

Measuring long term impacts of short term projects

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Framing the Future is an ANTA national staff development initiative which has been operating since 1997. During that time, over 320 project teams have been funded, with over 13,000 participants from all parts of the VET sector and from all States/Territories. There has been a huge amount of activity, but can any lasting and long term impacts be measured?

The paper will outline the process used in a long term impact study of Framing the Future, undertaken between October to December 1999 by John Mitchell, from John Mitchell & Associates. The process of identifying and assessing the long term impacts and any likely future strategic impacts likely to emerge during the next few years will be discussed. The challenge of identifying long term impacts of annually funded initiatives, and isolating impacts, which can be attributed to particular initiatives, will also be raised. The paper will explore other possible applications for this research methodology.

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