

*Put systems thinking into practice.
Overcome bad data and hidden
risks. Rebuild broken systems.*

SYSTEMS CHANGE FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

Sustainable Results and the Social Action Life Cycle

Large-scale social change is so hard that few people working for social good can focus on more than a small part of the bigger problem. The result: year after year, the problem persists, root causes are never fully addressed, and people working to solve it resign themselves to short-term fixes and partial solutions. In this highly interactive training, we demonstrate how complex systems work and how they change and give you justified hope that large-scale, sustainable change is possible no matter where you work in the social action life cycle (assessment, forecasting, planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and learning). *Presentations and half-day, one-day, and two-day trainings available.*

ZONED OUT

Hidden Risks for Communities and Investors in Opportunity Zones

Opportunity Zones, created by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, are touted as a win-win: in return for generous tax breaks, investors finance community-development projects in neighborhoods facing economic challenges. There is already some concern, however, that wealthy investors will end up with convenient tax havens without actually improving the lives of lower- and middle-income residents, some of whom might ultimately be driven out of their own communities. Let the Foundation for Inclusion share insights from research on community participation and development success (it's more complicated than you think) and review the hidden risks OZs pose to investors and communities alike. *Presentation and half-day training available.*

NO DATA, NO PROBLEM

Extracting Insights from Data-Poor Environments

It's an article of faith among social impact leaders that you need good data if you want to build models or design programs that solve hard problems. For many of the most challenging problems, however, there simply is no data available, or at least not enough of the kind of data needed to plan or measure progress. We present alternatives to standard data collection and statistical techniques, demonstrating a number of quantitative and qualitative strategies—not widely known—that make it possible to extract actionable insights despite the absence of high-quality data. *Half-day training available.*

GETTING OVER OURSELVES

How Our Own Systems for Aid and Impact Hold Back Success

The world's greatest challenges—climate change, social conflict, species extinction, human trafficking, homelessness—are caused by what scientists call *complex systems*, where a large number of interacting components (social groups, emotions, technologies, beliefs, money, natural resources, etc.) make it very difficult to find lasting solutions. But even when people take that complexity seriously enough to identify promising solutions, those solutions often turn out to be nearly impossible to implement. Why? In this training, we present a new theory called the “dual-system problem” that not only explains the lack of progress but shows leaders, activists, investors, and everyday people what they can do to break down the barriers to success against even the most complex problems. *Half-day, one-day, and two-day trainings available.*