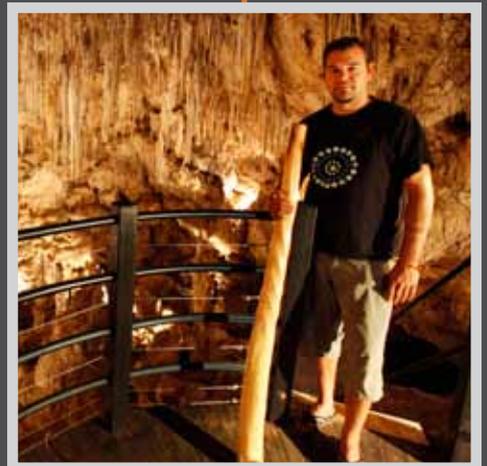


GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

2012-2016



Aboriginal Affairs
Coordinating Committee

FOREWORD



better incomes,
independence
and improved
quality of life

The Western Australian Government is committed to ensuring that all Western Australians benefit from, and have a choice to participate in, the State's prosperity. In recent years, strong and sustained growth in the State's economy has provided substantial benefits and new opportunities for many people. Whilst there are clear indications that there have been improvements in areas such as Aboriginal education, employment, incomes and home ownership, the gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people remain.

The Council of Australian Governments have committed themselves to overcoming the disadvantage that limits the opportunities and choices of Aboriginal Australians to engage in healthy and productive lives.

One of the ways of overcoming this disadvantage is through participation in the State's economy, resulting in better incomes, independence and improved quality of life, while also reducing poverty and inter-generational disadvantage.

The sustained prosperity of the State also depends upon a productive workforce, and a large percentage of the Aboriginal population lives in rural and remote areas where there are significant skills shortages. Equally important are the many benefits that flow from culturally diverse and vibrant businesses and communities. Aboriginal people can make a significant contribution in each of these areas and to the future prosperity of the State.

The Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy will provide a framework and rationale for the State Government's investment in Aboriginal economic participation over the next four years.

The aim of this investment is to improve the level of Aboriginal people's participation in, and benefit from, employment and economic opportunities across all industry sectors throughout the State. The Strategy will be led by the Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee, which comprises the Directors General from key State agencies. Their oversight will provide a coordinated whole-of-government approach that will address the many barriers Aboriginal people experience in moving from welfare dependency to employment and self-reliance.

The Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy builds upon the 'Training Together - Working Together' Aboriginal employment and training strategy I released in 2010, which is delivering significantly improved employment outcomes for Aboriginal people across the State.

However, Aboriginal economic development is not solely a State Government responsibility. The Government will continue to engage and work more productively in partnership with the private sector, industry, not for profit organisations and the wider community to encourage, enable and nurture the sustainable growth of jobs and business opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Most importantly, the State Government is committed to working with the Aboriginal people of Western Australia to ensure that their needs, aspirations and best interests drive the vision and actions of this strategy.

Hon Peter Collier, MLC
Minister for Indigenous Affairs

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INTRODUCTION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) projections estimate that in 2012 approximately 79,000 Aboriginal people will be living in Western Australia. This equates to about 3.4 per cent of the total State population. Within the next nine years, the Aboriginal population is projected to increase by 18 per cent to approximately 94,000¹.

Australia's Aboriginal population has a young profile; with about half under 21 years compared with 37 years for the non-Aboriginal population. In Western Australia, 75 per cent of the Aboriginal population is under the age of 40 years, and 33 per cent is under the age of 15 years¹.

The percentage of the Aboriginal population over 40 is half that found in the non-Aboriginal population and only three per cent is aged over 65 compared with 14 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population. While the median age of Aboriginal people is likely to rise from 22 to 25 years by 2021, the Aboriginal population will still continue to have higher percentages of children, teenagers and young adults¹.

It is estimated that 43 per cent of Aboriginal Western Australians live in remote or very remote areas, 23 per cent in regional centres and 34 per cent in the metropolitan area¹. Where Aboriginal people live affects their access to employment opportunities, markets, services, infrastructure and education and their ability to participate in the broader economy.

