

What is Impact?

Academic impact

- The demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to academic advances, across and within disciplines, including significant advances in understanding, methods, theory and application

Economic and societal impacts

- The demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to society and the economy. Economic and societal impacts embrace all the diverse ways in which research-related knowledge and skills benefit individuals, organisations and nations by:
 - fostering global economic performance, and specifically the economic competitiveness of the European Union
 - increasing the effectiveness of public services and policy
 - enhancing quality of life, health and creative output

Impact in Horizon 2020

- Academic Impact useful to demonstrate 'excellence' of applicants but has less weighting than economic/social
- General principle in H2020
 - **IMPACT = INNOVATION = COMMERCIALISATION**
- Turning research outputs into economic growth, jobs and wealth creation = **commercialisation**
- Improving the lives of the EU citizen (policy & public services)= **dissemination**
- You need a plan for both!

Why does impact matter?

- **Accountability**

- spending public money means demonstrating the benefits of that investment to society

- **Quality**

- research can be improved by engagement with a broad range of potential beneficiaries

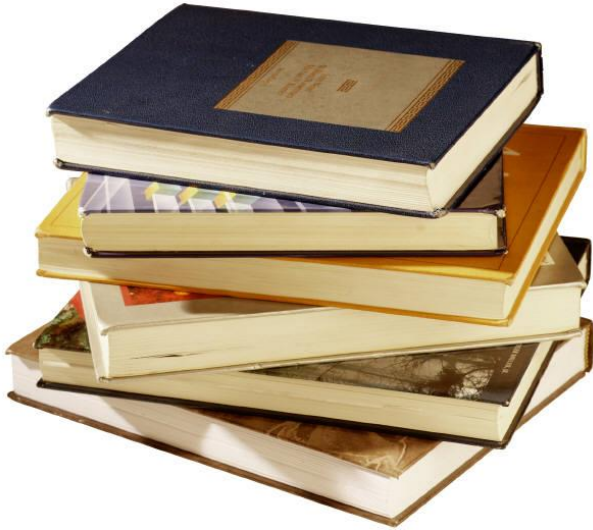
- **Maximising benefits**

- shortening the time to benefit, and increasing the impact investments in research and innovation have

