



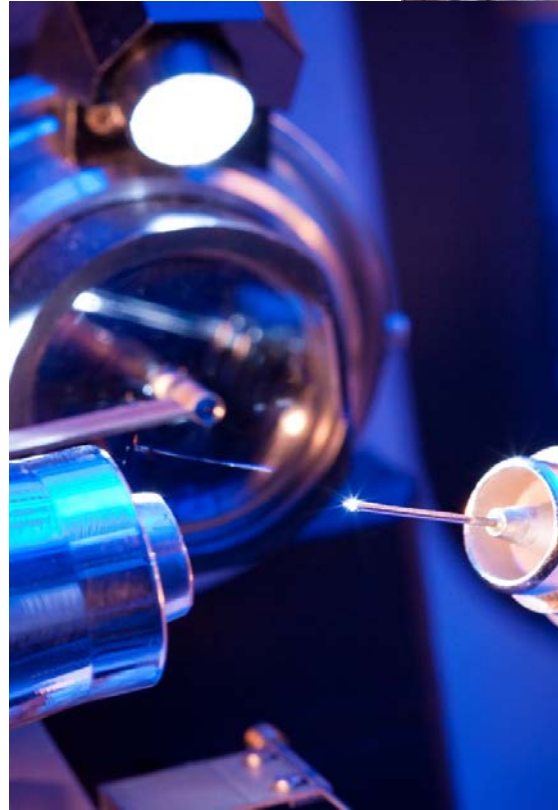
CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION

Assessing the societal value of research infrastructures

13/09/2018

Contents

1. Why assess the societal value of research infrastructure?
2. What makes assessing societal value challenging?
3. How can we mitigate the challenges?





Why assess societal value?

Accountability

Advocacy

Allocation

Analysis & learning



What makes assessing societal value challenging?

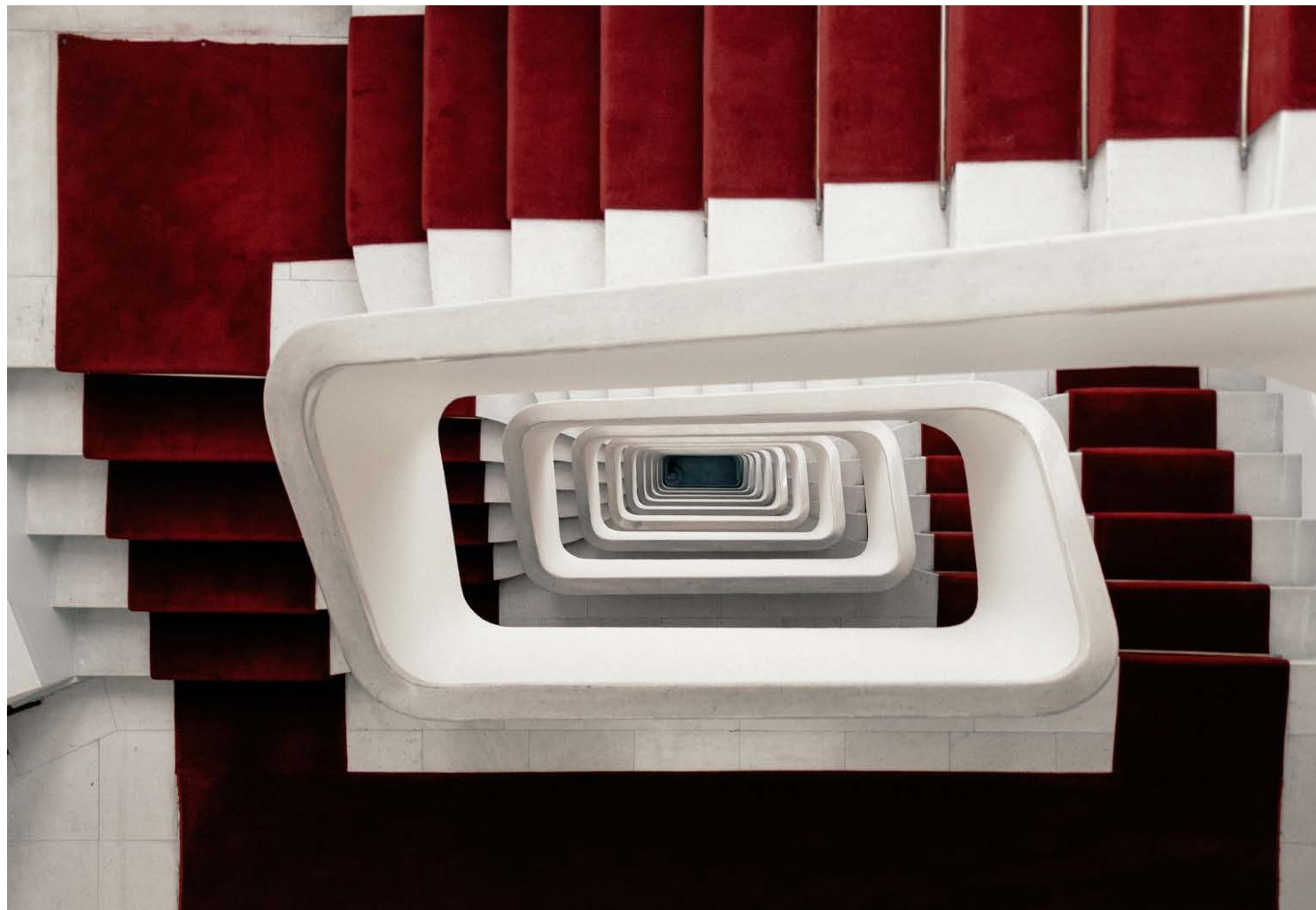
Perspectives

RI leadership

RI users and partners

RI funders

The public



Definitions

Research

studious inquiry or examination; especially : investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts, or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws

Research infrastructure

facilities, resources and related services that are used by the scientific community to conduct top-level research in their respective fields and covers major scientific equipment or sets of instruments

Value

the regard that something is held to deserve; the importance, worth, or usefulness of something





What makes assessing societal value challenging

Uncertain & non-linear

Timelines & time lags

Attribution & incrementality

Spheres of influence & data





How can we mitigate challenges?

context must be considered

societal value must be considered
as point-in-time calculations

work collaboratively

and continue to advance the way
we assess impact while remaining
responsive to the need for evidence





CFI approaches to assessing societal value

We undertake projects to examine the outcomes and impacts as depicted in the CFI logic model.

- All studies explore one or more of the CFI's expected results or objectives as set out in our Contribution agreement with the government of Canada.
- We undertake studies of different size and scope in an effort to address the pressing need for evidence of impact while also allowing time for more detailed studies.
- Research results - our annual report on results
- Research capacity - usage of CFI-funded infrastructure, understanding the role of CFI-funded infrastructure in intersectoral linkages
- Research impact - socioeconomic impact assessment of medical imaging, pathways to impact in Agricultural research

