REPUTATIONAL IMPACTS OF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

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Appendix 1: Methodology

An extensive review of literature was conducted to understand how the UK's international R&I collaborations generate reputational impacts. This study aims to understand the definition of "reputation", and its impact, and the pathways through which international R&I interventions generate reputational impacts for the UK. Following a structured approach (Macpherson & Holt, 2007; Tranfield et al. 2003), the review was conducted in three stages: (A) searching; (B) screening and discarding/inclusion and (C) extraction and synthesis.

» Stage 1: Searching

The Scopus database was selected as the primary source of literature due to its extensive coverage of peer-reviewed journals, articles, book chapters, and conference papers. To capture the diverse implications and contexts of reputation in international R&I, several keyword combinations were used. The search was restricted to publications from 1999 to 2025 to ensure relevance and currency. A total of 450 papers were retrieved using the following combinations. These papers included journal articles, reviews, book chapters, and conference proceedings.

Search Keywords:

• "reputation*" AND "impact*" AND "Research*" AND "innovation*"

• "reputation*" AND "impact*" AND "national policy*"

• "reputation*" AND "impact*" AND "Policy intervention*"

• "international*" AND "research*" AND "innovation*" AND "Policy intervention*"

• "UK*" AND "Innovation*" AND "Reputation*"

• "reputation*" AND "influence*" AND "Policy intervention*"

• "UK" AND "R&D collaboration" AND "reputation*"

• "UK*" AND "Innovation*" AND "Reputation*" AND "international*"

» Stage 2: Screening and Discarding/Inclusion

A concept analysis approach was adopted to systematically examine and explore the concept of "reputation" within various contexts. This approach aimed to gain a deeper understanding of its meaning and characteristics. The abstracts of all 450 retrieved papers were reviewed to determine their relevance in relation to international R&I and to the benefits that could be classified as reputational building and associated impact generation. After applying this screening criterion, a refined set of relevant documents was selected for further analysis. This process involved several stages of analysis and conceptualization to derive meaningful findings. More importantly, it was iterative mainly due to the lack of publications that have explicitly discussed the reputational impacts of international R&I collaborations. Once a type of R&I collaboration that seems to be leading to reputational impacts is identified, more literature was reviewed to develop a detailed understanding of reputational impacts specific to the type.

» Stage 3: Extraction and Synthesis

Content analysis was conducted on the selected papers to extract definitions and understandings of "reputation" and "impact". This analysis aimed to organize the extracted data into relevant categories and units of analysis. The literature review provided insights into the various aspects of reputation and its impact on international R&I collaborations. The iterative process of reviewing the literature involves below:

- » Definition and impact of reputation: The definition of reputation and its impact vary by the type of international R&I collaboration.
- » The unit of analysis in collaborations: While the unit of analysis was international R&I collaboration, in relation to reputational impacts, it was evident that these could be generated at individual, organizational, and national levels. It was also clear that individual and organizational level reputation in aggregation leads to national level reputation. For instance, in relation to international R&I collaborations in knowledge-intensive business services, the individual experts seem to be the centre of reputation building, whose reputation in aggregation enhances the reputation of the knowledge-intensive businesses. Such businesses in aggregation enhance the reputation of the nation. Therefore, when relevant, the review involves such cross-level analysis.
- » Reputational impact pathways: The review explored different pathways of reputational impacts generated by international R&I collaborations and their complex feedback loops since reputation building was not linear.

We conceptually derived different activities related to each type of international R&I that led to the generation of reputational impacts. This approach was necessary because our review did not identify any papers that directly address the reputational impacts generated from international R&I. Therefore, we used papers that discussed various international R&I activities

and their associated benefits to identify which of these benefits are likely to represent "reputation."

In order to conceptualise "reputation" using the literature that has discussed the benefits of international R&I (or in some instances R&I in general), we reviewed streams of literature on reputation, including corporate reputation, brand building, social and psychological dimensions of reputation, and the effects of organizational reputation on employee morale and performance. It became evident that some benefits of international R&I activities are achieved through the development of reputation as a mediator. In other words, the reputation built as a result of international R&I engagement further enhances certain benefits.

Consequently, we differentiated between the benefits directly associated with reputation and those likely resulting from reputation. We termed the latter as "impacts" and the former as "reputation generated through international R&I". We then grouped international R&I activities that involve generating similar types of reputation and associated impacts into specific categories (i.e., four categories) and sub-categories (i.e., activities within each category).

Thus, the discussion predominantly integrates various concepts to outline the reputational impacts of international R&I.

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