



# **Northern Territory Government**

Department of Employment, Education and Training

## **NORTHERN TERRITORY VET PLAN 2006-2008**

The Northern Territory recognises that a shared commitment of the Australian, State and Territory governments is essential to maintain an effective national training system that will deliver high quality, nationally consistent training outcomes for industry, communities and individuals; and builds on the achievements of the last decade in establishing the foundations of an industry-led national training system.

In acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Australian Government funding appropriated under the new vocational education and training legislation, and the arrangements about planning and reporting for the VET Sector in 2005-08, the Northern Territory signed the 2005-08 Commonwealth-State Agreement for Skilling Australia's Workforce in September 2005, and provided a Bilateral Agreement detailing the State-specific elements of the Agreement to the Australian Government in December 2005.

As required under the Agreement this Northern Territory VET Plan details the planning for delivering the outcomes of the Agreement, and in the attached spreadsheet, details the planning and accountabilities of the Northern Territory against the targets, activity and funding requirements of the Agreement. In each year of the Agreement, the Plan will be updated, and in subsequent year it will include reporting of progress against the achievement of the outcomes of the Agreement.

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## NATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

<p><b>Objectives</b></p> <p>Industry will have a highly skilled workforce to support strong performance in the global economy.</p>	<p><i>Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce</i> commits the Northern Territory to building a highly skilled, flexible and responsive workforce to contribute to the economic growth of the Northern Territory (NT).</p> <p>The NT has a focus on skilling its workforce and working with industry to improve the access of Territorians to the opportunities arising out of a growing economy. The Northern Territory provides a choice of over 390 industry apprenticeships and traineeships in the Territory. There are currently approximately 3100 people undertaking training and the Northern Territory will continue to support and increase the uptake of apprenticeships and traineeships, particularly in skill shortage areas, through a range of strategic programs including User Choice, Recurrent funding and the New Apprenticeship Support Services Contract.</p> <p>The Northern Territory’s Employer Incentives, included in a range of strategies in the <i>NT Jobs Plan</i>, provide eligible Territory employers with financial incentives aimed at promoting the uptake of additional apprentices and trainees.</p> <p>Two new initiatives in the NT, the new apprentices’ and trainees’ bonus for assistance with essential work wear and work gear and the VET Scholarship program for Territorians studying Certificate III and above, were introduced in 2005, and will continue through 2006. This will get more Territorians into training and equip them with better skills to take advantage of the many job opportunities in the Northern Territory.</p>
<p>Employers and individuals will be at the centre of VET.</p>	<p>The Northern Territory is committed to placing employers and individuals at the centre of VET. The NT has, over the last two years, run very successful VET marketing campaigns – GET VET and most recently 'The VET Experience'. The aim of these campaigns is to raise awareness of vocational education and training (VET) and to promote the benefits and value of apprenticeships and traineeships to Territory employers and potential trainees.</p> <p>Under the User Choice Program, funds are available to support apprenticeships in skill shortage areas, especially in traditional trades and emerging industries. The User Choice Program is a demand driven program that allows for the rapid response to industry skills development and skills shortage requirements and for employers and apprentices/trainees to choose from the range of registered training providers. All 15-19 year old apprenticeships and traineeships in the NT are funded under the NT User Choice policy. 20-25 year olds are considered on application. All Indigenous Territorians in existing employment as well as existing workers in skills shortage trades and occupations who apply for an apprenticeship or traineeship are also funded under User Choice.</p> <p>The NT will continue its investment in the new initiative of employer incentives, which contributes to creating jobs for Territorians. The Workwear/Workgear bonus for apprentices and trainees will contribute to building a skilled, flexible workforce for local businesses.</p>

	<p>The New Apprenticeships Centre delivers New Apprenticeship Support Services in the NT. These services include providing information, support and advice to employers and apprentices/trainees.</p>
<p>Communities and regions will be strengthened economically and socially through learning and employment.</p>	<p>Learning and employment are key components of the NT Government's work towards a regional development model where all of the people in a region are included in the achievement of economic and social outcomes that are environmentally sustainable and that respect and encourage cultural diversity. Under the Northern Territory's <i>Building Stronger Regions, Stronger Futures Strategy</i>, <a href="http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/StrongRegions">http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/StrongRegions</a>, an Inter-Departmental Development Committee (IDC) has carriage for the consultative implementation of initiatives under the four major elements of the Strategy, Regional Development Plans, Capacity Development, Regional Authorities and Partnerships. The Strategy centres on the development of sustainable regional economies through the identification of opportunities, negotiation of governance arrangements that support regional social and economic development and the provision of physical infrastructure that fosters sustainable development.</p> <p>The Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) is a participant on the IDC which, working with the Regional Development Boards developed under the Strategy, works to support and create an integrated approach to sustainable economic development and deals with issues relating to education, training, health and justice.</p> <p>DEET also works with other NT Government agencies, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), private sector organisations and Indigenous communities to identify employment and economic activities in the communities and regions, and the development of tailored training programs. A focus is on developing skills in governance and enterprise development to strengthen the capacity of Indigenous communities to make informed decisions about the economic and social development options, including training and employment options, most appropriate for that community.</p> <p>Through the Partnership Agreement between the Northern Territory Government and Charles Darwin University (CDU), and specifically Schedule 4.4 Indigenous Economic Development, several NT Government agencies, training providers, employer groups and industry representatives are actively working with communities to develop strategies to identify, facilitate and coordinate the implementation of programs, activities, initiatives and partnerships. The objective of this work is the economic and social strengthening of communities and regions through learning and employment.</p> <p>The NT continues to focus on Indigenous responsive training programs developed in collaboration with, and strategically linked to, regional community or local organisation business plans. These programs, Flexible Response Funding and Community Response Program, aim to respond quickly to new and emerging training requests, providing pathways for career development or to further education and training. They also contribute to the work ready and employability skills of Indigenous people in remote and regional communities. The Training for Remote Youth program funds VET in Schools programs for Indigenous youth at school as well as programs aimed at re-engaging disadvantaged youth in training.</p>

	<p>As well as funding the two major public providers CDU and BIITE, the NT, under the Recurrent Funding Program provides funding to a number of targeted registered training organisations that focus on training programs for Indigenous communities.</p>
<p>Indigenous Australians will have skills for viable jobs and their learning culture will be shared.</p>	<p>A key priority of the Northern Territory Government is to improve education, training and employment outcomes for Indigenous Territorians.</p> <p>The NT works to form partnerships with Indigenous people and communities, government agencies, organisations, in particular Indigenous organisations, the Australian Government, industries and Indigenous Land Councils to improve training and employment outcomes for Indigenous people.</p> <p>Key strategies, including the Indigenous Economic Development Strategy, Building Stronger Arts Business and the Indigenous Tourism Strategy, facilitate the Northern Territory's focus on fostering long-term economic growth and prosperity through a significant increase in Indigenous wealth, employment and business ownership. Capacity building through training in areas related to governance and enterprise development is a focus with the outcome of identifying employment opportunities for Indigenous Territorians in communities.</p> <p>The Indigenous Economic Development Task Force, a group comprising membership from national and NT Indigenous organisations, industry and Northern Territory and Australian Government agencies, identifies opportunities for Indigenous economic development in Northern Territory communities in 13 targeted industry sectors.</p> <p>VET funding from NT programs such as Flexible Response Funding, Community Response Program and Training For Remote Youth, is aligned with skills and training requirements and employment opportunities in these targeted industry sectors – aquaculture and fisheries, arts, community services, construction, forestry and agribusiness, government, horticulture, knowledge and culture, mining and production, natural resource management, pastoral, retail services and tourism.</p> <p>The Northern Territory participates in the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) initiative, the Indigenous Community Coordination Pilot operating at the Northern Territory community of Wadeye. A Shared Responsibility Agreement between the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and the Thamarrurr Regional Council outlines where governments have agreed to work together on the three key regional priorities of women and families, youth, and housing and construction.</p> <p>All parties have agreed that actions arising out of this pilot to address the three priority areas must also address agreed education, training and enterprise development needs. DEET supports the aims of the Thamarrurr Employment and Training Committee, to increase the participation of the Indigenous population of Wadeye in employment and training programs targeted to secure lasting employment outcomes.</p>

## NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Priority	
<p>A. Improving the system's responsiveness to rapid changes in demand for skills development and addressing skills shortages, especially in traditional trades and in emerging industries.</p>	<p>In 2005, the NT Government published the inaugural <i>Workforce NT</i>, a report that provides business, industry and government with existing workforce data and statistics. The report, to be produced regularly, contains information about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· occupations and industries that Territorians are working in;</li> <li>· the employment, education and skills profile of Territorians;</li> <li>· the employment status of disadvantaged groups such as Indigenous and people with a disability;</li> <li>· where skill shortages are;</li> <li>· major projects in the NT and their likely impact on employment; and</li> <li>· the outlook for economic and employment growth in the NT.</li> </ul> <p><i>Workforce NT</i> data is used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· assist in the formulation of future employment and training strategies and program development;</li> <li>· contribute to measuring achievements and reviewing the strategic directions of current and future NT Jobs Plans; and</li> <li>· provide direction to ensure that funding spent on education, training and employment is aimed at providing Territorians with the chance to participate in the workforce.</li> </ul> <p>Through research and consultation the Northern Territory identifies industries undergoing growth or change with a view to working collaboratively with other agencies and industry to ensure the future skills and labour demand are met through targeted training and employment programs. For example, in 2005, the Northern Territory worked with major project proponents, Alcan, to identify their skill and labour needs for the major expansion of the aluminium refinery in Gove. In 2006 the Northern Territory Government will work with the proponents of the major project, the Darwin Waterfront development. This activity will continue to anticipate requirements and plan for a skilled workforce for new major projects as they come on line.</p> <p>To assist in identifying skill shortage areas, apprentice training uptake, the extent of workforce turnover and labour mobility and constraints on industry growth, the Northern Territory funds training advisory councils. These organisations provide intelligence on skill shortage developments and industry need through industry surveys, liaison and consultation within each industry sector and national industry skills councils. It is planned in 2006 to work with Unions NT to survey employees to obtain information about workforce turnover and mobility, employment conditions and other factors relating to employees' experiences in the labour market.</p> <p>The Northern Territory publishes an up to date Skill Shortage Trades List, which is derived from the <i>Workforce NT</i> Occupational Shortages List. This is updated annually through consultation with industry advisory bodies, employer organisations, training advisory councils and other key stakeholders.</p>

	<p>To encourage the uptake of additional apprentices and trainees, particularly in the skill shortage and emerging industry areas, the NT Government introduced two employer incentives schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Skill Shortage Trades Employer Incentives</li> <li>· Small Business Employer Incentives</li> </ul> <p>Skill Shortage Trades Employer Incentives of up to \$7700 per apprentice were allocated to 194 employers (June 2004 to November 2005). Small Business Employer Incentives of up to \$3000 per apprentice/trainee were allocated to 358 businesses (June 2004 to November 2005). It is the Northern Territory Government's intention to continue these employer incentives during 2006.</p> <p>The Workwear/Workgear Bonus, introduced by the Northern Territory Government in 2005, will be ongoing in 2006. This program assists apprentices and trainees with the start up costs faced when commencing their training. This bonus is paid directly to apprentices and trainees and is worth \$1000 to apprentices in trades skill shortage areas and \$300 to all other apprentices and trainees.</p> <p>To support the drive for apprentices and trainees in the trades skill shortage areas, the NT Government's procurement policy for government construction and maintenance contracts requires successful tenderers to employ and train a minimum number of trade apprentices and trainees who are registered in the NT.</p> <p>Each year forty scholarships worth \$4000 are available to Territorians studying Certificate III to Diploma level courses. Applications are assessed with consideration given to those undertaking training in an area that appears on either the Northern Territory Occupation Shortage List or DEET's Labour Demand List and whether it will lead to employment. VET scholarships are available for one year only with study to be undertaken with a registered training provider in the Northern Territory. The scholarships are not available to apprentices or trainees.</p>
<p>B. Delivering improved outcomes for employers, individuals and communities.</p>	<p>In conjunction with the Australian Government Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST), the Northern Territory purchases apprenticeship support services that allow a responsive industry focussed approach to apprenticeship and traineeship recruitment. This service provides support and mediation to employers and apprentices, assists with the formation of training plans and encourages the completion of apprenticeships and traineeships. A joint tender from DEST and DEET for the New Apprenticeships Access Program has been called for 2006-2009.</p> <p>The Northern Territory will work cooperatively with the Australian Government to support the operations of Australian Technical Colleges to ensure that they contribute to the delivery of improved outcomes for employers, individuals and communities.</p>
<p>C. Improving quality</p>	<p>The Northern Territory has nationally consistent legislation underpinning vocational education and training quality assurance and regulation. A quality and regulatory framework based on continuous improvement is being developed. The NT is committed to the principles of mutual recognition of providers and qualifications as required under the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) and will implement national initiatives to remove</p>

impediments to associated with occupational licensing arrangements.

Auditing and monitoring is conducted in line with AQTF requirements. Audit practices will be reviewed and monitored over the 2006-2008 period to improve lead and response times to client requests. In addition, the Northern Territory will aim to improve the national consistency of registration and audit activities by 30 June 2006 through participating in national audit moderation programs and other national forums as they are conducted.

Professional development programs are provided to RTOs to improve their understanding of quality, the AQTF and their role in the national VET system. The Northern Territory's RTO professional development strategy will involve the evaluation and review of each year's program to inform the development of the following year's professional development calendar.

The National Training Quality Council (NTQC) is undertaking work to determine the viability of an outcomes based audit model. The Northern Territory is represented on, and will support the decisions of, a national Steering Group. Implementation of any decisions would be undertaken within NT resource and budgetary allocations.

Processes to facilitate the public reporting of RTO outcomes will be implemented once these arrangements are developed and agreed to nationally.

To improve provider understanding of Training Package review, development and implementation procedures and Training Packages generally, the Northern Territory has recently reviewing its Training Packages Guide and in September 2005 published a revised Guide. To assist registered training organisations to understand and perform their regulatory requirements with the department, the Northern Territory is reviewing its Registered Training Organisers' Guide to reflect the 1 July 2005 changes made to the AQTF. This will be re-released in January 2006.

The Northern Territory also supports the implementation of outcomes of the high level review of Training Packages to strengthen the quality and delivery of Training Packages and will implement improvements agreed through the NTQC Workplan within resource and budgetary constraints.

The NT participates in the National Nominal Hours Working Group, which is tasked with the development and introduction of nationally consistent nominal hours for units of competency for the purposes of reporting activity under the Commonwealth/State Skilling Australia's Workforce Agreement 2005-2008.

The Northern Territory is committed to improving the consistency, quality and responsiveness of providers of vocational education and training. During 2005, the Northern Territory trialled a VET client complaints management system in line with the National Code of Practice for Complaints Management. This will be fully implemented during 2006. Ongoing monitoring and improvement will be undertaken as required.

<p>D. Increasing participation and up-skilling mature age workers.</p> <p><i>(Response to Priority D should include a description of strategies to improve the participation of parents and older workers in training that would assist them to find employment)</i></p>	<p>A strategic priority for the NT in the <i>Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce</i> strategy is 'Better Opportunities: Less Disadvantage'. A major aim of this priority is to improve employment and training pathways to increase participation, retain and up-skill mature aged workers in the NT workforce. To increase the participation of mature-age Territorians and parents in training that would assist them to find employment, the Territory Government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· continue to encourage life long learning, re-training opportunities</li> <li>· continue to promote and celebrate Adult Learners' Week;</li> <li>· implement flexible work practices in the NT Public Service; and</li> <li>· promote flexible work practices to industry and business.</li> </ul> <p>Apprenticeship and traineeship funding under the NT User Choice policy is available for Australian citizens, residents and eligible visa holders for students from 15 to mature age. Employers are encouraged to take on apprentices and trainees, including parents and mature aged persons, through the NT employer incentives scheme.</p> <p>DEET is represented on the Equity Manager's Network, which monitors the implementation of the equity action items under the national Shaping our Future Strategy. Work will also continue with DEWR to assist, at a local level, with implementation of national strategies and programs to increase participation of mature aged workers and unemployed parents in the workforce.</p> <p>The Northern Territory's International Women's Day Study Grants for Women provides four study grants of \$1000 to Territory women who are undertaking vocational education and training to re-enter the workforce after an absence of five years or more. This program will continue on an annual basis subject to continuation of funding through the Australian Government Equity Development and Training Innovation Fund.</p> <p>Under the Recurrent Funding program, the Northern Territory supports up-skilling of existing workers, including older workers. Through the Community Response Program and the Flexible Response Funding program, DEET works with the community and RTOs to capitalise on local opportunities and provide training for those not currently in the labour market to gain skills that will lead to an employment outcome.</p> <p>The new Build Skills program, introduced in 2005, provides funds to up-skill existing workers, including older workers. It is targeted towards groups of workers identified by peak industry bodies or union organisations in the construction, automotive, engineering, mining and hospitality industries. These organisations identify employers, or groups of employers, who will benefit from increasing the skill level of their workers to assist them to become qualified or achieve recognition that may be required for some licensed occupations. Funding of \$2M over four years 2005-2008 has been allocated to continue this program.</p>
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E. Encouraging greater re-engagement in training by Australians who are not fully participating in the labour market.

