



National
Native Title
Tribunal



Guide to Australian Government Funding Sources

Updated October 2007
Research Unit

Disclaimer

This document is provided by the National Native Title Tribunal as general information only. It is made available on the understanding that neither the National Native Title Tribunal and its staff and officers nor the Commonwealth are rendering professional advice. In particular, they:

- Accept no responsibility for the results of any actions taken on the basis of information contained in this paper, nor for the accuracy or completeness of any material it contains; and
- To the extent allowed by law, expressly disclaim all and any liability and responsibility to any person in respect of the consequences of anything done or omitted to be done by that person in reliance, either wholly or partially, upon the information contained herein.

It is strongly recommended that all readers exercise their own skill and care with respect to the use of the information contained in this document. Readers are requested to carefully consider its accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance to their purposes, and should obtain professional advice appropriate to their particular circumstances. This information does not indicate any commitment to any particular course of action by either the Tribunal or the Commonwealth.

© Commonwealth of Australia 2007

This work is copyright. It may be reproduced in whole or in part for study or training purposes if an acknowledgment of the source is included. Such use must not be for the purposes of sale or commercial exploitation.

Subject to the Copyright Act, reproduction, storage in a retrieval system or transmission in any form by any means of any part of the work other than for the purposes above is not permitted without written permission.

Information about this report and requests and inquiries concerning reproduction should be addressed to Manager, Research Unit, National Native Title Tribunal, GPO Box 9973, Perth WA 6484.

Telephone: (08) 9268 7272
Facsimile: (08) 9268 7299
E-mail: reports@nntt.gov.au
Web site: www.nntt.gov.au



Guide to Australian Government Funding Sources

October 2007

Introduction	1
Section 1– Industry and Business Development	2
Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme (ICAS)	2
New Industries Development Program (NIDP)	3
Working in Partnership Program (WIP) (Partnerships between Mining Industry and Indigenous Communities)	5
Indigenous Small Business Fund (ISBF)	6
Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business Program (BESB)	7
Indigenous Business Australia - Enterprises Programme.....	8
Indigenous Business Australia – Investments Programme.....	10
Australian Tourism Development Program (ATDP)	11
Section 2 – Heritage Protection and Environment	13
Indigenous Heritage Programme	13
Community Heritage Grants (CHG)	15
Australian Government Envirofund (Natural Heritage Trust)	16
Indigenous Protected Area Programme.....	18
Education for Sustainable Development Grants Programme	20
Section 3 – Employment	21
Wage Assistance.....	21
Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project	22
Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)	23
Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP).....	26
Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV).....	27
Section 4 – Land Acquisition	29
Land Acquisition — Environmental Acquisition Program.....	29
Land Acquisition — Cultural Acquisition Program.....	30
Land Acquisition — Social Acquisition Program	31
Land Acquisition — Economic Acquisition Program	32
Section 5 – Community Infrastructure	34
Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP).....	34
Backing Indigenous Ability (BIA)	36
Section 6 – Capacity-building	37
Small Grants for Small Rural Communities Program.....	37
Regional Partnerships Program	38
Indigenous Land Management Facilitator Program	39
Sustainable Regions Programme	40
Further information	41

Introduction

The Guide to Australian Government Funding Sources provides information on funding and assistance that may be available from Australian Government departments and their agencies, for initiatives which might be associated with native title and related agreements, including Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

Examples of such initiatives include Indigenous economic and social development, land management, conservation and cultural heritage protection.

The Guide provides an overview of relevant Australian Government funding programs in a standardised and streamlined format, with links to further details about each program.

Programs are categorised into:

- industry and business development
- heritage protection and environment
- employment
- land acquisition
- community infrastructure
- capacity-building.

A profile of each program includes an outline of its purpose, general eligibility requirements, assistance provided, closing date and where to find further information.

This Guide will be updated on a regular basis, but details such as funding cycles and closing dates will need to be verified by the reader using the contact information provided.

The National Native Title Tribunal accepts no responsibility for errors, omissions or for the currency of the information contained in the Guide. In this respect, the reader's attention is drawn to the Disclaimer.

Please note: The Guide is **not** an exhaustive compilation of all Australian Government funding sources for Indigenous people or entities. Links to further sources of information may be found at page 41.

Section 1– Industry and Business Development

Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme (ICAS)

Westpac in partnership with the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Purpose

The Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme (ICAS) increases employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians by giving Indigenous businesses access to culturally appropriate commercial finance and professional and mentoring support services through a participating financial institution.

General eligibility

To apply for the scheme, you must:

- have an ABN
- be at least 51% Indigenous Australian owned (for companies this refers to shareholders), or for a partnership of two people, have at least one partner who is an Indigenous Australian
- have at least 50% Indigenous Australian employees
- utilise funds for the establishment of a new business, expansion or acquisition of an existing business that will lead to an increase in Indigenous employment
- conduct a lawful business that does not involve the sex industry, or the production and distribution of pornography, and that is not culturally or socially inappropriate in the relevant local community
- not be insolvent or in undischarged bankruptcy
- have total business debt liabilities (including ICAS finance) that do not exceed \$500 000 at any one time.

Assistance

Financial support for loans ranging from \$50 000 to \$500 000 is available over a three year period in conjunction with professional and mentoring support services. Financial support includes:

- an interest rate subsidy declining each 12 months to a market rate at the end of three years to ease the cost of financing new Indigenous businesses
- a subsidy of a portion of the bank's application/establishment fee(s) refunded to the applicant, whether successful or not, to encourage new lending applications (at time of writing up to \$820)
- a professional and mentoring support services subsidy.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Further information

Check the Workplace [website](#) or call the Indigenous Employment hotline on 1802 102. Or visit a participating [Westpac](#) branch.

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the Westpac and Workplace websites.

New Industries Development Program (NIDP)

Agency: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)

Purpose

[NIDP](#) helps agricultural, processed food, fisheries and forestry businesses to grow by providing grants and scholarships to take new products services or technologies to market. For the purposes of NIDP 'new' means that no significant capacity currently exists in Australia for the specified product, service or technology. Currently the product, service or technology needs to generate less than \$1 million total sales per annum from all Australian sources.

