

# Contacts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses

## Business assistance for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people

### QUEENSLAND ASSISTANCE

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

*For: Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander business in Queensland.*

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships' (DATSIP) role is to:

- leverage procurement opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses
- increase the awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses
- coordinate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business development activities
- assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses to maintain a sustainable and competitive advantage.

Visit: [www.datsip.qld.gov.au](http://www.datsip.qld.gov.au)

### Black Business Finder

*For: Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander business in Queensland.*

The Black Business Finder is a free online database designed to provide opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses to participate in the supply chain of major projects. It also provides a platform that can be accessed by businesses and government agencies looking to source goods and services from Indigenous suppliers.

Registration is open to any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business which has at least 50 per cent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ownership

Visit: [www.bbf.org.au](http://www.bbf.org.au)

### Aboriginal Development Benefits Trust (ADBT)

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

ADBT was established under the Gulf Communities Agreement negotiated between Century Mine, Queensland State Government and Gulf Native Title groups and was established to administer negotiated funds from the Century Mine, primarily for business development and Indigenous ownership/investment in business. Key support services include small business finance and support; community economic development and community infrastructure.

Visit: [www.adbt.com.au](http://www.adbt.com.au)

## South East Queensland Indigenous Chamber of Commerce

*For: Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander business in the South East Queensland area.*

The South East Queensland Indigenous Chamber of Commerce is committed to fostering trade, building skills and capability, advocating and generating wealth for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses. Representation is provided across six regions: Brisbane, Caboolture, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba.

Visit: [www.seqicc.com.au](http://www.seqicc.com.au)

## Cairns Region Indigenous Business Network

*For: Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander business in the Far North Queensland area.*

The Cairns Region Indigenous Business Network (CRIBN) is a not-for-profit incorporated association that aims to advocate on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business, build capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses, foster trade opportunities and generate wealth for their members.

Visit: [www.cribn.com.au](http://www.cribn.com.au)

## Townsville Region Indigenous Business Network

*For: Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander business in the North Queensland and North West area.*

The Townsville Region Indigenous Business Network (TRIBN) is a not-for-profit incorporated association that aims to advocate on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business, build capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses, foster trade opportunities and generate wealth for their members. The network extends from Mackay in the South to Cardwell in the North, Mount Isa in the West and Palm Island to the East.

Visit: [www.tribn.com.au](http://www.tribn.com.au)

## Balkanu

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses located in Cape York.*

The main focus of Balkanu's Cape York Business Development unit is to generate an awareness of business opportunities in Cape York and facilitate viable business ventures.

Services include mentoring and business consultation services for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people of Cape York, particularly in remote areas where access to mainstream business services is limited.

Visit: [www.balkanu.com.au](http://www.balkanu.com.au)

## AUSTRALIA WIDE ASSISTANCE

### Indigenous Business Australia

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

Key services provided by Indigenous Business Australia include:

- Capability and skills assessment.
- Access to business resources.
- Business and industry insights/market intelligence.
- Commercial finance options such as concessional business loans and asset leasing.

Visit: [www.iba.gov.au](http://www.iba.gov.au)

### Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups who want to become corporations or who are required to under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (the CATSI Act).*

The Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations supports and regulates corporations incorporated under the CATSI Act.

Registration under the CATSI Act is mostly voluntary. However, some corporations—for example, ‘prescribed bodies corporate’ set up under the Native Title Act 1993—are required to register under the CATSI Act.

Visit: [www.oric.gov.au](http://www.oric.gov.au)

### Supply Nation

*For: Any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander business in Australia.*

Supply Nation’s goal is to connect Australian corporate and government organisations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business suppliers.

Supply Nation has two business databases:

- Indigenous Business Direct is for any Indigenous business wanting to work with Supply Nation. To be registered, your business must be at least 50% Indigenous owned and based in Australia.
- Supply Nation Certified Supplier database is for any Indigenous business that is majority owned, controlled and managed by Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islanders.

Visit: [www.supplynation.org.au](http://www.supplynation.org.au)

### Indigenous Governance Toolkit

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

The Indigenous Governance Toolkit is an online resource developed for Indigenous nations, communities, individuals and organisations searching for information to build their governance. It covers all the basics – your rules, values, culture, membership, leadership, and decision making – and has many examples of ideas that work from other groups, tools to help you get started, and useful guidance to sustain your efforts.

Visit: [www.toolkit.aigi.com.au](http://www.toolkit.aigi.com.au)

## First Australians Capital

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

First Australians Capital (FAC) is an Indigenous-led organisation with a strong vision of building a new economy driven by First Australians. FAC provide a unique product offering such as concessional capital and capability support to Indigenous social-purpose businesses and social entrepreneurs. FAC's services to businesses will comprise capacity building, access to networks and development finance, with dedicated relationship management to build economic self-sufficiency within Indigenous communities and help drive a new economy in Australia.

