

Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework

2022 - 2032



Acknowledgement

The Northern Territory Government respectfully acknowledges the First Nations people of this country and recognises their continuing connection to their lands, waters and communities. We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to their leaders past, present and emerging.

While this strategy uses the term 'Aboriginal', we respectfully acknowledge that Torres Strait Islander peoples are First Nations people living in the Territory. Therefore, strategies, services and outcomes relating to 'Aboriginal' Territorians should be read to include both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Territorians.



Contents		
	Minister’s Foreword	4
	The Vision	6
	The Context	6
	Definitions	9
	Introduction	10
	The Benefits	11
	Principles	12
	Objectives	13
	Objective 1: Activate NT Government procurement and grants to increase Aboriginal economic participation	14
	Objective 2: Secure the private sector’s commitment to Aboriginal economic participation on NT Government supported projects	16
	Objective 3: Strengthen Aboriginal business and community-controlled organisations	17
	Objective 4: Realise the potential of the Aboriginal workforce	18
	Monitoring and reporting	19

Minister's Foreword

Aboriginal people represent approximately 30 per cent of our population, owning or having rights and interests in a substantial portion of the Territory's landmass and most of its coastline. These factors make Aboriginal Territorians key drivers and partners in the Territory's economic future.

The Aboriginal Land and Sea Action Plan was first agreed in 2019 to ensure those rights and interests translate to boosting the economic and social aspirations of Aboriginal Territorians.

A key barrier has been the lack of a similar whole-of-government framework to grow Aboriginal employment and participation in the broader economy.

The Northern Territory Government is committed to maximising opportunities for participation of Aboriginal Territorians right across our economy. A 2016 election commitment of the Government was the introduction of an Aboriginal Contracting Framework, aimed at doing just that.

Previous attempts to provide additional support to Aboriginal businesses and not-for-profit organisations had been subject to allegations of fraud and 'black cladding'.

An audit of a previous scheme by the Northern Territory Auditor-General in 2017, and an independent evaluation by KPMG, identified and reported on a number of deficiencies in its performance, procedures and processes.

These reports informed the development of a draft Aboriginal Contracting Framework by the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation through 2018-19, using a co-designed approach comprising of extensive stakeholder consultations.

Modelling done for Government as part of the Economic Impact Analysis by Deloitte Access Economics in 2019 estimated that increasing the proportion of Aboriginal workers on government contracts to 30% over a 12 year period, could:

- add \$3.2 billion to the gross state product in net present value terms
- generate between \$49 million and \$146 million in social benefits
- enable 2,222 Aboriginal Territorians to gain employment annually.

In 2020, a recommendation made by the Territory Economic Reconstruction Committee (TERC), was that Government finalise and implement the Aboriginal Contracting Framework.

A review in 2021 of the earlier work led to the Aboriginal Contracting Framework being re-branded as the Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework (AEP Framework), as it encompasses much more than just contracting.

The AEP Framework is a whole-of-government approach which aligns with similar schemes operating in all other jurisdictions including the Commonwealth. It supports the NT Government's commitments to bring Aboriginal Territorians to the forefront of economic development in the Territory, comprising the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and the Closing the Gap NT Implementation Plan, the Everyone Together Aboriginal Affairs Strategy and the Local Decision Making Framework.

The vision of the AEP Framework is to maximise opportunities for participation of Aboriginal Territorians in the NT economy through new and existing initiatives to achieve the four objectives underpinning the AEP Framework.

The AEP Framework will also support non-Aboriginal Territorians and businesses to provide employment, training and education, and to develop partnerships and joint ventures, to assist building the capacity and capability of Aboriginal employees and Aboriginal business enterprises across the Northern Territory.

**The Hon Selena Uiibo MLA
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs**

Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework

The Vision

Opportunities for participation of Aboriginal Territorians in the Northern Territory economy are maximised.

Four linked objectives



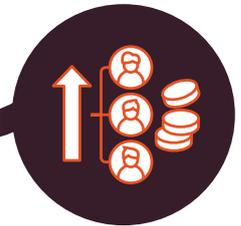
Activate NTG procurement & grants



Private sector commitments



Aboriginal business development



Aboriginal workforce development

Economic benefits

Over a 12 year period, increasing Aboriginal people working on Government contracts from 10% to 30% could generate an additional...

