

Guideline for Non-Traditional Research Outputs NTROs Assessment in Malaysia

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Abstract: The development of Non-traditional Research Outputs (NTROs) guideline is initially driven by the desire to ensure inclusiveness of all researchers from diverse research disciplines especially in arts, humanities and social sciences. As evident from the current ranking assessment, research contributions from these disciplines are not significantly recognized. Globally, efforts to integrate NTROs in the assessment of research output has been fragmented and has not taken the center stage. However, as academic programs have become more eclectic, and research outputs become more diverse, inclusion of NTROs is not only timely but paramount to ensure sustainability of academic excellence. Building upon the NTROs guidelines from University of Sydney and Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA), this technical report outlines how alternative research outputs consisting multidisciplinary applied research and creative and practitioner-based research in arts, humanities and social science could be measured. The guideline development processes was started in August 2021 with a total of four cycles of revisions. Collaborative efforts from technical, public and private universities resulted in a customized NTROs guideline which is based on current non-traditional research outputs mostly found in Malaysian universities. Future technological platforms that might shape future research outputs are included. Eventually, the NTROs guideline consists of FOUR categories of non-traditional outputs which are Original Creative Works, Live Performance Creative Works, Recorded Creative Works and Curated Exhibitions or Events. Recommendation of NTROs equivalence in MyRA Glossary is also included.

Keywords: NTROs, arts, humanities, social sciences

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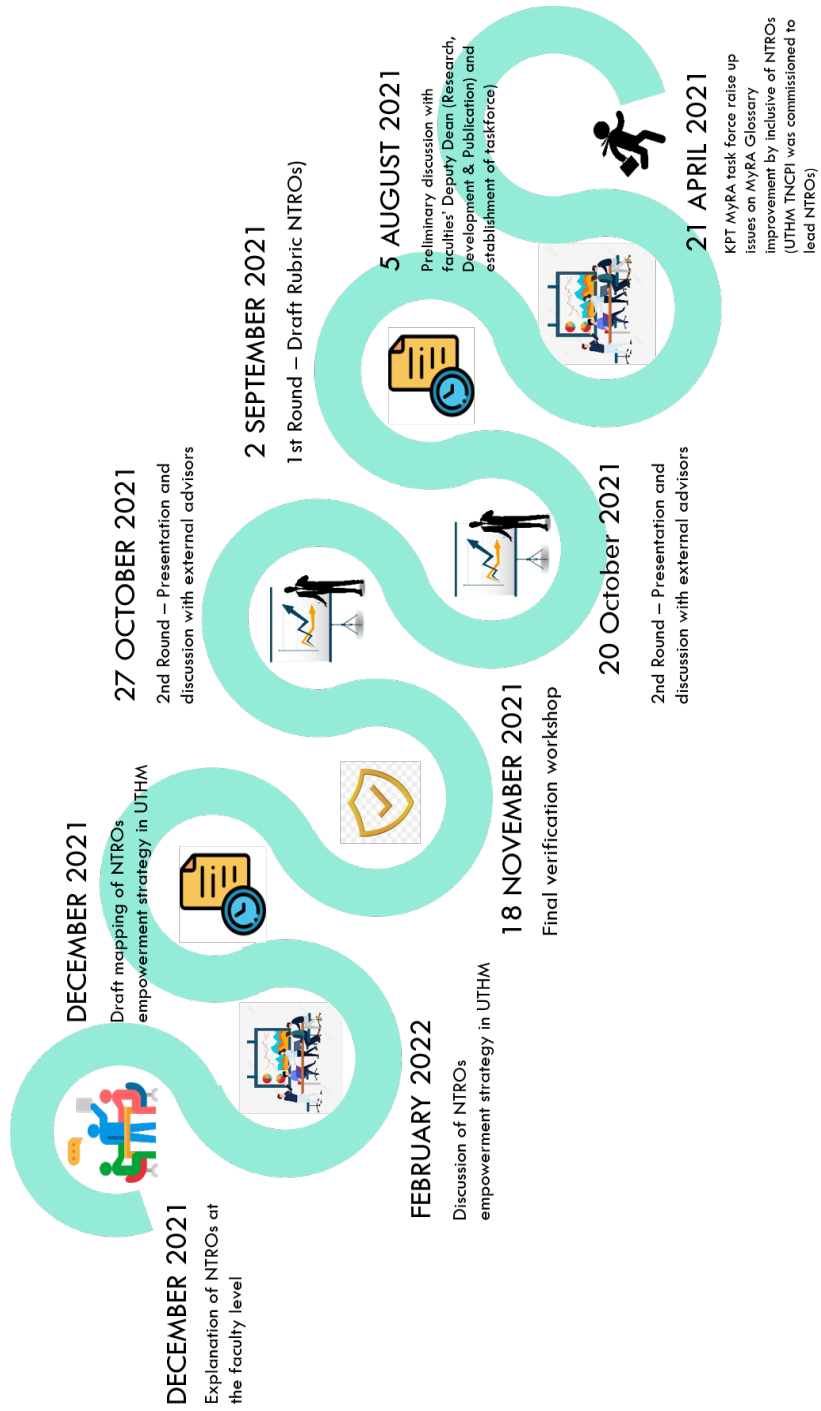
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The development of Non-traditional Research Outputs (NTROs) guideline is initially driven by the desire to ensure inclusiveness of all researchers from diverse research disciplines especially in arts, humanities and social sciences. As evident from the current ranking assessment, research contributions from these disciplines are not significantly recognized. Globally, efforts to integrate NTROs in the assessment of research output has been fragmented and has not taken the center stage. However, as academic programs have become more eclectic, and research outputs become more diverse, inclusion of NTROs is not only timely but paramount to ensure sustainability of academic excellence. Building upon the NTROs guidelines from University of Sydney and Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA), this technical report outlines how alternative research outputs consisting multidisciplinary applied research and creative and practitioner-based research in arts, humanities and social science could be measured. The guideline development processes was started in August 2021 with a total of four cycles of revisions. Collaborative efforts from technical, public and private universities resulted in a customized NTROs guideline which is based on current non-traditional research outputs mostly found in Malaysian universities. Future technological platforms that might shape future research outputs are included. Eventually, the NTROs guideline consists of FOUR categories of non-traditional outputs which are Original Creative Works, Live Performance Creative Works, Recorded Creative Works and Curated Exhibitions or Events. Recommendation of NTROs equivalence in MyRA Glossary is also included.