General eligibility

The applicant must be a Small to Medium Enterprise (SME), such as:

- A company incorporated in Australia which is carrying out business in Australia;
- A sole trader, an individual rural producer or a group of rural producers ordinarily resident in Australia and carrying out business activities in Australia; or
- A partnership that carries on business in Australia in which effective control is exercised by a person or persons ordinarily resident in Australia.

It is important that the benefit of funding goes to a SME. If the applicant is controlled or otherwise contractually bound to a non-SME business, this may affect eligibility.

The applicant must be a business registered for tax purposes in Australia with an Australian Business Number (ABN) and/or Australian Company Number (ACN); be financially sound and demonstrate capacity to fund its share of project costs through the provision of certified financial statements and related documents.

Applications that do not contain the financial information required are not eligible.

Assistance

NIDP offers the following scholarships and grants:

[Pilot Commercialisation Projects](#) (PCP)

PCPs should be innovative, market driven, sustainable and aim to commercialise new* agribusiness products, services or technologies. Grants of \$35,000 to \$120,000 are available on a competitive based process. You must have completed the research and development stage, have 'proof of concept', developed a supply chain and established market potential. Funding for PCP projects is provided on a matched dollar for dollar basis with the applicant.

Note:* For the purposes of NIDP 'new' means that no significant capacity currently exists in Australia for the specified product, service or technology. Currently the product, service or technology needs to generate less than \$1 million total sales per annum from all Australian sources.

[In-Market Experience Scholarship](#) (IMES)

The In-Market Experience Scholarship offers \$12,500 for an agribusiness manager or emerging manager to explore new markets and gain commercialisation skills and experience.

Learning and Development Tools

NIDP also provides learning and development tools through a range of initiatives. These include:

- Made in Australia magazine
- Agribiz toolset
- Business readiness workshop
- Agribusiness Marketing CD,
- Forming and Managing Supply Chains in Agribusiness CD and
- the Agribusiness Case Study DVD.

Closing date

It is expected there will be 2 rounds closing in April and September each year until 2009/2010.

Further information

NIDP Project Officer [New Industries Development Program](#)
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 1300 88 45 88

Fax: (02) 6272 4367

Email: nidp@daff.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DAFF website.

Working in Partnership Program (WIP) (Partnerships between Mining Industry and Indigenous Communities)

Agency: Department of Industry Tourism and Resources (ITR)

Purpose

The [Working in Partnership Program](#) (WIP) aims to support and encourage cultural change which is taking place in relations between Indigenous communities and the mining industry, and promote long term, effective partnerships which benefit all stakeholders. The program elements include:

- [case studies](#) which highlight examples of partnerships between the mining industry and Indigenous communities, and include information on relevant government programs and industry programs
- the [website](#)

Publication of the case studies aims to raise awareness of current developments, recognise the achievements of the people involved and encourage the wider adoption of good practice. The website serves to provide notice on upcoming events, such as the regional workshops. The regional workshop series takes the goals of the program to a grassroots level in regional communities that have a strong mining presence and focus on the linkages and partnerships available with local Indigenous people.

General eligibility

All companies involved in the exploration and mining industry, including those in the direct services sector, as well as Indigenous community groups, joint venture companies, bodies corporate or any persons who have formed a working, business or community development partnership between Indigenous people and their company are encouraged to contribute either case studies or personal experiences through the workshops.

Assistance

With renewed funding of \$2 million through to 2008-09, the program can continue to build long-term relationships between Indigenous communities and the mining industry. Building these relationships is widely regarded by the industry as 'core business' that offers significant advantages to all concerned.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Further information

Working in Partnership Program
Department of Industry Tourism and Resources
GPO Box 9839, Canberra, ACT, 2601
Tel: (02) 6213 7227
Fax: (02) 6213 7654
Email: david.abbott@industry.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DITR website.

Indigenous Small Business Fund (ISBF)

Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)

Purpose

ISBF has two main objectives:

- to foster the development of businesses owned and run by Indigenous community organisations; and
- through these businesses, to promote lasting Indigenous employment opportunities.

General eligibility

Incorporated Indigenous community-based organisations that return profits to the community are eligible to apply. Organisations may be incorporated under the [Corporations \(Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander\) Act 2006 \(Cth\)](#) or other business incorporation arrangements.

Assistance

Funding for organisations is available through ISBF from \$5,500 to \$110,000 (GST Inclusive) for business development projects. Funding will generally be for up to 12 months and a contribution will be expected from the organisation for projects exceeding \$33,000.

Closing date

There are no funding rounds — applications can be submitted throughout the year.

Further information

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

[Small Business Fund](#)

GPO Box 9879 in all capital cities

Tel: 1 802 102 (to be referred to the office in your capital city)

Email: isbf@dewr.gov.au

[Application](#) forms for organisations

[Guidelines](#) for Organisations Seeking Funds

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DEWR website.

Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business Program (BESB)

Agency: AusIndustry

Purpose

The objective of the [Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business](#) Program is to foster and encourage entrepreneurship, including maximising the growth potential and sustainability of small business.

General eligibility

At the time of submitting an [application](#) for funding, applicants must:

- be incorporated under a law of the Commonwealth or a state or territory. Note that postsecondary educational institutions such as TAFEs are excluded from this requirement
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Assistance

There is no specified funding limit for individual projects. However, funding for projects would typically fall within the range of \$100,000 to \$300,000 (GST exclusive).

Closing date

Contact Office of Small Business.

Further information

Tony Weber
General Manager
Office of Small Business
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources
Telephone: +61 2 6213 7998
Email: tony.weber@industry.gov.au
AusIndustry hotline: 13 28 46 or
Email: hotline@ausindustry.gov.au
AusIndustry website: www.ausindustry.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the AusIndustry website.

Indigenous Business Australia - Enterprises Programme

Agency: Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)

Purpose

The [IBA Enterprises Programme](#) aims to provide Indigenous people with skill development services and alternate funding products to achieve greater independence from Government and improve business management capabilities.

The programme provides eligible Indigenous applicants with a range of funding products for the acquisition, establishment and/or development of commercially viable small to medium sized enterprises that have demonstrated, or have the potential, to achieve long-term commercial viability.

