

# ENRA Research Portfolio 2027-2032

## Research Impact Framework

**RESAS**

Rural & Environmental Science  
and Analytical Services



# Purpose and Goal



**Purpose:** Defines the RESAS approach to research impact for the ENRA 2027-2032 Research Portfolio.

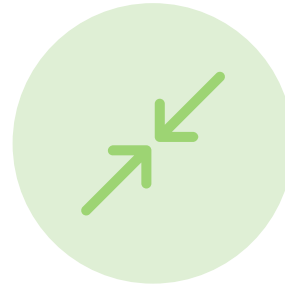


**Goal:** To promote a culture of impact across the Research Portfolio and establish a structured framework to monitor and evaluate research impact.

## Why an Impact Framework?



Responds to ENRA  
Scientific Advisory Board  
(SAB) recommendations



Helps capture and  
promote the diverse  
impacts of the ENRA RP.



Demonstrates alignment  
with Scottish  
Government priorities.



Justifies investment and  
informs future research  
strategies.

# Definition of Impact

RESAS defines impact in the context of the ENRA Portfolio 2027-2032 as:

**The real-world difference research makes changing lives, shaping policy, strengthening the economy, improving the environment, and enhancing health and wellbeing.**

Impact in the context of the ENRA Portfolio 2027-2032 refers to the positive changes or benefits that extend beyond academic circles. This includes improvements to the economy, society, culture, public policies, services, health, the environment, and overall quality of life.