2,222

average FTE jobs per year

\$3.2

billion in NT output

and social benefits...



long-term outcomes for children



stronger families



increased well-being



role model of business



less anti-social behaviour



intergenerational wealth



meaningful employment

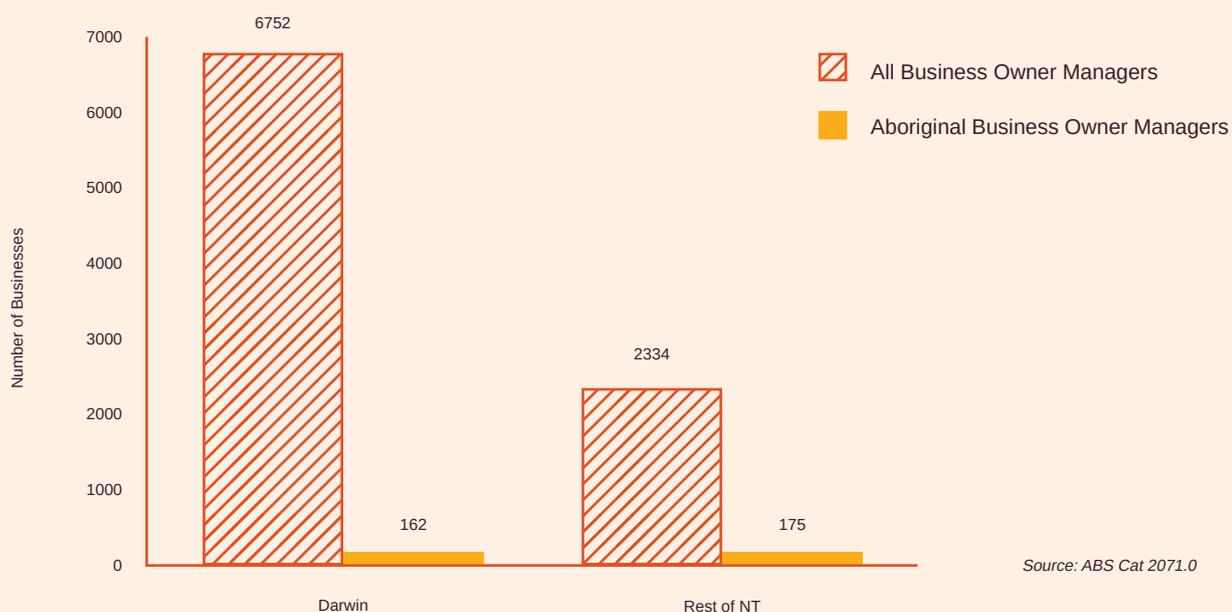
The Vision

Opportunities for participation of Aboriginal Territorians in the Northern Territory economy are maximised.

The Context

- There are 73 remote communities and 500 homelands and outstations across the Northern Territory
- There were 74,546 Aboriginal Territorians involved in the 2016 Census making up 30.3% of the Northern Territory population
- The Northern Territory Government spends approximately \$3 billion on infrastructure, goods and services annually¹
- Aboriginal Business Owner Managers make up 7.5% of all Business Owner Managers outside of Darwin and 2.4% of Business Owner Managers in Darwin.

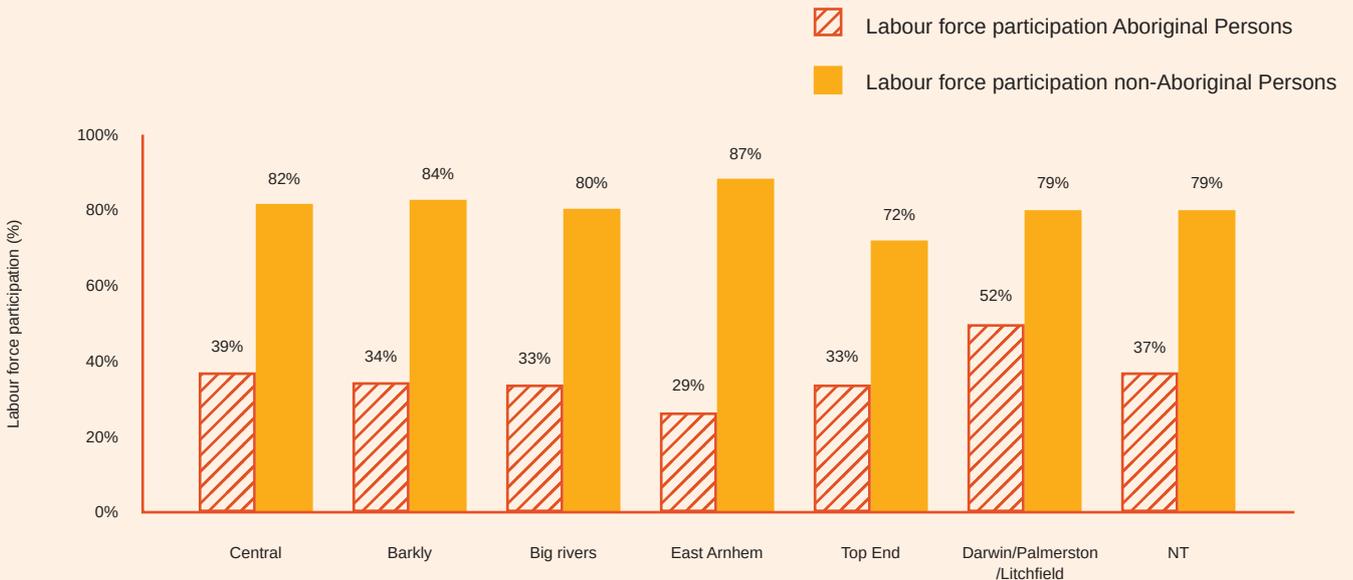
Figure 1 Number of Aboriginal Business Owner Managers



