

Bringing back the best parts of the Community Development Employment Projects

The Community Development Program (CDP) is being replaced in two stages, and brings back elements of the Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP):

Stage 1

The Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program

This program will create 3,000 local jobs over three years, with fair pay and conditions. These jobs will be what remote communities want and need and will be flexible around personal, family and community obligations. Like the CDEP, the program will provide funding for equipment to support job creation.

Stage 2

A new remote employment service

This service will complement the RJED program and support those who may need help to get job ready with the skills and resources they need.

The Australian Government has been working in partnership with remote communities to design and deliver these new programs. During community consultations, we heard regularly that people living in remote communities want the CDEP back.

The CDEP was a project delivered between 1977 to 2013 to help remote Indigenous job seekers find and keep jobs. The Government recognises that many elements of the CDEP worked well. Communities told us that many people had job-like activities, including cultural roles and others started receiving income for their efforts. Communities were strong and well-maintained through activities funded under the CDEP and there was flexibility to meet cultural responsibilities.

But the Government can't bring the CDEP back exactly as it was. Since CDEP stopped, new workplace rules and laws have been improved to protect everyone's safety.

This includes:

- Requirements for Working with Vulnerable People or Working with Children checks to protect vulnerable people and children from harm.
- New Work Health and Safety laws have also been introduced to manage risks to the health and safety of everyone in a job.

The Government has put the positives of CDEP into its new programs while also making sure employees and employers are protected under relevant laws.

For more information

Visit niaa.gov.au/remote-jobs

Email us at remote.jobs@niaa.gov.au

Visit your local NIAA regional office or call them on 1800 079 098



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