The Broader Impacts in Research (BIR) organization
Framework for Evaluating High-Quality Broader
Impacts (BI): Adopted and modified in 2014 for BIR from the Mid-Continent
Comprehensive Center (MC3).

Note- Combining, specifying, and implementing who you are (identity) with what you do (teaching, research, and service) to build a beneficial legacy inside and outside of the institution is critical to accomplishing high-quality BI and overall faculty success. This is achieved by developing your Broader Impacts Identity and the development of a BI identity canvas. After BI identity is developed- outcomes, outputs, activities, and inputs can be better articulated and evaluated.

What are Inputs?
Inputs
• are the financial, human, and material resources dedicated to the activities and processes that comprise an event, and
• support the activities and processes that lead to outputs and outcomes
Examples of inputs:

- Staff Members
- Collaborators
- Volunteers
- Expertise
- Supplies
- Facilities
- Products
- PowerPoint Presentations
- Needs Assessment Findings
- Technology
- Online Access
- Constraints
- Regulations
- Funding
- Partners
- Consultants
- Time
- Key Information
- Materials
- Documents
- Agendas
- Curricula
- Equipment
- Computers
- Website
- Laws
- Requirements

What are Activities?

Activities

- are what is done with the inputs to meet goals and objectives in the work/ (BI) plan;
- include the actions, strategies, techniques, processes, interventions, and methods; and
- are described by indicating who did what using action words/verbs (if not completed use present tense) such as the following:

  - designed
  - delivered
  - sponsored
  - provided
  - examined
  - supported
  - implemented
  - developed
  - convened
  - hosted
  - assessed
  - reviewed
  - discussed
  - communicated
  - planned
  - conducted
  - facilitated
  - explored
  - assisted
  - informed
  - cooperated
• coordinated
• shared
• followed-up
• trained
• piloted
• oriented

Also include
• conference/symposium/forum/summit (a formalized event with presentations, concurrent sessions, panel discussions, and/or small group sessions):
• consultation (provision of expert advice, guidance, and/or information in a particular domain or area of expertise), either face-to-face or at-a-distance:
• facilitation (leading people through processes towards agreed-upon objectives in a manner that encourages participation, ownership, and creativity by all those involved; e.g. planning or problem solving);
• meeting (two or more people coming together to discuss a topic or issue), either face-to-face or at-a-distance;
• ongoing, sustained intervention (e.g., follow-up observation and feedback, coaching/mentoring);
• training (direct face-to-face instruction on pre-specified knowledge, skills, competencies, etc.):

What are Outputs?
Outputs are
• the immediate results from the combination of inputs and activities/processes that comprise an event,
• the direct, tangible products that emerge from processing inputs through the completed activities that comprise an event, and
• the actual deliverables—goods and services—provided to individuals or organizations to generate the expected outcomes.

Outputs
• relate to the completion (rather than the conduct) of activities;
• quantify what was done, for how long, for whom, for how many people, etc.:
• are usually measured in terms of the volume of work accomplished or units of service provided (types, levels, and targets of services delivered), such as
• the number of individuals served,
• the number of (type of) sessions conducted,
• the intensity of services provided (duration and frequency),
• the (type of) product developed, or
• the distribution of a product or material;
• are expressed in terms of what the product or service is (nouns or noun phrases);
• answer the question, "How much of what service or product did we provide?" They do not answer the question, "What changed as a result of the service?" and
• lead to the expected outcomes.

What are Outcomes?

Outcomes
• are benefits or changes for individuals or groups that result from the activities and outputs of the event;
• may be at an individual or organizational level;
• address changes in awareness, knowledge, skills, attitudes, behavior, norms, decision-making, motivations, beliefs, values, capacities, linkages, or conditions of individuals, groups, organizations, systems, or communities;
• answer the question, "What difference did the event make in the participants and other beneficiaries?";
• are expressed as change statements (e.g., increased, decreased, or maintained, improved);
• are usually expressed in terms of
  • short-term outcomes, such as
    • awareness,
    • knowledge,
    • understanding,
    • attitudes,
    • skills, or
    • motivation;
  • intermediate-term outcomes, such as
    • action,
    • behaviors,
    • practices,
    • decisions,
    • policies, or
    • important milestones on the way to achieving long-term (end) outcomes; or
• long-term outcomes, such as
  • impact,
  • consequences,
  • conditions,
  • status,
  • sustainable improvements, or
  • address the capacity-building goals in the work plan.