Community economies tool for social enterprises

Developing the tool

In this study, we applied a diverse economies approach to understand different dimensions of wellbeing. We found that social enterprises contribute to the economy of communities, beyond capitalist commercial understandings.

This tool is adapted from Gibson-Graham et al. (2014) and enables social enterprises to understand how their work aligns with the diverse economies movement.

How might you use this tool?

This tool can be used to assess diverse forms of wellbeing in/from social enterprises.

It is important that different points of view are captured, so if undertaking this activity make sure a representative group from across the different levels of the organisation has the opportunity to take part. The experience and perspectives of managers will differ from the perspectives and experiences of frontline staff.

On the basis of this assessment, the organisation can develop a profile of how well it is doing in supporting the wellbeing of employees, staff, and contributing to the wellbeing of the wider community. The outcomes can be used to inform programming for the future. Using the wellbeing score card, you can rank how well the organisation is doing across the different wellbeing dimensions.

Through this exercise, consider the role that different forms of work play in achieving each dimension of wellbeing (and even whether some forms of work undermine the ability to achieve some dimensions of wellbeing).

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Type of Wellbeing	Poor	Sufficient	Excellent
To what extent does the social enterprise help to create these different dimensions of wellbeing?	☐	☐	☐
Material: having resources to meet basic needs & being satisfied with these	☐	☐	☐
Occupational: a sense of enjoyment in what we do each day	☐	☐	☐
Social: having close personal relationships and a supportive social network	☐	☐	☐
Community: involvement in community activities	☐	☐	☐
Physical: good health and a safe living environment	☐	☐	☐
Psychological and Spiritual: sense of self and place in the world	☐	☐	☐