

EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES

EC-West Strategic Plan 2023

Endorsed by the Board on 22 August 2023

Vision

EC-West's vision is to empower all West Kimberley Aboriginal people, both at the structural and individual level, to lead generational change.

Purpose

EC-West's purpose is to empower individuals, families and communities in the West Kimberley. EC-West works together with EC-West's members, collaborators and partners to advocate and influence positive change for West Kimberley Aboriginal people.

Objectives

EC-West currently has two overarching objectives:

- Empowering Aboriginal individuals, families, organisations
- Reforming government decisions, policy, and systems.

These objectives guide EC-West in our organisational pursuits and strategic direction. Our activities contribute to Closing the Gap targets and priorities.

Principles

EC-West's approach is characterised by five principles, which provide a minimum standard for EC-West's operations and activities in order to achieve sustained and effective outcomes. These five principles are:

- **Place-based** although communities may face similar challenges, initiatives must reflect local priorities and needs
- **Co-design and co-delivery** strategies must be co-designed and co-delivered to ensure that they are culturally appropriate
- Capability building sustained change and flow-on effects will be achieved by building capabilities
- Economic development opportunities must be leveraged by engaging local organisations in service and program delivery
- Systems reform required across policy development and implementation and across all levels of government.



Our First Priorities

First Priorities		
Family Empowerment		
Desired outcome	Families are positively connected and have the capacity to support their children and young people.	
Key strategies	 Build the capacity of parents to be positive role models for their children. Ensure parents have access to culturally and physically safe spaces. 	
Empowered Young Leaders		
Desired outcome	A generation of strong Aboriginal leaders.	
Current strategies	 Ensure EYL representatives are confident and prepared to be Directors, chairs and CEOs of Kimberly organisations. Support young people in attaining an education. 	
Housing		
Desired outcome	All Aboriginal people have access to suitable and affordable housing.	
Current strategies	 Ensure governance structures are in place to support Aboriginal people to find housing. 	
Safe Spaces for Young People		
Desired outcome	Young Aboriginal people have access to physically, culturally and safe spaces.	
Current strategies	 Youth centres are located in all towns and major communities in the West Kimberley. Youth immediate safe space accommodation is available in all towns and major communities in the West Kimberley. 	
Employment and Training		
Desired outcome	Aboriginal people can access training facilities to develop the skills required to obtain employment and succeed in the modern economy.	
Current strategies	 Build the capacity of Aboriginal businesses and ACCO's to train and employ more local people. 	
Governance		
Desired outcome	Aboriginal people have a formal role in decision making through local and regional voice governance structures.	
Current strategies	 Ensure regional and local level governance structures are in place. 	

How we will measure our success

Measure	Description
Member organisations	Increase the number of member organisations signed up with EC-West.
Participation - community	Increase the number of Aboriginal community members expressing interest to participate in JDM panels.
Participation – member organisation	Increase the number of member organisations volunteering to participate in JDM panels.
Aboriginal employment	Increase the number of Aboriginal employees in ACCO's and Aboriginal businesses.
Redirected contracts	Increase the number of contracts redirected to First Priority themes through the JDM process.
Funding administered	Increase the total funding administered through EC-West.
Grant applications	Increase the number of successful grant applications for EC-West and/or member organisations to progress First Priority themes.
Website and social media growth	Continued growth in website traffic and social media engagement.
Published case studies	Increase the number of case studies developed and approved.
Service delivery	Facilitate an increase of the number of services being delivered through Aboriginal organisations.
State-level JDM	Expand the JDM framework to apply to state government contracts.
EYL is self-sufficient	Facilitate the EYL program to become an independent organisation, distinct from EC-West.

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