



Autumn Newsletter 2016

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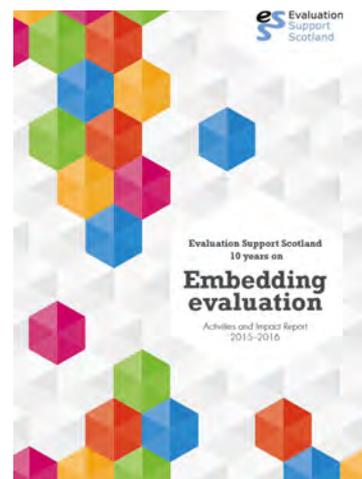
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ESS's year in words, numbers and pictures

2015/16 was a special year for ESS as it was our 10th year supporting organisations to show the difference they make. Our **annual activities and impact report 2015/16** reflects the evolution of ESS over the last 10 years and how we continue to support third sector organisations and funders embed evaluation through integrating evaluation, influencing policy and practice through third sector evaluation and involve people in evaluation.

[Read **Evaluation Support Scotland 10 years on – Embedding evaluation - Activities and Impact Report**](#)



Upcoming workshops

Getting started: Outcomes and Indicators

[13 October 2016, Glasgow](#)

[26 January 2017, Edinburgh](#)

Make to measure: Evaluation Methods and Plans

[27 October 2016, Glasgow](#)

[9 February 2017, Edinburgh](#)

Telling my story: Analysing and Reporting on Outcomes

[10 November 2016, Glasgow \(Sorry this one's FULL\)](#)

[23 February 2017, Edinburgh](#)

Evidence for success: Using evidence to influence policy and practice

[6 October 2016, Edinburgh](#)

Learning from evaluation: Sharing experiences and embedding good practice

[24 November 2016, Glasgow](#)

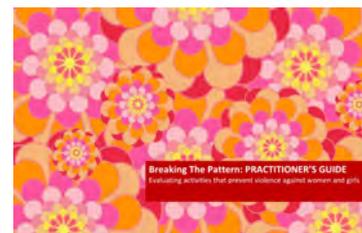
This workshop is open to those who have attended any one or more of the workshops above

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Evaluating prevention

Our thematic programme, **Violence against Women and Girls**, has been working with projects funded through the **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)** fund, **Voluntary Action Fund (VAF)** and other stakeholders. In our 4th year of support we co-facilitated a learning set to explore and agree definitions, outcomes and evaluation methods for preventing violence against women and girls. Read the **report** and **resource** for practitioners [here](#).



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Inspiring Impact - Case studies and more



ESS works in **partnership with Inspiring Impact** (II) to make impact measurement the norm in the UK. For the last three years ESS has delivered II Champions Network events in Scotland. Read what happened at our last event 'Turning stumbling blocks into stepping stones to impact practice', which took place in Edinburgh on 12 July, in this **[short report](#)**.

We have also supported three II champions to produce case studies about their impact measurement stories: **[The Robertson Trust](#)**, **[Macrobert Arts Centre](#)** and **[Children 1st](#)**.

Join Inspiring Impact's mailing list **[here](#)** to keep updated. For enquiries about II in Scotland e-mail **[Patty Lozano-Casal](#)**.

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Messages about economic evaluation



In 2015 ESS conducted a survey of funders' views about economic evaluation; that is evaluating impact in financial terms or some may say 'value for money'. We consulted funders at **[Funderfest 2016](#)**, our event for funders in June, about our key messages from the findings of our research. Here are the **[key messages from funders about economic evaluation](#)**. Next year we will publish a guide for third sector organisations and funders about how to talk together about evaluating value for money.

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Funder news

For enthusiastic learners our **[Funder Learning Programme](#)** consists of a range of seminars - so have a browse and book your place.



In particular we would like to draw your attention to:

Small grant big impact? on **11**

October 2016 in Edinburgh.

Book [here](#)



Getting the best from your grant-

holders on **22 November 2016** Book [here](#)

For more funder news see [September Funder News](#)

New resources on our website

Our series of **Methods of Evaluation** guides:

[Body maps](#)

[Capturing casual moments](#)

[Choosing pictures](#)

[Evaluation Wheel](#)

[Focus group](#)

[Interview](#)

[Observation](#)

[Questionnaire](#)

[Relationship map](#)

[Service map](#)

[Sticky wall](#)

[Tactile feedback](#)



Tool: [Embedding evaluation diagnostic wheel](#)

Case study: [CrossReach – Embedding evaluation in several projects](#)

Report: [Capacity building - what do we need to think about?](#) – sharing learning from [A Stitch in Time?](#) and other programmes to improve knowledge and understanding of what works and to inform future commissioning, delivery and policy-making on capacity building.

Blogs: [Let's stop chasing unicorns](#) - Patty Lozano-Casal, ESS

Thoughts on standards of evidence

[The power of funders learning together](#) - Janet Morton, Children in Need

Personal reflections on FunderFest2016

From IRISS - [Social reporting: a primer](#) - Using social media to gather feedback.

From Inspiring Impact – [Measuring Up!](#) a free online self-assessment tool to help you assess and review your impact practice is available now in three versions – for small organisations, for medium-to-large organisations and for funders.

Collaborating in practice



The 3rd **Third Sector Research Forum** event **'Let's collaborate for impact'**

took place on 13th September. This lively event included presentations from brokers, third sector organisations and academics showcasing their collaborative work and a series of thematic breakout sessions. The Forum took the opportunity to consult participants on this year's plans to work in two areas: **co-production and inclusive growth**. If you have any comments please **e-mail Patty**

Lozano-Casal. Comments and 'expressions of interest to contribute/be consulted' **by Friday, 30 September 2016**.

The Third Sector Research Forums meets quarterly. You can read the minutes of the July 2016 meeting [here](#)

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