

# RGC's Competitive Research Funding Schemes, 2020-21

“Pathways to Impact”

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# Research Impact

## **Academic Impact**

- Originality of the work, advancement of academic knowledge
- Theoretical contribution, across and within disciplines
- Teaching and pedagogical contribution

## **Impact Outside Academia**

- Demonstratable contribution that research makes to the economy, society, environment and culture (Australian Research Council)
- Must be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound

# What are the Impacts? What are the beneficial effects? What are the demonstratable contributions?

- Solutions to problems
- Products
- Policy
- Practices
- Performance
- Behaviors, activity
- Opinions, awareness, understanding
- Opportunity

# Identify potential beneficiaries

- Individuals, organizations, professional bodies, communities, private sector entities, industry, governments
- Locally, regionally or internationally

**Engage the potential beneficiaries !**

# Pathways to impact: How will they be benefitted?

- Application and exploitation: identify the *mechanism* for potential exploitation, both commercially and non-commercially
- Communications and engagement: events, publicity materials, websites
- Collaboration and co-production: how this form pathway towards economic and societal impacts, Engaging stakeholders and beneficiaries (before, during and after the project)
- Capacity and involvement: who undertake communication and exploitation activities
- Have a pathway for every beneficiary

# What will be done during and/or after the project to achieve the benefit and reach the beneficiaries?

- Think of the impact of your project in terms of its reach at different stages of your research
- Reach: breadth of influence on relevant stakeholders, ensure that the stakeholders have the opportunity to benefit
- Include timescales for delivering the impact activities set out within your pathways to impact.
- For instance, monitoring and evaluating pathways to impact every six months, advisory groups to shape future activities, using questionnaires, stakeholder surveys, collecting website statistics.

## **Useful resources:**

<https://www.fasttrackimpact.com/single-post/2017/06/01/How-to-write-an-impact-summary-and-pathway-to-impact>