Introduction to the Symplectic Elements Impact Module

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Capturing Impact in Elements

The **Elements Impact Module** helps researchers to capture emerging indicators of research impact resulting from their work, track how it connects to their work and to develop narratives around it to underpin case studies.

- Collect and collate data **as it occurs and over time** to demonstrate the wider societal, environmental & economic impact of a piece of research.
- Attach supporting documentation as evidence storing everything in one place.
- Link impact records to other users, publications and grants for ease of reporting and to ensure that credit is given where credit is due.

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Why capture impact data in Elements?

The Elements Impact Module has been designed to help address the challenges of capturing a **comprehensive evidence base** of the wider impact of research.



Evidence of impact can be ephemeral or hard to find

Much of the evidence a researcher will need to demonstrate the impact of their research can be ephemeral or hard to find, especially if working with industry or in the arts or humanities. It is important to build a culture of capturing this data in reusable ways as it arises to ensure it is ready when needed.



Relationships to other works provide important context

Research Impact can often only be seen long after the original research was published. By linking impact records to the associated users, publications and grants and other activities, it can be possible to analyse the different pathways to impact.



Impact specialists can provide valuable support & insights

Given the far-reaching contribution of research in society, culture, the economy, and our environment, tracking and interpreting impact can be complex. Impact Specialists can add considerable value by enriching and tagging records with additional insights.

Using impact data to tell the story of your research

Monitor, map, & understand pathways to Impact through ongoing internal reporting

Dashboard Overview	Assigned Label(s) by	Label Scheme					Pivot of Impact	Records by '	Impact Typ	o" Label Scheme		
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Monitor **progress towards impact**, rather than reporting retrospectively after the completion of a research project.

Impact activities, pathways, and interim evidence of impact can also be shared more broadly, e.g. with funders, etc.

Collect data to underpin government reporting activities (eg. ERA and REF)

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Collect indicators and narratives to **inform the development of case studies.**

Capture completed case studies and link to relevant objects to aid future reporting.

Option to run a **selection & review process** via the Assessment Module if desired.*

*May require additional licence.

Help your researchers to showcase their impact via CVs & public profiles

Dr Beth Br	ee7e
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Address	Lilliput University
Centre for University	Philanthropy of Kent
Phone	
Other:	0123 456789, ext. 123 Lab: 5183309331
Email	
Personal:	bbreeze@home.com
Web	
ORCID:	orcid.org/0000-0001-7832-9314
Other:	utv.uea.ac.uk/Embed.aspx?id=476208ccode=dH~aqT7LJKyF0UOHnJFJ2GExNJvlidRKy
Company:	www.kent.ac.uk/sspssr/staff/academic/a-b/breeze-beth.html
Twitter:	twitter.com/UKCPhilanthropy
Other:	blogs.kent.ac.uk/philanthropy
Google Scholar:	scholar.google.ru/citations?user=4EUSoioAAAAJ&hl=en

Include key impact record types in CVs to help researchers highlight their impact.

Use privacy controls to allow for **targeted showcasing of Impact records (**such as approved case studies) via public profiles.*

*On our Discovery Roadmap, may require additional licence.

Exploring impact data through reports & dashboards

Quickly and easily generate a data extract from the Elements Basic Reports screen, or create custom formatted reports or data extracts to tailor exports to your needs. Impact data is also available directly via the Reporting Database.

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Create custom dashboards to identify trends such as to help Impact Officers understand the volume and type of impact records captured in Elements, with direct links to allow administrators to delve into records to review, amend, label or lock.

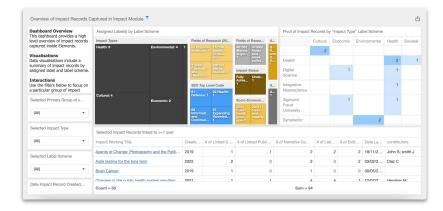


Image: Sample custom impact dashboard showing analysis of labels associated with impact records.

Combine with Assessment for a review workflow

If you would like to run a selection and review process to support the development of impact case studies and/or your government impact return, you can do this by using the Impact Module in combination with the Assessment Module.* Such a workflow will allow you to:

- Ask your researchers to nominate relevant impact records which they feel best highlight their work (eg. engagement activities, impact indicators and impact narratives).
- Funnel those submissions through a review workflow with options to capture comments and scores.
- Report on the resulting data to aid the selection of records for government reporting activities.