General eligibility

Applicants must fulfil the following requirements:

- Confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- Commercial viability – applicants must demonstrate how the business will repay the loan in accordance with the agreed terms
- Security – borrowers must provide adequate assets of sufficient real value that can be sold to recover the loan funds in case of default
- Satisfactory credit report
- Management skills

Assistance

Based on the viability of an application, IBA can offer financial assistance with the:

- Acquisition
- Establishment or
- Expansion of the enterprise proposal

IBA Enterprises will also provide assistance to:

- develop your enterprise idea
- plan your enterprise
- facilitate training in how to manage and operate your enterprise
- develop a marketing strategy and products
- grow an existing enterprise

The assistance IBA Enterprises offers does not need to be linked to a loan application nor do you need to be an existing client.

Closing dates

Not applicable.

Further information

If you wish to discuss a business proposal or require further information to assist with developing a proposal please contact:

IBA Enterprises Programme
Freecall: 1800 804 754 or

Email: enterprises@iba.gov.au or
Website: <http://www.iba.gov.au/> or at
[IBA offices](#) nationwide.
[ICC offices](#)

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the IBA website.

Indigenous Business Australia – Investments Programme

Agency: Indigenous Business Australia

Purpose

The [IBA Investments Programme](#) has a central role in working with the private sector and local Indigenous people to encourage and foster Indigenous economic independence. The Programme invests directly in business opportunities, often through joint venture arrangements with expert industry partners and Indigenous organisations, communities and/or individuals. The objective is to assist Indigenous organisations, communities and/or individuals to participate in business.

General eligibility

The primary criterion in assessing a new proposal is clear evidence of long term commercial viability.

To determine the project's commercial viability, the Business Development Unit will carry out an evaluation of the business plan, historical financials, and cash flow projections. The viability of any joint venture partner(s) and their management experience will also be evaluated, including an assessment of assets.

As well as assessing commercial viability, the Business Development Unit will also examine potential Indigenous employment and training outcomes, as well as opportunities for Indigenous people to participate in the management and decision making processes for the business.

Assistance

If, after the initial assessment, the proposal is deemed to have merit, IBA may contract an expert consultant to perform a full analysis and appraisal of the venture (due diligence) to determine viability. A full due diligence may require additional information (e.g. legal and related matters, summary of tax position, and customer and market information).

Should the submission meet all criteria, the proposal will be presented to IBA's Board of Directors for their final decision.

The [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005 \(Cth\)](#) s 148(2)(d) specifically requires that IBA have regard to the desirability of making specialist expertise available to Aboriginal persons and Torres Strait Islanders engaged in commercial activities.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Further information

[IBA office](#) in your area, or
your local [ICC office](#) or
Freecall: 1300 662 746 or
Email: investments@iba.gov.au or
Website: <http://www.iba.gov.au/>

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the IBA website.

Australian Tourism Development Program (ATDP)

Agency: AusIndustry (program delivery arm of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources (ITR))

Purpose

The objective of [ATDP](#) is to boost the capacity of businesses and organisations to deliver high quality tourism attractions, products and services throughout Australia by:

- promoting tourism development in regional and rural Australia
- contributing to long term economic growth
- increasing visitation and yield throughout Australia
- enhancing visitor dispersal and tourism expenditure throughout Australia
- increasing Australia's competitiveness as a tourism destination.

General eligibility

The following types of organisations are eligible to submit an application for a Category 1* grant:

- private sector businesses
- businesses specialising in Indigenous tourism
- non profit organisations
- tourism or economic development organisations
- peak or national tourism industry associations
- local government agencies
- State/Territory government agencies involved in land management for tourism purposes.

***Category 1** projects focus on providing or enhancing tourism products and/or services.

The following types of organisations are eligible to submit an application for a Category 2** grant:

- tourism or economic development organisations
- peak or national tourism industry associations
- local government agencies
- non profit organisations.

****Category 2** projects are large scale, multi-faceted activities that involve collaboration in the development or implementation of effective strategies for tourism market development.

Assistance

Starting in 2004-05, the ATDP will inject up to \$24 million over four years to encourage the development of tourism in metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas.

Competitive grants funding will be provided within the above categories.

Closing date

For information on funding rounds contact AusIndustry.

Further information

Enquiries regarding the ATDP funding guidelines and applications for funding should be directed to [AusIndustry](#)

or by telephone to the AusIndustry hotline on 13 28 46.

Email: hotline@ausindustry.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the AusIndustry and DITR websites.

Section 2 – Heritage Protection and Environment

Indigenous Heritage Programme

Agency: Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Purpose

[The Indigenous Heritage Programme](#) is an Australian Government initiative that aims to support the identification, conservation, and promotion (where appropriate) of the Indigenous heritage values of places important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The programme may also assist in the identification of places likely to have outstanding Indigenous heritage value to Australia; that is, places of national heritage significance suitable for inclusion on the National Heritage List.

General eligibility

To be eligible you must, at the closing date for applications, be:

- a legally incorporated Indigenous organisation; or
- a not-for-profit body that is legally incorporated in Australia; or
- a Traditional Owner of the subject Indigenous heritage place; or
- an individual (who is an Australian citizen), acting on behalf of the Traditional Owners or
- with the approval and support of the Traditional Owners; or
- a local government authority (however works that would be considered part of the local government's normal responsibility, eg maintenance of Council buildings, access roads etc will be considered ineligible).

As the Australian Government wishes to assist Indigenous community groups through the programme, preference will be given to these groups. Applications from state or territory departments, agencies or authorities (including educational institutions) will only be considered where a written request has been received by the relevant Indigenous community to undertake the project on their behalf.

Assistance

The Indigenous Heritage Programme will provide grants for projects which:

- conserve Indigenous heritage places;
- identify Indigenous heritage places;
- undertake planning for Indigenous heritage places;
- interpret or explain a Indigenous heritage place; or
- construct keeping places to house remains and/or objects that require restricted access.

Individual project funding for organisations will in general be available up to a maximum of \$100,000 (GST Inclusive). Individual applicants will generally be eligible for funding up to \$5000. Applications for more than these amounts may be considered where the applicant demonstrates special circumstances or a genuine requirement for additional funds.