The Northern Territory works to implement initiatives to improve employment and training outcomes for disadvantaged Territorians, including Indigenous people, people with a disability, people from a non-English background, mature-aged, long term unemployed, women looking to re-enter the workforce, young people and people exiting prisons. Some of this work is undertaken in conjunction with the Australian Government.

In the NT, only 38% of Indigenous Territorians aged fifteen and over participate in the labour force, compared with about 79% of non-Indigenous. Of this 38%, about 14% are unemployed, 44% are employed under the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) and 42% are employed in mainstream jobs.<sup>1</sup> The opportunity for Indigenous involvement in enterprise development is one of the most sustainable forms of employment for Indigenous people, as recognised in the Indigenous Arts Strategy *Building Strong Arts Business* <http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/ArtsBusiness> and the Indigenous Tourism Strategy [http://www.nttc.com.au/nt/system/galleries/download/NTTC\\_Industry/Indigenous\\_Strategy\\_2004.pdf](http://www.nttc.com.au/nt/system/galleries/download/NTTC_Industry/Indigenous_Strategy_2004.pdf).

A priority of the NT Government is to form partnerships with Indigenous people and communities, government agencies, organisations, in particular Indigenous organisations, the Australian Government, industry and Indigenous Land Councils to take advantage of the opportunities available for enterprise development and thereby targeting and supporting training and employment programs for Indigenous people.

DEET programs that provide a regionally located skilled workforce through training and response to Indigenous community needs include the Flexible Response Funding and Community Response programs, with an annual budget of \$2.1M. These programs target training needs that involve up-skilling and re-skilling for community labour shortages; responsive, ongoing skills development that assists in building community capacity; and providing accredited and non-accredited training for Indigenous Territorians.

As part of the Desert Knowledge Precinct in Alice Springs, work will continue with Desert Peoples Centre ([http://www.desertknowledge.com.au/dka/index.cfm?attributes.fuseaction=pre\\_desertCentre](http://www.desertknowledge.com.au/dka/index.cfm?attributes.fuseaction=pre_desertCentre)) consortium partners, Centre for Appropriate Technology and BIITE, to develop strategies to increase commencement and completion of Certificate III and IV courses by Indigenous learners.

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<sup>1</sup> Reported in Taylor, J 2003 'Indigenous economic futures in the Northern Territory: The demographic and socioeconomic background', Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Discussion Paper No. 246

The Northern Territory commissioned the NT Council of Social Services to undertake a comprehensive review of the challenges faced by the Northern Territory's employment disadvantaged. The project was initiated to identify barriers to employment and gaps in service provision for the long term unemployed/underemployed; people from a non-English speaking background; youth; people with disabilities; and mature aged workers. This research is intended to inform future training and employment strategies for these groups. The Northern Territory and Australian Governments will work cooperatively to progress the recommendations from this report.

To increase opportunities for Territorians to gain skilled employment in selected industries and possibly lead to apprenticeship and traineeship uptake, a Pre-employment program has been developed. This is used for training semi and unskilled people to gain essential employability skills. The program funds initiatives such training 150 people as 'lagers' specifically for the Wickham Point project (gas refinery). It is planned to continue this program for 2006 for other major projects in the Territory.

DEET is continually working with DEWR to assist, at a local level, with implementation of strategies and programs to increase participation of long term unemployed and people with a disability in the workforce.

The Northern Territory's Australians Working Together Grants program, using funds provided through the overarching Australians Working Together package, provides resources targeted to run pilot programs to boost employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities and long term unemployed migrants. This is achieved through community organisations, service providers and training organisations working in partnership with Job Network providers and other key stakeholders to develop specifically targeted training opportunities for Australians not fully participating in the labour market.

In 2005, \$151 580 was distributed to seven programs delivering services to around 80 Territorians. For example, a program was developed through a partnership between the Seafood and Maritime Industries Training Ltd and the Northern Territory Department of Justice to train prisoners (mainly Indigenous) with learning and physical disabilities. The training prepared them for work, in their home coastal communities, as trawler deckhands and net menders. As at August 2005, six prisoners completed their training and five received job offers.

In 2005, the Australians Working Together Grants program also funded a number of programs that aimed to assist mature-aged and young people from a non-English speaking background to gain access to the labour market through targeted training programs. These included a program designed to provide refugees with the opportunity to gain recognised work skills and Australian work experience. Nineteen refugees have gained jobs and a further three are undertaking further study in other areas as a direct result of the program designed by CDU, local employers and Australian Government support agencies. Another program assisted young people with disabilities to access VET in Schools subjects through funding supports such as transport and extra tutorial assistance to complete employability skills programs.

In 2006, funding arrangements between Northern Territory and the Australian Government for the Australians Working Together program will ensure continuation of these and other programs.

## STATE AND TERRITORY BI-LATERAL AGREEMENTS

1. States and territories will describe their own plans and strategies to meet the requirements of their bilateral agreements, including targets and performance measures, including those described as Key Performance Measures and reported in the ANR:

State/Priority Commitment	
<p>State/Territory Priorities: This section provides the opportunity for the State/Territory to indicate its priorities for vocational and technical education</p>	<p>The Northern Territory Government has a fundamental and abiding commitment to improving the economic and social outcomes for all Territorians and believes education and training is the most important pathway to achieving this commitment. Building a skilled and competitive workforce to fill job opportunities created by continued strong economic growth is a key priority in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>The Northern Territory's Economic Development Strategy, <i>Building a Better Territory</i>, developed following an Economic Development Summit in 2001, has been the blueprint to drive the economic development priorities of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Creating an attractive investment environment;</li> <li>· Encouraging skills and innovation;</li> <li>· Improving Indigenous economic development;</li> <li>· Building on past successes and creating new industries; and</li> <li>· Developing the Territory's regions.</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.otd.nt.gov.au/dcm/otd/publications/major_projects/economic_development_strategy/building_a_better_territory.pdf">http://www.otd.nt.gov.au/dcm/otd/publications/major_projects/economic_development_strategy/building_a_better_territory.pdf</a></p> <p>A number of strategies have supported <i>Building a Better Territory</i> and its aims to grow the economy and build job opportunities, including</p> <p><i>Building Stronger Regions, Stronger Futures</i>  <a href="http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/StrongRegions">http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/StrongRegions</a>,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Centres on the development of sustainable regional economies through the identification of opportunities; negotiation of governance arrangements which support regional social and economic development; and the provision of physical infrastructure that fosters sustainable development.</li> </ul> <p><i>Building Northern Territory Industry Participation</i>  <a href="http://www.nt.gov.au:8501/dberd/TBC/documents/BNTIP.pdf">http://www.nt.gov.au:8501/dberd/TBC/documents/BNTIP.pdf</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Aims to give competitive Territory businesses the opportunity to participate in the future growth of the Territory and to enhance business and industry capability.</li> </ul>

	<p><i>Building Stronger Territory Trade</i>  <a href="http://www.nt.gov.au:8501/dberd/TBC/documents/ITS_STRAT_DIRECTIONS_ACTIONS.pdf">http://www.nt.gov.au:8501/dberd/TBC/documents/ITS_STRAT_DIRECTIONS_ACTIONS.pdf</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A focus on export enterprise development, trade knowledge and skills, growth of the major Territory export sectors and trade planning and development in emerging sectors, aiming to expand exports, maximise export value, create new Territory jobs and enhance economic development.</li> </ul> <p><i>Indigenous Economic Development</i>  <a href="http://www.nt.gov.au/cdsca/ied/docs/ied_strategy.pdf">http://www.nt.gov.au/cdsca/ied/docs/ied_strategy.pdf</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Based on identifying opportunities for economic development in 13 industry sectors: aquaculture and fisheries, arts, community services, construction, forestry and agribusiness, government, horticulture, knowledge and culture, mining and production, natural resource management, pastoral, retail and services, and tourism.</li> </ul> <p>The Territory's economy is experiencing strong growth and independent analyst Access Economics predicts the Territory will have Australia's highest average annual Gross State Product growth rate over the next five years, along with the highest annual job growth rate. Its population is forecast to grow at the second-highest rate in the country and the construction industry is currently experiencing considerable growth.</p> <p>These successes are underpinned by achievements such as the AustralAsia Railway and Trade Route, the development of Timor Sea oil and gas and associated industries, the expansion of the Alcan aluminium refinery in Gove, and the Darwin waterfront redevelopment.</p> <p>The Northern Territory Government, industry, business and the community again worked in partnership during a second Economic Development Summit held in November 2005. This summit will shape a framework for the future and lead to a set of strategies to continue to drive economic development and create jobs for all Territorians. The Summit focused on five key areas of discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• creating an attractive business environment;</li> <li>• promoting investment;</li> <li>• expanding markets;</li> <li>• developing business and industry capacity and capability; and</li> <li>• building and retaining a skilled and productive workforce.</li> </ul>
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Since the first Economic Development Summit was held in 2001, the Northern Territory economy has strengthened from zero economic growth to having the highest forecast economic growth rate in Australia. Critical to maintaining this growth is targeted vocational education and training strategies to address increasing skills and labour shortages in key industry sectors of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, Defence support, tourism and related industries, construction, manufacturing, mines and energy, and consumer services.

