

Accelerating Impact Measurement and Management

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Context

Effective impact measurement and management is essential for creating social and environmental impact and to support the increasing flow of global capital seeking to achieve impact objectives. All stakeholders including asset owners, asset managers, beneficiaries and investee companies increasingly require solutions to assess impact progress and performance. Yet the lack of industry coherence and pervasive fragmentation in existing impact measurement and management initiatives can instead result in confusion about which approaches and methodologies are most relevant and meaningful for stakeholders' differing impact objectives..

Initiative Objectives and Impact

There is a clear need for industrywide collaboration to accelerate the efficacy of impact measurement and management now, by working together to move to coherence as much as possible. The first step toward such an objective is to bring together key stakeholders to identify all parties' needs and comprehensively map the landscape of existing initiatives to surface both critical gaps and opportunities for greater coordination.

The World Economic Forum is convening an Accelerating Impact Measurement and Management working group that leverages existing industry initiatives to focus on the meta-architecture of impact measurement and management. The group is aiming to break down the complexity around which approaches are fit for purpose for different impact goals and to explore a holistic convention and toolkit to guide industry players.

Lead Organizations

UBS AG, The International Finance Corporation (IFC), The Rockefeller Foundation, The Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), Bridges Impact+ and The Impact Management

Project, Bridgespan Group, The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), PGGM, APG, The Social Performance Task Force (SPTF), Toniic, PwC, Vital-Capital Group, UN PRI, The OECD, Leapfrog Investments, and B Corporation.

Working Groups

Action Group 1 and 2 work on translating and synthesizing the existing evidence, acknowledging learnings from other disciplines. Their objectives are to find solutions for curating and sharing evidence and syntheses of evidence in a “knowledge hub” available and relevant to the impact investing community. Further, they seek to identify gaps in the evidence base that would be ripe for case study development.

Action Group 3 captures the voice of all those who are affected by the impact/intervention (both during design and throughout the investment). Their objective is to provide guidance on best ways to get stakeholder input in order to promote resource allocation decisions that would be endorsed by all those who may be affected by impact investment/intervention.

Action Group 4 establishes shared conventions and norms based on case studies and existing content. Their objective is to build on, improve and amplify the reach of a shared convention for impact measurement and management, based on consensus emerging under the Impact Management Project.

Action Group 5 aims to develop an organizational structure (connected to norms) that ensures users connect to the most appropriate resource for them and produce a living resource hub that allows for additional tools, techniques and resources to be added over time.

At a later stage, **Action Groups 6 and 7** will focus on developing training programmes that build capacity and safeguarding industry integrity respectively.

Contact

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