NTROs RUBRIC DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE AND ACTIVITIES

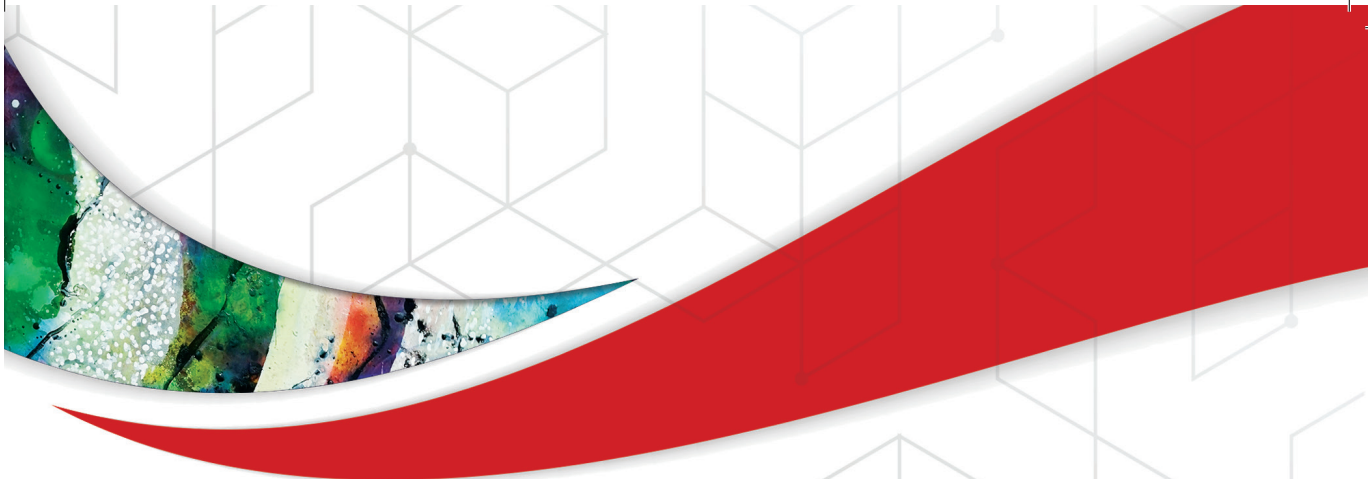




GUIDELINE OF NON-TRADITIONAL RESEARCH OUTPUTS (NTROs)