The NT will focus on building the Territory's skills base through:

- identifying future skills needs - linking education to economic participation
- training for 'real' jobs in the regions, including Indigenous Territorians
- implementing initiatives to support retention of a skilled workforce
- skilling our population for existing and emerging industries eg. defence, oil and gas
- focussing on innovation and information technology
- skilled migration
- training young Territorians for high skill, high wage jobs.

The Northern Territory experiences a tight labour market characterised by skills shortages. Employment tends to be volatile, with extreme growth rates (both positive and negative) often associated with the commencement and conclusion of the labour-intensive construction phase of major investment projects. With several significant projects underway and proposed, this is likely to continue to be a feature of the Territory labour market over the next few years<sup>2</sup>.

The Northern Territory has a higher concentration of Indigenous people with 30.1% of the NT population reporting as having an Indigenous background, compared to Australia at 2.5% of the total population. The Indigenous population in the NT is characterised by a low school educational profile, with a large number not achieving Year 12 education. Many Indigenous Territorians live in remote areas where access to education, particularly secondary education, may be limited. 72% of Indigenous people accessing VET are concentrated in Cert I and II levels. As many as 64% of Indigenous Territorians are neither employed nor looking for work and only approximately 15% are working in mainstream (non CDEP) employment. There is work to be done with the Indigenous population to provide them with the capacity to engage in the labour force<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> NT Treasury, Budget Papers 2005-06

<sup>3</sup> Workforce NT Report 2004

	<p>DEET collaborates with industry, employers, communities and local government to ensure timely, targeted and accredited vocational education and training is matched to employment opportunities. The <i>Workforce NT</i> Report provides government, industry and the community with information about skills shortages and labour demand, urban and regional labour markets, Indigenous and disadvantaged groups employment profiles, employment growth forecasts, workforce trends, macroeconomic data impacting on employment and the employment impacts of major projects.</p> <p>The following sections outline four key priority areas for vocational education and training in the Northern Territory:</p>
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Priority 1 – Improving Indigenous training and employment opportunities		
	Plans for 2006 – 2008	Success in 2005
	<p>The Northern Territory is planning to achieve successful outcomes over the 2006-2008 period through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Stronger linkages between Community Education Centres and Regional Training Centres</li> <li>· Implementation of the Indigenous Education Strategic Plan 2005-2008</li> <li>· Contract Community Education Centres for improving education and training outcomes for Indigenous students</li> <li>· Increased involvement of Indigenous Territorians in decision-making about employment pathways, programs and delivery</li> <li>· Developing clear employment and training pathways that will see Indigenous people gain qualifications</li> <li>· Use of e-learning and distance delivery modes for the delivery of improved training in communities</li> <li>· Growing the participation of young people in vocational education and training through the Training for Remote Youth and VET in Schools programs and the Building Better Schools initiative</li> <li>· Improved planning around Community Response Programs (CRP)</li> <li>· Working with registered training organisations to develop effective models for customised training programs and delivery in communities</li> <li>· Building links between skills development, regional and remote jobs, industries and business opportunities.</li> </ul>	<p>Indigenous responsive programs such as the Community Response Program and Flexible Response Funding continue to provide funds to target training in communities with a focus on employment outcomes.</p> <p>In 2005, a number of training programs relating to civil construction and maintenance were developed to train Indigenous Territorians in road maintenance that will enable them to develop a local civil works unit to take on contract work in their communities.</p> <p>For example, over \$27,000 was provided in the Yirrkala community to enable Yolngu participants to improve their employability skills by participating in programs covering, driving C class, senior first aid, chainsaw, forklift, skid steer and front end loader training.</p> <p>In the Mutitjulu community in Central Australia, funding of \$11,000 was provided to Advanced Training International to train local Indigenous people in the community to repair an abandoned cement truck. This will enable them to start mixing concrete for small concrete jobs, saving the community money by doing their own small projects rather than using outside contractors. This model has also been applied to construction, essential services, repairs and maintenance, automotive and other industries for other Indigenous communities.</p> <p>The Northern Territory will continue to assist communities to establish the requisite skills to enable them to respond to employment opportunities in 2006 and beyond.</p>

	<p>The Northern Territory Government is encouraging the development of relationships with intra-and inter government agencies and industry to improve product and service delivery to regional and remote communities. It will continue to work collaboratively with communities and regional development boards and other agencies to maximise opportunities for Indigenous training and employment.</p> <p>The Northern Territory will continue the innovative programs initiated in 2004 and 2005 in the aquaculture industries.</p> <p>Conservation and land management training and employment programs will also be supported in 2006 and beyond through a range of Northern Territory funded programs.</p> <p>The Northern Territory Flexible Learning Strategy has been developed to expand choices and opportunities for learners to engage in education and training. Regional and remote Indigenous Territorians benefit from the Northern Territory's focus on innovative strategies to increase access to training, such as e-learning and Interactive Distance Learning technology.</p>	<p>The Northern Territory will continue to develop a range of training programs linked to enterprise opportunities. For example, in 2005, pre-vocational courses, short courses and apprenticeships were funded in support of the Tiwi Islands Sylvatech Forestry Project.</p> <p>\$50,000 was contributed for training in aquaculture principles, biology and techniques specific to the Sponge Aquaculture Pilot Program in Maningrida and Warruwi. This is in conjunction with the \$460,000 sponge industry development project funded by Indigenous Land Corporation, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Australian Institute of Marine Science and the Northern Territory Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development.</p> <p>In the Wadeye community, the Thamarrurr Land and Sea Rangers were trained in land management activities that included weed control, feral animal control, customs work and restoration work as well as business administration skills. Over \$11,000 was provided to Stringybark Training to deliver the training in the community.</p>
<p>In 2006, the Flexible Learning Advisory Group, comprising representative membership from public and private training organisations, employer groups, training advisory councils and government agencies, will be pursuing implementation of key elements of the Strategy under the guiding principles of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Access and equity</li> <li>· Relevance</li> <li>· Resources</li> <li>· People capability</li> <li>· Quality outcomes</li> </ul>		

## Priority 2 – NT Jobs Plan

The *NT Jobs Plan* complements the Northern Territory's economic and industry strategies; it is a comprehensive and coordinated approach to planning for jobs and mapping the future to a skilled, flexible and responsive workforce.

The Northern Territory will continue bringing together government agencies with industry, business and the community to bring about economic growth and prosperity. DEET will facilitate skills formation to grow the Territory workforce and recognises that this is best brought about through partnership between industry, business, unions, training providers, the community and government agencies.

Under the *NT Jobs Plan*, DEET will continue to deliver the *Workforce NT* Report and provide advice on labour market issues to internal/external stakeholders. *Workforce NT* will be continually evaluated to improve future editions.

Employer incentives will be maintained to encourage industry to take on apprentices in trades that are classified in the NT as experiencing skill shortages. Small business incentives will also continue to be provided to encourage the employment of additional apprentices/trainees by small to medium enterprises in the NT.

To encourage young people to enter into an apprenticeship in a skill shortage area and other types of traineeships, the NT will provide eligible apprentices and trainees with a one-off *Workwear/Workgear Bonus* to help them meet the costs of buying work wear, safety gear and other work-related necessities.

The Northern Territory will continue to strategically identify the training needs of industry and communities informed by the development of annual training profiles, *Workforce NT*, labour market scenarios, consultation with industry, communities and peak bodies, and other empirical supply and demand drivers.

Priority 3 – School to Work transition

The Northern Territory is focussed on improving school to work transition and believes this is essential to reduce the unemployment and underemployment of young school leavers.

