Assessing the diverse impacts of transdisciplinary research on poverty reduction: the case of the NCCR North-South

Claudia Michel
Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)
University of Bern, Switzerland

Simon Hearn, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK
Gabriela Wülser, Institute for Environmental Decisions, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
Thomas Breu, Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), Switzerland
Growing field: innovation and sustainable development
The impact of science on society: utility, commercialisation, wealth creation

About Science to Market

How will CTI Start-up help me turn my innovative product idea into a sustainable business?

Commission for Technology and Innovation, www.ctistartup.ch
The impact of science on society: the economy, society, and environment

Karl Herweg

18. November 2013
Measuring economic, social, and environmental impacts

DO YOU REALLY MEASURE THE IMPACT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN KILOGRAMS OF PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS PER FARMER?
Criticism of quantitative indicators

“The search for quantitative impact indicators has delivered an array of novel metrics that represent low-order impact, technometrics that privilege private over public interest, and sociometrics that rely on macro-level data with no credible link to the efforts of particular researchers”

Donovan 2007, p. 591
How do we orient research projects towards maximising impacts?
ROMA: Rapid Outcome Mapping Approach

1. Define (and redefine) your policy objectives
2. Map political context
3. Identify key stakeholders
4. Identify desired behaviour changes
5. Establish monitoring and learning frameworks
6. Analyse internal capacity to effect change
7. Develop a strategy

Overseas Development Institute ODI

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Research projects

Disaster risk management, Bolivia
Teenage pregnancy, Tanzania
Mobile pastoralists, Sahel
Forest governance, Pakistan
Rural development, Tajikistan
Migration, Nepal
Identify desired behaviour changes

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## Outcome challenge

### Early signs of progress

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### Transformative change
Lessons from the NCCR North-South

> Stronger engagement between transdisciplinary researchers and evaluation specialists
> Planning, supporting, and evaluating impacts on all levels: individual, programme, institution, university, STI policy
> Complement internal self-assessment with external evaluation
> Evaluate outcomes and impacts at different times after completion of the programme