- **Reputation**

- enhance attractiveness for research and innovation investment

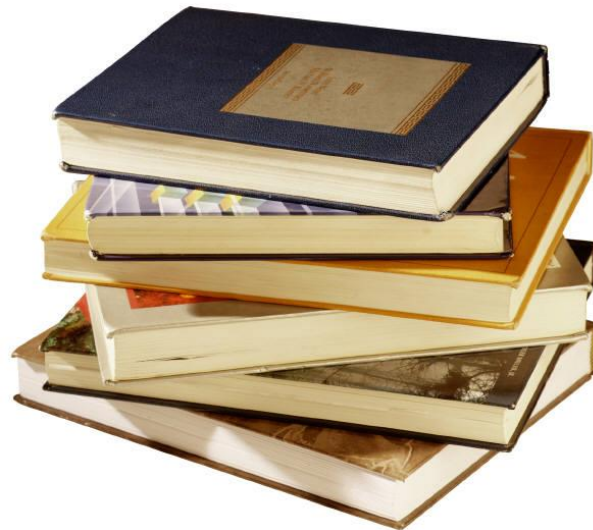
University is a generator of knowledge



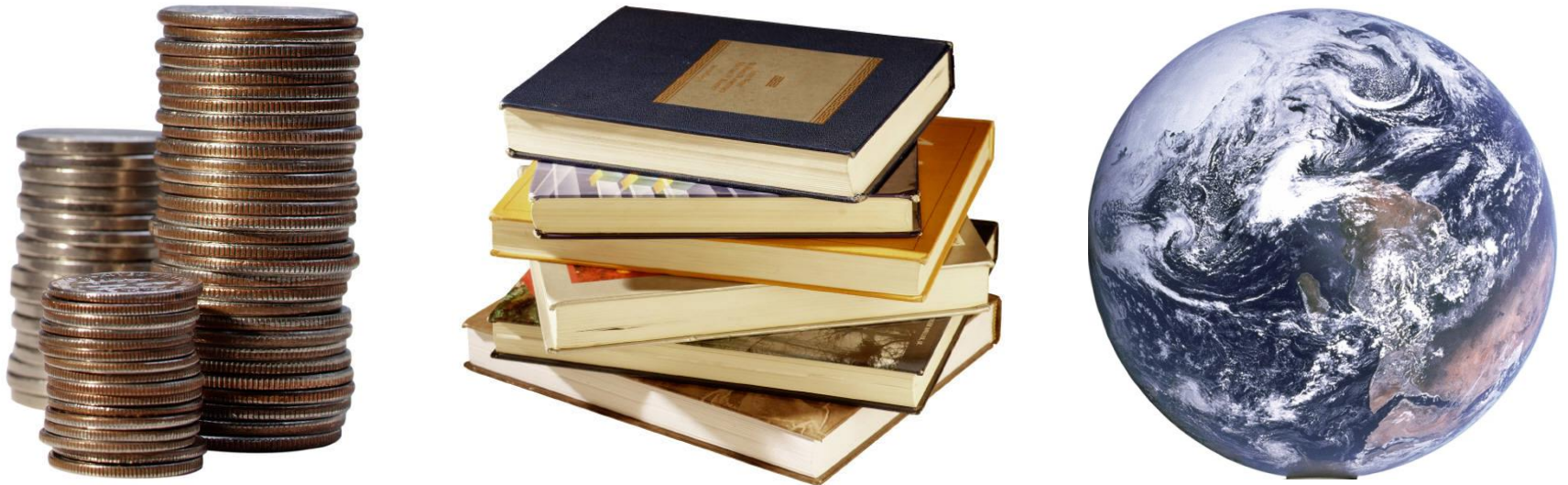
Research costs money



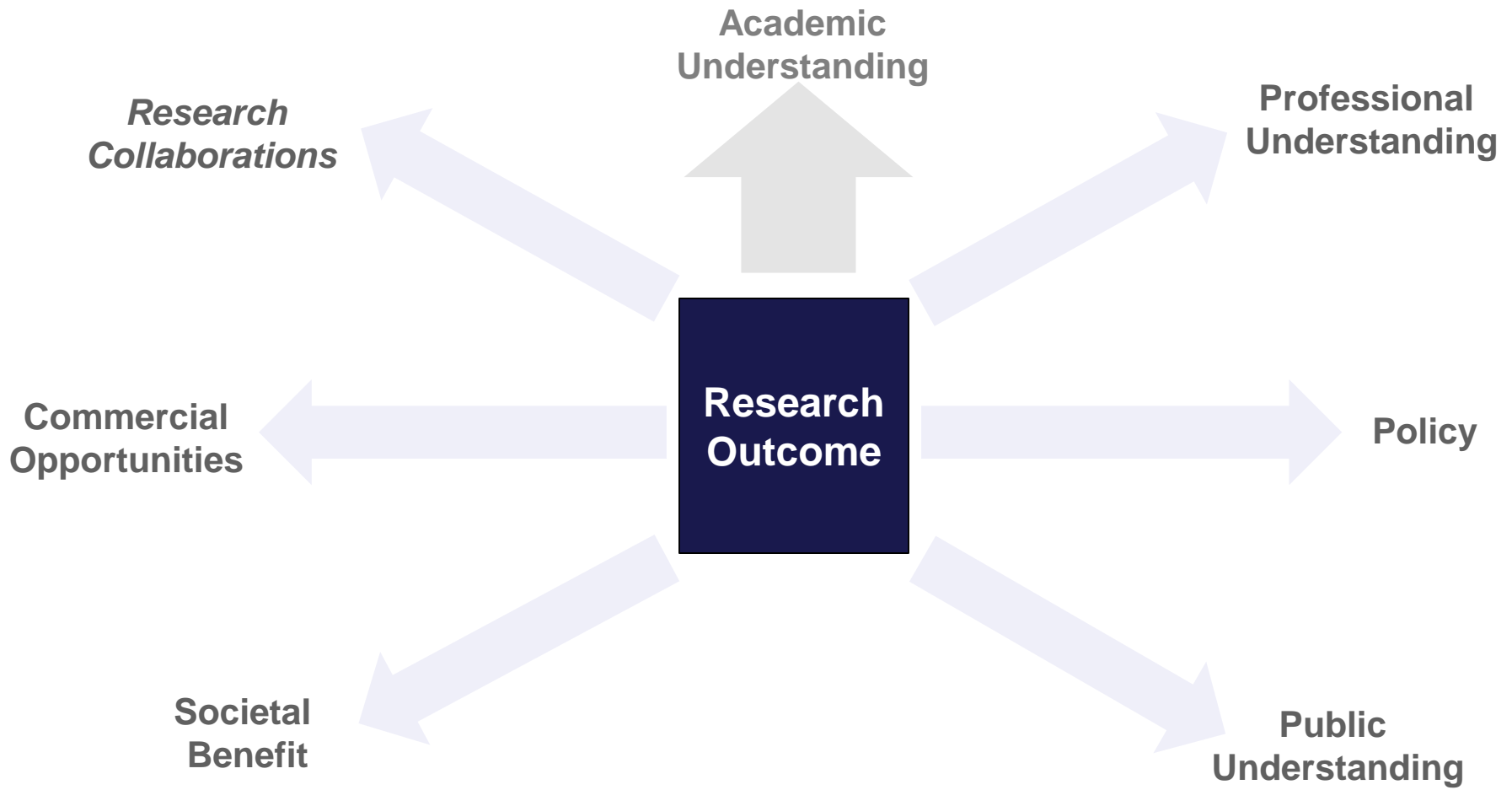
Funders what to see a “return”