Strong support is provided across the Territory for students to include VET within their senior secondary certificate. In 2006 the Northern Territory will spend over \$2.1M to support approximately 1900 VET in School students. VET in Schools participation continues a very strong growth trend with 1331 students participating in 2000 to 1851 in 2004. This program will continue to be offered in 2006 and beyond.

A School to Work Strategic Plan 2006-2008 is being developed. The objectives of the strategic plan will lead to:

- an increase in the number of students making a successful transition from school to training and employment pathways;
- an expanded range of school to work pathways;
- a flexible blend of Northern Territory Certificate of Education options (Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia subjects, VET subjects and courses and School-Based New Apprenticeships) will be available to students in Northern Territory Government schools;
- stronger links developed between school, industry and external training providers and support organisations; and
- improved outcomes for Indigenous students through collaboration with schools, industry and communities.

In 2005, the Workready Pathways Program was introduced into two schools in the Darwin area. The aim of program is to assist secondary school students to become work ready and make the transition from school to work. The program facilitates better engagement between schools and industry and provides work experience, employability skills and targeted VET programs to assist students to gain a School Based New Apprenticeship. Due to the success of this school to work transition program, it is planned in 2006 to expand the Pathways Program to a further two schools in the Darwin area.

Under an Agreement between the Northern Territory Government and the Palmerston City Council, a reference group, comprising representatives from industry, schools, training organisations, government agencies and the Palmerston City Council, has been set up to implement the School to Work Transition Project. This project aims to improve the transition from school to work or further training for students at schools in the Palmerston region.

To improve participation in vocational education initiatives, help students make an easier transition from school to work, and allow them to gain experience and knowledge about the opportunities and choices open to them, the Northern Territory has and will continue to fund initiatives such as:

- Try a Trade – an annual event where students undertake small projects in skills shortage areas ranging from construction to hospitality, under the guidance of qualified tradespeople.
- Futures Expos – are held in all major regional centres in the Northern Territory, which enables youth from regional and remote areas to identify career and employment pathways. Expo participants include local, Territory-wide and relevant interstate employers, training providers, government departments and education organisations. Students from Year 9 to 12 benefit greatly by attending, particularly when well prepared beforehand. The NT encourages younger students to attend, where schools have the opportunity to prepare them adequately before the event and are able to follow up on student learning after the Expo.
- Worldskills – competitions designed to encourage young apprentices and trainees to strive for excellence in their trade areas. These competitions raise the profile of vocational education and training and highlight the many career opportunities available to young Territorians.

Following the successful Northern Territory GET VET marketing campaign which contributed to 85% of Territorians being familiar with the term VET, Phase two, the VET Experience, was launched in 2005 to promote the benefits of apprenticeships and traineeships to Northern Territory employers and potential apprentices and trainees.

School Based New Apprenticeships (SBNAs) are another valuable pathway the NT supports as it combines school education with a training and employment outcome, thus increasing the choice available to students. The Northern Territory has created a policy environment that facilitates SBNAs and provides direct support through the New Apprenticeships Support Services Contract. The NT also supports SBNAs by encouraging the development of appropriate industrial relations arrangements to enable SBNAs in a broader range of industries. The Northern Territory saw an increase of SBNAs from 19 in 2002 to 139 in 2004. SBNAs will continue to be a priority school to work transition program for the Northern Territory in 2006 and beyond.

Priority 4 – Build on and develop closer relationships with Charles Darwin University and the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education

Resource agreements covering funding for the provision of vocational education and training against mutually agreed training profiles under the Recurrent Funding program are negotiated annually with CDU and BIITE, the two major public VET providers in the Northern Territory.

Regular meetings are held with CDU and BIITE to discuss strategic direction, training profiles, monitor program delivery and address other issues as they arise. Quality improvement is continually monitored through on going professional development to maintain service delivery in line with AQTF standards as well as agreed use of AVETMISS.

DEET has been working with CDU on a costing model to try to ascertain the true cost of delivering VET in the Northern Territory. As a result of this work, CDU was allocated an additional \$3.03M in 2005 to enhance the delivery of training in the traditional trades areas.

The Charles Darwin University/Northern Territory Government Partnership Agreement fosters greater cooperative and collaborative activity between the parties. The Partnership Agreement has successfully developed a number of key initiatives that contribute towards developing and implementing collaborative activities that are mutually productive, cooperative and confer lasting benefits to the social and economic development of the Northern Territory. Through the Agreement, the Northern Territory will continue to explore flexible avenues to embrace new opportunities, ideas and innovative ways of working together.

Schedule 3.4 of the Partnership Agreement, *Improving VET Delivery in the Northern Territory*, is focussed on meeting the needs of industry in a responsive, flexible and timely manner; collaboration on consideration, negotiation and response to national VET policy development and implementation; and exploring and adopting appropriate funding arrangements for VET delivery in the NT. A focus of this work is to increase training delivery in remote communities to provide more opportunities for remote Indigenous Territorians to access VET programs.

Schedule 4.4, *Indigenous Economic Development*, links CDU with the Northern Territory's Indigenous Economic Development Strategy. This Schedule provides the mechanism for CDU/NT collaboration on the Strategy; the scoping, development and undertaking of priority research projects; and the scoping of immediate training requirements in industry sectors identified in the Strategy. This identified training demand will be referred to Schedule 3.4 of the Partnership Agreement for implementation in partnership with DEET.

Schedule 1.7, *Developing the Defence Support Strategy*, has, as one of its four objectives, the aim to improve CDU planning and Northern Territory Government identification of skill needs in relation to defence support industry training. As such, a joint project involving CDU, Northern Territory Government agencies, industry, the unions and defence, employer and industry representative groups has commenced. This project will inform registered training providers of the actual and potential demand for skilled labour due to current and emerging defence force projects. This information in turn will enable CDU and DEET to make informed decisions about delivering the identified training needs.

Schedule 1.4, *Supporting the Energy and Mining Industries*, similarly is about employing strategies to identify and fill the future training needs to support these growing industry sectors in the Northern Territory.

Engagement and Cooperation:  
This section provides the opportunity for the State/Territory and the Australian Government to set out how they will work together. *(detail may include issues as described in Bilateral Funding Agreement P1)*

#### Industry, Community and Client Engagement

The Ministerial Advisory Board for Employment and Training, comprising representative membership from Northern Territory and Australian Government agencies responsible for vocational education and training, training providers, the community, training advisory councils, the Indigenous community, Unions NT (formerly known as the NT Trades and Labour Council), and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was established under the *Northern Territory Employment and Training Act 2004*. This body has provided advice to the Minister for Employment, Education and Training and the Northern Territory Employment and Training Authority on policies and programs designed to enhance employment and training skills across the Northern Territory.

This advisory arrangement will be replaced from February 2006 with the Minister's Employment and Training Round Table, aiming to facilitate constructive discussion and an exchange of views between government, business and industry employers, vocational education and training providers and clients about issues that are impacting on employment and training in the Northern Territory.

A number of these Round Table meetings will be held in all regions of the Northern Territory each year and will encourage broad ranging discussion between government and representatives of business, industry, training providers and the NT community and complements existing mechanisms available to engage in dialogue with the NT Government.

Regular forums, professional development workshops and information sessions in relation to VET delivery and assessment, local and national regulatory requirements and funding programs are provided by DEET for registered training organisations and group training organisations in the Northern Territory.

To ensure the Northern Territory's vocational education and training system is positioned to respond to the changing demands of industry and economic and social drivers, six Northern Territory industry sector training advisory councils assist DEET in establishing partnerships between industry, business, unions, trainers, the community and government by:

- contributing a Territory perspective to the development, implementation, maintenance and review of Training Packages;
- acting as a conduit between enterprises/industry and government on vocational education and training planning, policy and practice;
- assisting to increase awareness and uptake of VET; and
- meeting national agreement responsibilities with DEST where DEET needs to formally engage with industry.

The training advisory councils also undertake labour market surveys within their respective industry sectors; information from which contributes to the data published in the *Workforce NT* Report.

The VET in Schools Strategic Management Committee and the Employment and Training Portfolio Principals Group, which meet quarterly with DEET officers, are important communication mechanisms between the State Training Authority, DEET and schools on VET in Schools, School Based New Apprenticeship and other school to work transition matters.