The following economic indicators highlight the significant disparity that exists between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Western Australia:

- In 2008, the labour market participation rate for Aboriginal people aged 15 – 64 years old in WA was 67.7 per cent, compared to 78.7 per cent for the non-Aboriginal population².
- In 2008, the average unemployment rate for Aboriginal people in WA was 16.9 per cent, compared to the non-Aboriginal unemployment rate of 3.3 per cent².
- The proportion of 18 – 24 year old Aboriginal people engaged in full time employment, education or training was 31.6 per cent compared to 74.8 per cent for non-Aboriginal people².
- It is estimated that approximately 56.3 per cent of the Aboriginal working age population (15 – 64 year olds) are employed compared to 76.1 per cent of the corresponding non-Aboriginal working age population².
- The median gross weekly household income for Aboriginal households is estimated to be \$1,043 a week compared to \$1,425 a week for non-Aboriginal households³.
- Aboriginal Western Australians are also far less likely to be living in owner occupied homes (fully owned or being purchased): 32 per cent compared to 68 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population³.

The aim of this strategy is to increase the potential for Aboriginal people to participate more fully in the State's economy, to strengthen Aboriginal culture and society, and to ensure Aboriginal people have the same opportunities in life as non-Aboriginal people.

1 ABS: Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2009 and Population Projections, Australia, 2008.

2 ABS (unpublished) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008 and ABS (unpublished) Survey of Education and Work, 2008.

3 ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing.



Purely Unreal Kimberley Dreamtime Adventures. Courtesy Tourism Australia.

The challenge

The State faces some unique challenges in closing the disadvantage gap between its Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal citizens. With one third of the Aboriginal community under the age of 15 years, it is vital that there be a focus on the needs of a growing young population and on strengthening the health, education and employment prospects of the next generation from which future Aboriginal leaders will emerge.

It is estimated that between 2008 and 2018 the population of Aboriginal people aged 15 to 64 years will increase by approximately 25 per cent; considerably more than the projected increase of 17 per cent for the non-Aboriginal population. This means the level of employment of Aboriginal people in WA needs to increase by approximately 13,000 to meet the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) closing the gap targets in Aboriginal economic participation by 2018-19.

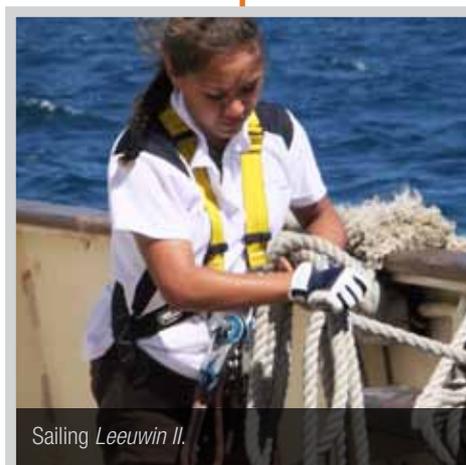
Aboriginal people are over-represented in rental housing, including social housing, and under-represented in home ownership. Aboriginal people in regional towns experience a lack of affordable housing which is often accentuated by a shortage of privately owned housing. This can create situations where Aboriginal people choose to remain income-eligible for public housing by forgoing employment opportunities. To address this situation, the State will investigate means to facilitate housing affordability for people on lower incomes, including land tenure reform and shared equity models.

Economic development

It is recognised that employment leads not only to improved incomes for the individual, family and communities, but also enhances self-esteem, increases opportunities for self-development and reduces social isolation. Aboriginal people and communities should have the opportunity to benefit from the mainstream economy – real jobs, business opportunities, economic independence and wealth creation. It is widely acknowledged that high and/or persistent unemployment increases the risk of poverty and contributes to disadvantage. Aboriginal economic development means substantial involvement by Aboriginal people in employment, in business and in acquiring assets and growing wealth.

