

Strategic Indigenous Tourism Projects

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – AFFORDABLE HOUSING,
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OTHER

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule	
Parties	Commonwealth Victoria
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2026.
Purpose	<p>This Schedule supports the delivery of the Strategic Indigenous Tourism Projects to increase the supply of Indigenous tourism experiences and/or create supply chain opportunities for Indigenous tourism businesses within the Australian tourism industry.</p> <p>Strategic co-investment will be delivered in partnership with the Victorian Government, recognising each jurisdiction's unique Indigenous tourism opportunities and investment needs.</p> <p>Suitable projects have been identified and will be implemented in line with the statement of strategic intent and investment principles set out in Appendix A to this Schedule.</p>
Strategic Alignment	<p>This Schedule is framed to align with the priority reform areas and socio-economic outcomes set out in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.</p> <p>In entering into this Schedule, the Commonwealth and Victoria Government recognise they have a mutual interest in improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the need to work together to achieve those outcomes.</p>

<p>Estimated financial contributions</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="400 185 1002 264">Table 1 (\$ million)</th> <th data-bbox="1002 185 1241 264">2025-26</th> <th data-bbox="1241 185 1415 264">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 264 1002 309">Estimated total budget</td> <td data-bbox="1002 264 1241 309">3.31</td> <td data-bbox="1241 264 1415 309">3.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 309 1002 353"><i>Commonwealth co-investment</i></td> <td data-bbox="1002 309 1241 353">1.25</td> <td data-bbox="1241 309 1415 353">1.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 353 1002 488"><i>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</i></td> <td data-bbox="1002 353 1241 488">2.06</td> <td data-bbox="1241 353 1415 488">2.06</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the Victoria Government of \$1.25 million in 2025-26 in respect of this Schedule.</p> <p>It is expected that Total project costs may be met with funding sourced from the public or private sectors, or a combination of both.</p> <p>Further details on the Commonwealth estimated financial contributions for the implementation of this Schedule are set out in Table 1.</p>	Table 1 (\$ million)	2025-26	Total	Estimated total budget	3.31	3.31	<i>Commonwealth co-investment</i>	1.25	1.25	<i>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</i>	2.06	2.06
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Estimated total budget	3.31	3.31											
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<i>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</i>	2.06	2.06											
<p>Additional terms</p>	<p><i>In addition to the requirements set out in clause 19 of the Federation Funding Agreement – Affordable Housing, Community Services and Other, the Commonwealth agrees to conduct a post-implementation evaluation of the strategic partnership.</i></p> <p><i>The Victorian Government and other project partners will be responsible for participating in this evaluation. In addition to the requirements set out in clause 20, the Victorian Government will be responsible for leading stakeholder engagement and project selection processes, and bringing forward proposals for Commonwealth co-investment consideration.</i></p> <p><i>In addition to the requirements set out in clause 21, the Victorian Government, in consultation with the agreed third-party consent to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="400 1417 1415 1541"><i>a. provide reasonable opportunity for the Commonwealth to contribute to developing communications strategies for all projects with a Commonwealth funding contribution;</i> <li data-bbox="400 1552 1415 1675"><i>b. provide the Commonwealth with equal access to products and materials developed for promotional use (including but not limited to project data, footage and images); and</i> <li data-bbox="400 1686 1415 1765"><i>c. the joint announcement of all projects under this Schedule, unless otherwise agreed by the Commonwealth.</i> 												

Table 1A: Victoria – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Outcome	Performance milestones and output	Report due	Payment
Project initiation	<p>Execution of the agreement</p> <p>First Peoples Tourism Industry Strengthening Program: Program Guidelines approved, application process completed</p> <p>Contribute to the development of national dataset providing a comprehensive overview of the size, profile, and value of First Nations tourism businesses: Draft Brief</p>	4 weeks post execution of the FFA	\$1,250,000
Status Report on all projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the development of a national dataset – Tourism Research Australia, states, territories and industry partners • Yanabil Wadawurrung Dja (Visit on Wadawurrung Country) – Development Project (Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation) • Dalki Garringa Native Nursery Welcome Place – Stage 2 Implementation (Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation) • Bunurong Tourism opportunities (Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation) • DJAARA Tourism Industry Strengthening Program (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation) • Strengthening Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation’s Cultural Tourism Pathway (Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation) • Scoping and Feasibility Study for a new Keeping Place (Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation) • Strengthening Tae Rak Tourism (Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation) 	20 April 2026	N/A

