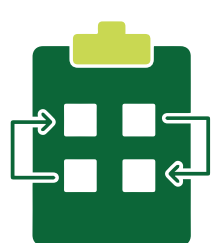


Tshikululu's Top 10 Post-Covid Tips for Social Investors



Although the Covid-19 pandemic will eventually pass, its impact will be felt for years to come. Social investors should be thinking right now about how their work must change going forward. Here are 10 tips to help guide your discussions.



Tip 1: Scenario Planning

Start a financial scenario-planning review on your funding availability and programme expenditure and resourcing requirements (low, medium and high road) over the next 12, 24 and 36 months. If you are a corporate foundation, this scenario planning should be done in direct partnership with the business.

Tip 2: Stay Flexible

No one knows what the future holds. Build flexibility into your partner agreements to allow for repurposing of funding, changing tactics, etc. as the pandemic – and its consequences – play out.



Tip 3: Broader Impact

Take time to do some deep thinking about how Covid-19 will impact on the entire sector/system where you focus, so that you are better prepared to respond.

Tip 4: Foster Resilience

The pandemic has required all of us to be resilient in different ways. How can you support your partners to be even more resilient and agile in our new world, whether through technology support, capacity-building activities or other strategies?



Tip 5: Be Patient

The pandemic's consequences are going to be with us for a long time, so be patient. Don't throw all your funding into emergency responses now, but keep some "powder dry" as things evolve in the coming months and years.

Tip 6: Founding Documents

Does your founding document allow for flexibility to respond to extraordinary circumstances when necessary? Do you need to make any amendments to it?



Tip 7: Data, Data, Data

The pandemic has made it even more undeniable that access to data is both the present and future. Without it, inequality only worsens. How can you strengthen data access for low-income communities and individuals through your social investments?

Tip 8: Remember Inclusion

Not only are the most excluded population groups usually hit hardest by crises like this, but they are often the first to be forgotten when social investment decisions need to happen quickly as well. Use this as a reminder to never forget to drive inclusion throughout your strategies.



Tip 9: Innovative M&E

Restrictions on movement and face-to-face interaction are an opportunity to explore, test, accelerate and embed innovative – and perhaps more efficient – evaluation and data collection techniques.



Tip 10: Document Learning

Invest in properly evaluating the effects of Covid-19 on your organisation – as well as the partners you support – including documenting lessons learnt from what is a real Black Swan event.