A. ORIGINAL CREATIVE WORKS

DETAILS	DEFINITION	RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION	RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE	
			EVIDENCE OF EXCELLENCE	EVIDENCE OF PEER REVIEW
Design Works	Realised, constructed, fabricated, or unrealised design and building projects Other types of designs which include; - Architectural Design - Landscape Design - Interior design - Industrial design - Product design - Furniture design - Ceramic design - Textile design - Graphic design - Food design - Fashion design - Props and Stage Design	Advancement or Expansion of Knowledge The creation of new and original works, both realised and unrealised, that extends knowledge and design typologies. OR/AND Innovation Design and architecture that exhibits originality in at least one of the following criteria; - Challenging disciplinary conventions - New and highly innovative approaches/ techniques - Addressing existing issues in new ways - Creating unusual combinations of media/ materials	Documentation in the forms of; - Concept Design - Schematic Design - Scale Design - Model - Prototype - Fabrication AND Evidence that the design works have been disseminated to the public in the forms of; - Creative Commons - Open Source entities - Exhibition or publication in a venue recognized nationally or internationally by peers in the disciplines	At least TWO (2) subject matter experts (at least one must have field experience) endorse in terms of quality and excellence following the rubric as follows; - Originality - Complexity/ Sophistication in structure or scale - Systematic Approach - synthesis or extension of existing concept/ approaches/ repertoire/ inter-relationships - Degree of influence among peers in field - Cultural Significance



NTROs EQUIVALENCES IN MyRA GLOSSARY



PROPOSED NTROs ASSIMILATIONS STRATEGIES IN MyRA

As shown from the current ranking Malaysia Research Assessment Instrument (MyRA), Non-Traditional Research contributions from arts, humanities and social sciences disciplines are not significantly recognized.

To ensure the inclusiveness of Non-traditional Research Outputs (NTROs) in MyRA assessment, there are three (3) NTROs assimilation strategies proposed as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Proposed NTROs Assimilations Strategy in MyRA

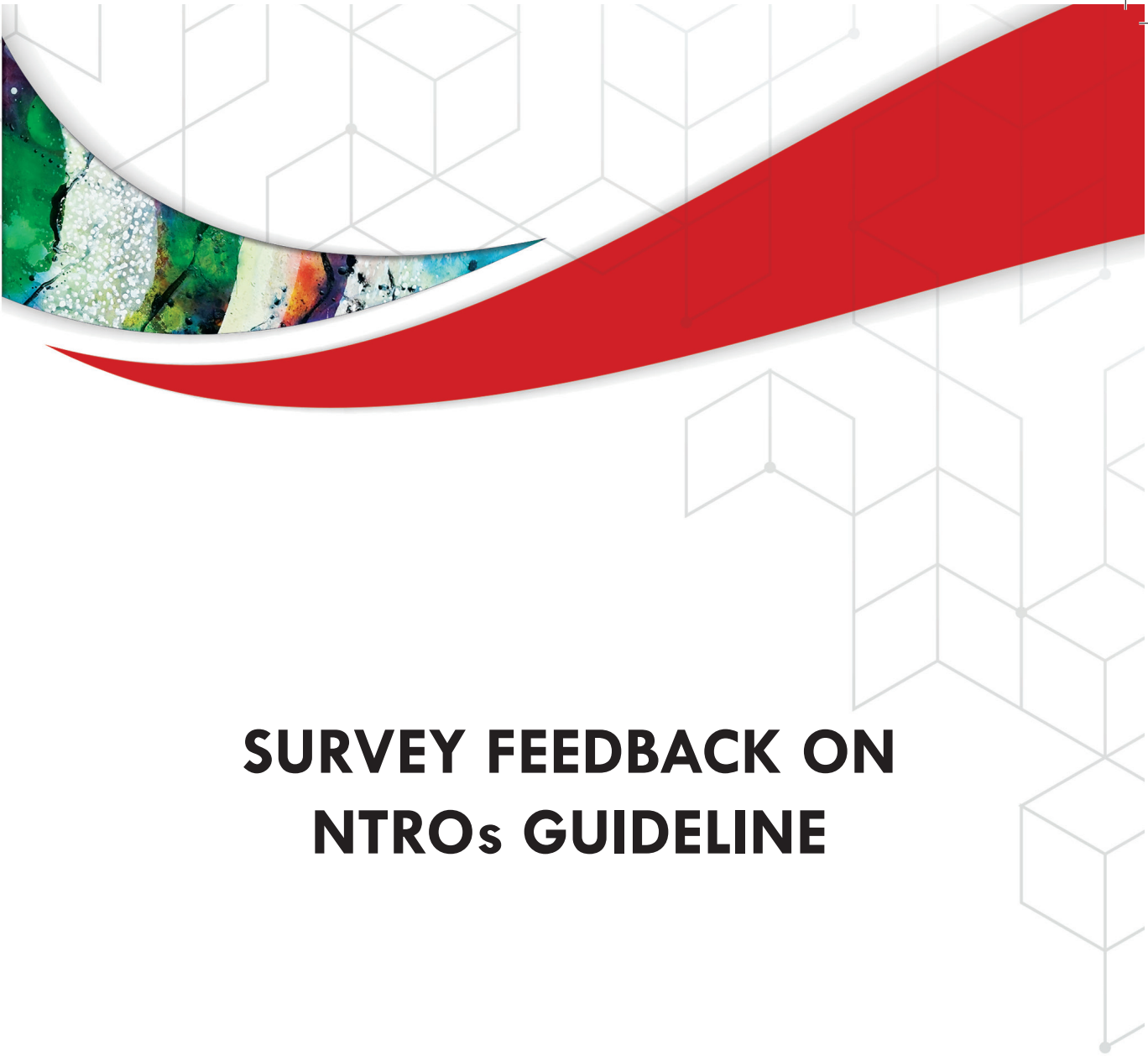
	A: Equivalence in MyRA Glossary	B: Addition of NTROs in E&F Section Only	C: Addition of NTROs in I Section (New)
Involved changes of the MyRA scoring system	X	X	/
Involved changes and addition of MyRA glossary	/	/	/
Enhancement of MyRA rating for non-research universities	/	/	X