¹ Buy Local Plan - NT.GOV.AU

Figure 2 Labour force participation by region

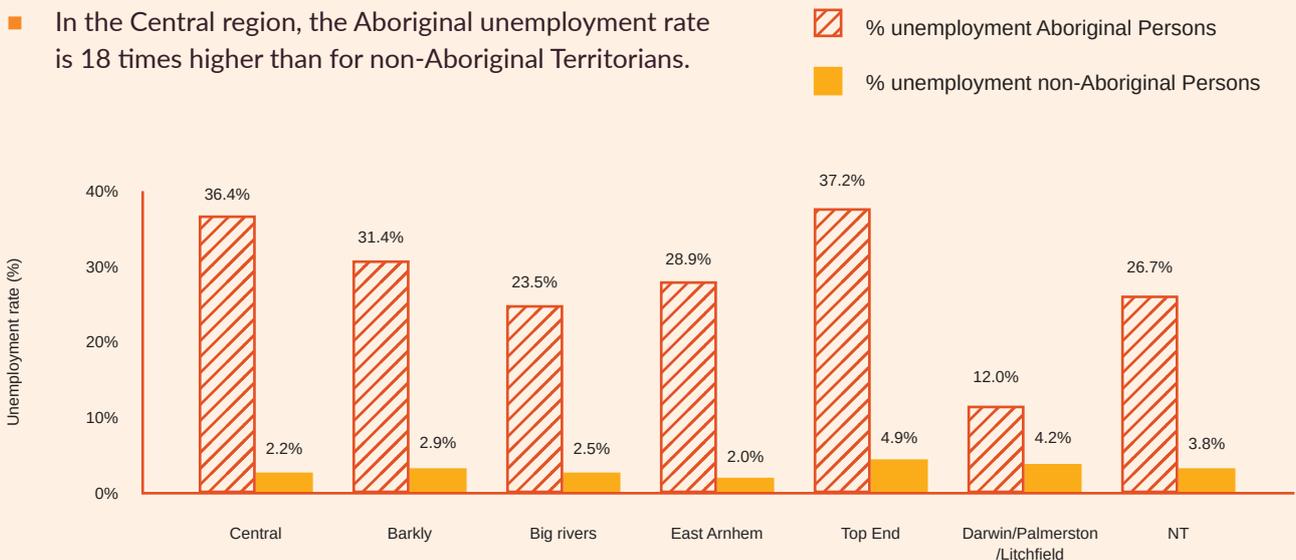
- The labour force participation rate for Aboriginal Territorians is around half that of non-Aboriginal Territorians
- The highest labour force participation rate for Aboriginal Territorians is in the Darwin/Palmerston/Litchfield region at 52%, compared to 79% for non-Aboriginal Territorians.



Source: ABS Census Community Profiles 2016

Figure 3 Unemployment rate by region

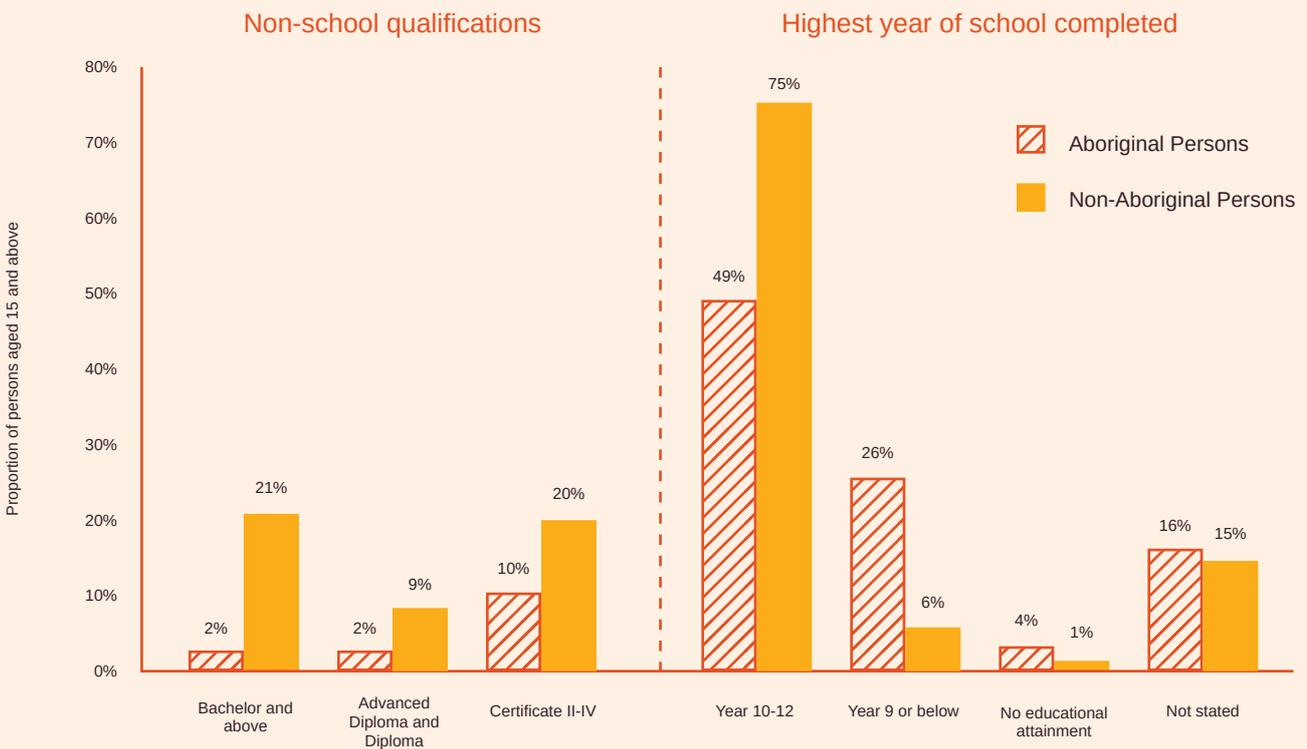
- The unemployment rate for Aboriginal Territorians is 26.7% compared to 3.8% for non-Aboriginal (seven times higher)
- In the Central region, the Aboriginal unemployment rate is 18 times higher than for non-Aboriginal Territorians.