The Indigenous Heritage Programme [Guide](#) will help you develop your project. If you need help to fill in your application form, contact an [Indigenous Coordination Centre](#), or call (toll free) 1800 079 098 (which will link to the ICC in your state or territory.)

Closing date

Contact the Department of the Environment and Water Resources for information on the next round of grants.

Further information

Department of the Environment and Water Resources

GPO Box 787

Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: 1800 653 004

Fax: 02 6274 2092

Email: heritagegrants@environment.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the Department of the Environment and Water Resources website.

Community Heritage Grants (CHG)

Agency: The program is funded by the Australian Government and managed by the National Library of Australia with support provided by Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, the National Archives of Australia, the Australian Film Commission and the National Museum of Australia.

Purpose

The [Community Heritage Grants](#) (CHG) Program aims to preserve and provide access to locally held nationally significant cultural heritage collections across Australia.

General eligibility

Australian community organisations which are legal entities — such as an incorporated organisation, a trust or association including:

Archives, Art Galleries, Community Groups, Genealogical societies, Historical societies, Indigenous groups, Migrant community groups, Museums, Professional Associations, Public libraries, Religious groups, Schools- including primary and secondary government schools.

Assistance

In 2007 the program will provide grant funding of up to \$15 000 for preservation projects, and preservation and collection management training through community based workshops.

Closing date

Contact Coordinator

Further information

Coordinator

[Community Heritage Grants](#)

National Library of Australia

Canberra ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6262 1147

Fax: (02) 6273 4493

Email: chg@nla.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the National Library of Australia website.

Australian Government Envirofund (Natural Heritage Trust)

Agency: Jointly administered by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Purpose

The [Australian Government Envirofund](#) (the Envirofund) is a funding programme that helps local communities undertake important on-ground environmental activities. The Australian Government introduced the Envirofund in 2002 as the local action component of the Australian Government's \$5.1 billion Natural Heritage Trust. It helps community groups and individuals undertake small projects aimed at conserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable natural resource use. The Australian Government has committed funding for the Envirofund to 2012-2013.

The Envirofund has two main objectives:

- to provide the opportunity and means for community groups to undertake small on-ground projects tackling important local problems; and
- to provide a mechanism through which community groups can move towards effective engagement in broader regional approaches to natural resource management.

General eligibility

You can apply for grants of up to \$50,000 (GST inclusive) if you are a legal entity such as:

- an incorporated association
- a body corporate
- a company
- a trust
- a partnership
- an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander corporation, council or incorporated association or
- an individual person (if proposing activities with a very high public benefit)

If your group is not an incorporated body, you may still apply for funding provided you can arrange for another legal entity (for example your local government or an incorporated community group) to administer the contract and funding on your behalf. You will need the agreement of your sponsoring organisation before you apply for funding.

Assistance

Community groups and individuals can apply for grants of up to \$50 000 (GST inclusive) to carry out on-ground and other actions to target local problems.

Closing date

Contact AGE

Further information

[Australian Government Envirofund](#)

GPO Box 787

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Tel: 1800 303 863 (toll-free)
Fax: (02) 6272 3626 (Attention: Envirofund Section)
Email: envirofund@daff.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the NHT and the Department of the Environment and Water Resources websites.

Indigenous Protected Area Programme

Agency: Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Purpose

The [Indigenous Protected Area Programme](#) (IPA) aims to establish a network of protected areas that includes a representative sample of all types of ecosystems across the country. It is part of the [National Reserve System Programme](#) which in turn is a part of the Federal Government's [Natural Heritage Trust](#).

The IPA provides incentives for Indigenous people to participate in the National Reserves System through voluntary declaration of protected areas on their lands and support for greater involvement of Indigenous people in the management of existing statutory protected areas.

To date, [23 IPAs](#) have been declared over Aboriginal land, covering more than 14.9 million hectares and adding significantly to the National Reserve System.

General eligibility

IPA programme funding is available to incorporated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, including land management agencies, community councils, land councils, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander land trusts or representative bodies, Commonwealth, State, Territory and local government land management, nature conservation and cultural heritage agencies that wish to enter into cooperative management arrangements with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations.

Assistance

Support can be provided for:

- The Indigenous landowners to consider the implications of establishing an Indigenous Protected Area on their land. This may include seeking advice on the legal, cultural heritage or conservation aspects of the proposed IPA to inform the decision making by the landowners.
- Landowners to prepare a Management Plan for the area they propose to declare as an Indigenous Protected Area. This may include holding discussions with the relevant State/Territory conservation agencies and other agencies that may be able to support the project and incorporating expert advice on the values of the IPA and how these should be managed and protected.

Closing date

Proposals for funding under the IPA Programme will be sought as part of the Natural Heritage Trust funding round. IPA applications can be submitted at any time of the year. The Department of the Environment and Water Resources encourages potential applicants to contact the Indigenous Policy and Coordination Section of Parks Australia to discuss their application.

Further information

Director
Indigenous Policy and Coordination Section
Parks Australia
GPO Box 787

Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: (02) 6274 1111

Fax: (02) 6274 2349

Freecall: 1800 065 823

Email: bruce.rose@deh.gov.au

Department of the Environment and Water Resources [website](#)

Parks Australia [contacts](#).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the Department of the Environment and Water Resources website.

Education for Sustainable Development Grants Programme

Agency: Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Purpose

The [Education for Sustainable Development Grants Programme](#) aims to support sustainable development in Australia through improved approaches to education and learning for sustainability.

General eligibility

Eligible groups may include but are not necessarily limited to:

- community groups and associations;
- industry associations;
- rural organisations;
- local governments;
- universities and further education institutions;
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander corporations, councils or incorporated associations; and
- environmental and education groups.

Assistance

The Education for Sustainable Development Grants Programme has limited funds and competition for these resources is high. The Programme is generally only able to fund a small number of strategic projects each year. In previous years individual projects have ranged in value from \$3,000 to \$50,000 and were assessed as providing the greatest opportunity to create change within the resources available.

Closing date

Contact the Department of the Environment and Water Resources

If you would like to discuss the suitability of a project for future funding, you should contact the Sustainability Education Section by either phone, mail or e-mail [see below].