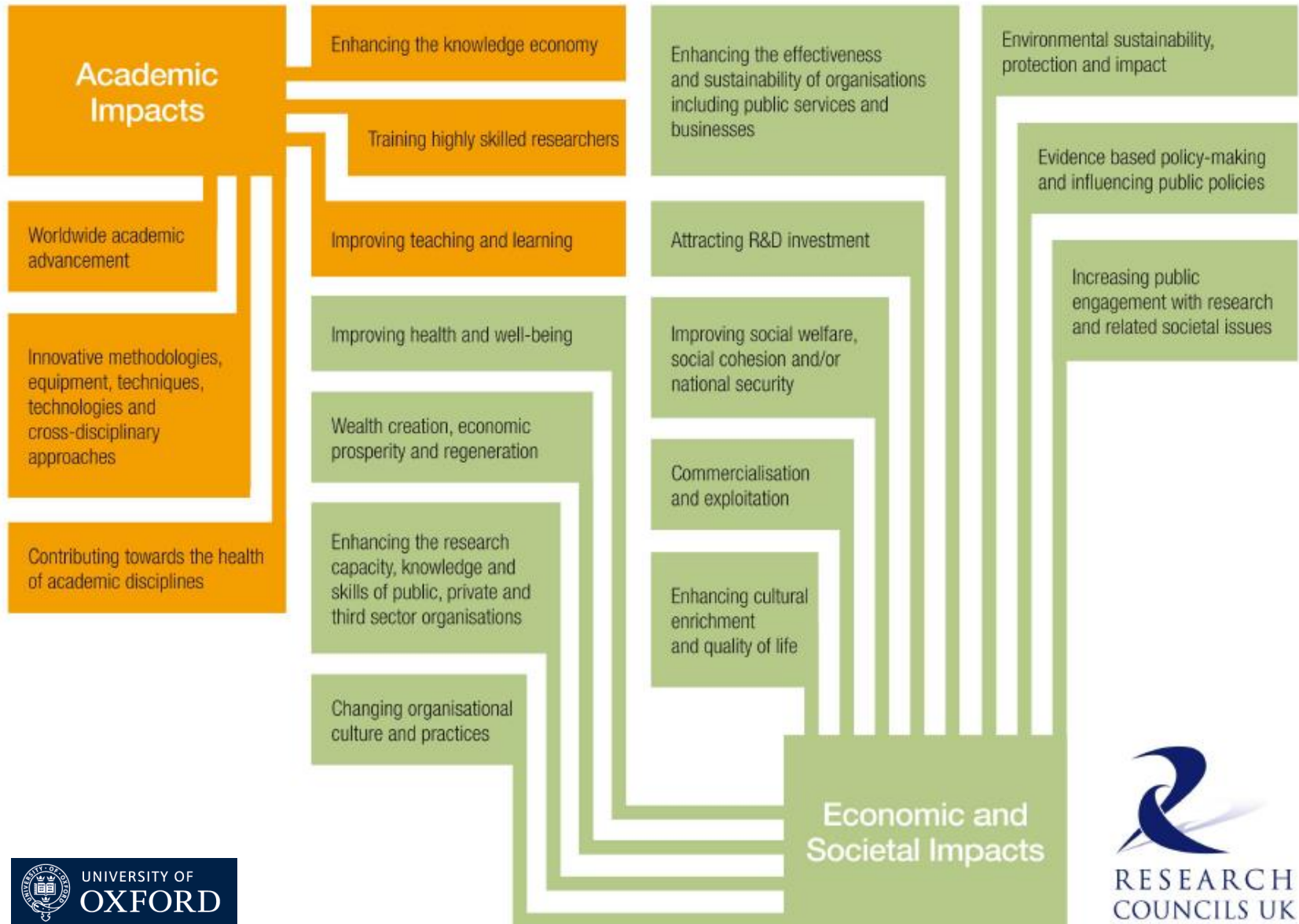
If they see a return, they will keep funding