Successful Aboriginal businesses offer jobs, develop ideas and skills, provide role models for others and bring money into the local community. For example, 15 members of the Pilbara Aboriginal Contractors Association have Aboriginal employment rates of about 45 per cent compared to less than 10 per cent for mainstream industry. These figures demonstrate the potential for successful Aboriginal business to significantly improve Aboriginal employment rates.

real jobs,
business
opportunities,
economic
independence



Achieving results

Whilst increasing numbers of Aboriginal people are benefiting from the prosperity and quality of life that comes from improved economic participation, the gap when compared to the broader Western Australian community remains. Sustainable, long-term structural improvements to the economic participation of Aboriginal people in the State's economy will require more effort and a fresh approach.

This will include:

- the cooperative effort of industry, government and the Aboriginal community;
- reducing barriers to employment;

- building the Aboriginal economic base, particularly in remote WA;
- developing the capabilities of Aboriginal people and communities to get jobs and establish businesses; and
- creating sustainable opportunities through land reform, native title and Aboriginal knowledge.

The Productivity Commission's *Overcoming Aboriginal Disadvantage Report 2011* identified successful case studies in Western Australia that led to improvements in economic development. These case studies demonstrated that innovative, location-specific strategies that involve industry, government and the Aboriginal community as partners, each sharing responsibility for the implementation, can deliver significant economic outcomes.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE

Aim

The aims of this strategy are to increase the potential for Aboriginal people to participate fully in the State's economy, to strengthen Aboriginal culture and society, and to ensure Aboriginal people have the same opportunities in life as non-Aboriginal people.

Vision

Sustained economic prosperity for Aboriginal people that will redress social and financial disadvantage and improve their capacity to actively participate in Western Australia's social and economic development.



Teaching in Baldvis Children's Forest.

How we are going to achieve this

The Western Australian Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy is structured around five foundational themes, described below.

Respond to Aboriginal aspirations

Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people need to work together to create a better future for all Western Australians. Being inspired and motivated to achieve a better quality of life for all Aboriginal people is the turning point. Western Australians will benefit from valuing and encouraging the unique contribution of Aboriginal people and building upon their skills, knowledge and success.

Unlock the potential

Education, training and skills development from the early years into adulthood are the keys to unlocking the economic potential of Aboriginal people. Flexible and relevant education and training pathways are being developed, as is enthusiasm for learning through more culturally-appropriate strategies.

Grow economic participation

Expanding the employment opportunities for Aboriginal people is a priority for the State Government. More effort is being directed towards improving the capacity of Aboriginal people to enter and actively participate in the workforce. Equally important is encouraging and assisting the establishment and growth of Aboriginal business enterprises. This will be achieved by brokering the establishment of Aboriginal businesses, facilitating business networking and identifying opportunities for Aboriginal enterprise development.

Create sustainable wealth

There is significant potential to use Aboriginal-controlled resources to create economic opportunities and inter-generational wealth by building on the economic value of Aboriginal land, sea and culture. A much greater return on these assets should be secured for the community. Assistance and support is being provided in the critical planning, approvals and project development stages to support Aboriginal people to sustainably build and manage their own assets.

Work in partnership

Addressing poverty, achieving equality and closing the gap on Aboriginal disadvantage is a priority of the State Government. However, the State cannot implement the initiatives nor achieve the outcomes detailed in this strategy without working in collaboration and partnership with other stakeholders, including the Commonwealth and local government, industry, businesses, non-government organisations and the Aboriginal community. For this strategy to deliver the anticipated outcomes, it is critical that the Aboriginal community is fully engaged in all aspects of its design and implementation.



Justin Howard, Zynal Cox, surveying. Dampier Peninsula.



Sailing *Leeuwin II*.



Joe and Yagan - Maar Koodjal.

HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A whole-of-government approach

The Western Australian Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy is predicated on the belief that sustainable improvements in the social, cultural and economic futures of Aboriginal Western Australians is dependent on:

- higher levels of participation in the workforce;
- growth in the number, diversity and capacity of Aboriginal-businesses and enterprises; and
- more efficient and economic use of Aboriginal-controlled land and resources.