Source: ABS Census Community Profiles 2016

Figure 4 Educational attainment in the Northern Territory

- 42.7% of students enrolled in NT Government schools are Aboriginal
- 49% of Aboriginal Territorians aged 15 years and above have attained Year 12 (or equivalent) compared to 75% of non-Aboriginal Territorians.



Source: ABS Census 2016 Quick Stats

Definitions

Aboriginal Business Enterprise (ABE)	<p>A business or community organisation that meets all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 51% or more Aboriginal owned ■ is operating as a business, including companies, incorporated associations, sole traders, partnerships, trusts and social enterprises or registered charities if they are operating as a business ■ can demonstrate that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are involved in the daily operation of the enterprise and have effective control at least equal to the degree of ownership ■ is registered with a certifying authority as meeting the definition.
Certifying Authority	<p>An organisation that provides services to confirm the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ownership and control of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enterprises. The certifying authority's processes are recognised by the NT Government as suitably robust to assure the Territory of the integrity of its certified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business enterprise list.</p> <p>The NT Indigenous Business Network is recognised by the NT Government as the peak body for Aboriginal Business Enterprises in the Northern Territory and the primary certifying body.</p> <p>Other approved certifying authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supply Nation ■ Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC).
Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)	<p>An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) delivers services, including land and resource management, builds capability and empowers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people; and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. is incorporated under relevant legislation, and is registered and operates as a not-for-profit organisation b. is constituted and operated by members who are recognised in their community as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people c. originates from, or has a material and ongoing connection to and/or with the community, or communities, in which the services are delivered d. is governed by a body constituted in the majority by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people e. is independent from and is not controlled to any extent by any sphere of government (except to the extent that an organisation receives funding, and under a formal agreement is accountable to such governmental body for the receipt and expenditure of the funding).
Confirmation of Aboriginality	<p>The NT Government reserves the right to ask employers to verify the Aboriginality of its employees. The eligibility criteria for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander employees is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ being Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander; and ■ identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and being accepted as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in the community in which the employee lives or formerly lived. <p>The proof required to satisfy this criteria is a Certificate of Aboriginality from a recognised Aboriginal organisation.</p>
Recognised Aboriginal organisation	<p>The NT Indigenous Business Network is recognised by the NT Government as the provider of advice on which organisations are recognised Aboriginal organisations for the purposes of providing a valid Certificate of Aboriginality.</p>

Introduction

Aboriginal Territorians are key drivers and partners in the Territory’s economic future. The Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework (the AEP Framework) is the Northern Territory Government’s commitment to create more opportunities for the participation of Aboriginal Territorians in the NT economy.

Aboriginal people, businesses and community organisations face many barriers in being able to participate in the mainstream economy. But we know for the Territory to reach its economic potential, especially in remote and regional locations, increasing the participation of Aboriginal Territorians is critical.

The AEP Framework:

- is an NT Government election commitment and a key initiative under the NT Government’s Aboriginal Affairs Strategy;
- recognises that Aboriginal economic inclusion requires a more holistic approach, encompassing a wide range of actions across key areas; and
- links to actions in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and the Closing the Gap NT Implementation Plan, the NT Land and Sea Action Plan, the Local Decision Making Framework and the Territory Economic Reconstruction Committee’s Final Report and recommendations to the NT Government.

Closing the Gap

This diagram outlines the components that create the landscape for maximising opportunities for the participation of Aboriginal Territorians in the NT economy.



The Benefits

Economic impact

The AEP Framework is expected to boost growth in the NT economy by expanding the productive capacity of the Northern Territory.

