



SVA FUNDAMENTALS FOR IMPACT

What does 'effective' look like?

In SVA's work across the sector over the last 15 years, our observation is that despite their best attempts, many funding and social purpose organisations struggle to clearly assess and articulate their effectiveness, and it's hampering their ability to improve their impact.

We've developed the SVA Fundamentals for Impact to help brave leaders and their ambitious organisations to answer critical questions about how effective they are. The SVA Fundamentals are a way to think systematically about the areas that might affect an organisation's ability to create the scale of social change it wants and provide a clear pathway to prioritise and act on that information to do better.



What are the SVA Fundamentals for Impact?

The SVA Fundamentals for Impact are grounded on the collective experience of many global practitioners and experts, international academic evidence on what effective funders and social purpose organisations look like and SVA's own experience in Australia over 15 years.

Developed specifically for the social sector, the SVA Fundamentals for Impact are differentiated from other organisational effectiveness tools. They recognise that effectiveness in this sector is determined by more than just internal capability and must also value being client centred and having a clear engagement with the ecosystem in which organisations and funders operate. In all, there are 15 organisational characteristics that SVA believes - and the evidence shows - are important for effectiveness.



-  CLIENT CENTRED
-  EFFECTIVELY RUN
-  ENGAGED WITH THE ECOSYSTEM

When should I use the SVA Fundamentals for Impact?

There are many applications. Here are just a few ideas to get you started:

- **Assess:** a Trust, government department or Foundation could use the framework to assess potential grantees
- **Diagnose:** a new CEO could use the framework with their leadership team to identify and prioritise areas for improvement
- **Prescribe:** a funding organisation could use the SVA Fundamentals for Impact to realign resources to their mission
- **Measure:** a Board could use the SVA Fundamentals for Impact to help measure their organisation's social impact objectives



How do I use the SVA Fundamentals for Impact?

Download the framework from the SVA website and work through each of the characteristics to choose which description best applies to your organisation. Each of the characteristics is weighted equally as we recognise that the importance of characteristics varies by organisation and points in time.

At the end of the process you'll be provided with an assessment of your effectiveness against each of the characteristics, that you can use to help guide future performance and priorities.



Can you tell me more?

Absolutely. Social Ventures Australia can help you use the SVA Fundamentals for Impact, including how to address the challenges and opportunities the framework might uncover.

Please contact David Peiris on (02) 8004 6751 or dpeiris@socialventures.com.au to discuss your organisation's needs.

About Social Ventures Australia

Social Ventures Australia (SVA) is a social purpose organisation that works with partners to improve the lives of people in need. We focus on keys to overcoming disadvantage in Australia, including great education, sustainable jobs, stable housing and appropriate health, disability and community services.

Our range of services are designed to scale social impact, helping business, government and philanthropists to be more effective funders and social purpose organisation to be more effective at delivering services.

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