Engaging in research leading to actions: an EPSRC perspective

Dr Chris White, EPSRC, June 2014
Impact – Strategic Plan Goal

“One of EPSRC's strategic goals as a long-term investor in UK research and training is to increase and accelerate the impact from our investments and maximise its potential for exploitation.”

http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/plans/strategicplan/Pages/strategicplan.aspx
On Grants: Pathways to Impact

Funding to Facilitate Potential Impacts

- Some specific **examples** of activities that could be requested are:
  - Secondments
  - Increased investigator time
  - Training activities
  - Employment of specialist staff
  - Marketing and publicity
  - Workshops, seminars and networking
  - Public engagement
  - Early-stage commercialisation exploration

- Evidence shows that these resources are heavily under-used by applicants!
With Universities: Impact Acceleration Accounts (IAAs)

Funding to Facilitate identified Impacts

- Focus on secondments and Proof of concept/follow on
- Strategic focus for impact engagement with key HEIs
- £60M across 31 Universities for 3 years
- Let us know your success stories
Centres for Doctoral Training

- 21 new Centres for Doctoral Training (of 115)
- Substantial early engagement to define priority areas

Huge Opportunity, Get Involved!
EPSRC Partnerships

- Industry/Government Construction Sector Strategy
- BIS Smart Cities Forum
- Strategic partnerships with Arup, DfT, RSSB, CPNI
- Close involvement with 8 Great Technologies development
Co-Creation & Role of EPSRC

- Go beyond Statements of Support on grants to co-creation

- EPSRC role in eliciting impact and facilitating multi-user relevant research outcomes
Questions

- How can the research reach a broader set of stakeholders in the infrastructure space?
- How can the long term research needs of multiple sectors be identified for coordinated delivery of infrastructure?
- What other disciplines and expertise are required to deliver impact?
- What are the overlaps and interdependencies of infrastructure, cities/urban, construction research?
Training

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in High Performance Embedded and Distributed Systems, Imperial College London
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Digital Civics, Newcastle University
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Urban Science and Progress, University of Warwick

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Energy Demand (LoLo), UCL
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Carbon Capture and Storage and Cleaner Fossil Energy, University of Nottingham
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Power Networks at The University of Manchester, The University of Manchester
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Bioenergy, University of Leeds
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Renewable Energy Marine Structures (REMS), Cranfield University
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Energy Storage and its Applications, University of Sheffield
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Power Networks and Smart Grids - A Partnership between the University of Strathclyde and Imperial College, London
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in New and Sustainable PV, University of Liverpool
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Wind and Marine Energy Systems, University of Strathclyde

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Engineering for the Water Sector (STREAM IDC), Cranfield University
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Water Informatics: Science and Engineering (WISE), University of Exeter

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in the mathematics of planet Earth at Imperial College London and the University of Reading
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Infrastructure and Built Environment, University of Cambridge
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Mathematics for Real-World Systems, University of Warwick
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Sustainable Civil Engineering, Imperial College London
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Sustainable Infrastructure Systems, University of Southampton
EPSRC and ESRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Quantification and Management of Risk & Uncertainty in Complex Systems & Environments, University of Liverpool
EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Decarbonisation of the Built Environment, University of Bath