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University of Nottingham:  
Policy academy programme

## Webinar 6: Ways to demonstrate impact for a REF submission

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### 1. Research Excellence Framework (REF) impact toolkit

Helen Tilley, Louise Ball and Caroline Cassidy, ODI, 2018

This toolkit provides a simple step-by-step approach to help researchers plan for, monitor and improve the impact their research has on policy and practice. Split into six modules, the guide helps researchers better understand their impact pathways and develop a suite of indicators they can use to monitor the impact of their research project.

<https://www.odi.org/publications/11089-research-excellence-framework-ref-impact-toolkit>

### 2. REF Panel Criteria and Working Methods

Research Excellence Framework, 2019

This document sets out the assessment criteria and working methods of the main and sub-panels for the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021. Annex A outlines a range of different types of impacts and indicators as defined by REF.

[https://www.ref.ac.uk/media/1084/ref-2019\\_02-panel-criteria-and-working-methods.pdf](https://www.ref.ac.uk/media/1084/ref-2019_02-panel-criteria-and-working-methods.pdf)

### 3. Building a culture of research impact

LSE Impact Blog, 2019

Drawing on case study evidence from the DFID-ESRC Growth Research Programme, Louise Shaxson suggests that developing a culture of engagement and collaboration is just as important to achieving research impact as following best practice. She presents five principles that underpin an effective research impact culture.

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2019/01/17/building-a-culture-of-research-impact/>

### 4. Structural Transformation and growth in Africa: impact case study

Caroline Cassidy, 2017

This case study takes a detailed look at the types of impact a project for the DFID-ESRC Growth Research programme helped bring about and how these were achieved. This includes the different communications and engagement strategies employed by the research team.

<https://www.odi.org/publications/10943-structural-transformation-and-growth-africa-impact-case-study>

### 5. Why is a detailed knowledge of policy context so important?

Louise Shaxson, 3ie/ODI 2012

This short video talks about the importance of having a detailed understanding of the policy AND political context when thinking about engagement and impact.

<https://vimeo.com/44463791>