Visit: [www.firstaustralianscapital.org](http://www.firstaustralianscapital.org)

## Jawun

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

Jawun increases the capacity of Indigenous leaders, organisations and communities to achieve their own development goals. Jawun places skilled people from Australia's leading companies and government agencies into Indigenous organisations. These secondees share their expertise and support Indigenous leaders to achieve their own development.

Visit: [www.jawun.org.au](http://www.jawun.org.au)

## Indigenous Community Volunteers

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV) is a registered charity and non-profit community development organisation. ICV provide access to skilled volunteers and resources who can share their expertise and support Indigenous communities and businesses.

Visit: [www.icv.com.au](http://www.icv.com.au)

## First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry

*For: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are starting, acquiring or growing a viable business.*

The First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI) is the Peak Body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and their Representative Bodies. FACCI was established by the National Network of Indigenous Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations in April 2015 to represent the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses and to act as the Key Conduit between the First Australians Business Sector, Government and Corporate Australia.

Visit: [www.facci.org.au](http://www.facci.org.au)

## Business Assistance for all Queenslanders

### QUEENSLAND ASSISTANCE

#### Department of State Development

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The Department of State Development provides specialist assistance to assist people in:

- starting a business
- growing a business
- employing people
- improving day-to-day management skills
- working with emerging industries
- advancing major projects and joint venture opportunities
- providing information on export and investment opportunities.

Through a network of regional centres, the department provides a full range of business information, advice and support in regional areas, and is actively involved in improving the management skills of business and industry throughout Queensland.

Visit: [www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au](http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au)

#### Trade and Investment Queensland

*For: Any business looking to export outside Australia or attract export interest.*

Trade and Investment Queensland is the Queensland Government's global business agency, helping exporters break into emerging and established markets, and promoting Queensland as the perfect place for an Asia-Pacific headquarters.

Trade and Investment Queensland works with partner agencies, industry organisations and international allies to promote better access to overseas markets and decision makers for Queensland companies.

If you're an exporter, they will work closely with you to develop required skills, provide you with market intelligence and business connections, and offer in-market introductions through targeted trade missions.

Visit: [www.tiq.qld.gov.au](http://www.tiq.qld.gov.au)

#### Office of Small Business

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The Office of Small Business leverages the Advance Queensland agenda to foster entrepreneurship and innovation by small businesses; and various targeted programs and services

Visit: [www.dtesb.qld.gov.au/small-business](http://www.dtesb.qld.gov.au/small-business)

## State Library of Queensland

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The State Library of Queensland has:

- opened a Business Studio as a useful resource to support entrepreneurs and start-ups to make their innovative business ideas a reality; and
- a selection of print books and eBooks on a wide range of business topics.

Visit: <http://premiers.qld.gov.au/campusguides.com/BSHub>

## Small Business Solutions

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

Small Business Solutions (SBS) is a one-stop-shop for small business which has been designed to enhance the business skills, profitability and growth of small businesses.

SBS provides small business owners with the opportunity to get business assistance from accredited industry professionals.

In addition to one-on-one coaching from qualified mentors in their workplace, SBS also offers small business owners access to:

- vocational education and training qualifications through skills recognition; and
- tailored training events for specific small business needs.

Visit: [www.smallbusinesssolutions.qld.gov.au](http://www.smallbusinesssolutions.qld.gov.au)

## Industry Capability Network

*For: Any business looking for opportunities on major projects.*

The Industry Capability Network Queensland (ICN Queensland) provides services to increase local content and industry participation in projects and procurement.

Their role includes finding suppliers and service providers who are best equipped to meet the requirements of hundreds of projects across Australia and New Zealand.

Visit: [www.icnqld.org.au](http://www.icnqld.org.au)

## QMI Solutions

*For: Manufacturing companies looking to improve their skills, productivity, capability and/or capacity.*

QMI Solutions is dedicated to improving the skills, performance, innovation and capability of the Queensland manufacturing industry. They achieve this through the provision of specialist knowledge and expertise to help manufacturers implement workforce development strategies, operational enhancements and innovations, and linking industry with major projects, researchers and technology solutions.

Visit: [www.qmisolutions.com.au](http://www.qmisolutions.com.au)

## Innovate Queensland

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

Innovate Queensland's capacity building workshops, webinars, and collaboration activities are helping innovators, entrepreneurs and organisations across the state.

Visit: <http://www.impactinnovationgroup.com/innovate-queensland-2/>

## Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries delivers an extensive range of direct and on-line business support services, guides and research and development activities to increase productivity, efficiency and sustainability of agrifood and fibre businesses.

