



THE COMMON FOUNDATIONS **Looking ahead to Version 3.0**

The Common Approach's vision for the next update to the Common Foundations minimum standard—Common Foundations Version 3.0—is that this minimum standard will evolve to include required practices for engagement with the people and environments most affected by an organization's actions.

The Common Approach believes that it is important in impact measurement to engage with those who are most affected by your organization's actions.

Engagement is the right thing to do. As we have outlined in **Engaging with those most affected**, it leads to better impact measurement and better impact.

The Common Approach hopes that within the next five to six years, impact measurement practice will move increasingly towards practices of genuine involvement of and engagement with those most affected. With the aim of encouraging the evolution of this impact measurement practice, engagement practices have been included as future requirements in Version 2.0 of the Common Foundations minimum standard.

These practices serve to signal to organizations that increased engagement is the direction of change in impact measurement practice which the Common Approach hopes to support.

As impact measurement practice evolves, impact measurement standards will become out of date. This is an expected and ongoing evolution of active standards. All standards require ongoing evolution.

“Decision making, ways of working and resource allocation are based on the social, environmental and cultural measures *articulated by the people whose lives are most affected*, leading to increased well-being, equality and reduced environmental degradation.”

We borrowed this vision statement nearly verbatim from our friends at **Social Value International** to make it clear to the world that we share a common vision. We added “*articulated by the people whose lives are most affected*”. What the Common Approach hopes to add to our shared vision is a way to aggregate measures without losing the voices—the articulations—of those who are most affected.



The development of Version 3.0 will include changes to the minimum standard that reflect changes in actual impact measurement practices over the next five or so years. It is expected that Version 3.0 will have increased expectations and required practices around engaging with those most affected by an organization's actions.

For organizations that have qualified as meeting the minimum standard for Version 2.0 by scoring 100% on the **self-assessment**, it will be necessary to re-qualify when Version 3.0 is released. This will require updating your organization's self-assessment to Version 3.0, to assess if the organization meets the evolved standards in the next version.

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