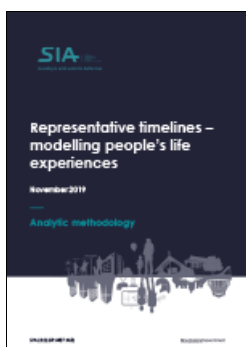


Guidance

How-to guides for beginners, staff and technical specialists in the social system and related areas

Representative timelines - modeling people's life experiences

August 2019



Description

Representative timelines bring together different aspects of people's experiences into one consistent view — enabling us to see life events, and interactions between events, over time. They can help determine what questions might help us arrive at a better understanding of people's life experiences, and their interactions with social services.

This document provides guidance on the construction of representative timelines. Examples drawn from the first application of this work — a study of South Auckland families' experiences around the birth of a child — illustrate the technique in practice.

Link/PDF

[Representative timelines - modeling people's life experiences \[PDF, 777 KB\]](#)

Using integrated data to understand mental health and addiction conditions

August 2019



Description

To support analysis of mental health and addiction in New Zealand, we've developed a tool that consolidates five key data sources in the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) into a single table of events. The consolidated table applies consistent metrics so researchers can more readily analyse data about mental health and addiction conditions. This technical guide discusses data sources, the consolidated table and what sorts of research questions the new table can help answer. The guide complements the code required to generate the consolidated table, available at [SIA's GitHub page](#).

Link/PDF

[Using integrated data to understand mental health and addiction conditions \[PDF, 903 KB\]](#)

An introduction to social investment Analytics

December 2017



Description

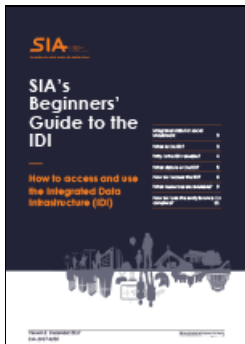
This introduction outlines the methodologies we use to turn data into insight in plain english. It explains what data analysts will need to perform social investment analysis, and where to find it.

Link/PDF

[An introduction to social investment Analytics \[PDF, 568 KB\]](#)

Beginner's Guide to the IDI

December 2017



Description

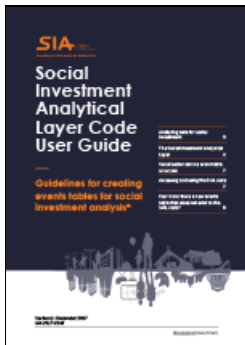
Getting started with the IDI is a steep learning curve; we've written this beginner's guide for anyone undertaking their first social investment analysis using this resource. It draws from our experience and covers the things we wish we'd known at the start.

Link/PDF

[Beginner's Guide to the IDI \[PDF, 901 KB\]](#)

Social Investment Analytical Layer Code (SIAL) User Guide

December 2017



Description

The Social Investment Analytical Layer code creates events-structured tables in a consistent format, making it easier and faster to use the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI). This brief user guide contains the introductory information you will need to get started.

Link/PDF

[Social Investment Analytical Layer Code \(SIAL\) User Guide \[PDF, 740 KB\]](#)

Social Investment Data Foundation Code (SIDF) User Guide

December 2017



Description

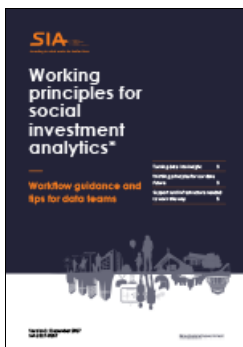
The Social Investment Data Foundation code produces analysis-ready datasets within the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI), reducing the time to generate datasets and speeding up analysis. This brief user guide contains the introductory information you will need to get started.

Link/PDF

[Social Investment Data Foundation Code \(SIDF\) User Guide \[PDF, 757 KB\]](#)

Working principles for social investment analytics

December 2017



Description

It's not just about what we do, it's about how we do it. This guide outlines workflow practices our analysts have adopted to generate maximum insight in the most efficient way.

Link/PDF

[Working principles for social investment analytics \[PDF, 560 KB\]](#)

How to produce a social investment evidence brief

June 2017



Description

Outlines a process for gathering the relevant evidence to support social investment. It explains how to summarise the best evidence and write it up in a way that will help inform decision-makers.

Link/PDF

[How to produce a social investment evidence brief \[PDF, 552 KB\]](#)

Tell us what you think

We'd like to hear your feedback on how these guides could be improved. Please email this to info@sia.govt.nz.