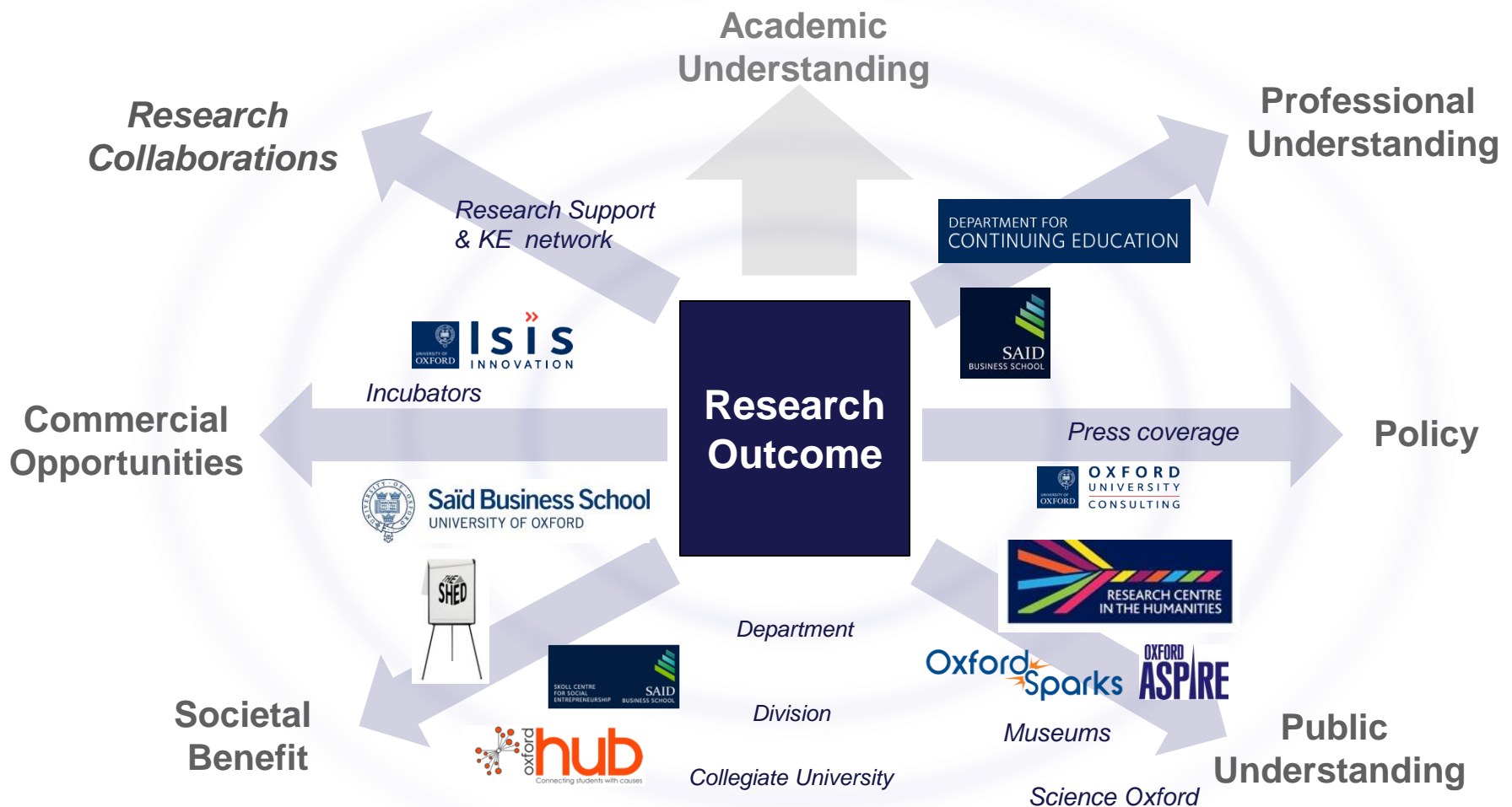
Types of impact



Impact Statements – UK Perspective



Facilitating impact at Oxford



Oxford Impacts



Home > Research > Research impact > Impact case studies

Impact case studies

The Oxford Impacts series celebrates the range of impacts the University has on the world of policy, health, business and culture. All of this is enabled by the world-leading research of Oxford academics. This set of case studies showcases academic research, across a range of subjects, that has had an impact on the world.

If you know of some impact from Oxford research which we should showcase please contact the Knowledge Exchange and Impact Team.

Search Department Division

Research Runder



Managing the risk of surface water flooding

Research by the University of Oxford, in conjunction with the London School of Economics, is playing a key role in combatting one of Britain's most persistent natural hazards.



Improving treatment of speech disorders

An Oxford University researcher has developed a telephone-based system to help clinicians diagnose and treat patients with diseases that affect their voice.



Providing the technology for 'space refrigerators'

Engineers at Oxford have made key improvements to the design of cryocoolers, an important cooling component of satellites, thereby contributing to many successful satellite missions and to reduced launch costs.