SYMPLECTIC Elements	
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Introduction	< PREVIOUS
Overview	Sue Brown Solutions Consultant Symplectic
Exercise Information	Solutions consultant Symplectic
Examples of impacts	Exercise Information
	This exercise will consist of the following stages:
	Select items for lists
	Supporting Information
	1 supporting information field
	Overall attachments 1 overall attachment
	Examples of impacts
	Image: Second system Examples of impacts 3 items, 0 supporting information fields
	< PREVIOUS

Stock Impact Types



SYMPLECTIC

Impact Plan

Capture information about the intended impact of a piece of research & the activities planned to reach those goals.



Engagement Activity

Record engagement activities as they occur & monitor by linking to impact indicators as they arise.



Impact indicator

Track indicators of possible impact, such as mentions in policy papers, notable reviews, or key industry engagements.



Impact Narrative

Record a narrative of events describing the impact of a piece of research.



Impact Case Study

Add records relating to impact case studies & link to associated researchers/outputs/ activities to support analysis & data reuse.

(formally Record of Impact)

'Document' and 'Event' types at a glance



'Document' types

- Designed to capture metadata associated with an impact 'document' which tells the story of the intended or actual impact of a piece of research.
- Can be used to capture metadata to go into such a document, or to describe a document & attach a copy.
- If desired, organisations can design custom reports to export documents.



Impact Indicator Engagement Activity

'Event' types

- Designed to capture activities/events which may be an indicator of future impact. (eg. mentions, collaborations).
- Encourages the capture of these activities/events at the time they occur, helping researchers build a library which can be built up over time.
- Encourage linking to research outputs & other impact records (eg. narratives & case studies).

Planning to use the Impact Module

When planning to use this new functionality, we recommend you consider:

Identify your primary and secondary use cases

- Your primary use case is your key driver, but secondary use cases encourage engagement.
- Increasing the ways you use the data will make data collection feel more worthwhile.

• Consider your target audiences

• Identify the users you need to engage to meet your use cases, and ensure you understand what support they will need and what motivates them.

• Plan your configurations

- Consider which types, fields and label schemes you want to use.
- Consider if you want to update the nomenclature (Category, Types and Fields)

• Review existing data assets

• Consider if you have any existing sources for this data which could be migrated or fed into the system to save your researchers time and increase engagement.

• Consider reporting & integrations

• By considering the kinds of reports you want to run, or possible re-use in integrated systems early, you can ensure that you are collecting the right metadata to support these.

On our roadmap

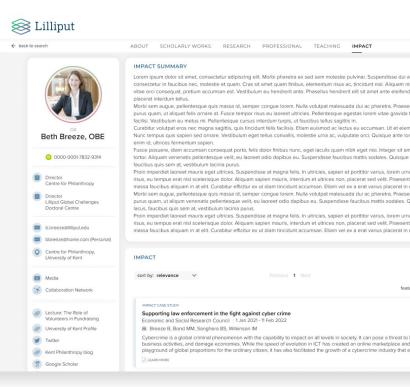


Highlighting the impact of your researchers

Sharing impact case studies on Discovery can help further demonstrate your researchers' expertise by sharing the reach of their work, and the ways in which their work has impacted society and the world.

To help you showcase your researchers' expertise, we plan to introduce a new optional Impact tab on the expert profile pages in the Discovery Module.

The new Impact tab will allow researchers & administrators to share research impact achievements, whilst our comprehensive privacy settings will ensure you have confidence that only appropriate data will be made publicly available.

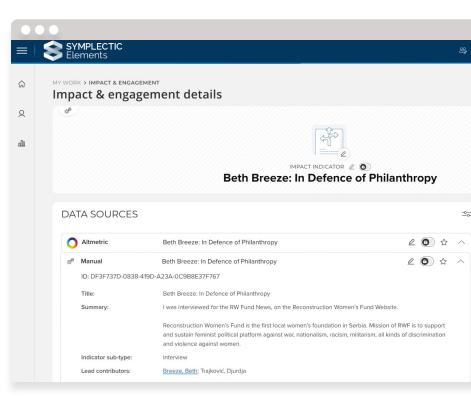


Integrating Altmetric with the Impact Module

Save time and increase data richness by automating the capture of impact indicator records using Altmetric as a data source.

Working with our colleagues from Altmetric, we plan to establish Altmetric as a data source for the Elements Impact Module^{*}, automatically capturing major mentions as Impact Indicator records and linking them to the associated outputs in Elements.

This new unique integration will significantly streamline the process of collecting impact data to support the development of Impact case studies.



Questions?