The NT engages with its clients by way of links with the community and stakeholder representatives through involvement in a number of reference groups, such as:

**Disability**

Post Secondary Education and Employment Network for people with disabilities  
Disability Coordination Officer Reference Group  
Secondary Transition Information Group

**Migrants and Refugees**

NT Settlement Planning Committee  
Refugee Employment Working Party

**Prisoners and Offenders**

National VET Strategy for Prisoners and Offenders Steering Committee

**Youth**

Centrelink Youth Reference Group  
NT Youth Affairs Committee

**Mature-Age**

National Priority Action 4 – Mature Aged Workers – Steering Committee

	<p>Through ongoing consultation and collaboration with agencies such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· NT Council of Social Service;</li> <li>· Multicultural Council of the NT;</li> <li>· Regional Disability Liaison Officer and the Disability Coordination Officers;</li> <li>· NT Working Women's Centre;</li> <li>· NT Correctional Services, Community Engagement Division;</li> <li>· NT Department of Chief Minister;</li> <li>· Darwin Community Legal Aid Service;</li> <li>· Centrelink;</li> <li>· DEWR;</li> <li>· Job Network Members and Open Employment Services; and</li> <li>· NT Chamber of Commerce and Industry</li> </ul> <p>the Northern Territory is kept informed and receives relevant advice regarding the needs of all learners, particularly people with a disability, mature-aged and Indigenous Territorians.</p> <p>Annual client surveys conducted by the six training advisory councils also provide a mechanism for ascertaining client and stakeholder skills and training needs.</p> <p>To facilitate constructive discussion and an exchange of views between government, business and industry about issues that are impacting on business and industry development in the Northern Territory, the Chief Minister's Business Round Table meets ten times per year. The Round Table encourages broad ranging discussion between government and representatives of business and industry in the Northern Territory and complements existing mechanisms available for business and industry to engage in dialogue with government, such as Community Cabinet and the new Employment and Training Round Table.</p> <p>The Northern Territory Government's Community Cabinet enables individuals and community groups throughout the NT, including regional and remote areas, to meet directly with government ministers and department heads. Through Community Cabinet, ministers and agency officers are able to meet with many local residents and community organisations, to listen to their concerns and talk about their issues, as well as see and experience a wide range of community training and employment initiatives and projects.</p>
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Cooperative and Collaborative work with the Australian Government

The Northern Territory Government, through DEET, and the Australian Government, through DEST, currently operate a joint funded contract with one organisation, known as the New Apprenticeships Centre, to deliver New Apprenticeships Support Services in the Northern Territory. The current contract for the provision of New Apprenticeships Support Services in the Northern Territory ends on 30 June 2006. A new contract will be signed with the successful organisation following the tender process.

A Memorandum of Understanding between DEET and DEWR exists to facilitate cross government communication and, in relation to employment and training initiatives, to ensure effective employment program delivery in the Northern Territory.

As referred to in the Section on National Goals and Objectives, the Northern Territory participates in the COAG initiative, the Indigenous Community Coordination Pilot for the NT community of Wadeye. A Shared Responsibility Agreement has been signed between the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and the Thamarrurr Regional Council whereby governments have agreed to work together on three key regional priorities of:

- women and families;
- youth; and
- housing and construction.

Agreeing that education, training and enterprise development are essential for the well being of Thamarrurr and its people, the parties committed that actions arising out of this pilot to address the three priority areas must also address agreed education, training and enterprise development needs. DEET supports the aims of the Thamarrurr Employment and Training Committee, to increase the participation of the Indigenous population of Wadeye in employment and training programs targeted to secure lasting employment outcomes.

The Northern Territory's Minister or his delegate attends the MCEETYA and MINCO meetings. Senior officials from DEET are members of and attend various MCEETYA Taskforce groups and working groups to progress national initiatives such as *training.com*. The NT will participate in MINCO Action Groups as they are established, such as the Client and Student Voice Action Group, on which it has representation.

It has been agreed at Ministerial level that the Australian and Northern Territory Governments work cooperatively and collaboratively in developing a response to, and considering the recommendations of, the recently released Northern Territory report *Creating Effective Pathways to Employment and Training for the Employment Disadvantaged in the Northern Territory*. This report makes a number of recommendations for coordinating and integrating employment and learning services to provide clear information, pathways and access points for employment of disadvantaged clients. There would be considerable benefit in a cooperative approach in advancing the work on this report.

The Northern Territory Government and the Australian Government will work to progress the work of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG). Further details on COAG initiatives are provided in Attachment A.

#### Communication

DEET's Deputy Chief Executive responsible for employment and training will be kept informed, preferably via the DEST Canberra and Northern Territory State Office, of up-to-date information on all matters in relation to the Australian Government's vocational education and training system.

The Australian Government will communicate with Northern Territory training providers industry, clients, and key stakeholders through the State Training Authority, DEET except where existing communication arrangements are in place.

