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# Social Enterprises: Passionate, value-based business that creates complex, multifaceted value





Social value is often created not just through the stated mission but through many actions and decisions – purchasing, operations, partnerships, informal relationships, hiring, volunteers, location choices, and more. It's important that measurement capture this value creation.

## Is this measurement?





My definition is broader – It represents more systematically tracking things in your organization to use in decisionmaking and communications. It isn't limited to numbers, metrics and targets.

## It's about taking control

## ACCOMPLISHED

MISSION

Measurement has to ultimately make the enterprise stronger and not be a distraction or diversion.

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#### **Social Enterprise Processes & Systems**



## What's realistic? What's a priority?



Measurement can get complex quickly, particularly around impact. It's important to prioritize and focus in on what is most useful for your immediate needs.



# What do you want to know and show?

Start by asking this question. By being precise about what you need and why, it is often fairly easy to work out what to measure and how, and what you already have on hand that is helpful.

## What information is useful?

This lens can help focus what may be important to collect, keeping in mind that as a social enterprise you have objectives related to both financial and social value, and that it is critical to have information to see these 'bottom lines' clearly. It is also important to know if you are sustainable as an organization and are building the systems and capacity to sustain the enterprise in the long term.



## Be clear about audience and use

This lens can help you think about who you are collecting information for. Often it is the same information, but at different resolutions for different audiences.



The next slides are 3 measurement examples with 3 social enterprises working in different areas.

## The Cleaning Solution

#### Examples of what they want to know and show

•Are we growing our customer base while maintaining and nurturing existing customers?

•Are we sustaining and retaining a stable workforce?

•Are our employees receiving the support they need?





#### **Employee Support Provided by the Cleaning Solution**

**Key Performance Indicators** 



## **DreamRider Productions**

Examples of what they want to know and show



Benjamin, Grade One, says "I liked learning about throwing garbage away."



•Are kids developing environmental values?

•Are kids acting on these values?

•Are they encouraging others to act?

•Do teachers see us as valuable educationally?

#### Measurement built into the game:

Feel like real-life Planet Protectors: 83%

Kids turning off lights more: 76% Family turning off lights: 55% Pledge to turn off lights: 89%

#### Teachers are surveyed annually:

100% say we're effective.95% say we're very good/outstanding97.5% say we're very or extremely valuable educationally

## **Comox Valley Farmers Market**

#### Examples of what they want to know and show

#### **Vendor Profile**

Vendor turnover rate: 10% Vendor growth rate: 4% Share regular vendors: 59% Registered vendors: 88 Average number of vendors: 38

#### **Customer Profile**

•75% of customers agree or strongly agree that they reliably find what they are looking for.

#### •Average customer spend: \$43.86

•Are we matching customer needs with supply?

How does the market build community?



"Once you become acquainted with the vendors and shoppers, when you see them in town they are like old friends."

## Performance Snapshot

#### Comox Valley Farmers' Market Overview

#### Market Mission/Vision:

The CVFM is about food and farm and garden products that are produced and/or harvested, locally, with caring hands. It is about social interaction between consumers and local farmers, producers and fishers. It is about community, education and about promoting rural business. And, we will do all of this in a fun, friendly, and safe, family oriented environment.

#### Vendor Criteria:

Custom ers

traveled an

average of

31 km

to the

market

traveled

All products (except fish) must be grown or produced in the Comox or Strathcona Regional District, and must be an agricultural or food product. Vendors must produce what they sell.



Valley Farmers' Market facebook page

Years in Existence	over 20
Market days per year:	67

rs' market is included in the risland Coast Regional e Framework for Action and lley Economic Development gri-Tourism Plan

The Market Numbers			Photo: Cornex V	
<b>Annual Budget (2012):</b> Budget from Operations: Grants, donations, etc:	<b>\$74,400</b> \$65,900 <b>95</b> % \$3,500 <b>5</b> %	Vendor turnover rate: Vendor growth rate: Proportion of regular* vendors: Registered vendors: Average number of vendors:	10% 4% 59% 88 38	Years in Exis Market days The farmers Vancouver I Agriculture
Budget growth from 2011:	19.7%	*Regular yenders attend the market most weeks		Comox Vall Society's Ag
Customer Demographics				



## Not just pretty pictures





What about investors, funders, intermediaries, sector associations...?

1. Support social enterprise capacity and learn from the bottom-up

2. Make the connections and research collective impact

Elaboration of how the measurement needs of investors should connect to the needs of social enterprises



## www.demonstratingvalue.org



ANALYSIS & REPORT TEMPLATES

- Snapshot Examples
- Excel Templates
- Training and support

GUIDES FOR LEADERS AND CONSULANTS

- The "Demonstrating Value Workbook"
- Guide to Financial Intelligence for Social Enterprise
- "Map your information blueprint"
- Guide to privacy and confidentiality in monitoring

RESEARCH ON INDICATORS

- Sector Guides
- Organizational Assessment tools
- Information flow
  assessment
- Relationships with parent orgs

DATA COLLECTION TOOLS

- Data collection tips and methods
- Surveys for customer feedback, client engagement
- Employment support tracking tools
- How to choose a CRM system