

Robert Foster | Social Impact Specialist



Professional Background

Robert advises and consults with public, private and third sector organisations to help them achieve their aims. Robert has over 25 years of professional experience as both a practitioner and consultant gained working both agency and client side.

He is acknowledged in Hansard as a specialist in social impact measurement; social enterprise and blended value business models; commissioning and procurement; and social innovation.

He is an excellent trainer and facilitator with extensive international experience.

He is a published author.



Relevant Engagements

- **South Sudan Development Agency:** Co-developed a Social Impact Measurement (SIM) methodology which has also been applied in the UK
- **UK Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG):** Lead for two New Deals for Communities evaluations of £50m over ten year geographically based regeneration programmes. Plus the review of a further eight programme evaluations
- **Grater London Authorities:** Conducted SROI project analysis
- **Common VC & CAN Invest:** Impact measurement and reporting to support investors
- **The Young Foundation and Clinks:** Impact reporting
- **Impact training/guidance:** The People's Health Trust, Rothschild Foundation, MSN Fund, The Directory of Social Change, The Refugee Council, Making the Leap, London Youth and other membership bodies.
- **Overseas training:** Designed and delivered weeklong bootcamps in Zambia, Rwanda, and Uganda. Participants included delegates from the Zambian Army, South Sudan Development Agency, local government agencies and NGOs. Other engagements include the World Bank in Morocco, CIC in the Netherland, and the British Council in Egypt, China, Indonesia and Vietnam.



Author & Selected Publications

- Practical Impact, for publication 2025
- SPARK Social Innovation Accelerator, a pan-European, multi-year accelerator; 2017
- Initiating member of the Social Innovation Professional Committee of China Technical Business Forum, CEOCIO Magazine China, 2013
- The Social Impact Measurement (SIM) Guide, 2011



Key Competencies

- Social, healthcare and environmental impact measurement and management
- Social Enterprise and Blended Value business models
- Commissioning, procurement and supply chain
- Strategic and business planning
- Marketing, sales, and communications
- Project and risk management



Education & Certifications

- BSc Hons
- APM Qualified Project and Risk Manager
- FRSA, FInstLM, MIC
- Founding council member of the Institute for Commissioning Professionals