

Presentation for the Canberra Evaluation Forum - Social Return on Investment (SROI)

Indigenous Justice Programme

16th July 2016

SROI is a principles based approach

- SROI can help you manage, plan and make decisions to increase the **value created** for your **stakeholders** by your activities
- SROI can be used to **forecast** or to **evaluate** the value of any activity
- At its core, it seeks to 1) **understand** 2) **measure** and 3) **value what matters**
- An **SROI ratio** compares the investment made in an activity, program or organisation to the value generated by that investment – consider it as a **full stop!**

SROI PRINCIPLES	
1	Understand what changes
2	Involve stakeholders
3	Value the things that matter
4	Only include what is material
5	Do not overclaim
6	Be transparent
7	Verify results

Context and objectives

Through the Indigenous Justice Programme (IJP), PM&C funds community organisations to deliver prisoner throughcare, crime prevention, and diversion projects

PM&C engaged SVA Consulting to conduct three forecast Social Return on Investment (SROI) of IJP-funded projects to:

1. Build evidence about the outcomes of the funded projects
2. Build the capacity of the department and service providers to analyse, verify and communicate the outcomes being achieved through funded projects

The three projects analysed:



Helping Hand and Linking Youth (Inverell – NSW)
\$216k PM&C investment 2014-15



Drum Atweme (Alice Springs – NT)
\$175k PM&C investment 2014-15



Youth Prevention and Diversion (Smithton – Tasmania)
\$140k PM&C investment 2014-15

The SROI process

STEPS IN THE SROI PROCESS	APPROACH
1	Scope and investment period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forecast analysis over the next five years (FY15-FY19) IJP-funded activities
2	Stakeholder engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted interviews with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded organisations Young people and their families Schools and community service providers Police and juvenile justice Reviewed performance reports and data
3	Understanding what changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a theory of change for the objectives of the IJP (reduction in Indigenous offending, increased community safety) with PM&C Used program logic to identify common outcomes across the projects for participants, their families, organisations and the community
4	Measuring what changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the experiences of past and current participants, estimated the number of people and organisations experiencing the outcomes
5-9	Valuing what changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ascertained importance of outcomes during stakeholder consultations Used revealed preferences/replacement valuation technique to place a financial proxy on the outcomes Calculated the projected investment in the projects

The results for the forecast SROI analyses (remember that the SROI ratio is a full stop – you need to know the story behind the numbers)



Helping Hand and Linking Youth
(Inverell – NSW)

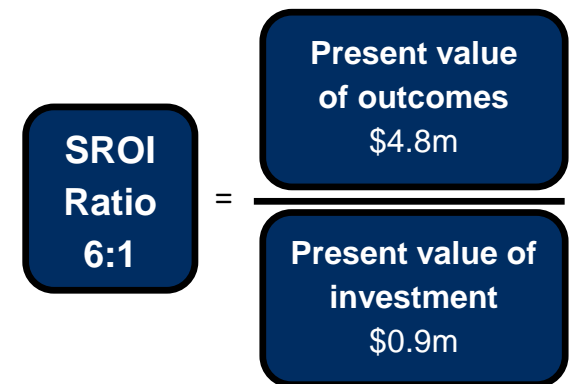
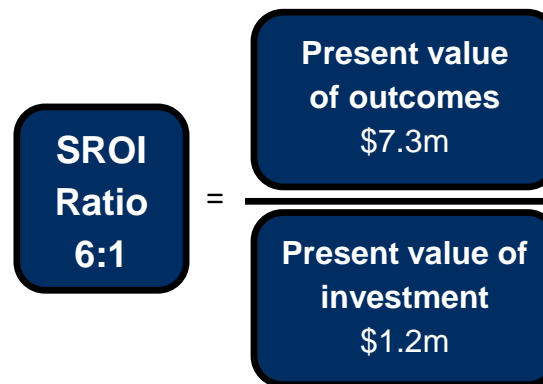
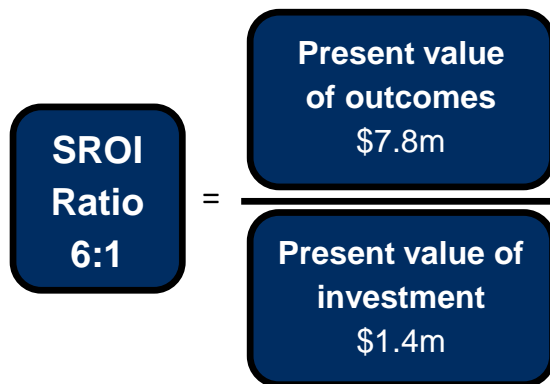


TANGENTYERE COUNCIL

Drum Atweme
(Alice Springs – NT)



Youth Prevention and Diversion
(Smithton – Tasmania)



Reflections on the assurance process

- The assurance of reports is based on the SROI principles and the judgments made by the practitioner
- The peer review was important and supported a better analysis and report
- There were some discrepancies in the judgments made by the SVA team and the assessors. This is to be expected as the methodology evolves
- Since the IJP SROI reports were completed, there have been significant changes made to the assurance process. This includes a revised checklist for assurers and a new process for assessment

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