

SVI Social Value and Impact Management Exam Details and Reading list

The Social Value and Impact Management exam is testing knowledge of social value and impact management in line with the SVI Framework and underpinned by the Social Value Principles. The exam addresses all knowledge that a practitioner would need to address the assurance standard criteria in a social value analysis.

The exam is split into 6 sections mirroring the modules of the Accredited SROI and Social Value Practitioner Training and the sections of the Practitioner Package online resources. (More details on Practitioner Package available here:

The full framework for all learning points that will be covered by the exam (modules of training, and intended learning outcomes, principles, impact questions and assurance criteria) is outlined below:

Exam Section	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6
Accredited Training Module title	Module 1 – Purpose and scope of impact management	Module 2 - Identifying stakeholders and outcomes	Module 3 - Measuring the amount of changes	Module 4 - Valuing changes to outcomes	Module 5 - From outcomes to impact, how to avoid overclaiming	Module 6 - Calculations, aggregation, reporting & embedding
Intended learning outcomes of training course module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remind as to the purpose of impact management Identify the impact questions needed to account for impact Understand the convergence between the impact questions and the dimensions of impact Purpose, scope and audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address impact questions WHO changes for WHAT outcomes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address impact questions HOW MUCH the outcomes have changed Address impact question HOW MUCH time to measure change in outcomes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address impact question WHAT is the importance of the changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address impact question what is the CONTRIBUTION made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the calculations for social impact results and how to report Discuss challenges and solutions to aggregating to manage impacts

Principle	Overview of SVI Framework. Overview of social value and impact management	Principle 1: Involve Stakeholders Principle 2: Understand what Changes Principle 4: Only include what is material - focus on relevance	Principle 2: Understand what changes Principle 4: Only Include what is Material (referenced)	Principle 3: Value the things that matter Principle 4: Only Include what is Material (referenced)	Principle 5: Do not overclaim Principle 4: Only include what is material - focus on significance	Principle 3: Value the things that matter Principle 6: Be Transparent Principle 7: Verify the result
Impact Question	Intro to impact questions 1 & 2	3, 4 and 10	5, 6 and 7	8	9 and 10	
Assurance Standard criteria (please read assurance standard) LINK TO CRITERIA	Scope and purpose 2.1 Scope	1.1 Identification of stakeholder groups 1.2 Stakeholders involved in defining outcomes (qualitative phase) 2.2 Defining Outcomes 2.3 Context of outcomes 4.1 Inclusion or exclusion of stakeholder groups	2.4 Defining Indicators 2.5 Measuring the amounts (quantities) of change 2.6 Completeness of the information 5.4 Drop off and Duration	3.1 Valuing the inputs 3.2 Valuing the outcomes 3.1 Considering the relative importance of outcomes (for social value reports)	1.3 Stakeholder involvement in establishing the levels of attribution, drop off, deadweight and displacement of outcomes 5.1 Counterfactual (Deadweight) 5.2 Attribution 5.3 Displacement 4.2 Materiality of outcomes	3.3 Calculating the SROI 4.3 Sector specific or 'relevant' outcomes 5.5 Risk factors 6.1 Consistency of information 6.2 Sensitivity analysis 6.5 Transparency 7.1 Stakeholder involvement in reviewing and verifying the result
Recommended Reading	The Guide to SROI: Introduction Pg 7-15 Maximise Your Impact – A Guide for Social Entrepreneurs: Before you Start section – Pg 16-23 , and Stage 4: Revise – Pg 106-123	Standard on applying Principle 1: Involve stakeholders The Guide to SROI: Stage 1 and 2 – Pg 16-33 Maximise Your Impact Guide: Stage 1: Business Planning – Pg 26-59	Standard on applying Principle 2: Understand what changes (Part 1) The Guide to SROI: Stage 2 and 3 – Pg 28-53 Maximise Your Impact Guide: Stage 2: Do – Pg 61-88	Standard on applying Principle 3: Value the things that matter Value Game document The Guide to SROI: Stage 3 – Pg 36-53 Maximise Your Impact Guide: Stage 2: Do and Stage 3: Assess– Pg 61-105	Standard on applying principle 4: Only include what is material The Guide to SROI: Stage 4 – Pg 54-63 Maximise Your Impact Guide: Stage 2: Do and Stage 3: Assess– Pg 61-105	The Guide to SROI: Stage 5 and 6 – pg 64-78 Maximise Your Impact Guide: Stage 4: Revise – Pg 106-123

Key Reading

Key resources to review for preparation for the exam can be found on the Standards and Guidance page on the SVI site: <https://socialvalueint.org/social-value/standards-and-guidance/> - It is recommended to review the following resources ahead of sitting the exam:

- Standard on applying Principle 1: Involve stakeholders
- Standard on applying Principle 2: Understand what changes (Part 1)
- Standard on applying Principle 3: Value the things that matter
- Standard on applying principle 4: Only include what is material
- The Guide to SROI
- Maximise Your Impact – A Guide for Social Entrepreneurs
- Report Assurance Standard - December 2017
- Value Game document
- The Principles of Social Value
- The Principles – Accountability and Maximising Social Value

PLEASE NOTE: This list is not exhaustive and there is much wider reading that can be done to support your learning. A good place to begin looking for this is the Social Value Library: <http://www.socialvalueuk.org/resources/resources/>

Other resources for preparation:

All members of Social Value International (directly, or through a Joint Member Network) have access to the SVI Members Area. In this area there is a Webinar Library: <https://socialvalueint.org/members-area/webinar-library/>

It is recommended to watch AT LEAST the following 2 webinars:

- Ten Impact Questions
- The Principles of Social Value

There are also training resources that can assist in preparation:

- Introduction to Social Value and SROI training course (available online as live or pre-recorded webinars)
- Practitioner package (available for members of SVI)
- Social Value and SROI Accredited Practitioner training course or Impact Management for Enterprises Training Course (coming soon in 2020)

PLEASE NOTE: It is not mandatory to undertake any of the above, however SVI highly recommends engaging with AT LEAST 1 of the training courses / resources outlined above as well as reviewing the recommended reading list BEFORE sitting the exam.

Exam Logistics

- Payment for your application and the exam is made through the exam website. Payment gives you access to the exam and so should only be made when you are ready to sit the exam.
- The exam has a time limit of 2 hours
- The questions are a mixture of multiple choice, explanatory text answers (with a word limit of 100 words), and calculations. Answers have either 1 or 2 marks attached (this is detailed on the exam).
- There are between 7 – 15 questions in each section.

Pass mark:

- The pass mark for the exam is 70%. It is necessary to get at least 50% in each section of the exam.
- Applicants can sit the exam again for free within one month if they get between 60% and 70%
- Applicants have failed if they get below 50%
- Applicants will receive a feedback form on their results with detail on the areas where there is need for improvement.

Wider Reading for Interest:

- BSI Standard on Maximising Value: <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/projects/2018-02876#/section>
- Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/3/enacted>
- Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/12/contents>
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: <https://futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>
- The Spirit Level: Why More Equal Societies Almost Always Do Better, Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson, Penguin; New Edition edition (4 Nov. 2010)
- Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist, Kate Raworth, Random House Business (6 April 2017)
- There Is No Planet B: A Handbook for the Make or Break Years, Mike Berners-Lee, Cambridge University Press (28 Feb. 2019)