The State has a multi-faceted role in helping Aboriginal people achieve these objectives.

- As an employer, the Government will take proactive measures to increase levels of Aboriginal employment within the public sector and with contractors working on government contracts.
- As a service provider, the Government will take measures to support Aboriginal people and their communities in building the social and intellectual capital necessary to participate equally in the Western Australian economy.
- As a leader of the economy and as an outcome of the State's economic development, the Government will engage with the private sector to stimulate jobs and business opportunities for Aboriginal people.
- As a procurer of goods and services, the State will strengthen Aboriginal employment requirements in government procurement processes and increase the involvement of Aboriginal businesses in the delivery of government services and capital projects.



Maalingup Gallery, Swan Valley. Courtesy WAITOC.



Wula Guda Nyinda Aboriginal Eco Adventures. Courtesy WAITOC.

Working with governments at all levels

The strategy incorporates a number of initiatives that have been agreed upon at a national level. For example, the State has committed to significant Aboriginal economic development through the COAG closing the gap targets on Aboriginal disadvantage and through the National Indigenous Reform Agreement. The State has committed to halving the gap in employment outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians by 2018-19.

The National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation (NPA IEP) has been established by the Commonwealth, States and Territories to contribute to the COAG employment targets. The NPA IEP involves investment and effort by the Commonwealth and the States to significantly improve opportunities for Aboriginal people to engage in public and private sector jobs through:

- creating real, sustainable employment in areas of government service delivery;
- strengthening current government procurement policies to maximise Aboriginal employment;
- incorporating Aboriginal workforce strategies into all new major COAG reforms; and
- reviewing all public sector Aboriginal employment and career development strategies to increase employment to reflect national Aboriginal working age population share by 2015.

Similarly, the State is also working in partnership with the Australian Government's Indigenous Economic Development Strategy 2011-2018, which aims to support increased personal and economic wellbeing of Aboriginal Australians through greater participation in the economy.

The five themes of the strategy are to:

1. Strengthen foundations to create an environment that supports economic development.
2. Invest in education.
3. Encourage participation and improve access to skills development and jobs.
4. Support entrepreneurship and the growth of the Aboriginal business sector.
5. Assist individuals and communities to achieve financial security and independence by increasing their ability to identify, build and make the most of economic assets.

committed to significant Aboriginal economic development



Chrissie Sailor, sewing, Jigalong.
Courtesy Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation.



Students in Port Hedland learn about Aboriginal art.

Role of State Government

The Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy will be led by the Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee (AACC) which comprises the Directors General from the following State agencies:

- Department of Indigenous Affairs (Chair)
- Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- Department of Treasury
- Department for Child Protection
- WA Police
- Department of Education
- Department of Regional Development and Lands
- Department of Housing
- Department of Training and Workforce Development
- Department of Health
- Department of Corrective Services

The Chair of the Western Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council is also an AACC member.

The AACC is legislated under section 19 of the *Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act 1972* to effectively coordinate activities that provide services and assistance to Aboriginal people. Their direction will provide a whole-of-government approach for the implementation of the strategy and ensure objectives are achieved, monitored and evaluated as a high priority.

The Department of Indigenous Affairs will provide policy leadership on behalf of the State that is consistent with obligations under the National Indigenous Reform Agenda.

Aboriginal economic participation is to be considered in the planning, programming and daily work of all agencies; in particular, key State economic agencies must foster opportunities at a strategic level for economic development and workforce participation.

The Public Sector Commission is leading a centrally coordinated Aboriginal Employment and Career Development Strategy to improve employment outcomes across the public sector. Major State agencies in education, health, community safety and conservation and environment will continue to work towards increasing Aboriginal employment, particularly in higher skilled occupations.

All State agencies have a role in contributing their expertise by participating directly in Aboriginal economic development projects through secondment of staff and by providing jobs or training opportunities.

