



Summary of Review of Native Title Operations and Management Training

Purpose of Summary

The National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) contracted Social Ventures Australia (SVA) to conduct a review of the Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Curriculum Development and Training Program – ‘Native Title Operations and Management Training’ (NTOM Training). SVA provided their Review in September 2019. This Summary seeks to synthesise, reflect and respond to the Review. The Land Policy and Environment and Policy Analysis and Evaluation Branches of the NIAA are responsible for this summary.

Publishing Details

The NTOM Training is an Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) measure. This Summary has been prepared for publication, informed by its contents, consistent with the Agency’s commitment to release final evaluation reports or summaries publicly on the Agency’s website. The NIAA has consulted with and obtained the consent of SVA in publishing this Summary.

Background

The NTOM Training is funded through the PBC Capacity Building initiative. This funding was made available through the *Our North, Our Future: White Paper on Developing Northern Australia* and the measure is delivered through the IAS. The National Native Title Council (NNTC) secured the NTOM Training grant on 15 May 2018 and received an initial funding amount of \$598,000. Additional funding of \$354,965 was successfully granted in April 2019 for further iterations of the training.

The NNTC worked with its partners – the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, the University of Melbourne’s Melbourne Business School and the School of Vocational Business Education of RMIT University – to deliver the training. Between October 2018 and April 2019 five iterations of the training were delivered in Broome, Cairns, Perth and Melbourne to 111 participants. This iterative approach allowed the program to evolve following each training session.

Attendees primarily included PBC directors, staff, PBC members and native title holders. Directors and members of non-PBC Traditional Owner Corporations and Native Title Representative Body and Service Provider (NTRB/SP) support staff were also invited to attend the training where appropriate.

Objectives

The NTOM Training was developed in response to the growing number of PBCs across the country and the limited PBC-specific training opportunities available. It focuses on building PBC’s long-term organisational capacity and governance practices and supporting them to leverage their native title rights and interests for economic outcomes. It has a particular focus on increasing entrepreneurial activity and business development expertise in line with the needs and aspirations of participating PBCs.

The purpose of the SVA Review was to ensure accountability and improvement: that is, to understand how effective the training was in delivering on its objectives and the impact of the training on participants; and to understand what

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