

# Contribution analysis of complex research programmes: the case of the OneHealth Poultry Hub

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The paper discusses challenges and approach to evaluate the policy impact of research programmes. Often, the contribution of research to changes in, for example, sector policies provides the rationale for funding, even when the time for new policies to mature exceeds the time of the funding period, and the research is only one of the contributing factors to these changes, and out of its sphere of direct influence.

The monitoring and evaluation work associated of research programmes, therefore, need to focus on intermediate outcomes that are good proxy-indicators of progress towards the ultimate outcome of policy change.

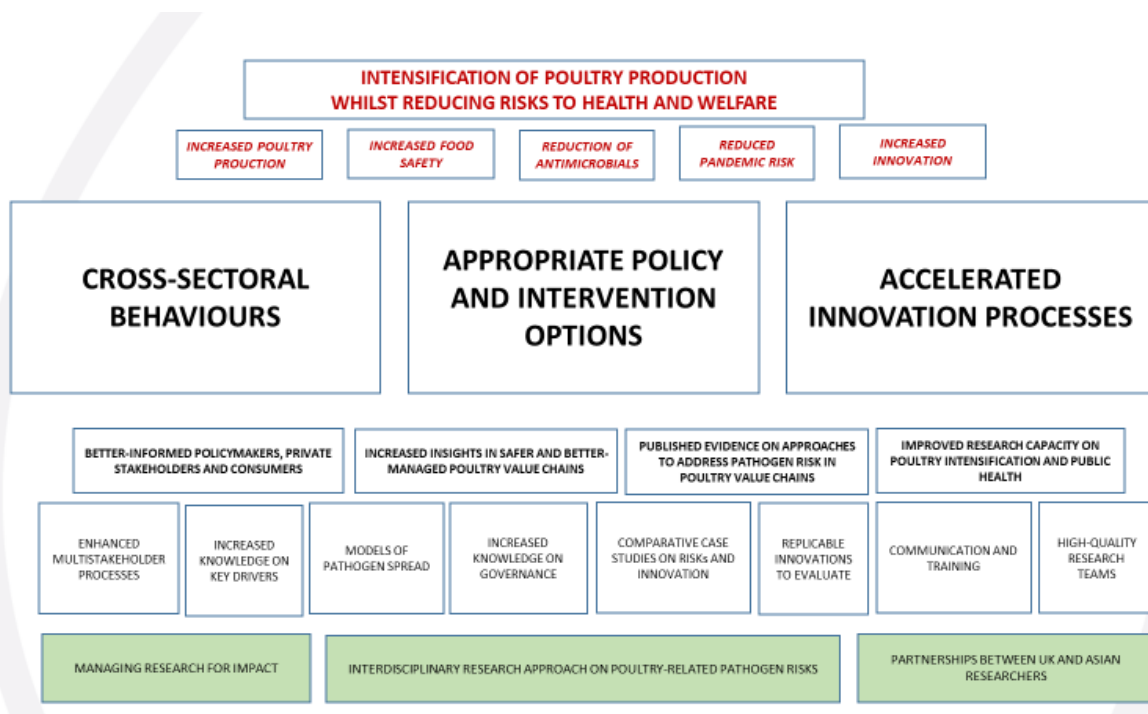
Using archival data (email correspondence), stakeholder surveys, interviews with key informants, and participatory observation during Hub events, we show how the advocacy and policy impact work in the project is influenced by the history of hub collaboration within each country.

- We describe the first phase where the project developed an overall theory of change for the programme, which each hub refined into a (nested) context-specific theory of change that reflected their institutional embedding and national-specific policy priorities.
- A second phase consisted in the 'harvesting' of impact stories that indicated where and how the contributions by the OHPH came about.
- The third phase was the critical verification of the main contribution claims through surveys and interviews with the boundary partners related to these impact stories.



LEVELS	OUTCOME AREAS	MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION METHODS
SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Change in knowledge</b> of participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stakeholder knowledge</li> <li>○ Research quality</li> <li>○ Innovative ideas</li> <li>○ Hub collaboration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participant feedback</li> <li>• External peer-review of publications</li> <li>• Hub advisory groups reports</li> <li>• Partnership health and interdisciplinary capacity surveys</li> </ul>
MEDIUM-TERM OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Changes in practices</b> of institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research community</li> <li>○ Stakeholders around public health</li> <li>○ Stakeholders in poultry sector</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common research impact indicators</li> <li>• External stakeholder survey</li> </ul>
LONG-TERM OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Change in performance</b> of institutions and subsystems in the poultry chain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stakeholder perception surveys (contribution scores)</li> <li>○ Impact stories (contribution claims)</li> <li>○ Evidencing and critical verification</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
GLOBAL CHALLENGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Change in sustainable poultry intensification</b> processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Poultry sector</li> <li>○ Public health</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and sector dynamics studies</li> <li>• National OneHealth monitoring</li> </ul>
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Change in SDG</b> indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDG national/global reporting system</li> </ul>

## We focus on the outcomes of the Hub activities on policy and practice



## And contextualised these impact areas for each Hub site

- Phase One: Site specific priorities identified
  - BD: Balance biosecurity & production at medium scale; Live Bird market regulation
  - SL: Export readiness; lab strengthening & backyard practices
  - IN: Prioritises poultry commerce and research outcomes
  - VN: smoothening PDN processes such as slaughtering/ distribution/process & linking producers and market
- Phase Two: Disruptions, Adaptiveness & Early contribution to Impact
- Phase Three: Verification of contribution claims (ongoing)