All agencies are encouraged to be innovative and flexible to increase Aboriginal economic participation when purchasing goods and services and calling for tenders for State and local government projects, for example:

- through maintenance, cleaning, transport, asset management and gardening contracts;
- tenders for major infrastructure projects in areas of high Aboriginal population;
- provision of services to a significant Aboriginal client base; and
- purchasing of community services.

To strengthen these requirements, reporting on the achievement of Aboriginal economic participation outcomes was included in the performance agreements of all chief executive officers across the public sector from 2010-11.



Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation (AAC) directors and members. Courtesy AAC.

Working with the private sector

Governments are significant contributors, but it is the private sector – industry, businesses, employers and the community – that is the key driver of the State’s economy and major stakeholder in the economic prosperity of Aboriginal people.

The State is committed and will continue to work collaboratively with the private and community sectors to encourage and facilitate Aboriginal economic outcomes through:

- employment and training;
- business development;
- outcomes from native title agreements; and
- corporate social investment.

Working with Aboriginal people

The most important aspect of this strategy is achieving sustained economic prosperity for Aboriginal people that will redress social and financial disadvantage and improve their capacity to determine and achieve a better future.

The State recognises that Aboriginal people, their leaders and organisations need to be involved in the implementation of the strategy and the actions that arise. Increased Aboriginal responsibility to promote and support the benefits of employment and economic participation is critical to the success of the strategy.

The State will commit to working with the Aboriginal community through existing and, if required, specifically created engagement forums at a regional level to ensure the strategy remains focused on realistic and achievable goals.

Planning and coordination

Governments and industry have integrated roles in the planning and coordination of the engagement, training and skilling of the Aboriginal labour force, much of which is located in rural and remote locations.

Through the direction and oversight of the AACC, the State is taking a whole-of-government approach to Aboriginal employment and economic development, with the Department of Training and Workforce Development assigned the role of lead agency on training and employment and the Department of Indigenous Affairs the lead agency for economic development.

The State will maintain strong linkages with Commonwealth agencies and local government authorities to ensure maximum Aboriginal economic participation outcomes are achieved from their investment, programs and services.

The State, through nominated lead agencies, will ensure that Aboriginal economic participation is considered in regional and local economic planning, purchasing of goods and services, in particular those that target Aboriginal clients, and the planning of major projects and investment.

providing
jobs or
business
opportunities



Teaching in Baldivis Children’s Forest.



Shona Park, Wickham. Courtesy Rio Tinto.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The following are the main objectives and examples of the initiatives the State Government will pursue to address the gap in Aboriginal economic participation.



Respond to Aboriginal aspirations

Objective 1: Increase the potential for Aboriginal people of all ages to have the same equality of opportunity in life as non-Aboriginal people, and to more fully participate in the economy.

Objective 2: Strengthen and maintain Aboriginal culture and society.

Initiatives:

- Leadership, engagement and participation:
 - establish a governance and leadership development program, in consultation with Aboriginal communities, to identify and support Aboriginal economic leadership and management in the implementation of land use and other agreements, in particular in the Kimberley, Pilbara and Mid-West regions (DIA, DRDL, DPC);
 - provide tailored corporate and community governance training and development to Aboriginal corporations and commercial trusts (DIA, DoC); and
 - improve Aboriginal representation and engagement in social and economic planning at the local and regional level (DoP, DIA, RDC, DRDL).
- Establish a partnership with the private sector to sponsor Aboriginal entrepreneurship and the professional development of Aboriginal business managers and in-house professionals (SBDC, DIA).
- Promote the participation of Aboriginal people in industry forums and associations, such as regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry (SBDC, DIA).
- Market and promote the benefits of employment and business development to the Aboriginal community (DTWD, SBDC, DIA).
- Advocate for Aboriginal economic development policy and welfare reform at a national level (DIA).
- Promote the strength, sustainability and economic value of Aboriginal culture and knowledge, and facilitate economic opportunity arising from Aboriginal lands and intellectual property (DIA, DCA, DRDL, DoP).
- Implement native title agreements with a focus on building capacity among native title holders to maximise the opportunities arising from agreements (DPC, DSD, DIA).



