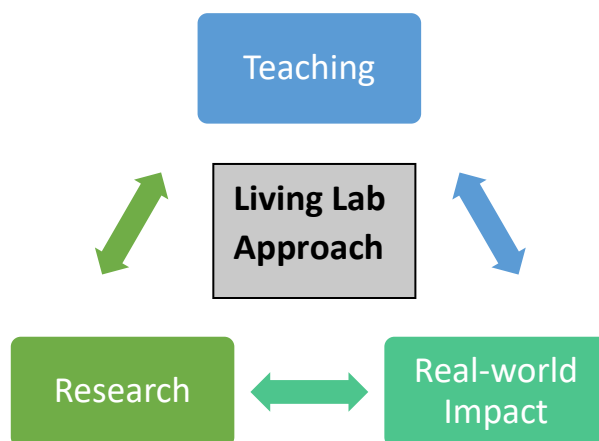


Living Lab approach: thinking tool

A Living Lab approach to sustainable development recognises the added value of integrating three areas of activity (teaching; research; and real-world impact) rather than pursuing these in isolation.

Often this will involve using the university campus as a living lab – for example, conducting a project to improve the efficiency of lighting systems (*real-world impact*) which also forms the focus of *research* (e.g. a PhD student evaluating the new system) and *teaching* (using this case study as the basis of a lecture or possible student projects in courses focussed on energy in buildings). The real-world impact might also take place in DMU's local community (e.g. Leicester) or wider stakeholder or international communities.

This thinking tool recognises that any living lab activity will typically start life mainly in one or two of the areas, and that a useful way to enhance this is to consider extra linkages (e.g. from teaching to research; from research to teaching; from real-world impact to teaching; etc., with six potential linkages to make). An 'ideal' Living Lab approach would demonstrate linkages being made in all six ways, as part of a holistic approach to achieving sustainability benefits.



Project Name		
Project Summary		
Project Lead(s) and Partners		
Current Situation		<i>Consider the nine questions below for your project from each perspective</i>
TEACHING	What is being done?	
	How is this informing research?	
	How is this linking to real-world impact?	
RESEARCH	What is being done?	
	How is this informing teaching?	
	How is this linking to real-world impact?	
REAL-WORLD IMPACT	What is being done?	
	How is this informing teaching?	
	How is this informing research?	
Potential Next Steps		<i>Consider enhancements based upon consideration of the questions above</i>
Next Achievable Steps		
Long-term vision or future actions		

Learn more: [The EAUC Living Lab Guide](#)