

*at September 2010*

Key Deliverable 2010	Progress to September 2010
<b>Research and Policy Foresight</b>	
A new national research and policy development program, including initial projects on strengthening local democracy and new options for more effective service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research coordinator and senior research officer appointed;</li> <li>▪ National forum held in Canberra in March;</li> <li>▪ Research Advisory Committee formed – inaugural meeting in June, next meeting in December;</li> <li>▪ Round 1 projects under way;</li> <li>▪ Partnerships established with Local Government Association of South Australia and Local Government New Zealand;</li> <li>▪ 'Digest' on local government and climate change completed;</li> <li>▪ Roundtable #2 on metro governance convened in Brisbane 19-21 August</li> </ul>
<b>Innovation and Best Practice</b>	
Launch of the Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Network and website to highlight best practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preliminary investigations completed;</li> <li>▪ Website under testing;</li> <li>▪ Case studies being identified and other content sourced</li> </ul>
<b>Governance and Strategic Leadership</b>	
The first Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG) Excellence in Local Government Leadership program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Draft program and brochure prepared;</li> <li>▪ Consultations complete, program now open;</li> <li>▪ Program scheduled for 22/11 to 10/12 (3 week residential);</li> <li>▪ \$100K federally-funded scholarships for women;</li> <li>▪ Over 30 further scholarships funded by states and others</li> </ul>
A new national Aspiring Leaders program for middle managers, including a Graduate Certificate in Local Government Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Graduate Certificate accredited by UTS for offer in 2011;</li> <li>▪ Detailed subject design under way;</li> <li>▪ Discussions planned re parallel offer in WA, other states to follow;</li> <li>▪ Framework for broader Emerging Leaders program (building on existing Local Government Managers Australia [LGMA] programs where available) now being developed</li> </ul>
An upgraded Business Excellence Framework for local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All councils surveyed regarding use of excellence frameworks;</li> <li>▪ Research into alternative frameworks completed;</li> <li>▪ Discussions well advanced with Local Government Business Excellence Network (LGBEN) and SAI Global on possible upgrading</li> </ul>
A special LGMA Management Challenge to develop strategies for increased women's participation in over 100 councils across Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Challenge held in March (regional) and July (Australasian final);</li> <li>▪ 129 teams; all completed pre-Challenge task on increasing women's participation – summary report nearing completion;</li> <li>▪ \$40K Office for Women funding to promote outcomes</li> </ul>
Assistance for the Australian Local Government Women's Association to implement its gender equity accreditation and awards program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ACELG contracted to manage \$250K grant;</li> <li>▪ Project coordinator appointed and program launched at Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) Dinner in June;</li> <li>▪ Recruitment of councils now under way</li> </ul>



An Australian Government Initiative

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Organisation Capacity Building	
Guidelines on Asset Management for Small Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consultant engaged and work almost completed</li> </ul>
A national assessment framework to measure progress in improving asset management and long-term financial planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (IPWEA) has engaged project manager;</li> <li>▪ Collaboration with Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) to develop principles for framework;</li> <li>▪ Likely Local Government Reform Fund (LGRF) funding for framework, linked to asset management roll-out</li> </ul>
Guidelines for long-term financial planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consultations and scoping largely complete;</li> <li>▪ Options paper being prepared;</li> <li>▪ Awaiting LGRF funding</li> </ul>
National minimum data sets for key programs: asset and financial management, workforce development, women in local government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussions well advanced with DITRDLG re LGRF funding for main data sets;</li> <li>▪ \$100K separate funding approved for data on women in local government</li> </ul>
Rural-Remote and Indigenous Local Government	
A national strategy to address the special capacity-building needs of small rural-remote and Indigenous local governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Scoping studies completed in WA, NT, Qld;</li> <li>▪ National roundtable to be held 29-30 July at ANU to initiate national strategy;</li> <li>▪ National strategy now being prepared</li> <li>▪ Discussions with FaHCSIA, DITRDLG re follow-up</li> </ul>
Workforce Development	
Third national Local Government Skills Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Held in Canberra 23-24 March</li> </ul>
A Local Government Workforce Development Blueprint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ReferenceGroup established;</li> <li>▪ Blueprint in final draft stage, discussed at Canberra forum;</li> <li>▪ Launch awaiting agreement on integration with LGPMC Workforce Strategy (ACELG may be commissioned to complete)</li> </ul>
A 'Green Paper' on Indigenous employment in local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Released on 29 July;</li> <li>▪ Working links established with DEEWR</li> </ul>
A review of current local government education and development programs to identify gaps and opportunities for national networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First stage inventory complete and information published on ACELG website and in discussion paper;</li> <li>▪ 'Demand-side' survey in preparation</li> </ul>

