

Measuring scientific performance, the CERES method

- Background: need for assessment of productivity, quality and relevance of social science performance, beyond the ISI-tools
- To be used for/by individuals, research groups, research institutes and research schools
- Designed in 2002, tested and further developed in 2003-06; now also used by EADI at the European level (European Association of Development Institutes); to be evaluated in November 2007-February 2008.

Basic principles-1

- It is an input-output assessment method, not an effect or impact assessment method
- Input to be measured in realistic research time spent by different categories of scientists (senior, postdoc, PhD); measurement unit: 100 hours of work.
- Output to be measured by looking at total written research products
- Minimum norm for senior scientists: 3 'CERES' product units per 0.2 fte research input (= 300 hours).
- Products: journal articles (in 5 categories: ABCDE), books and book chapters (same), reports (R), Successfully supervised PhD theses (P), Other products (O) e.g. Films, conference papers, successful research acquisitions etc.

Basic principles-2
and example of CERES credits (single authored products)

	Journals	Books	Book Chapters and Other
A	ISI 1/3 top of domain (eight domains now) 5	Most prestigious publishers 15	4
B	ISI other 2/3 4	Other prestigious publishers 12	3
C	Other using referee system 3	Other, using referee system 9	2
D	Scientific, not refereed 2	Scientific, not refereed 6	1
E	(Mainly) non-scientific 1	(mainly) non-scientific 3	0.7
P	Total supervision team:		PhD thesis Supervision 4
R	Example: 25-100 pp report		Reports 2

Assessment principles

- Productivity: all products valued with CERES credits, divided by fte research time (minimum 15 per 1 fte research time)
- Quality: all ABC and P products valued with CERES credits, divided by fte research time (minimum 10 per 1 fte research time)
- Societal Relevance: all E+R products valued with CERES credits, divided by fte research time (minimum 5 per 1 fte research time)