Methods

- Data was collected through the generation of impact maps with primary and secondary stakeholders including beneficiaries, the Department of Social Development, Home and Community-Based Care Organisations, community caregivers and Training Service Providers. The maps described how resources (inputs) delivered activities (outputs) which resulted in various benefits (outcomes).
- This provided stakeholders’ assessment of the quantitative social and economic value of the project.
- Key themes by stakeholder groups were identified. Indicators and financial proxies for each outcome were established.
- Data collection took place in Gauteng, Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces between June and July 2014 (four focus groups and 23 interviews, N = 93).

Findings

- A SROI ratio of R1:2.03 was raised, meaning that for every R1 invested in the project, a return of R2.03 was generated in terms of social, environmental and economic benefits to the programme’s various stakeholders. This was a positive return on investment.
- Overall percentage share of value per stakeholder group were: CCGs – 32%, Home and Community-Based Care Organisations – 18%, and Training Service Providers – 30%.
- The highest social value was created for CCGs (improved community respect and acceptance, improved wellbeing, improved personal career growth, improved healthy lifestyle and higher self-esteem) suggesting that the intervention substantially benefited individual CCG capacity.
- This was closely followed by Training Service Providers (30% of value created) who are able to leverage funding by adapting the Thogomelo Psychosocial Support Training primarily on caregivers and other stakeholders.

Conclusions

- SROI can provide important quantitative information that allows comparison of benefits of social protection interventions.
- Findings suggest that the project benefits exceeded costs (as per the SROI ratio) at the governmental, organisational, community and individual levels. The greatest value was created for CCGs.
- Due to the possibility of the loss of translation of concepts such as psychological wellbeing into the local vernacular; it is recommended that further research explore outcomes such as psychological wellbeing and its implications for both beneficiaries and social protection systems strengthening.

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