Modelling conducted for the NT Government by Deloitte Access Economics² found that increasing the share of Aboriginal people working on Government contracts from 10% to 30% could add \$3.2 billion in Net Present Value (NPV) terms to the NT’s Gross State Product (GSP) over a 12 year period.

On average, in each year over a 12 year period, an additional net 2,222 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs are estimated to be created.

The economic impact of the AEP Framework is expected to build over time. Additional output of \$200 million is estimated in year two of implementation, with additional output of \$700 million estimated in year 12 of implementation.

The regional distribution of the AEP Framework impact reflects the distribution of the NT Government’s expenditure on contracts, with the largest increase in Gross Regional Product (GRP) and jobs expected to occur in Darwin.

	Additional GRP or GSP (NPV \$m)	Average annual additional jobs (FTE)
Darwin	1984	1257
Top End	241	232
Big Rivers	219	218
Barkly	124	101
Central	673	413
Northern Territory	3242	2222

Source: Deloitte Access Economics, 2019 GRP and GSP figure are in 2018-19 dollars

In addition to increases in GSP the AEP Framework is estimated to increase tax revenue by \$185.8 million in NPV terms over 12 years, with \$74.2 million of this increase estimated to accrue to the NT Government.

Commonwealth Government spending on welfare payments is also estimated to decrease by \$127 million.

Social impact

Deloitte Access Economics also identified and valued the range of social impacts that would be generated.

Individual	Family	Community
Employability	Stronger families	Increased services
Increased well-being	Improved long-term outcomes for children	Less anti-social behaviour
	Intergenerational wealth	Role model of business

Deloitte Access Economics estimated the value of social benefits to individuals and their families to range from \$49 million to \$146 million. In addition to these benefits, the value to the community associated with less anti-social behaviour was estimated to be \$7.7 million in NPV terms over 12 years.

The Northern Territory Social Outcomes Framework (SOF) aligns with the monitoring and reporting measures in the AEP Framework and is identified as the mechanism for measuring the social impacts.

The SOF recognises the values the community and the non-government organisation sector places on individual and community wellbeing, and provides a transparent measure of progress across the Northern Territory.

² Deloitte Access Economics, Provision of Economic Impact Analysis on Aboriginal Contracting Framework for Department of Trade, Business and Innovation. June 2019

Principles

The guiding principles of the AEP Framework are:



Aboriginal Territorians are key drivers and partners in the Territory's economic future.



Equal inclusion of Aboriginal Territorians in the economy is critical to the NT reaching its economic potential.



The best value for the Territory in procurement and grants includes social and cultural value, which must be taken into account.



The NT Government recognises that decisions are best made closer to the people and communities affected and supports a regional approach that places Aboriginal people and communities at the centre of decision making.



Public funds expenditure must achieve the best value for the Territory and be an accountable use of public money.

Agencies must put in place practices and procedures to ensure that their contracting activities are consistent with these principles.

Objectives

A positive change in Aboriginal participation will only be realised if Aboriginal businesses, organisations and workers are supported to capitalise on increased preferencing for Aboriginal participation in Northern Territory Government contracts.

Therefore, preferencing that creates demand for Aboriginal participation must be complemented with strategies that lift and grow the capability of Aboriginal businesses and workers.

The four objectives underpinning the AEP Framework are:

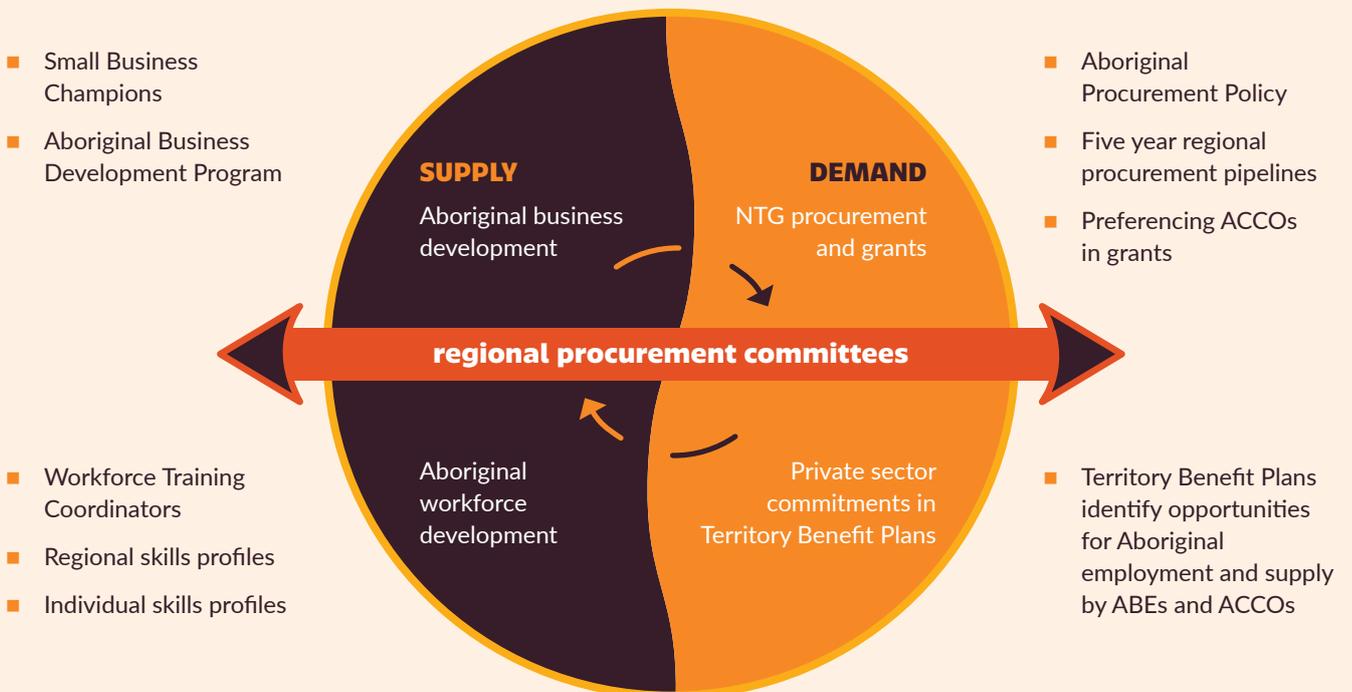
1. Activate NT Government procurement and grants to increase Aboriginal economic participation
2. Secure private sector commitments to Aboriginal economic participation on NT Government supported projects
3. Strengthen Aboriginal business and community-controlled organisations
4. Realise the potential of the Aboriginal workforce.

These objectives seek to grow Aboriginal economic participation rates to a level which reflects that Aboriginal Territorians comprise 30% of the NT's population.

Regional procurement committees will be established as a sub-committee of the Regional Coordination Committees, comprised of senior staff from relevant government departments with a regional presence, chaired by the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C).

This composition acts to avoid potential conflicts of interests from industry and business.

The role of the regional procurement sub-committees is to provide local and regional information to procuring agencies to assist procurers decide on the preferred procurement method or the weightings to be given to ABEs or Aboriginal employment in the local content component of particular tender assessments, to best meet the requirements of the AEP Framework and the Aboriginal Procurement Policy.



Measuring achievement

1. Monitor and report annually on progress against the measures
2. Enhanced systems to record Aboriginal participation in NT Government

Objective 1

Activate NT Government procurement and grants to increase Aboriginal economic participation

The Northern Territory Government policies that guide procurement and grants processes have a critical role to play in increasing opportunities for Aboriginal businesses and organisations. Being able to link business to communities, workers to employment opportunities and communities to contracting opportunities is key to the success of the AEP Framework.

Mechanisms we will use:

- **Buy Local Plan³ and the Value for Territory Assessment Framework⁴:** As part of the Buy Local Plan, a local content test with a minimum weighting of 30% is now included in all government quotes and tenders.

Implementation of the local content test using the Value for the Territory Assessment Framework allows agencies to identify specific desired outcomes to be preferenced through the procurement assessment process, including the preferencing of Aboriginal Business Enterprises (ABEs) and Aboriginal workforce based on a comprehensive awareness of local market capability.

Responsible agency: Department of Industry Tourism and Trade (DITT)

- **Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes⁵:** This program includes a commitment to Aboriginal business enterprise development, Aboriginal employment and sustainable training and apprenticeships in delivery of the \$1.1 billion investment in Aboriginal remote housing from 2017-19 to 2020-2027.



Under this program local/community-based ABEs and regional ABEs can be directly engaged. All tenders must comply with a minimum 42% Aboriginal employment and includes a commitment to develop local Aboriginal businesses to enable sustainable training and apprenticeships.

Responsible agency: Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics

- **A five year rolling Tender Forecast⁶:** The Tender Forecast is a list of anticipated tenders for the year ahead, searchable by region. This will be increased from one to five years to create a pipeline of local contracts and enable businesses to plan and train workers with a long term view.

Project plans will address how the project supports the commitment to local and regional pipelines of work.

The 5 year rolling tender forecast can also then form the basis of a skills profile that maps the required and available skills and competencies down to a regional basis, and identifies any gaps that need to be filled.

³ [Buy Local Plan \(nt.gov.au\)](https://www.nt.gov.au/industry-tourism-trade/buy-local-plan/)

⁴ [Tendering with government - NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au/industry-tourism-trade/value-for-territory-assessment-framework/)

⁵ [Aboriginal Business Enterprises | Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes.](https://www.nt.gov.au/industry-tourism-trade/our-community-our-future-our-homes/)

⁶ [Tender forecast - NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au/industry-tourism-trade/tender-forecast/)

This will ensure that NT contracting fuels growth and jobs in the regions and is able to draw the most social and economic benefit out of NT Government contracting activity into the future.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Implement an Aboriginal Procurement Policy⁷:** The purpose of the Aboriginal Procurement Policy is to increase the proportion of Aboriginal businesses (and the proportion of funding) contracted through NT Government procurement.