Courtesy Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation.



Bunjima traditional owner, Charlie Smith. Central mining and contracting. Courtesy Rio Tinto.



Courtesy Department of Health Western Australia.

Unlock the potential

Objective 1: Provide accessible and relevant education pathways that will equip all Aboriginal students with a practical pathway to work and further study and the capacity to engage and take up other life opportunities.

Objective 2: Provide increased opportunity to develop the skills to establish businesses and allow broad and increased participation in the economy.

Initiatives:

Education:

- Improve Aboriginal school attendance and educational outcomes by:
 - seeking support from Aboriginal parents, caregivers and cultural leaders to improve school attendance and participation in education;
 - encouraging the expansion of programs that contribute to the retention of Aboriginal students in the education system and with the transition to employment;
 - continuing support for the Follow the Dream for Success Partnerships Program and its successful achievement of tertiary study aspirations and professional careers; and
 - investigating the establishment of additional residential hostels with wrap-around support services to provide sustainable accommodation for students (DoE).
- Increase participation in and completion of Aboriginal School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Programs (DTWD, DoE, PSC).
- Increase participation in Aboriginal career development and mentoring capacity within schools (DoE).
- Promote agricultural school programs and work experience in agricultural workplaces to increase the participation of Aboriginal students (DAFWA, DoE, DIA).



Training and Workforce Development:

- Implement the Training Together - Working Together, Aboriginal Workforce Development Strategy, including:
 - connecting employers and Aboriginal job seekers;
 - engaging local knowledge and capacity;
 - improving the transitioning of Aboriginal people through quality mentoring;
 - developing a strategic systematic response to individual and institutional barriers to Aboriginal participation in the workforce; and
 - raising awareness of Aboriginal employment opportunities and promote new Aboriginal role models (DTWD).
- Apprenticeship and Traineeship support and reforms:
 - investigate and develop new models for the delivery of Aboriginal apprenticeships that will increase the uptake, retention and successful completion of apprenticeships across the trades and industry sectors (DTWD, DIA);
 - implement the WA Public Sector Aboriginal Traineeship Program that will provide Aboriginal traineeships and permanent employment in regional and metropolitan areas (PSC, Public Sector);
 - increase Aboriginal traineeships and apprenticeships in the housing industry (DTWD, DoH);
 - increase the uptake, retention and completion of apprenticeships and traineeships with Main Roads Western Australia projects (MRWA); and
 - support and expand the Department of Environment and Conservation's ranger traineeships, in particular joint park management arrangements with Aboriginal communities (DEC).
- Establish in partnership with industry and the Commonwealth Government a trade training centre to support the construction, civil, oil and gas industries in the West Kimberley (DTWD).
- Investigate establishing accommodation facilities with wrap-around support services in key regional locations to accommodate Aboriginal people transitioning from remote communities into training and employment (DoH).

training
together
-
working
together



Kevin Mongoo with his front end loader.
Courtesy Rio Tinto.



Workstart training.
Courtesy Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation.

Grow economic participation

Objective 1: Increase Aboriginal participation and representation in employment and the broader economy, particularly by women and youth in remote areas.

Objective 2: Grow Aboriginal owned businesses and Aboriginal / non-Aboriginal joint ventures, and increase Aboriginal employment in Aboriginal businesses.

Initiatives:

Employment:

- Implement the Western Australian Public Sector Aboriginal Employment Strategy with an Aboriginal employment target of 3.2 per cent (PSC, Public Sector).
- Strengthen Aboriginal employment outcomes achieved through Government procurement processes (DoF, DIA, DoH, DoE, DCP, BMW, DoC, SBDC, Public Sector).
- Increase the participation of Aboriginal people in all sections of the Health Sector (WA Health).
- Investigate establishing affordable worker accommodation facilities for Aboriginal people taking up sustainable employment in regions that have a limited or high cost private rental market (DoH, DRDL).
- Maintain existing and examine the possibility of establishing new work camps for Aboriginal prisoners that provide a pathway into employment and facilitates their re-entry into the community (DCS).
- Support the Memorandum of Understanding between the Minerals Council of Australia and the Commonwealth Government, with the aim of contributing to developing self-sustaining and prosperous Aboriginal communities in mining regions, in which individuals can create and take up employment and business opportunities (DIA, DTWD).
- Promote the benefits of employment to Aboriginal people living in remote communities, design economic models to support local employment and investigate establishing fly-in fly-out arrangements with industry partners in other labour markets (DTWD, DIA).