The first strategy involved identifying the equivalence of non-traditional research outputs (NTROs) for each sub-section in MyRA. This implies one-to-one alternative for each traditional research outcome and their respective NTROs.

The second strategy involved expansion/addition of glossary for non-traditional research outputs (NTROs) in Section E and Section F only. This strategy would not affect the present MyRA scoring system as changes involved MyRA glossary only. However, it would improve the MyRA rating and scoring for non-research universities.

The last strategy is forming a new Section (Section 1) in MyRA glossary inclusion of non-traditional research outputs. This strategy would significantly change the MyRA scoring system and affect the MyRA rating of universities.

After several discussion, the first strategy was chosen as the best strategy for inclusion of NTROs in MyRA. Recommendation of NTROs equivalence in MyRA Glossary is shown in following pages.



SURVEY FEEDBACK ON NTROs GUIDELINE

PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES IN NTROs GUIDELINE SURVEY

Name of Participating Universities:

1. Research Universities

- i. Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
- ii. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)

2. Public Universities

- i. Akademi Seni Budaya dan Warisan Kebangsaan (ASWARA)
- ii. National Defence University of Malaysia (UPNM)
- iii. Sultan Idris education university (UPSI)
- iv. Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP)
- v. Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK)
- vi. Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
- vii. Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)
- viii. Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)
- ix. Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM)
- x. Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM)

3. Private Universities

- i. University of Nottingham Malaysia
- ii. University of Portsmouth
- iii. Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL)
- iv. Tunku Abdul Rahman University College
- v. UCSI University
- vi. Perdana University
- vii. Manipal International University
- viii. Kolej Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Selangor (KUIS)
- ix. Kolej Universiti Islam Melaka (KUIM)
- x. Kolej Universiti Islam Perlis (KUIPs)
- xi. KPJ University College
- xii. AIMST University



APPENDIX

APPENDIX OF NTROs RUBRIC

APPENDIX A

1. Majlis Rekabentuk Malaysia (MRM)
2. Persatuan Pereka Perindustrian Malaysia (PEREKA)
3. Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)
4. Malaysia Board of Technologists (MBOT)
5. Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kesenian Negara (JKKN)
6. Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM)/ Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia (LAM)
7. Galleries listed in Cultural Economy Development Agency (CENDANA)
8. Balai Seni Negara
9. Kraftangan Malaysia
10. Federation of Malaysian Fashion, Textile and Apparel (FMFTA)

APPENDIX B

1. Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)
2. Malaysia Board of Technologists (MBOT)
3. Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kesenian Negara (JKKN)
4. Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM)/ Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia (LAM)

APPENDIX C

1. Public Performance Malaysia (PPM)
2. Persatuan Karyawan Malaysia (Karyawan)
3. Recording Industry Association of Malaysia (RIM)

APPENDIX D

1. Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)
2. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
3. Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)

SUMMARY

This technical report provides details on the development of NTROs to ensure the inclusiveness of all researchers from various fields. This process has been illuminating and challenging to the taskforces and it is hoped to be recognized as a way forward for a more robust assessment of research output. This report could be used as a guideline for other universities to develop their own measure of NTROs.

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