It will also include the development of an Aboriginal Business Register, to assist with business identification.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Implement an Aboriginal Grants Policy⁸:** Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) have a unique strength in providing services that are valued by community as trusted, legitimate and culturally safe.

This is especially so when effective service delivery depends on voluntary engagement.

An Aboriginal Grants Policy will provide a clear definition of an ACCO, and outline how the NT Government will increase the proportion of grant funding they receive.

Responsible agency: Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C)

- **Local Decision Making:** supports the transition of government services and programs to community control.

Through this approach, government and Aboriginal communities will work together to identify a pipeline of local contracts that support community aspirations.

Where the NT Government has an agreement in place, such as a Local Decision Making agreement, the NT Government will procure

goods and services in accordance with that agreement.

Responsible agency: CM&C, and all procuring departments and agencies

- **Utilise regional procurement sub-committees:** Understanding the capability of local Aboriginal businesses and workers is a key to planning procurements that most effectively utilise local Aboriginal businesses and workers.

The regional procurement sub-committees will be given the opportunity to review the yearly Agency Procurement Management Plans and, where agencies seek regional or local information, provide information on such things as the capacity of local potential suppliers, the potential for including training outcomes, and other information that might assist procurers decide on the preferred procurement method or the weightings to be given to ABEs or Aboriginal employment in the local content component of particular tender assessments; To do this the regional procurement sub-committees will be supplied with information on the 5 year rolling Tender Forecast and the pipeline of NT Government contracts in their region, regional Aboriginal business capability, and the skills of local workers.

The role is limited to information provision at the front end of the procurement process that might assist procurers to make decisions on procurement method and local content weightings.

Responsible agency: All NT Government departments and agencies

- Existing systems for managing procurement and grants will need to be enhanced to enable accurate **recording and reporting** of progress under the AEP Framework.

Responsible agency: DITT, CM&C, Department of Corporate and Digital Development

^{7,8} Also an action committed under the Closing the Gap NT Implementation Plan

Objective 2

Secure the private sector's commitment to Aboriginal economic participation on NT Government supported projects

In order to maximise Aboriginal economic participation across the whole Northern Territory economy, it will be important for the NT Government to encourage the private sector to also support opportunities for Aboriginal business and employment.

Mechanisms we will use:

- **Territory Benefit Plans: The Territory Benefit Policy⁹** makes specific commitments to maximise project opportunities for Territorians and Territory enterprises. This includes commitments to Aboriginal employment, opportunities for Aboriginal business to be engaged as suppliers and making a contribution in the local community. Projects are required to have a Territory Benefit Plan if:
 - > they have been awarded NT Major Project Status
 - > the NT Government provides support valued at or greater than \$500 000, or
 - > where it is otherwise specified as a condition of an NT Government contract.



Territory Benefit Plans for NT Government supported projects will be required to include:

- > commitments for Aboriginal employment
- > opportunities for Aboriginal businesses to be engaged as suppliers of goods and services to the project
- > contributions to improved social outcomes in the local community.

Responsible agency: DITT

⁹ *Territory benefit policy and planning - Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade*

Objective 3

Strengthen Aboriginal business and community-controlled organisations

A crucial component in realising the objectives of the AEP Framework is being able to support and grow the capacity of Aboriginal businesses and workers, particularly in remote communities, to meet any increase in demand created by preferencing Aboriginal businesses and workers in the NT Government's contracting activities.

Mechanisms we will use:

- **The Aboriginal Procurement Policy and Aboriginal Grants Policy** – discussed under objective 1.

Responsible agency: DITT and CM&C

- **The Aboriginal Business Development Program**¹⁰ assists Aboriginal Territorians interested in starting or expanding an existing business in the NT. One-on-one support is provided by a Small Business Champion to help Aboriginal businesses to identify and access support from the range of business support programs administered by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Small Business Champions**¹¹ also provide support with networking, contacts, information, tools and resources. Developing effective business relationships and creating opportunities for the right people to meet at the right time is needed to support entrepreneurship. Things like identifying like-minded businesses to join together to share the costs of accounting, administration, tender writing or IT services in a shared service model.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Implement an Aboriginal Business Register:** To better understand the capability of Aboriginal businesses an Aboriginal Business Register is required that extends beyond confirming Aboriginal ownership of businesses and integrates



with other registers and accreditation bodies such as Contractor Accreditation Limited and the NT Industry Capability Network and provides intelligence on Aboriginal business intelligence in regions and communities.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Local Decision Making** agreements aim to transition control of suitable government services to ACCOs, and provide assistance for governance and capacity-building in line with community aspirations.