Further information

Sustainability Education Section
Education for Sustainable Development Grants Programme
Department of the Environment and Water Resources
GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6274 1523

Email: ee@erin.gov.au

See also [Guide](#) for Applicants.

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the Department of the Environment and Water Resources website.

Section 3 – Employment

Wage Assistance

Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)

Purpose

[Wage Assistance](#) is a payment given to Australian employers as an incentive to employ Indigenous Australians on an on-going basis. The Programme is managed by the Australian Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

General eligibility

Employees must be:

- an unemployed Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- if 21 years of age or over, receiving an eligible income support payment
- Participating in a [CDEP](#) project or if under 21 years registered with Centrelink or a [Job Network](#) member as looking for work but need not be receiving an income support allowance.

The job must be:

- paid under an Award, a Certified Agreement or an Australian Workplace Agreement, and
- on-going, that is the employer knows of no reason why the vacancy cannot continue indefinitely
- a full-time job of 35 hours per week, or the full-time hours specified in the Award or Agreement, or
- a part-time job of at least 15 hours per week, and
- not receiving wage subsidy funding from any other government programme.

Assistance

Provision of a subsidy to employers who give an ongoing job to an eligible Indigenous job seeker of up to \$4400 if over six months for a full-time job and \$2200 over six months for a part-time job of at least 15 hours per week.

Closing date

Applications should be submitted within 28 days of the employee commencing employment. Applications can be made [online](#).

Further information

[Wage Assistance](#)

[Department of Employment and Workplace Relations](#)

10 Mort St, Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6121 6000 or 1802 102 (Indigenous Employment Line)

Email: WageAssistance@dewr.gov.au.

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DEWR website.

Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project

Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Purpose

The [Corporate Leaders for Indigenous Employment Project](#) encourages private sector companies to generate job opportunities. It allows them to use elements of the Australian Government's Indigenous Employment Programme to develop and tailor their Indigenous employment strategies to meet their business needs.

General eligibility

A flexible package of funding is provided to all committed organisations. This funding can be tailored to an organisation's business needs and may assist the implementation of a strategy that could include assistance for pre-employment training, mentoring or cross-cultural training for example. Support is offered to ensure the organisation's strategy is a success.

Assistance

A flexible package of funding is available to all Corporate Leader organisations. The funding can be tailored to the particular business needs and may assist in the development and implementation of a strategy that could, for example, include assistance for pre-employment training, mentoring or cross-cultural awareness training.

Closing date

Not applicable

Further information

[Department of Employment and Workplace Relations](#)

10 Mort St, Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6121 6000 or
1802 102 (Indigenous Employment Line)

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DEWR and Workplace websites.

Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)

Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Purpose

The [CDEP](#) programme is an Australian Government funded initiative for unemployed Indigenous people outside of major urban and regional centres. The programme provides activities which develop participants' skills to assist them move into employment outside the CDEP organisation. Programme activities can also lead to the development of business enterprises.

Changes to the CDEP programme came into effect on 1 July 2007. These changes include:

- Funding additional Structured Training Employment Projects ([STEP](#)) [see following entry] brokers instead of funding the CDEP programme in urban and major regional area.
- The closure of all Indigenous Employment Centres (IECs) because of the strengthened link between [Job Network](#) and CDEP organisations.
- The introduction of a 26 week CDEP placement incentive payment for CDEP service providers who place participants into long term work.

General eligibility

CDEP organisations

Funding for each CDEP organisation will be negotiated based on the organisation's ability to provide a service that achieves agreed outcomes, taking account of local circumstances. Successful applicants will have adequately demonstrated their capacity to deliver the programme, including:

- Specifically addressing each of the selection criteria set out in the electronic submission (eSub) application; and
- Demonstrating financial viability.

DEWR will also consider whether the organisation has the infrastructure necessary to deliver the CDEP programme including:

- capacity to undertake the day-to-day administration of the CDEP programme;
- capacity to manage their financial affairs, including adequately preparing financial accounts, maintaining and retaining records and having appropriate administrative processes in place;
- ability to comply with relevant legislation and terms and conditions of funding agreements; and
- personnel with relevant knowledge and experience.

CDEP participants

To be eligible to be a CDEP participant a person must be accepted as a member of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community in which they lived or currently reside.

CDEP candidates must also be:

- aged 16 years and over; or
- aged 15 years and in receipt of Youth Allowance and not a full-time student;

- part of the community and living within the locality served by the CDEP Service Provider;
- either registered with a Job Network member or have a completed Participant Plan as applicable; and
- willing, able and available to take up CDEP activities and an offer of non-CDEP work.

Not accepting a job offer without a reasonable explanation may affect eligibility to continue in CDEP.

Assistance

[CDEP Placement Incentive](#)

CDEP organisations may receive up to \$3025 when a participant leaves the CDEP and into on-going employment for at least 15 hours per week.

The incentive will be paid where the CDEP organisation is the employer or the job is funded by CDEP grant funds, providing that the employee is paid full award rates in an eligible position and is not on the CDEP schedule and is not receiving CDEP wages.

From 1 July 2007 a payment of \$550 is made at commencement of employment, a further \$1,650 after 13 weeks of employment, with a final payment of \$825 after 26 weeks of employment.

The job can be in the private, public or community sector; be subsidised (for example through Wage Assistance), but the participant must be off the CDEP schedule. The participant can find his/her own job - the CDEP does not need to organise the placement.

Note: The allowable income limits for CDEP participants will be lowered to increase the incentive for participants to move into jobs.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Please refer to the [2007-2008 CDEP guidelines](#) for detailed information on the programme. The [Wage Assistance](#) website holds related material.

Further information

[Department of Employment and Workplace Relations](#)

GPO Box 9879, CANBERRA ACT 2601

or

Garema Court, 148-180 City Walk,
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Phone: (02) 6121 6000

or

1802 102 (Indigenous Employment Line)

or

State and Territory and regional offices - [contact details](#).

Important note

To support the Northern Territory [Emergency Response](#), on 23 July 2007, the Hon Mal Brough MP, the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, and the Hon Joe Hockey MP, the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations,

[announced](#) that CDEP in the Northern Territory will progressively be replaced with real jobs, training and mainstream employment programmes.

