

Innovation in Social Impact Measurement

Form Preview

Overview

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Thank you for entering the 2026 SIMNA Awards!

Innovation in Social Impact Measurement

To be in the running for this award please complete and submit this application form. The questions relate to the judging criteria, so you are encouraged to complete all sections.

Eligibility

Organisations may apply multiple times. However, you may only be considered for **one** category in the 2026 SIMNA Awards for **each project or initiative**. This form is for the **Innovation in Social Impact Measurement** Award.

The Innovation in Social Impact Measurement Award celebrates new, creative, and contextually grounded approaches that meaningfully enhance how impact is collected, analysed and used. This includes innovative methodologies, tools, technology-enabled solutions and the embedding or adaptation of First Nations knowledge systems. This category drives thoughtful experimentation, values diverse ways of knowing, being and doing, encourages future-focused practice, and supports adaptation to emerging challenges. Approaches may be in the planning/design phase, pilot stage, or further progressed.

Judges will look for:

- A novel, adapted or contextually grounded approach, methodology, or tool with a clear rationale
- Ethical, culturally responsive, and responsible use of data and technology
- Evidence that the innovative approach adds genuine value, such as improving efficiency, accuracy, equity, insight or cultural relevance
- Participatory or adaptive design elements integrated into the initiative.

If you want to submit an application for a different award category, please click on the correct link on the [SIMNA Awards home page](#). If you have any questions about the categories, please contact SIMNA's Executive Officer, Laura Glynn, at laura@simna.com.au.

Supporting documents

In addition to the word limits, you may attach either:

- a five-page document (A4, 10pt or equivalent) containing a logic model/theory of change, images, graphics, and supporting evidence; or
- a five-minute video presentation.

Judges are only asked to review supporting information within these limits. Anything beyond that may not be considered.

Contact details

Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

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Organisation *

Organisation Name

Job title *

Email address *

Must be an email address.

This is the email address we will use for any updates about your entry.

Phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

About your organisation / initiative

Initiative name *

Initiative / project phase *

How far progressed is your social impact measurement initiative?

Primary location

Address

Explanatory notes on location (if needed)

For example multiple sites, Australia wide.

Key individuals and organisations who have contributed *

Background of the project or initiative, what changed and for whom as a result, and your social impact measurement approach *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

This question isn't scored, it's here to give context on your work and your approach to social impact measurement. If you're shortlisted as a finalist, your response to this question will be used in Awards communications. Let us know if you'd like us to use alternative copy instead.

Judging process

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The SIMNA Awards celebrate those that have undertaken high quality social impact measurement AND are using social impact measurement to improve decision-making.

Because of this, judging is conducted in two parts:

1. **Purpose and pitch** - This considers the extent to which the social impact measurement work is outstanding in its specific category and the degree to which decision-making and the delivery of social outcomes is (or will be) influenced by the results.
2. **Technical quality** - This considers the technical rigour which is evident in the project and the general application of the [Principles of Social Value](#).

Need inspiration or examples?

The [Social Value International](#) website includes supporting information for each Principle.

- Visit the website
- Expand the Principles
- For each Principle, click 'Learn more'

Good luck!

Purpose and pitch

* indicates a required field

Q1. What's the intended purpose of this social impact measurement work? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Judges will take into account the degree to which innovation is evident in the stated purpose of the social impact measurement work. In your answer, please explain how the approach adds genuine value, such as improving efficiency, accuracy, equity, insight or cultural relevance.

Q2. Why should your work win this award? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Reflect on what makes your approach innovative, the significance of the innovation and the contribution it makes to the future of social impact measurement.

Application and quality

* indicates a required field

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Q3. Who are your stakeholders and how are you involving them in your social impact measurement work? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Judges will take into account the degree to which the entry has engaged and responded to stakeholders (especially those who experience change). This relates to [Principle 1](#).

Q4. How have you articulated and evidenced the change created through your organisation's activities? How will are you verifying these results? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Judges will take into account the methodologies used and how the findings were verified. This relates to [Principles 2 and 7](#).

Q5. How did you determine what was important to measure and what to include in your findings? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Judges will take into account the degree to which the entry has considered material information and evidence to value what matters to stakeholders. This relates to [Principles 3 and 4](#).

Q6. How openly are you sharing and communicating the findings of this impact measurement work? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Judges will evaluate the extent to which the entry presents a clear and effective plan for communicating results to stakeholders, with an emphasis on ensuring accurate and honest reports. If the project is at a more advanced stage, please detail the measures already taken to openly communicate and share the work with stakeholders. This aligns with [Principle 6](#).

Q7. How is this impact measurement work being used in decision-making? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Judges will take into account the degree to which findings are actually being used in decision-making on areas such as strategy, program design and resource allocation. This relates to [Principle 8](#).

Supporting documentation

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You may submit one supporting document or link to support your application. This will not receive a score but will be read in conjunction with the overall application. This is not mandatory nor necessary for a winning entry!

You may attach either:

- a five-page document (A4, 10pt or equivalent) containing a logic model/theory of change, images, graphics, and supporting evidence; or
- a five-minute video presentation.

Judges are only asked to review supporting information within these limits. Anything beyond that may not be considered.

Attach files (optional)

Attach a file:

A maximum of 1 file may be attached.

Provide link (optional)

Must be a URL.

If the document or video is too large to upload into the form, you can upload it elsewhere and share a link.

Submission

Please ensure you submit your application. Once you have submitted it, you will receive an email with a PDF of your completed form attached.

What happens next? You'll hear from us with the outcome of your application by early November. Shortlisted finalists will be invited to produce a short pitch video (no more than 60 seconds) to share at the Awards Ceremony. This video isn't judged - it's simply your chance to share more about your social impact measurement initiative.