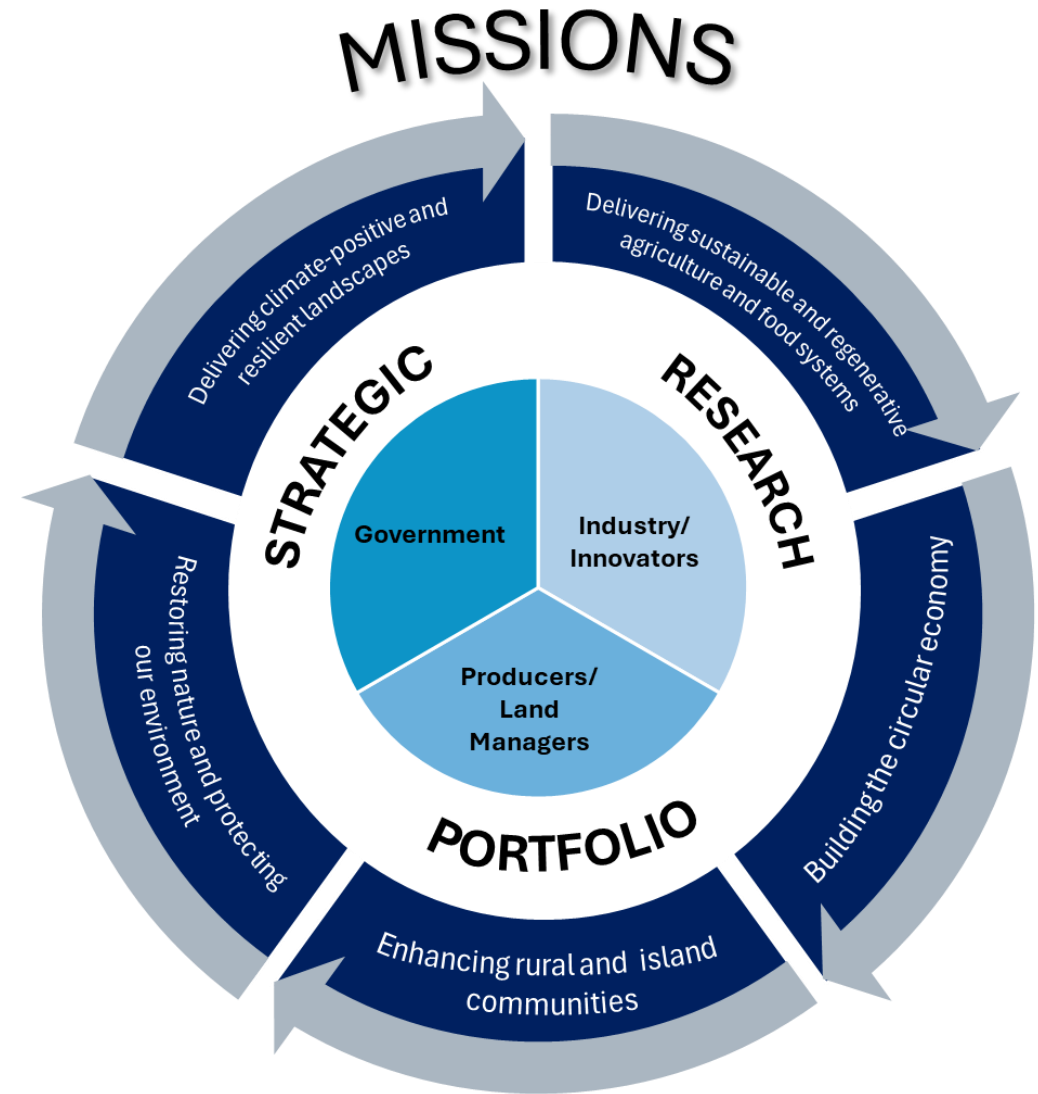


# Approach

The draft ENRA Research Strategy will promote a more outcome focused approach.

The Impact Framework will be embedded within ENRA 2027-2032 RP to ensure that we maximise the impact of our research.

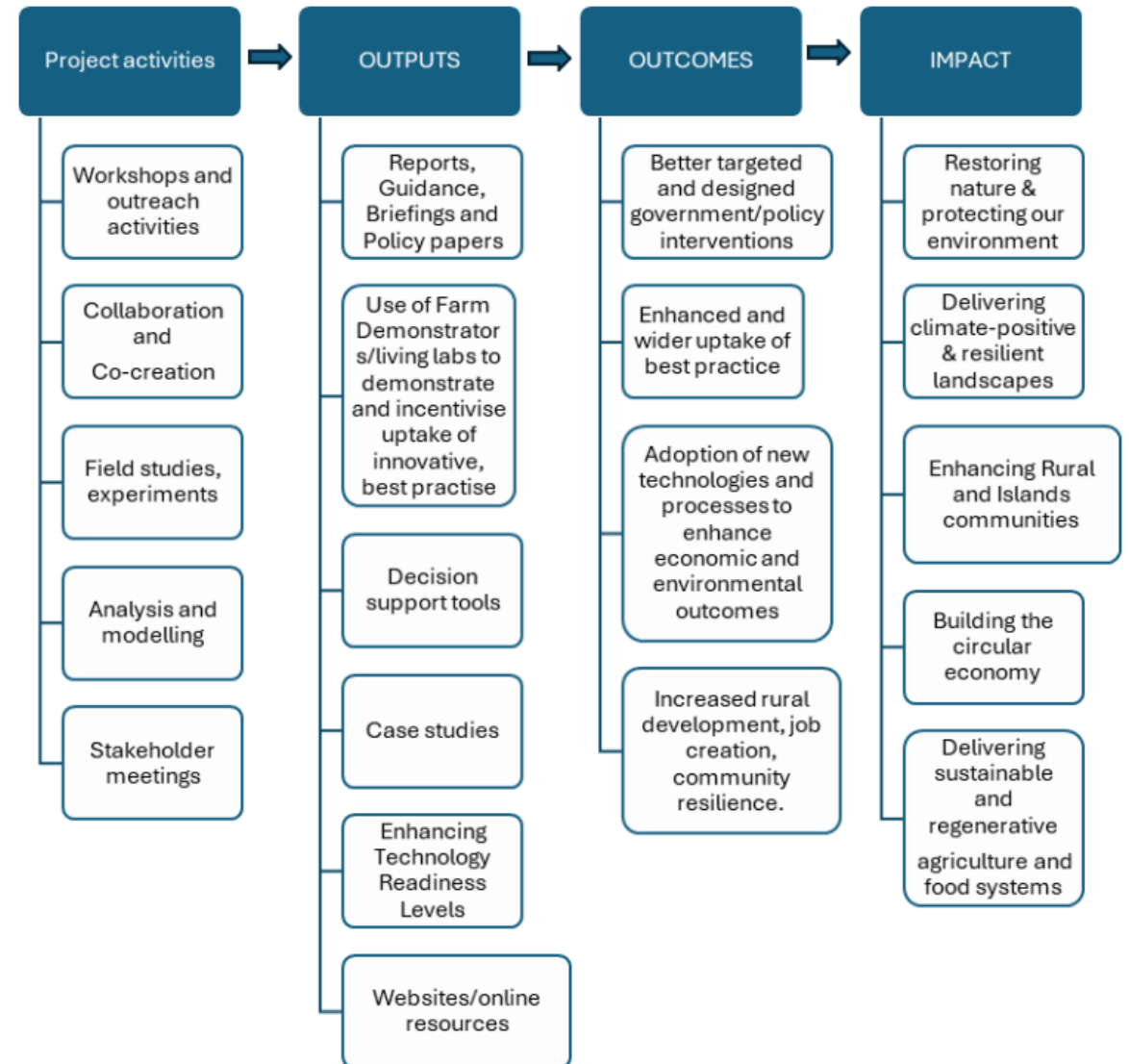
The five 'Missions' can be defined as the ENRA RP 'impact areas' i.e. they define the areas that benefit from the project outputs and outcomes.