Northern Territory CDEP participants will be assisted in moving from the CDEP programme into work or onto income support.

The changes will take place on a community-by-community basis from September 2007.

Click [here](#) for further information.

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DEWR, Workplace and FaCSIA websites.

Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP)

Agency: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)

Purpose

The primary objective of [STEP](#) is to achieve more jobs for Indigenous Australians. STEP provides funding and tailored help to private sector businesses that employ Indigenous Australians. Such jobs must be available after STEP funding ceases. The level of funding depends on the type of organisation and assistance needed. Funding is available for training, developing an Indigenous employment strategy, mentoring and employment costs.

General eligibility

Funding is available to employers or other organisations that train and employ Indigenous people. While employers can be from the private, public or community sector, the focus is on increasing jobs in the private sector.

STEP requires a commitment to employ and train Indigenous Australians in ongoing employment. Before a contract can be offered, an organisation must submit a Financial Viability application form.

For guidelines and application forms, click [here](#) and scroll to bottom of page.

Assistance

STEP funding is negotiated directly with employers and projects can involve differing levels of training including on the job training, apprenticeships and traineeships depending on the employers' needs. DEWR Indigenous Employment Unit staff will work with the proponent to develop a package of assistance.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Further information

The local [DEWR office](#), a business development officer at an [Indigenous Coordination Centre](#), your local Job Network member or by calling the Indigenous employment line on **1802 102**.

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the Workplace website.

Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV)

Agency: Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV) is primarily funded by the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)

Purpose

Indigenous Community Volunteers is a not-for-profit organisation set up to assist Indigenous communities to become self-sustaining through creating effective partnerships between Indigenous people, corporations and the wider Australian community. It seeks to bring within reach the skills, knowledge and advice that will make a difference to Indigenous communities' short- and long-term development goals. It is the only organisation that offers this wide support to Indigenous communities.

ICV aims to work with sponsors to develop and nurture active partnerships built on ongoing commitment, mutual understanding and respect. ICV's work will make a difference in Indigenous communities by supporting projects designed to fill a skills gap, and not replace other community support programs.

General eligibility

Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV) will consider all skills requests from communities.

Assistance

ICV works closely with each supporting corporation, trust or philanthropic organisation to develop a sponsorship proposal and agreement which fits with the donor organisation's sponsorship principles and criteria. The agreement will clearly set out sponsors' expectations.

The main categories for support are:

- financial support
- staff volunteer programs — part of a corporation's training/volunteering program
- in-kind support (goods and services).

ICV recruits volunteers with the necessary skills to work in communities for periods of two to 12 weeks and also to transfer their skills to communities to ensure lasting benefit. It ensures volunteers are well prepared by arranging for them to attend a cultural awareness program before arriving in a community and that they receive support in the community through a mentor system. It also monitors progress throughout the life of the project.

Travel, training and living costs are paid by ICV, and the community provides accommodation and a cultural mentor to advise the volunteer. ICV monitors each project and its outcomes; and supports the community and volunteer during the project.

ICV is an approved Deductible Gift Recipient and all donations to it over \$2 (including trading stock) are tax deductible.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Further information

[Indigenous Community Volunteers](#)

GPO Box 2213, Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 1800 819 542 (toll free)

Email: info@volindigenous.org.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the ICV website.

Section 4 – Land Acquisition

Land Acquisition — Environmental Acquisition Program

Agency: Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)

Purpose

To acquire land to provide environmental benefit to Aboriginal persons and Torres Strait Islanders, where such an acquisition is not the responsibility of another agency and where funding for these aspirations (other than the cost of the land) is guaranteed.

General eligibility

Grants of land, guarantees or grants of money for the purchase of land may only be made to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations. The application must clearly state how the use of the land aims to address dispossession and deliver environmental benefits.

Assistance

Under the [Environmental Acquisition Program](#) the ILC will consider acquiring property for the purpose of grant to Indigenous corporations where it is determined that the application meets the program criteria and will deliver sustainable benefits to Indigenous people. Other options available to the ILC include making grants of money or guaranteeing loans.

Assistance may be provided directly to Indigenous applicants or through joint arrangements with government and non-government agencies. The ILC will use one of these options outlined above where it has determined that, on the basis of the relative merits of the application, regional consultation and limited funds, it is a priority.

Further, the following specific priority consideration applies:

- That the employment of Indigenous people and the use of goods and services provided by businesses owned or controlled by Indigenous people is maximised.

Closing date

Contact ILC.

Further information

[Indigenous Land Corporation](#)

Freecall: 1800 818 490

Email: ilcinfo@ilc.gov.au

See also the [National Indigenous Land Strategy](#) (2007 - 2012).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the ILC website.

Land Acquisition — Cultural Acquisition Program

Agency: Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)

Purpose

The [Cultural Acquisition Program](#) objective is to acquire culturally significant land for traditional owners and those with traditional historical and contemporary links over time.

General eligibility

The following eligibility requirements apply:

- Grants of land, guarantees or grants of money for the purchase of land may only be made to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations.
- The application must clearly state how the use of the land aims to address dispossession and deliver cultural benefits.

Assistance

Assistance may be provided directly to Indigenous groups or through joint arrangements with government and non-government agencies. The ILC will use one of these options outlined above where it has determined that, on the basis of the relative merits of the application, regional consultation and limited funds, is a priority.

Further, the following specific priority consideration applies:

- That the employment of Indigenous people and the use of goods and services provided by businesses owned or controlled by Indigenous people is maximised.

Closing date

Contact ILC.

Further information

[Indigenous Land Corporation](#)

Tel: 1800 818 490 (freecall)

Email: ilcinfo@ilc.gov.au

See also the [National Indigenous Land Strategy](#) (2007 - 2012).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the ILC website.

Land Acquisition — Social Acquisition Program

Agency: Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)

Purpose

The purpose of the [Social Acquisition Program](#) is to further the social aspirations of Indigenous people through the acquisition of land for recreational, health, welfare, educational or diversionary purposes where such an acquisition is not the responsibility of another agency and where funding for these aspirations (other than the cost of the land) is guaranteed. This objective is principally measured by the planned outcome: An increase in the social benefits obtained by Indigenous people as a result of land acquisition.

