Soils for Europe

PROJECT IMPACT ON VALUE CHAIN ORGANIZATION AND PRACTICES

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14. Number of research-innovation outputs transferred into the market

QUANTITATIVE



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INTRODUCTION

SOLO introduces a comprehensive impact assessment framework designed to evaluate the real-world effects of Mission Soil research and innovation activities across society, the economy, policy, and practice. This adaptable tool supports Mission Soil projects in monitoring and evaluation, with future potential for ex-ante assessment and project design. Beyond defining key components, qualitative indicators, quantitative metrics, and impact narratives, SOLO also outlines the mechanisms needed to effectively implement the framework in practice.

The assessment framework allows for the evaluation of 5 types of impact of Mission Soil Research and Innovation (R&I) activities:

1. **Project impact in practice**: focus on impact among land managers, advisors, urban planners and other stakeholders;
2. **Project impact on policy and administration**: focus on policy strategies and tools, and other institutional arrangements;
3. **Project impact on value chain organisation and practices**: focus on market mechanisms, business models and requirements;
4. **Broader societal impact**: focus on literacy, awareness, school programmes and education;
5. **Impact on research and innovation:** focus on academic institutions, researchers, publications and funding.

These 5 types of impact correspond to categories under which key performance indicators, both quantitative and qualitative, are grouped.



The other component of the impact assessment framework is the **impact narrative**: a compelling, substantiated statement which reflects the contributions of R&I activities to society, the economy, policy and practice beyond numbers and quantitative targets.

An **impact narrative** must describe the societal challenge to be tackled; identify the stakeholders and beneficiaries who are positively impacted, explaining how they have experienced meaningful change; describe the situation at the start of the project vis-a-vis the goal of the assessment; describe the specific outcomes and results of the R&I activities; describe changes in behaviour, practices and policies; include real-world examples and stories; be supported by quantitative and qualitative evidence; connect the impact to broader societal goals; and provide insights into the potential future implications and opportunities resulting from the developed R&I.

Number of research-innovation outputs transferred into the market

DESCRIPTION AND IMPORTANCE

Evaluation of the efficiency of the innovation process in the context of the Mission Soil.

In the Oslo Manual, the OECD defines an innovation as "a new or improved product or process (or combination thereof) that differs significantly from the unit's previous products or processes and that has been made available to potential users (product) or brought into use by the unit (process)" (OECD & Eurostat, 2018).

For the purposes of this indicator, "unit" is either a consortium of partners or individual partners which have produced an innovation in the scope of a Mission Soil-funded project or initiative.

DEFINITION

Number of research-innovation outputs transferred into the market per type of target audience.

MEASUREMENT

This indicator measures the number of research-innovation outputs transferred into the market, per type of target audience.

This indicator disaggregated by:

- Type of research-innovation:
  - Concept
  - Product
  - Process
  - Service (non-consulting)
  - Consulting service
- Target audience:
  - Government / Public Administration representatives
  - Land managers / Practitioners
  - Researchers
  - Private Sector / Industry
  - Non-Governmental Organisations
  - Civil Society / Citizens

Data is collected from project reports. The KPI disaggregation results from the adaptation of the Innovation Radar Questionnaire (De Prato et al., 2015).

LEVEL

EU

DATA SOURCE

Project reporting

PERIODICITY

Quadrennial

TYPE

Impact

CLASS

Market take-up

REFERENCES

de Prato, Giuditta., Nepelski, Daniel., & Piroli, Giuseppe. (2015). *Innovation radar: identifying innovations and innovators with high potential in ICT FP7, CIP & H2020 projects* (E. O'Neill, Ed.). JRC-IPTS.

OECD, & Eurostat. (2018). *Oslo Manual 2018: guidelines for collecting, reporting and using data on innovation* (4th ed.). OECD Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264304604-en

