

## The Department's role is to:

lead whole of government implementation of services delivered under the [Stronger Futures](#) and [Remote Services Delivery National Partnership Agreements](#)

coordinate whole-of-government Indigenous policy

build regional economies through enterprise development, job creation and infrastructure investment

provide interpreting and translating services to improve access to services for all Territorians.

## Regional Development

The growth of the economy of the Northern Territory is linked to the successful development of our regions. The Department's aim is to create strong regional and remote economies underpinned by profitable and sustainable industries supporting economic growth.

Funding programs such as the *Regional Economic Development Fund* and the *Indigenous Business Development Program* can assist locally-based industry and business capability.

## The Indigenous Business Development Program:

- The Indigenous Business Development Program (IBDP) is a \$600,000 per annum grant funding program that assists Indigenous Territorians to enter into or expand commercial business arrangements that will develop employment and income opportunities
- Provides flexible funding that meets Indigenous business needs and is **based on sound commercial practice**

## General Criteria

- Applicant must be a resident of the Northern Territory
- Business must be based and registered in the Northern Territory
- Must be a demonstration of commitment from the Indigenous proponent/s
- Evidence of financial contributions by either being self funded, from government agencies or joint venture partners
- Evidence of in-kind contributions

## Eligibility for IBDP

- **Indigenous Individuals**
  - for assistance where a business has a substantial business development opportunity and/or the individual has established an appropriate formalised structure with feasibility of the development deemed as viable;
  - the potential to significantly benefit from a major project; and/or
  - a combination of the above where there is a joint venture arrangement with non-Indigenous partners who are able to demonstrate due diligence.
- **Indigenous incorporated bodies with a registered commercial business.**
- **Indigenous owned companies with a commercially focused constitution.**

# Indigenous Economic Development Officer (IEDO) role

*“To share knowledge about business that can assist Indigenous people to make informed decisions on the why and how of business”*

The IEDO will;

- talk to people about the idea
- explain the process of starting business and the Indigenous Business Development Program
- assist with initial scoping of the business idea
- identify what assistance is required and refer to an appropriate agency such as Indigenous Business Australia who run *In to Business* workshops
- discuss funding (\$) options
- Assist with the submission of funding applications

## Indigenous Business Development Program Outcomes

Since the program's inception in 2005 it has assisted over 148 Indigenous businesses and organisations across the Territory with over \$2.8 million in funding.