<p>Strategic National Initiatives:</p> <p>(i) The State/Territory's participation in the Commonwealth-State Skills Shortage Initiative, including project details, industries/occupations that will be targeted and funding amounts;</p> <p>(ii) The State/Territory's funding contribution to the Joint Indigenous funding pool to improve outcomes for Indigenous Australians and its participation in the management of the fund <i>(as described in Bilateral Funding Agreement Pt 5, p2)</i></p>	<p>The Northern Territory will work with local industry and community to support the following Strategic National Initiatives:</p> <p>(i) the Northern Territory supports the National Skills Shortage Initiative and will work with the Australian Government on initiatives designed to further coordinate programs to address skills shortages. NT programs in place to address this issue include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Skill Shortage Trades Employer Incentives</li> <li>- Workwear/Workgear Bonus for apprentices</li> <li>- School Based New Apprenticeships</li> <li>- Try a Trade</li> <li>- Build Skills</li> </ul> <p>The Northern Territory, as a member of COAG, will participate in the joint Commonwealth-State working group to respond to the national skills shortages and provide more opportunities for young Australians.</p> <p>(ii) the Northern Territory supports the Joint Indigenous Funding Pool to improve outcomes for Indigenous Australians. Once the new program and implementation arrangements are finalised and signed off by all jurisdictions, DEET will identify strategies to contribute to and administer this initiative. This may be in the form of a process whereby providers put forward a business case for funding and their applications being assessed against the Joint Indigenous Funding Pool guidelines. The Australian Government will be invited to participate in this process.</p>
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<p>National Targets: Each State/Territory will meet its share of the national targets set out in the <i>2005-08 Commonwealth-State Agreement for Skilling Australia's Workforce</i>. In meetings its share, the State/Territory will specify the base year (either 2003 or 2004) from which all its targets will be achieved.</p>	<p><i>The Northern Territory has selected 2003 as the base year.</i></p> <p>(i) Additional New Apprentice commencements in skills shortages in traditional trades</p> <p>(a) the Northern Territory share of the national target based on the Northern Territory share of working age population is 104;</p> <p>(b) the trade occupations the Northern Territory target will be achieved in, drawn from the latest DEWR National and NT Occupation and Skills Shortage List and other emerging occupations/skills shortage areas, are:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Aeroskills</td> <td>Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Avionics)</td> <td>MEA40602</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Mechanical)</td> <td>MEA40702</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Automotive</td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Electrical)</td> <td>AUR30199</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Vehicle Body – Panel Beating)</td> <td>AUR31699</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Vehicle Body – Vehicle Painting)</td> <td>AUR31899</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical – Light Vehicle)</td> <td>AUR31099</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical – Diesel)</td> <td>AUR30499</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical – Heavy Vehicle)</td> <td>AUR30899</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Marine (Mechanics)</td> <td>AUR32299</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical - Heavy Vehicle Mobile Equipment, Plant/Earthmoving/Agriculture)</td> <td>AUR30999</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Electrical</td> <td>Certificate III in Electrotechnology (Systems Electrician)</td> <td>UTE31199</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Electrotechnology (Refrigeration and Airconditioning)</td> <td>UTE30999</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Engineering</td> <td>Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade)</td> <td>MEM30398</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Engineering (Mechanical Trade)</td> <td>MEM30298</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Food</td> <td>Certificate III in Food Processing (Retail Baking – Combined)</td> <td>FEF30703</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)</td> <td>THH31502</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Meat Processing (Meat Retailing)</td> <td>MTM30800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Construction</td> <td>Certificate III in Furniture Making (Cabinetmaking)</td> <td>LMF30402</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Bricklaying/Blocklaying</td> <td>BCG30103</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Carpentry</td> <td>BCG30203</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Plumbing</td> <td>BCP30103</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Concreting</td> <td>BCG30303</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Steel Fixing</td> <td>BCG31103</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personal Services</td> <td>Certificate III in Hairdressing</td> <td>WRH30100</td> </tr> </table>	Aeroskills	Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Avionics)	MEA40602		Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Mechanical)	MEA40702	Automotive	Certificate III in Automotive (Electrical)	AUR30199		Certificate III in Automotive (Vehicle Body – Panel Beating)	AUR31699		Certificate III in Automotive (Vehicle Body – Vehicle Painting)	AUR31899		Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical – Light Vehicle)	AUR31099		Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical – Diesel)	AUR30499		Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical – Heavy Vehicle)	AUR30899		Certificate III in Marine (Mechanics)	AUR32299		Certificate III in Automotive (Mechanical - Heavy Vehicle Mobile Equipment, Plant/Earthmoving/Agriculture)	AUR30999	Electrical	Certificate III in Electrotechnology (Systems Electrician)	UTE31199		Certificate III in Electrotechnology (Refrigeration and Airconditioning)	UTE30999	Engineering	Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade)	MEM30398		Certificate III in Engineering (Mechanical Trade)	MEM30298	Food	Certificate III in Food Processing (Retail Baking – Combined)	FEF30703		Certificate III in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)	THH31502		Certificate III in Meat Processing (Meat Retailing)	MTM30800	Construction	Certificate III in Furniture Making (Cabinetmaking)	LMF30402		Certificate III in Bricklaying/Blocklaying	BCG30103		Certificate III in Carpentry	BCG30203		Certificate III in Plumbing	BCP30103		Certificate III in Concreting	BCG30303		Certificate III in Steel Fixing	BCG31103	Personal Services	Certificate III in Hairdressing	WRH30100
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	<p>(ii) Additional places in other areas of skills shortage:</p> <p>(a) the Northern Territory share of the national target based on the Northern Territory share of working age population is 104;</p> <p>(b) the occupations and qualifications the Northern Territory target will be achieved in, drawn from the latest DEWR National and NT Occupation and Skills Shortage List and other emerging occupations/skills shortage areas, are:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Computing</td> <td>Certificate II in Information Technology (Application)</td> <td>ICA20201</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate II in Information Technology</td> <td>ICA20199</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Services, Health and Education</td> <td>Certificate III in Aboriginal Health Work (Clinical)</td> <td>15715NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate IV in Aboriginal Health Work (Clinical)</td> <td>15716NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate IV in Community Services and Health (Enrolled Nurse)</td> <td>70088NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tourism</td> <td>Certificate III in Tourism (Guiding)</td> <td>THT30902</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hospitality</td> <td>Certificate I in Hospitality (Operations)*</td> <td>THH11002</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate II in Hospitality (Operations)</td> <td>THH21802</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Hospitality (Operations)</td> <td>THH33002</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Childcare</td> <td>Diploma of Children's Services</td> <td>CHC50302</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Children's Services</td> <td>CHC30402</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business</td> <td>Certificate II in Business</td> <td>BSB20101</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate III in Business</td> <td>BSB30101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Retail</td> <td>Certificate I in Retail Operations*</td> <td>WRR10102</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Certificate II in Retail Operations</td> <td>WRR20102</td> </tr> </table> <p>* Note: Certificate I qualifications are identified target areas as entry level to the workforce for Indigenous Territorians in remote communities attempting to establish employment opportunities in arts, crafts and tourism.</p>	Computing	Certificate II in Information Technology (Application)	ICA20201		Certificate II in Information Technology	ICA20199	Community Services, Health and Education	Certificate III in Aboriginal Health Work (Clinical)	15715NT		Certificate IV in Aboriginal Health Work (Clinical)	15716NT		Certificate IV in Community Services and Health (Enrolled Nurse)	70088NT	Tourism	Certificate III in Tourism (Guiding)	THT30902	Hospitality	Certificate I in Hospitality (Operations)*	THH11002		Certificate II in Hospitality (Operations)	THH21802		Certificate III in Hospitality (Operations)	THH33002	Childcare	Diploma of Children's Services	CHC50302		Certificate III in Children's Services	CHC30402	Business	Certificate II in Business	BSB20101		Certificate III in Business	BSB30101	Retail	Certificate I in Retail Operations*	WRR10102		Certificate II in Retail Operations	WRR20102
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	<p>(iii) Additional places for mature age people and/or youth:</p> <p>(a) the Northern Territory share of the national target based on the Northern Territory share of working age population is 270;</p> <p>(b) the target will be split between youth aged 14 – 24 year olds and mature aged 40 – 64 year olds. It is agreed that youth will include from age 14 years old due to the large number of Indigenous youth in the Northern Territory who have not accessed secondary schooling. The mature age of 40-64 reflects the demographics of the Northern Territory population.</p>																																													

	<p>(iv) Additional places for people with a disability:</p> <p>(a) the Northern Territory share of the national target based on the Northern Territory share of working age population is 104. It is agreed that a training delivery cost relativity of 1.9 will be applied to the disability target to account for the additional support required by this target group.</p>
	<p>(v) The Northern Territory will increase training places in regional and remote locations for Indigenous Australians:</p> <p>(a) it is agreed that a training delivery cost relativity of 2 will be applied to the Indigenous target to account for the additional support required by this target group;</p> <p>(b) this target will be achieved in all regional (Darwin and Alice Springs) and remote (all other) areas of the Northern Territory;</p> <p>(c) DEET is a co-operative partner in regional initiatives that include Indigenous responsive training programs linked to shared responsibility agreements and community and regional strategic plans that identify economic and employment opportunities. DEET Regional Field Officers work closely with local communities to identify training needs. These programs, Flexible Response Funding and Community Response Program, aim to respond quickly to new and emerging training requests, providing pathways for career development or to further education and training as well as building work ready and employability skills for Indigenous people in regional areas and remote communities. The Training for Remote Youth program funds VET in Schools programs for Indigenous youth (14 – 19) at school as well as programs aimed at re-engaging disadvantaged youth in training.</p> <p>Recurrent funding will be provided to BIITE and four private registered training organisations that deliver both on- and off-site VET programs to Indigenous people from regional and remote areas of the Northern Territory.</p>
	<p>(vi) The Northern Territory will increase participation by Indigenous Australians at higher qualification levels:</p> <p>(a) the Northern Territory will collaborate with the two major public providers, CDU and BIITE to set training profiles that support increased participation by Indigenous Territorians in Certificate III and above. The NT will also work with the new Desert Peoples' Centre consortium partners in Alice Springs to increase commencement and completion of Certificate III and IV qualifications by Indigenous Territorians.</p>

Performance Measures: The State/Territory will demonstrate continuous improvement in employer and student satisfaction over the life of this Agreement	(i) maintaining (or increasing) employer satisfaction levels at 71% (2001 data), within the range of the confidence intervals for the Northern Territory.
	(ii) maintaining (or increasing) graduate satisfaction levels at 87% (2004 data), within the range of the confidence intervals for the Northern Territory.  Note: The Northern Territory does not have a TAFE system. These benchmarks are based on surveys of employer and client satisfaction of the major public providers, CDU and BIITE, and the private registered training organisations receiving funding in the NT.
	(iii) NT will work to improve completion rates and outcomes for mature age workers (40 to 64) and youth (14 – 24) through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· implementation of <i>NT Jobs Plan</i></li> <li>· participation on the National Priority Action 4 Mature Aged Workers Steering Committee</li> <li>· continuation of the NT Australians Working Together Program</li> <li>· NT Build Skills Program to up-skill existing workers</li> <li>· working with DEWR under the terms of the MOU to assist, at a local level, with implementation of national strategies and programs to increase participation of mature aged workers and unemployed parents in the workforce</li> <li>· working with the NT Council of Social Services to implement selected initiatives highlighted by recommendations following their extensive review of the challenges faced by employment disadvantaged Territorians, including mature aged and youth.</li> <li>· Training for Remote Youth program which funds VET in Schools programs for Indigenous youth (14 – 19) at school as well as programs aimed at re-engaging disadvantaged youth in training</li> <li>· Workgear Workwear bonus program to assist apprentices and trainees with the start up costs faced when commencing their training.</li> </ul>
	(iv) NT will work to improve outcomes for people with a disability through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· implementation of <i>NT Jobs Plan</i></li> <li>· participation in the Equity Manager’s Network, under the national Shaping our Future Strategy.</li> <li>· continuation of the NT Australians Working Together Grants program</li> <li>· working with DEWR, under the terms of the MOU, to assist, at a local level, with implementation of strategies and programs to increase participation of long term unemployed and people with a disability in the workforce.</li> </ul>