# Approach

- Theory of Change Approach: connects research outputs to mission level outcomes and societal impact.
- Projects co-developed with stakeholders to ensure relevance and effectiveness.

## The ENRA SRP Theory of Change Impact Pathway



# Commissioning & Project Planning

Impact incorporated into commissioning and project proposals, submitted via the Invitation to Tender for Grant Funding (ITGF) process for the ENRA SRP 2027-2032

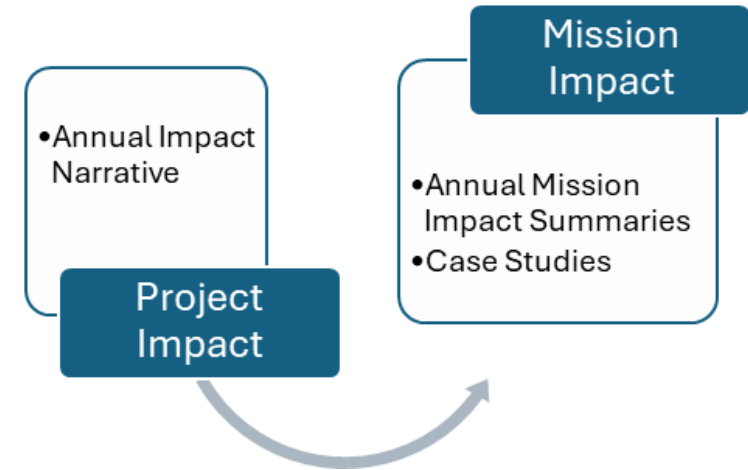
Researchers required to use the ToC approach to map expected impact pathways.

Encourages co-development of project proposals with stakeholders and policymakers. Co-production will also be expected throughout the lifespan of the project.

# Monitoring & Evaluation

## Proposed reporting improvements 2027-2032 ENRA SRP:

- **Annual Impact Narratives with an increased word limit.** To give a more detailed summary of the project impacts over the year, highlighting successes or changes to the impact pathway, and providing a chance to detail new or previously unforeseen impact opportunities.
- **Annual Mission Impact Summaries and Case Studies**(*developed by Mission Impact Officers*) for evaluation by CSA ENRA/SAB





# Communication & Engagement

- **Mission Impact Officers within SEFARI:** Drive and track impact across Missions. Provide a point of contact for policy/stakeholders and training and support for PIs with impact reporting.
- **Project Impact Champions**
- **Impact case studies published online.**
- **Increased stakeholder engagement/ Co-production** strategies to ensure research uptake.
- **Impact prize at ENRA Conference** to recognise outstanding contributions.



# What will success look like?

- Improved culture of impact across the ENRA Research Portfolio
- Evidence to:
  - Demonstrate that the investment in the ENRA RP supports the Scottish Government's key priorities and is delivering outcomes that provide societal, environmental and economic impact.
  - Justify to Scottish Government Ministers the need for continued investment of public money in the ENRA RP