General eligibility

The following eligibility requirements apply:

- Grants of land, guarantees or grants of money for the purchase of land may only be made to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations.
- The application must clearly state how the proposed purpose and use of the land aims to address dispossession and deliver social benefit.
- The application must show how land acquisition would maximise Indigenous employment and the use of goods and services directly or indirectly owned or controlled by Indigenous people.
- Applicants must take part in pre-acquisition planning with the ILC.

Assistance

The Social Acquisition Program will buy land and fixtures and chattels necessary for the proposed use where the applicant's primary purpose is to operate a social activity that is viable, sustainable, will deliver benefits and where the ILC determines that, on the basis of regional consultation and limited funds, it is a strategic priority.

Under the Social Acquisition Program the ILC will consider acquiring land for the purpose of grant, making a grant of money to an Indigenous corporation for the acquisition of an interest in land or will guarantee loans to Indigenous corporations in partnerships with other agencies or corporations where:

- it is authorised to do so under the Act
- it guarantees clear and quantifiable benefits to Indigenous people as a result
- terms of management are acceptable to applicants and the ILC.

Closing date

Contact ILC.

Further information

[Indigenous Land Corporation](#)

Tel: 1800 818 490 (freecall)

Email: ilcinfo@ilc.gov.au

See also the [National Indigenous Land Strategy](#) (2007 - 2012).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the ILC website.

Land Acquisition — Economic Acquisition Program

Agency: Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)

Purpose

The purpose of the [Economic Acquisition Program](#) is to purchase and successfully operate, through arrangements, commercially viable businesses that deliver economic benefits to Indigenous people. These purchases should also deliver significant social and cultural benefits eg

- to generate profits for the equity partners
- to grant these lands and the associated ILC purchased business assets to an Indigenous corporation.

This objective is principally measured by the planned outcome:

- profitable businesses managed under arrangements
- an increase in the economic, cultural and social benefits, including employment and training, derived by Indigenous people as a result of land acquisition.

General eligibility

The following eligibility requirements apply:

Application - There must be an application by an Indigenous corporation that is accompanied by a Business Plan and that details arrangements including the ILC and/or industry partners;

Eligible Organisations - This program is aimed at assisting broad based Indigenous corporations, not individual or family entrepreneurs, seeking to own land for the purpose of operating a business on that land; and

Indigenous Corporations - The applicant must be an Indigenous corporation as specified in the ATSI Act. An Aboriginal corporation formed for CDEP or non-commercial purposes will need to incorporate a separate entity to undertake a land-based business.

Assistance

The ILC will purchase the land and business assets. The business will be operated under arrangements consisting of the equity partners - the applicant, the ILC and/or industry partner. Profits from the business will be shared on a prearranged basis.

A strategy with agreed terms and conditions shall be put in place to grant the land and ILC owned business assets to the applicant.

Until a grant of the land is made, and after a reasonable time, the land will be leased to the applicant while the arrangement, including the applicant, carries out the business.

During this time the ILC will hold security and/or title over its business assets.

The eventual transfer of the ILC share of the business assets to the applicant will be dependent upon the successful implementation of the arrangement.

Closing date

Contact ILC.

Further information

[Indigenous Land Corporation](#)

Tel: 1800 818 490 (freecall)

Email: ilcinfo@ilc.gov.au

See also the [National Indigenous Land Strategy](#) (2007 - 2012).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the ILC website.

Section 5 – Community Infrastructure

Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP)

Agency: Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA)

Purpose

[CHIP](#) seeks to improve the living environment of Indigenous Australians by providing people in need with housing and associated infrastructure.

General eligibility

Organisations eligible for CHIP are:

- those currently providing housing and/or infrastructure services or directly support such services
- multi-functional service providers that have housing related functions.

The eligibility criteria looks at the capacity of an organisation to deliver services and provides a checklist which must be satisfied if the submission is to progress to the competitive assessment stage.

Capacity of an organisation to deliver includes:

- current and comprehensive business plan
- stable governance arrangements
- sound financial position including adequacy of housing rent and/or essential services cost recovery
- appropriate administrative arrangements
- ability to meet compliance requirements
- complaints handling processes
- detailed budget including activity generated income
- adequate insurance cover
- security of land tenure
- evidence of regular repairs and maintenance being undertaken.

Assistance

CHIP funding is delivered mainly by grants to:

- Indigenous community organisations for housing, infrastructure and municipal services;
- State and Territory government agencies in accordance with housing and infrastructure agreements with State and Territory governments;
- Indigenous community organisations via trust accounts administered by Contracted Program Managers.

The targeting of CHIP funding, through the 2006-07 funding round, will focus on improving the condition of housing and infrastructure and the better targeting of municipal services in line with programme guidelines.

Note: Native title rights and interests may have implications for the provision of CHIP funding for the construction or major upgrading of assets on land that may be subject to native title. See the [2006-07 guidelines](#) or check with FaCSIA state offices.

Closing date

Not applicable.

Further information

[Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs](#)

Box 7788, Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610

Tel: 1300 653 227 (freecall)

TTY: 1800 260 402

Email: facs.internet@facs.gov.au

[FaCSIA network](#)

For more information on the elements of CHIP funding available in the 2006-07 e-Sub round in your state or territory please contact your [Indigenous Co-ordination Centre](#) (ICC) or by phone on 1800 079 098.

Important note

From 2008-09, CHIP will be abolished and replaced by the [Australian Remote Indigenous Accommodation](#) (ARIA) program. Over the next four years, the Australian Government will implement major reforms to help fix Indigenous housing through the ARIA program. The ARIA program is expected to commence from 1 July 2008.

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the FaCSIA website.

Backing Indigenous Ability (BIA)

Agency: Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (DCITA)

Purpose

[Backing Indigenous Ability](#) (BIA) is an \$89.9 million initiative of the Australian Government to help to improve communications services in remote Indigenous communities.

One of its components, the \$36.6 million BIA telecommunications program, is designed to address the need for telephones, Internet and videoconferencing, provide training and skills development and promote and develop Indigenous online content.