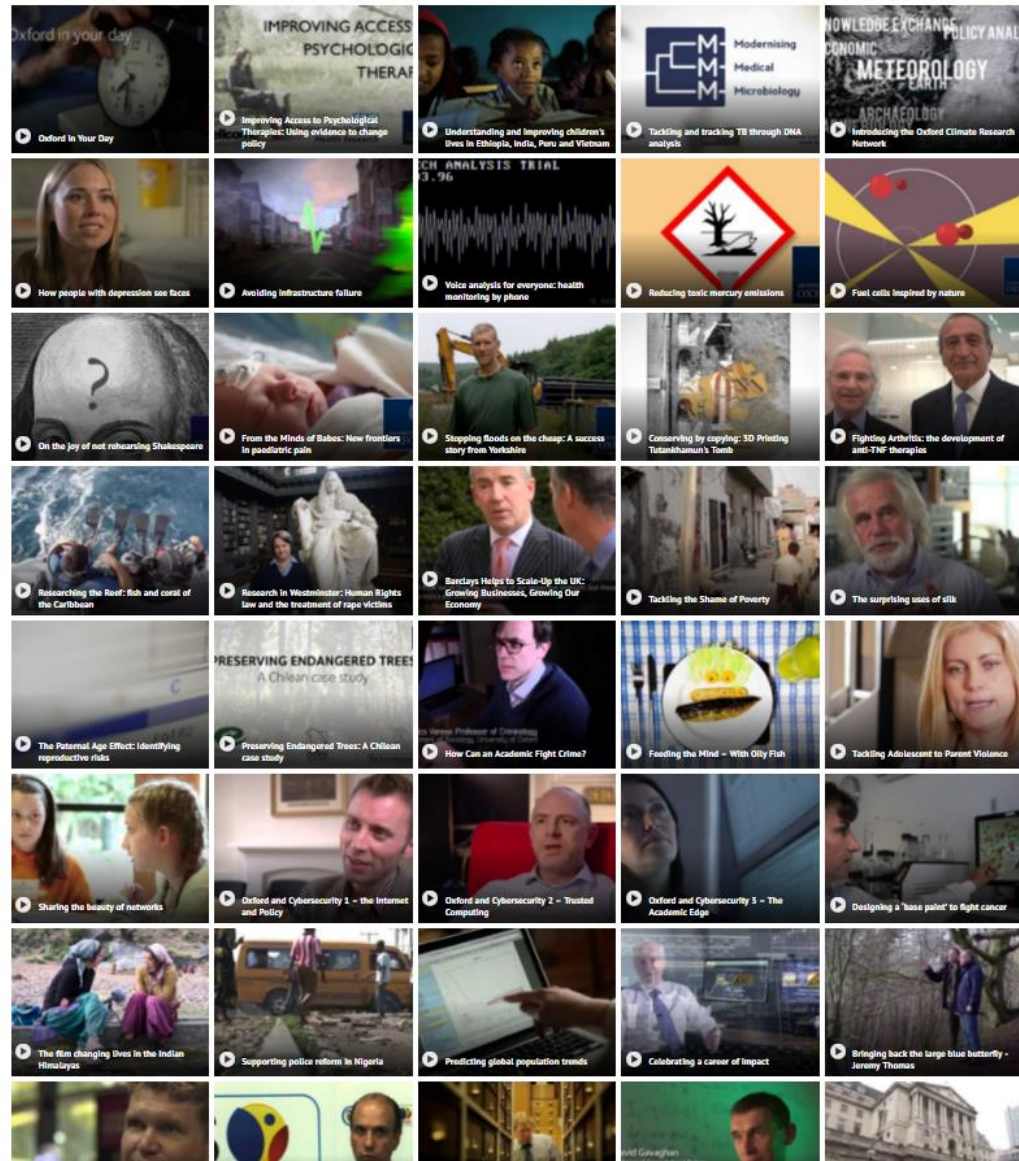
Preserving an exceptional fossil site for future generations

Research carried out at the University of Oxford has helped to demonstrate the extraordinary significance of a fossil site in China for understanding evolution at the time of the Cambrian explosion, culminating in its designation as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2012.

