



CENTRE
for **SOCIAL**
IMPACT



ONLINE PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

The CSI Social Economy Survey: annual insights from Australia's not-for-profit and social impact organisations

1. What is the research study about?

Researchers at the Centre for Social Impact are conducting a national project that aims to build our understanding of the Australian for-purpose sector over the next 3 years. There is growing global interest in this sector, increasingly referred to as the 'social economy', because of its potential to address societal challenges and contribute to sustainable economic growth. The social economy, as a sector, is not currently well-understood, either within Australia or globally. This research aims to fill this gap by conducting an annual survey of the social economy in Australia over the next 3 years.

You are invited to take part in this research study. You have been invited because you are a CEO or senior manager of an organisation that forms part of the Australian social economy. Your contact details were obtained from the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission's Public Register, a public website, an industry association or through the Centre for Social Impact mailing list, or were provided by you in response to an advertisement.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

Title & Full Name	Institution/School
Associate Professor Melissa Edwards	Centre for Social Impact/University of NSW
Professor Danielle Logue	
Dr Ariella Meltzer	
Dr Dongju Lee	
Dr Gillian McAllister	
Dr Tran Nguyen	
Michelle Cripps	
Dr Andrew Joyce	Centre for Social Impact/Swinburne University of Technology
Emma Riseley	Centre for Social Impact/University of Western Australia
Professor Paul Flateau	
Dr Leanne Lester	
Zoe Callis	Centre for Social Impact/Flinders University
Professor Ian Goodwin-Smith	
Kelly McKinley	

Research Funder: This research is being funded by the Centre for Social Impact National Executive strategic funds, as well as philanthropic funds from the Paul Ramsay Foundation and Allan and Gill Gray Philanthropy Australasia.

3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

You are eligible to participate in this research if you are a CEO or senior manager, you are 18 or over, and your organisation meets one of the following criteria:

1. Your organisation is a registered charity or not-for-profit organisation.
2. Your organisation is a social enterprise.
3. Your organisation is a philanthropic or grant-making organisation that funds for-purpose activity.
4. Your organisation is a co-operative or mutual.

4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage. If

you withdraw from the study, you have the right to have any unprocessed data withdrawn and destroyed provided it can be reliably identified. However, it may not be possible to withdraw your data from the study results if these have already had your identifying details removed.

5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you decide to take part in the research study, we will ask you to complete an online survey. The survey will ask you questions aimed at understanding how organisations in the sector currently interact, and how collaboration can best be encouraged and supported. The survey will also ask for your perspective on anticipated future issues and risks for the sector. It should take approximately 30 minutes to complete. You will be asked to complete this survey once a year, for three years.

We will also ask you to provide your organisation's ABN and your own contact details. These are necessary in light of the longitudinal nature of the research: we need to be able to contact the identical organisations for each of the 3 survey rounds. Your organisation's ABN may also be used to link with publicly available information, such as that held in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission's Public Register. However, these details will be stored separately from your survey responses and neither you nor your organisation will be identified in any reports or publications arising from the research.

There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid. However, all participating organisations will be invited to join us in pre-release workshops, where we will present our initial findings for review and discussion, ahead of the finalisation and launch of a public report. Participating organisations will also have the opportunity to nominate topics to be considered for inclusion in future rounds of the survey.

6. What are the possible benefits to participation?

We expect to use information from this research study to benefit others who manage social economy organisations and the broader community they serve. The findings will provide guidance to policy makers and industry organisations as to where the sector might need support to manage anticipated future risks. It will also provide a mechanism for sharing knowledge across the sector on successful approaches to cross-sector collaboration. At the end of the three-year study, your organisation has the option to receive a private individualised report outlining a high-level summary of your organisation's responses compared to the aggregated, anonymous dataset, intended to help you understand your responses compared to other social economy organisations.

7. What will happen to information about my organisation?

Submission of the online questionnaire is an indication of your consent. By clicking the 'I agree to participate' button you are providing your permission for the research team to collect and use information about your organisation for the research study.

The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for a minimum of 5 years after the publication of the research results.

The information about your organisation will be stored in a re-identifiable format where any identifiers such as your name and contact details, and the name of your organisation, will be replaced with a unique code.

Information collected from you in an electronic format will be stored on a UNSW password protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the UNSW Privacy Management Plan.

8. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team intends to publish and report the results of the research. All information will be published in a way that will not identify you, except for in the individualised report which will be provided privately only to your organisation.

As mentioned above, if you complete the survey, you will be invited to a pre-release workshop, where initial findings from the survey will be presented for discussion. You will also be emailed a copy of the final public report from the survey.

9. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you withdraw your consent before completing the questionnaire, your data will not be included in the study. If you decide to leave the research study after completing the questionnaire, you can do so by completing the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' which is provided at the end of this document. Alternatively, you can ring the research team and tell them you no longer want to participate. Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study, will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney, the Centre for Social Impact, the Paul Ramsay Foundation or Allan and Gill Gray Philanthropy Australasia. If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You can request that any identifiable information about your organisation be withdrawn from the research project. However, it may not be possible to withdraw your data from the study results if these have already had identifying details removed.

10. What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Number	Reference HC230440

11. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Team Contact

Name	Dr Tran Nguyen
Position	Research Officer, Centre for Social Impact, UNSW
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Name	Emma Riseley
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Name	Zoe Callis
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Name	Kelly McKinley
Position	Research Assistant, Centre for Social Impact, Flinders University
Telephone	+61 8 8201 7524
Email	Kelly.mckinley@flinders.edu.au

Chief Investigator

Name	Associate Professor Melissa Edwards
Position	Research and Innovation Director, Centre for Social Impact, UNSW
Telephone	+61 2 9348 2167
Email	melissa.edwards2@unsw.edu.au

Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

By checking the 'I agree/start questionnaire' option below:

- I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study;
- I have read the Participant Information Sheet, or it has been provided to me in a language that I understand;
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- I provide my consent for the information collected about my organisation to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- I understand that if necessary, I can ask questions and the research team will respond to my questions.
- I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members. However, I understand that it may not be possible to withdraw my data from the study results if these have already had identifying details removed.
- I understand that the results of the research will be made available publicly, including on the Centre for Social Impact website.
- I understand that I can download a copy of this consent form from the following website: [The CSI Social Economy Survey | CSI](#)

I agree, start questionnaire

Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to WITHDRAW my consent to participate in this research study described above and understand that such withdrawal WILL NOT affect my relationship with UNSW Sydney, the Centre for Social Impact, the Paul Ramsay Foundation or Allan and Gill Gray Philanthropy Australasia.

I am withdrawing my consent and I would like any identifiable information collected about my organisation which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn. I understand that it may not be possible to withdraw my data from the study results if these have already had identifying details removed.

I am withdrawing my consent to participate in further components of this research and provide my permission for the research team to retain and/or use information collected about my organisation which I have provided for the purpose of this research.

Participant Name

Name of participant (please type)	
Date	

The section for Withdrawal of Participation should be forwarded to:

CI Name	Associate Professor Melissa Edwards
Email	melissa.edwards2@unsw.edu.au
Phone	+61 2 9348 2167
Postal Address	Centre for Social Impact UNSW Sydney NSW 2052 Australia