Eligibility

Check the Guidelines for Applicants for comprehensive information on the program, including eligibility requirements and assistance available.

Closing date

Applications for round 2 funding should be received by 30 November 2007.

At time of publication funding applications for telephones are not being sought. See Guidelines for further information on this topic.

Further information

Program Manager

[BIA Telecommunications Program](#)

Indigenous Communications Branch

Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

GPO Box 2154

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Freecall: 1800 355 014

Phone: (02) 6271 1000

Fax: (02) 6271 1886

Email: bia@dicta.gov.au

Information on BIA programs is also available from [Indigenous Coordination Centres](#).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DCITA website.

Section 6 – Capacity-building

Small Grants for Small Rural Communities Program

Organisation: Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal. (FRRR)

Purpose

The Foundation supports the development of regional community foundations, and uses seed funding and challenge grants to move regional development project funding into a more dynamic context. Click [here](#) for details of FRRR's main aims.

General eligibility

From a long list of Grant Assessment Criteria the following are mandatory. The project must:

- Offer a clear public benefit for some or all of the community living in rural, regional and/or remote Australia
- Contribute to rural and regional renewal, regeneration and development in Australia in social, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas.

Click [here](#) for full details of FRRR's grant criteria.

Assistance

Not-for-profit organisations can apply for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their development in social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas. Applications from communities with a population of 10 000 or less will receive priority. Grants will be made in amounts up to \$5000.

Closing date

There are two rounds of Small Grants per year. Contact FRRR for details.

Further information

[Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal](#)

Tel: 1800 170 020 or (03) 5443 7300

Fax: (03) 5443 8900

Email: info@frrr.org.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the FRRR website.

Regional Partnerships Program

Agency: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Purpose

The [Regional Partnerships Program](#) is based on an approach of working with local communities to support them in implementing their ideas. The program was established in 2003 to assist Australia's communities to strengthen growth and opportunities, improve access to services, support planning and provide assistance for structural adjustment.

General eligibility

Entities registered under state or Commonwealth legislation can apply for Regional Partnerships funding. This includes: non-profit organisations, local government, community councils (Indigenous councils), co-operatives, associations, registered charities and the private sector.

Further details on eligibility can be found [here](#).

Assistance

The Regional Partnerships Programme has provided more than \$225 million for over 800 community initiated projects since it commenced in July 2003. The Australian Government will spend a further \$77.2 million in 2006-07 on the diverse projects brought forward by communities - everything from re-stumping community halls to providing the local infrastructure needed to deliver better services.

Application forms for amounts of \$50 000 or less and for more than \$50 000 are available [here](#).

Closing date

Applications may be submitted at any time.

Further information

[Regional Partnerships Program](#)
[Local Area Consultative Committee](#), or
Commonwealth Regional Information Services,
Freecall 1800 026 222.

See also [Guidelines](#).

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DTRS website.

Indigenous Land Management Facilitator Program

Agency: Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Purpose

To encourage Indigenous communities to participate in [Natural Heritage Trust](#) projects on land under their care, or in which they have an interest. There are currently 13 Indigenous Land Management Facilitators around Australia who provide a practical two-way link between Indigenous land managers and other individuals and agencies involved in sustainable land management and nature conservation activities.

General eligibility

Not applicable

Assistance

The facilitators provide information to Indigenous communities about the types of support and technical advice which is available to assist them with the land management issues on their lands. The facilitators also provide feedback to Australian Government policy makers on land management issues that are of concern to Indigenous communities, and help to raise awareness within government agencies and the non-Indigenous communities of Indigenous values, aspirations and capacity in land management.

Closing date

Not applicable

Further information

The Indigenous Land Management Facilitator Secretariat
Department of the Environment and Water Resources
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Phone (02) 6274 1111

Facsimile (02) 6274 2735.

Website: [Indigenous Land Management Facilitator Program](#)

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the Department of the Environment and Water Resources website.

Sustainable Regions Programme

Agency: Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS)

Purpose

The aims of the [Sustainable Regions Programme](#) are to:

- Provide a national approach to supporting designated regions across Australia to lead their own development in accordance with the locally established priorities.
- Assist regions undergoing major economic, social and environmental change to build a viable foundation for the future.
- Promote a whole of government approach to regions by Commonwealth Government agencies and forge partnerships between the private sector and all three spheres of government.

General eligibility

Entities registered under State or Commonwealth legislation can apply for Sustainable Regions Programme funding. This includes:

- non-profit organisations
- private sector
- local government
- community councils (Indigenous councils)
- co-operatives
- associations
- registered charities.

Assistance

Funding for the Sustainable Regions Programme totals up to \$100 million for the initial eight regions, and an additional \$33 million for the two new regions. Assistance under the Programme is being provided to ten selected regions.

Click [here](#) for funding guidelines.

Closing date

Not applicable. If you would like to apply for Sustainable Regions Programme funding, please contact the Executive Officer in your [region](#).

Further information

Mr Peter Elliott, Director, Sustainable Regions,
Phone (02) 6274 8045
Fax (02) 6274 6011,
Email: Peter.Elliott@dotars.gov.au

For general information about the Sustainable Regions Programme email sustainableregions@dotars.gov.au

Source: The text on this page is either taken verbatim from, or is a précis of, material on the DOTARS website.

Further information

Note: The following links will lead to most, but perhaps not all, Federal Government funding programs for Indigenous Australians. There is therefore a fair degree of overlap.

The Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC)
Programs and services for Indigenous Australians

<http://www.oipc.gov.au/programs/default.asp>

Indigenous Portal

Resources, contacts, information, and government programs and services for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders

<http://www.indigenous.gov.au/>

GrantsLINK

Will help you find funding that is available under a variety of grant programs for individuals, businesses and communities to help them develop solutions to local and national problems, fund ideas and initiatives or provide assistance in times of hardship.

<http://www.grantslink.gov.au/index.aspx>

Commonwealth Parliamentary Library

Probably the best source of information on Indigenous Australians; includes links to the full spread of funding programs.

<http://www.aph.gov.au/library/intguide/sp/spindigenous.htm>

State and Territory governments are also a source of funding and grants programs.