- Promote the engagement of Aboriginal students in the after-school / weekend casual labour market (DTWD, DoE).
- Address home-to-work transport issues, including drivers licensing, safe vehicle access and public transport options in regional and remote areas (DoT, DoT, DoAG).
- Improve Aboriginal engagement in the delivery of social housing in remote Aboriginal communities through housing management agreements between the housing authority and communities (DoH).

Business:

- Review the State's procurement policies so that the requirements for Aboriginal economic participation are designed to support the expansion of Aboriginal business opportunities and an Aboriginal supplier network (DoF, BMW, DoH, DoE, DCP, DIA, Public Sector).
- Provide training, advice and business support services to Aboriginal small businesses (SBDC).
- Implement the Aboriginal Tourism Strategy for Western Australia 2011 – 2015 (TWA, WAITOC, SBDC, DIA).
- In partnership with industry, support entities in each region that represent, support and advocate on behalf of Aboriginal businesses (RDCs, DIA).
- Establish a public directory of Aboriginal businesses that details their capacity (DTWD, SBDC, DIA).
- Implement the Indigenous Landholder Services program to improve the production and viability of Aboriginal pastoral and agricultural producers across the State (DAFWA).
- Facilitate more Aboriginal women into business and promote Aboriginal women's businesses (SBDC, DTWD).
- Increase opportunities for Aboriginal businesses resulting from the joint management of national parks (DEC).

Create sustainable wealth

Objective 1: Increase the economic self-sufficiency and resilience of Aboriginal families and communities, while reducing welfare dependence.

Objective 2: Encourage the development of Aboriginal owned assets and grow intergenerational wealth.

Initiatives:

- Provide a framework for land tenure reform which allows the establishment of Aboriginal businesses and home ownership on Aboriginal controlled land (DRDL, DIA, DPC, DoP).
- Research and develop a range of Aboriginal home ownership products, including transitional housing in support of employment, shared equity purchase models, affordable housing in high cost resource industry towns, such as Port Hedland, and home ownership in Aboriginal communities (DoH, Keystart, DIA).
- Promote exploration on Aboriginal lands that maximises Aboriginal economic participation outcomes (DMP, DRDL, DPC, DIA).
- Promote and assist with the further development of Aboriginal remote and regional art centres and artists (DCA, DIA).
- Expedite land development and release in locations that provide an economic return to Aboriginal communities (DRDL, LandCorp, DoH, DoP).
- Increase the economic outcomes associated with State government negotiated native title agreements (DPC).
- Promote economic outcomes from Aboriginal and State lands through natural resource management projects and support of the pastoral and agricultural industries (DAFWA, DRDL).

strengthen
the
Aboriginal
business
sector



Brida nursery, Roebourne. Courtesy Rio Tinto.



Kepa Kurl Eco Discovery Cultural Tours. Courtesy WAITOC.



Ashoil.
Courtesy Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation.

Work in partnership

Objective 1: Increase decision making by Aboriginal people and shared responsibility for economic participation outcomes.

Objective 2: Improve collaboration and coordination across State, Commonwealth and local governments.

Initiatives:

■ Implement the Economic Development building block commitments incorporated in the COAG National Indigenous Reform Agreement, including:

- the National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation (DIA, DTWD, DoF, PSC);
- the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Services Delivery (DIA);
- the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (DoH); and
- the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Public Internet Access (DoC).