Responsible agency: CM&C

- **Improving access to project finance** is a recommendation made by the Territory Economic Reconstruction Committee under AE1 – Aboriginal Economic Leadership. Work is underway to identify organisations external to government that provide access to equity and funding, which may include investment capability through the new, Aboriginal-controlled body called the NT Aboriginal Investment Corporation¹² and the Remote Aboriginal Development Fund.¹³

Responsible agency: CM&C

- **Evaluation and review** of programs supporting Aboriginal businesses, and develop new (or enhance existing) programs as required in collaboration with the Aboriginal business and ACCO sector.

Responsible agency: DITT

¹⁰ *Aboriginal Business Development Program - NT.GOV.AU*

¹¹ *Small business champions - NT.GOV.AU*

¹² Establishment of the NT Aboriginal Investment Corporation falls under the recent reforms made to the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* by the Commonwealth Government

¹³ An NT Government Remote Aboriginal Governance and Capacity Building grant program

Objective 4

Realise the potential of the Aboriginal workforce

Historic, systemic, and ongoing barriers to Aboriginal employment mean that in order to get better Aboriginal employment outcomes, both businesses and potential employees will need support to be job ready. This includes training to transition people into meaningful and long term employment.

Mechanisms we will use:

- **The Aboriginal Workforce Grants Program¹⁴** supports employers in the delivery of projects or activities that will result in more Aboriginal Territorians entering employment and developing their chosen careers within the workplace, including access to mentors.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Aboriginal Responsive Skilling Grants¹⁵** are available to facilitate training activities that lead to employment opportunities, enhance career pathways and/or job options or that supports community-based businesses and enterprises to provide employment and economic development opportunities.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Workforce Training Coordinators** are located in each of the regions and provide advice and support to organisations with training needs in regional and remote areas.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Aboriginal Employment and Career Development Strategy 2021-2025** is a strategy designed for the Northern Territory Public Sector. However, the strategy includes programs that can mutually benefit Aboriginal employees and businesses through the Aboriginal Employee Mentor Program, the school to work transition program and career mobility opportunities.

Responsible agency: Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment



- **Evaluation and review** of programs supporting Aboriginal workforce development, and develop new (or enhance existing) programs as required and in collaboration with the Aboriginal business and ACCO sector.

Responsible agency: DITT

- **Implement a coordinated approach to education and training for Aboriginal Territorians.** This will require collaboration across industry, education and Aboriginal people, to identify the expertise needed by communities and establish responsive ways to support people through, and beyond, their education and training experiences. The NT Government has an important role to play in supporting vocational and tertiary sectors to improve outcomes for Aboriginal Territorians.

Responsible agencies: CM&C, DITT, Department of Education, in collaboration with the education and training sectors and relevant Aboriginal organisations.

¹⁴ [Aboriginal workforce grants - NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au/industry/aboriginal-workforce-grants)

¹⁵ [Aboriginal Responsive Skilling Grants - NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au/industry/aboriginal-responsive-skilling-grants)

Monitoring and Reporting

Progress under this Framework will be reported annually and incorporated into the Northern Territory's Closing the Gap and Aboriginal Affairs Strategy annual reporting. As part of our commitments under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, an independent mechanism will be established to evaluate and report on the progress of government agencies, including the effectiveness of actions under the Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework at years 2 and 5.

NT Government agencies will be required to set and report on ambitious agency specific targets for each of the Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework measures each year.

	Measures	Baseline 2019/20	Baseline 2020/21	Source
1	Number of Aboriginal people employed on NT Government procurement contracts.	Not available	Not available	TBA
2	Number of Aboriginal people employed through NT Government grants contracts.	Not available	Not available	TBA
3	Number of ACCOs* contracted by NT Government.	130	136	Grants NT QTOL
3a	Number of NT Government contracts awarded to ACCOs*.	530	469	Grants NT QTOL
3b	Proportion of NT Government contracts awarded to ACCOs*.	12%	13%	Grants NT QTOL
3c	Value of NT Government contracts awarded to ACCOs*.	\$303.1 million	\$176.3 million	Grants NT QTOL
3d	Proportion of the value of NT Government contracts awarded to ACCOs*.	12%	10%	Grants NT QTOL
4	Number of ABEs** contracted by NT Government.	157	154	Grants NT QTOL
4a	Number of NT Government contracts awarded to ABEs**.	573	503	Grants NT QTOL
4b	Proportion of NT Government contracts awarded to ABEs**.	13%	14%	Grants NT QTOL
4c	Value of NT Government contracts awarded to ABEs**.	\$327.3 million	\$187.5 million	Grants NT QTOL
4d	Proportion of the value of NT Government contracts awarded to ABEs**.	13%	10%	Grants NT QTOL
5	Number of post-school qualifications attained by Aboriginal employees on NT Government contracts and Territory Benefit Plan.	Not available	Not available	Indigenous Development Plans
6	Number of Territory Benefit Plans with commitments relating to Aboriginal employment and supply of goods and services by Aboriginal business.	2	2	DITT

* ACCO count specifically excludes ABE data

** ABE count includes ACCO data (see definition of ABE)

Note: Tier 1 procurement not included in data

