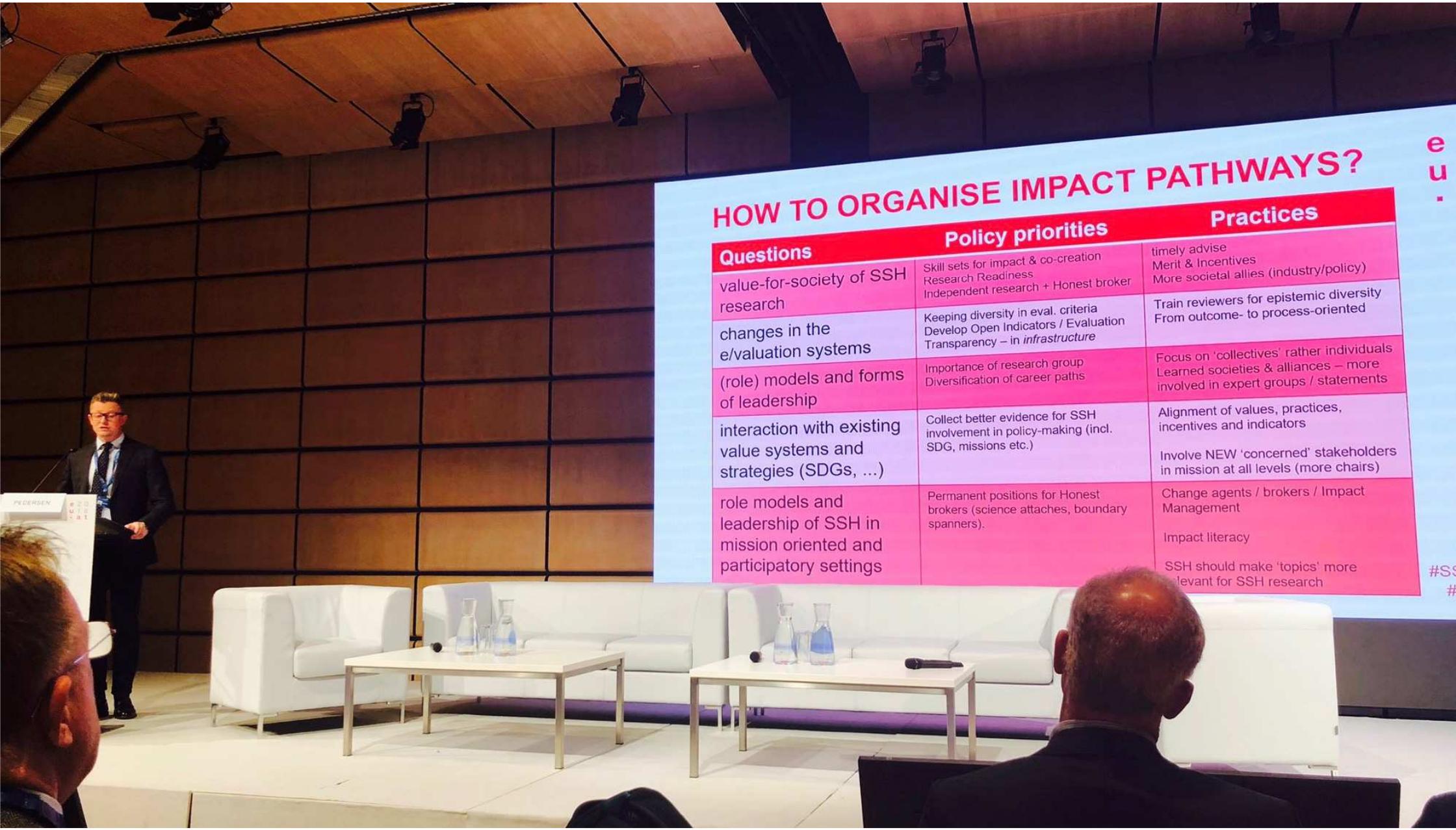


The screenshot shows the top portion of a Nature journal article page. At the top left is the 'nature' logo. To its right, it says 'EDITORIAL · 03 JANUARY 2018'. The main title of the article is 'Reward research that changes society'. Below the title is a sub-headline: 'Tracking societal impacts encourages academics to pursue them. The launch of three new Nature journals should also help.' To the right of the sub-headline is a link for 'PDF version'. Below the sub-headline is a large black and white photograph of a water turbine. Underneath the photograph is a short paragraph of text: 'Work to improve water quality in northern England shows how science has direct impact on society.' To the right of the photograph, there is a section titled 'RELATED ARTICLES' with two links: 'How to avoid glib interdisciplinarity' and 'UK releases world's largest university assessment'.

ACCOMPLISSH

HOW TO ORGANISE IMPACT PATHWAYS?

Questions	Policy priorities	Practices
value-for-society of SSH research	Skill sets for impact & co-creation Research Readiness Independent research + Honest broker	timely advise Merit & Incentives More societal allies (industry/policy)
changes in the e/valuation systems	Keeping diversity in eval. criteria Develop Open Indicators / Evaluation Transparency – in <i>infrastructure</i>	Train reviewers for epistemic diversity From outcome- to process-oriented
(role) models and forms of leadership	Importance of research group Diversification of career paths	Focus on 'collectives' rather individuals Learned societies & alliances – more involved in expert groups / statements
interaction with existing value systems and strategies (SDGs, ...)	Collect better evidence for SSH involvement in policy-making (incl. SDG, missions etc.)	Alignment of values, practices, incentives and indicators Involve NEW 'concerned' stakeholders in mission at all levels (more chairs)
role models and leadership of SSH in mission oriented and participatory settings	Permanent positions for Honest brokers (science attaches, boundary spanners).	Change agents / brokers / Impact Management Impact literacy SSH should make 'topics' more relevant for SSH research



Thank you for the attention

David Budtz Pedersen: davidp@hum.aau.dk

Twitter: @HumanomicsMap

Website: <http://mapping-humanities.dk>

Contributions from Rolf Hvidtfeldt & Jonas Grønvaad

Supported by



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 693477