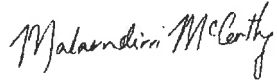
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wawa biik Tourism Strengthening Program (Taungurung Land and Waters Council Aboriginal Corporation) • Development of a Wurundjeri Tourism Plan (Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation) • Tourism Development and Stakeholder Engagement Program – Wamba Wemba Community (Wamba Wemba Aboriginal Corporation) • Strengthening Cultural Tourism on Yorta Yorta Country (Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation) 		
<p>Status Report on all projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the development of a national dataset - Tourism Research Australia, states, territories and industry partners • Yanabil Wadawurrung Dja (Visit on Wadawurrung Country) – Development Project (Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation) • Dalki Garringa Native Nursery Welcome Place – Stage 2 Implementation (Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation) • Bunurong Tourism opportunities (Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation) • DJAARA Tourism Industry Strengthening Program (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation) • Strengthening Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation’s Cultural Tourism Pathway (Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation) • Scoping and Feasibility Study for a new Keeping Place (Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation) • Strengthening Tae Rak Tourism (Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation) • wawa biik Tourism Strengthening Program (Taungurung Land and Waters Council Aboriginal Corporation) 	<p>13 May 2026</p>	<p>N/A</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a Wurundjeri Tourism Plan (Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation)• Tourism Development and Stakeholder Engagement Program – Wamba Wemba Community Project (Wamba Wemba Aboriginal Corporation)		
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The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by**



Senator the Hon. Malarndirri McCarthy

Minister for Indigenous Australians

07/04/2026

**Signed for and on behalf of the
State or Territory by**



~~The Hon. Steve Dimopoulos~~

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Acting Minister for Tourism

~~Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events~~

~~1/1/2026~~

24/6/2026

Strategic Indigenous Tourism Projects

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – AFFORDABLE HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OTHER

Statement of Strategic Intent

This statement takes into account the priority reforms, socio-economic targets and outcomes set out in the [National Agreement on Closing the Gap](#):

Strategic Indigenous Tourism Projects funding will stimulate and strengthen the economic participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities in the Visitor Economy (the Australian tourism industry).

Strategic co-investments will be delivered in partnership with State and Territory governments targeting projects which increase the supply of Indigenous tourism experiences and/or create supply chain opportunities for Indigenous tourism businesses and organisations, and which will deliver long-term economic benefits to the Indigenous tourism sector in each state and territory.

The selection of projects (for co-investment) will be directly informed by the Indigenous tourism sector (i.e. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) with governments taking a place-based approach that recognises each jurisdiction's unique Indigenous tourism opportunities and investment needs.

Investment Principles	
The purpose of the <i>Strategic Indigenous Tourism Projects</i> funding is to stimulate investment in strategic projects that contribute to building a tourism ecosystem, and that will deliver long-term benefits to the Indigenous tourism sector in each State and Territory. Eligible projects will be identified in line with the following investment principles:	
1	States and Territories must work in partnership with the local community and traditional owners to identify strategic projects for funding under this measure.
2	States and Territories must demonstrate how identified projects align with relevant State or Territory strategies for the development of Indigenous tourism.
3	States or Territories must match or exceed the Australian Government funding contribution.
4	Projects must generate tourism business development, supply chain opportunities or economic participation outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and communities.
5	Projects must have a plan for sustainability after Commonwealth funding ceases, either as self-sustainable or through a commitment of ongoing State or Territory funding.
6	Commonwealth funding is intended to complement (not displace) State or Territory funding for Indigenous tourism projects. Funding must not be used for marketing, promotion or other overhead expenditures that would normally be incurred by the funding parties.
7	Projects must demonstrate a sound business case for investment, and evidence of demand (or identified need) for the tourism product, service or experience.
8	Projects must demonstrate value-for-money, and a positive return on the Commonwealth's investment.