They also provide information to improve business awareness and compliance with biosecurity issues and other regulatory requirements applicable to farmers, fishers and food producers.

Visit: [www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/agriculture](http://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/agriculture)

## Department of Workplace Health and Safety

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The department runs various Workplace Health and Safety workshops and has a number of webinar series videos to view.

Visit: [www.worksafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au)

## Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The department runs various workshops and grant funding to assist in innovation within businesses.

Visit: [www.qld.gov.au/dsiti/](http://www.qld.gov.au/dsiti/)

## AUSTRALIA-WIDE ASSISTANCE

### Australian Government Business website

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business efficiency, skills and knowledge, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

The Australian Government has an online resource for the Australian business community. The website offers businesses a simple and convenient access point to government information, forms and services they will need. It's a whole-of-government service providing essential information on planning, starting and growing your business. The site also provides links to various business grants.

Visit: [www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au)

### Australian Institute for Commercialisation

*For: Any business looking for assistance to commercialise a product or an idea.*

The Australian Institute for Commercialisation (AIC) provides innovation and collaboration services that help organisations grow.

AIC works with entrepreneurs, businesses, research organisations and governments to convert ideas or intellectual property into successful business outcomes. Using networks and experience, they deliver services for establishing partnerships, improving skills, and providing commercialisation advice.

Visit: [www.ausicom.com](http://www.ausicom.com)

### Regional Development Australia

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business and are seeking financial assistance.*

RDA committee members are local people developing local solutions to local issues. They build and develop strategies and deliver sustainable infrastructure and services to regions. Each RDA committee has a Regional Plan. The website provides links to grants and funds, and has factsheets on grant writing.

Visit: [www.rda.gov.au](http://www.rda.gov.au)

### Many Rivers Microfinance Limited

*For: Any business that wishes to grow or improve their business and are seeking financial assistance, or any person wishing to start a new business.*

Many Rivers Microfinance Limited (Many Rivers) is a not-for-profit organisation that supports aspiring business owners with microenterprise development support and access to finance in order to see the potential of people and communities realised.

Visit: [www.manyrivers.org.au](http://www.manyrivers.org.au)



## Austrade

*For: Any business looking to export outside Australia or attract export interest.*

The Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) is the Australian Government's trade and investment development agency. Key services they provide include:

- assist businesses to grow their business in international markets, including through administration of the grants and programs.
- provides advice to the Australian Government on its trade, tourism, international education and training, and investment policy agenda.
- develops policy, manages programs and provides research to strengthen Australia's tourism industry and to grow Australia's tourism market share.

Visit: [www.austrade.gov.au](http://www.austrade.gov.au)

## Australian Business Licence and Information Service (ABLIS)

*For: All businesses.*

The Australian Business Licence and Information Service (ABLIS) helps you find the government licences, permits, approvals, registrations, codes of practice, standards and guidelines you need to know about to meet your compliance responsibilities.

Visit: [www.ablis.business.gov.au](http://www.ablis.business.gov.au)

## Local Councils, Chambers Of Commerce and Peak Bodies

*For: All businesses.*

Throughout Australia many local councils, chambers of commerce and peak bodies run business workshops and forums.

The following links may help you find the correct organisation to assist you.

Visit: Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry - [www.acci.asn.au/Our-Network](http://www.acci.asn.au/Our-Network)

Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland - [www.cciq.com.au](http://www.cciq.com.au)

Local Government directory - [www.dlg.qld.gov.au](http://www.dlg.qld.gov.au)

## Austmine

*For: Businesses in the Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) sector*

The Entrepreneurs' Programme is the Australian Government's flagship initiative for business competitiveness and productivity and forms part of the Australian Government's industry policy outlined in the Industry Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda. It is a support programme for SMEs who want to improve current business performance or drive growth. Austmine has seven Business Advisers based around Australia delivering this program for the Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) sector.

Visit: [www.austmine.com.au](http://www.austmine.com.au)

## Australian Taxation Office

*For: All businesses.*

The Australia Taxation Office can provide you with information about different business structures; and the most common taxes, deduction and tax concessions.

Visit: <https://www.ato.gov.au/general/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-people/tax-for-businesses>

### **About this factsheet**

This factsheet outlines information and contact details for organisations to assist Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people who may be starting or growing their own business.

This information is primarily focused on organisations that can assist small to medium businesses. Every effort has been made to include all relevant information and organisations. However, it is recognised that some organisations may have been unintentionally missed or the information may change after the date of publication.

If you're looking for information about organisations that specialise in business consultation services please email [enterprise@datsip.qld.gov.au](mailto:enterprise@datsip.qld.gov.au).

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The information in this publication is general and does not take into account individual circumstances or situations.