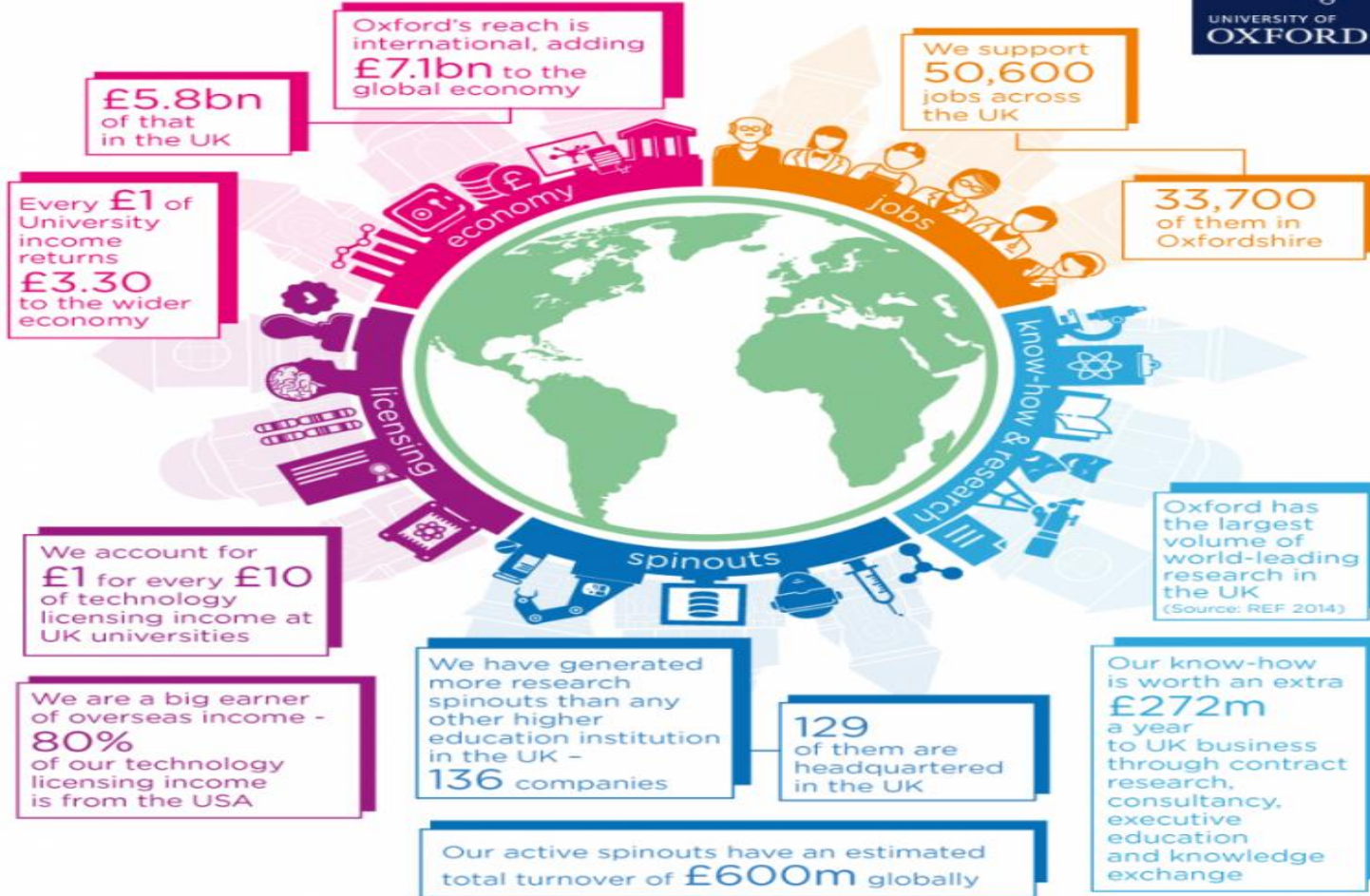


Turning orange into grapefruit

Research in the Department of Chemistry into the action of natural enzymes is finding a commercial application in the global flavours and fragrances market.



Economic Impact of the University of Oxford



All of Oxford's commercialisation activity added **£320m** to the UK economy

Source: BiGGAR Economics report 'Economic Impact of the University of Oxford' (2017). All figures relate to the 2014/15 year and economic contribution is measured as Gross Value Added (GVA). See the full report at: www.ox.ac.uk/economicimpact