■ Cooperate with Commonwealth Agencies in the implementation of the Commonwealth's Indigenous Economic Development Strategy 2011 – 2018 (DTWD, SBDC, DIA).

■ Work in collaboration with Commonwealth agencies such as the Indigenous Land Corporation and Indigenous Business Australia, in particular in matters related to acquiring land and utilisation of assets and the establishment of Aboriginal businesses and investment (DIA, Keystart, SBDC, DRDL).

■ Engage, consult, inform and gain the support of the Western Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council (WAAAC) for Aboriginal economic participation initiatives (DIA).

■ Engage with key industry bodies to gain support for initiatives to maximise Aboriginal economic participation outcomes, including:

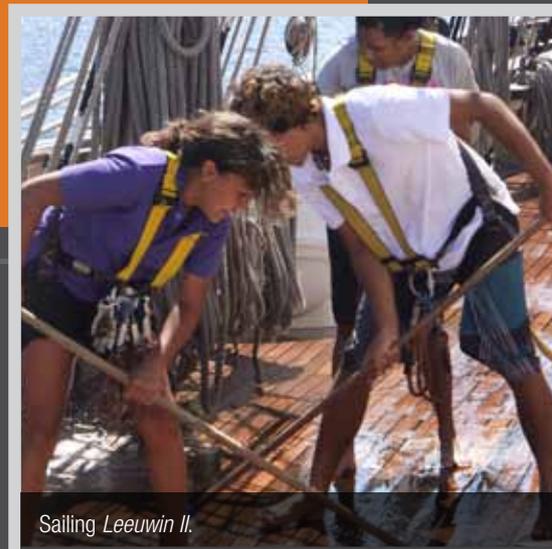
- Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia (DMP, DPC, DIA);
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia (DSD, DoC, DPC, DIA);
- Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (DMP, DIA);
- Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (DMP, DIA); and
- Industry Training Councils (DTWD).

■ Engage and collaborate with Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRB) and Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) to maximise Aboriginal economic participation outcomes under the terms and conditions of Indigenous land use agreements (DPC, DIA).

■ Consult and engage with Aboriginal organisations and corporations in the contracting of service providers to deliver programs and services, in particular for services and programs targeted to Aboriginal clients (DoF, DCP, DSC, DoH, DTWD, DCS, DoE).

■ Maintain the Aboriginal Natural Resource Management (NRM) Engagement Framework to ensure the NRM Program delivers employment and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people across the State (DAFWA).

■ Build positive relationships between agencies and the Aboriginal community through the development of Reconciliation Action Plans (DIA, Public Sector).



Sailing *Leeuwin II*.

TERMINOLOGY

The terms Aboriginal, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and Indigenous in referring to the First Australians are used interchangeably to maintain accuracy with respect to other preceding documents and initiatives. The term Aboriginal, more broadly used here, should be taken to mean Aboriginal, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and Indigenous peoples.

Glossary of acronyms used

AACC	Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee	DTWD	Department of Training and Workforce Development
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	DoT	Department of Transport
BMW	Building Management and Works	DSC	Disability Services Commission
COAG	Council of Australian Governments	IEDS	Indigenous Economic Development Strategy
DCP	Department for Child Protection	Keystart	Keystart Home Loans
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food	MRWA	Main Roads Western Australia
DoC	Department of Commerce	NGO	Non-Government Organisation
DCS	Department of Corrective Services	NPA IEP	National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation
DCA	Department of Culture and the Arts	NTRB	Native Title Representative Body
DoE	Department of Education	PBC	Prescribed Body Corporate
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation	PSC	Public Sector Commission
DoF	Department of Finance	RDC	Regional Development Commission
DoH	Department of Housing	SBDC	Small Business Development Corporation
DIA	Department of Indigenous Affairs	TWA	Tourism Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum	WAAAC	Western Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council
DoP	Department of Planning	WA Health	Department of Health
DRDL	Department of Regional Development and Lands	WAITOC	Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council
DSD	Department of State Development		
DotAG	Department of the Attorney General		
DPC	Department of the Premier and Cabinet		

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