	<p>(v) Improving education, training and employment outcomes for Indigenous students is core business for NT DEET. The Northern Territory has a higher concentration of Indigenous people with 30.1% of the NT population reporting as having an Indigenous background, compared to Australia at 2.5% of the total population. VET participation by Indigenous status in the Northern Territory for 2004 is reported at 39.2%, compared to the Australian participation rate of 4.8%.<sup>4</sup></p> <p>The Indigenous population in the NT is characterised by a low school educational profile, with a large number not achieving Year 12 education. Many Indigenous Territorians live in remote areas where access to education, particularly secondary education, may be limited. 72% of Indigenous people accessing VET are concentrated in Cert I and II levels.</p> <p>As many as 64% of Indigenous Territorians are neither employed nor looking for work and only 15% are working in mainstream (non CDEP) employment. There is work to be done with the Indigenous population to provide them with the capacity to engage in the labour force.<sup>5</sup></p> <p>Recurrent and user choice funding is allocated to BIITE and to four private registered training organisations that specifically deliver both on- and off-site VET programs to Indigenous people from urban, regional and remote areas of the Northern Territory. CDU, the receiver of the major proportion of the Northern Territory's General Recurrent VET funding, advises that their client base is made up of 15.5% Indigenous people. Flexible Response Funding, the Community Response Program and Training for Remote Youth are targeted Indigenous training and employment programs.</p>
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<sup>4</sup> Report on Government Services 2006 Table 4A.12: data sourced from ABS

<sup>5</sup> *Workforce NT Report 2004*

## MEETING STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

2. States and Territories will describe their plans to meet the statutory requirements set out in the Commonwealth vocational education and training legislation, *Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005*, which includes:

Requirement	State/Territory Planning
<p>Maximising choice for employers and new apprentices by complying with user choice policy, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Arrangements to introduce genuine competition in the VET sector</li> <li>b) Arrangements to ensure employers and new apprentices have greater choice and flexibility in relation to VET provider and method and location of training</li> <li>c) Participation in the establishment of a national unit price band for each apprenticeship or traineeship in the New Apprenticeships scheme</li> <li>d) Consultation with the State Training Authority and employer groups to decide which apprenticeships and traineeships, and which employers and new apprentices are eligible to receive user choice funding under the New Apprenticeships Scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Northern Territory User Choice policy has been developed in reference to the National User Choice Principles agreed to by MINCO. The policy allows clients to choose the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) to provide the formal training and/or assessment for apprentices and trainees. RTOs are invited to submit a business case for a User Choice contract within an overall budget capacity. This policy supports a competitive training market and gives the client choice of the service delivery options that best meet their needs. Choice, however, must be compatible with Northern Territory public expenditure constraints and efficient use of funds.</li> <li>b) Employers and apprentices/ trainees (clients) in the NT have the capacity to choose from private or public registered training organisations with a User Choice contract. Clients are able to negotiate with individual registered training providers, both public and private, about the off-the-job component of apprenticeships/traineeships. The negotiation can include choice of provider and choice about specific aspects of training, such as location, timing etc.</li> <li>c) The Northern Territory's participation in the national unit price band for each apprenticeship or traineeship in the New Apprenticeship scheme is ongoing.</li> <li>d) DEET (the State Training Authority) consults with the Northern Territory Ministerial Advisory Board for Employment and Training, employer organisations and the six industry Training Advisory Councils on User Choice funding priorities. Information about User Choice funding is made available publicly on the DEET training website. The new Minister's Employment and Training Round Table will be included in advisory mechanisms from February 2006.</li> </ul>

<p>e) Increasing 5 percent each year, the proportion of apprenticeships and traineeships that are eligible for user choice funding under the New Apprenticeships scheme</p> <p>f) Developing a template in consultation with other States and the Commonwealth for a national contract that will apply to VET providers eligible to receive user choice funding under the New Apprenticeships scheme <b>(Part 2, Division 2, Section 11, Clause 1-2)</b></p>	<p>e) The Northern Territory is virtually at 100% user choice, with the exception of a few specific cases. The User Choice program in the NT funds apprenticeships and traineeships from age 15 years who meet eligibility requirements (residency status). Existing workers accessing skills shortage level III (trade apprentices) are funded, as are all Indigenous apprenticeships and traineeships, and equity groups by application. Other existing worker applicants outside these criteria will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Out-of-trade apprentices may be funded if recommencing an apprenticeship within a twelve month period of the cancellation. Companies in the NT that use generic national Training Packages, are eligible for User Choice funding.</p> <p>The exclusions to User Choice funding are limited to a small number of industries where there are not appropriate levels of on-the-job training. Automotive detailing, automotive sales and real estate sales are not eligible for User Choice funding in the NT. Companies in the NT that deliver Enterprise Training Packages for their employees are not funded.</p> <p>The NT commits to consult with NT industry and other relevant stakeholders, and where there is demonstrated need, will add new qualifications to be included in User Choice funding.</p> <p>f) The Northern Territory agrees to consult with other States and the Commonwealth on the development of a template for a national contract that will apply to VET providers eligible to receive User Choice funding provided that it meets Northern Territory characteristics and market needs.</p>
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## Workplace Reforms

- (a) Giving TAFE institutions greater flexibility and capacity to respond to local industry and community needs within the context of the national requirements of the Skilling Australia's Workforce Agreement
- (b) Ensuring TAFE institutions introduce more flexible employment arrangements by offering Australian workplace agreements to staff where possible, or other individual agreements where this is not possible
- (c) Supporting stronger leadership and authority for directors of TAFE Institutions, including in relation to recruitment and remuneration of employees
- (d) Implementing fair and transparent performance management scheme in TAFE institutions that rewards high performance (including through performance pay) and manages underperformance
- (e) Providing capacity for TAFE institutions to retain revenue and generate increased revenue through partnerships with industry and sponsorship arrangements
- (f) Providing capacity for TAFE institutions to develop entrepreneurial and commercially oriented business plans
- (g) Ensuring TAFE institutions' workplace agreements, policies and practices are consistent with the freedom of association principles contained in the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* In particular TAFE institutes must neither encourage nor discourage trade union membership.

**(Part 2, Division 2 Section 12, Clause 1-4)**

The Northern Territory does not have a TAFE system. Responses to the Workplace Reform requirements under the *Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005* are provided on this basis.

CDU, a multi-sector higher education and vocational education and training campus, and BIITE are the two public providers in the NT. Each are autonomous institutions with Councils appointed by the Northern Territory Administrator that are representative of community, industry, unions and other key stakeholders and that report to the NT Minister for Employment, Education and Training.

- (a) CDU is committed to working with its stakeholders to develop training programs that correspond to the changing workforce and community and industry needs. Its Community and Access portfolio serves as a broker of relationships between the various sections of the NT community and the university and is responsible for industry engagement. Active and strong links have been established with a wide variety of professional, community and industry organisations. The Council of Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education is committed to developing community partnerships and closer relations with schools and employers. As a specialist Indigenous training and higher education institution, BIITE has developed and maintains strong ties with Indigenous communities to ensure that it is responsive to local business and community needs.
- (b) CDU's Enterprise Agreement Clause 19.1 states "The University may offer Australian Workplace Agreements in accordance with the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*". BIITE's Enterprise Agreement also has a clause whereby the institution is able to offer Australian Workplace Agreements in accordance with the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*.
- (c) The Vice Chancellor of CDU and the Director of BIITE are appointed by and report to their respective Councils.
- (d) CDU and BIITE have provision for individual contracts tied to performance in their current Enterprise Agreements. Both CDU and BIITE implement best practice in the selection, employment, development and recognition of their staff.
- (e) CDU and BIITE's legislation allow for the capacity to form partnerships with industry to generate additional revenue and sponsorship. Examples of successful partnership agreements between CDU and the business community include the following:
  - Training for Alcan Gove (Nhulunbuy)
  - GEMCO Aboriginal Training Initiative
  - Suntay Aquaculture Farm
  - NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services
  - Energy Resources of Australia

	<p>(f) CDU and BIITE currently have the capacity to develop entrepreneurial and commercially oriented business plans. CDU's business development functions involve leveraging the university's educational and professional capabilities to provide and nurture future returns to CDU and the Northern Territory community through involvement in a variety of commercial, marketing and networking initiatives. <a href="http://www.cdu.edu.au/businessdevelopment/bdoperationalpriorities05-06.pdf">http://www.cdu.edu.au/businessdevelopment/bdoperationalpriorities05-06.pdf</a> BIITE's strategic plan allows for the development of mutually beneficial partnerships. <a href="http://www.batchelor.edu.au/file/document/Strat%20Plan2001.pdf">http://www.batchelor.edu.au/file/document/Strat%20Plan2001.pdf</a></p> <p>(g) CDU and BIITE currently have workplace agreements that meet this requirement.</p>
<p>Implement training that is based on competence rather than length of training</p> <p>a. Acting to remove any barriers included in State awards</p> <p>b. Contributing to the achievement of a consistent national system of occupational licensing requirements <b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 13)</b></p>	<p>(a) The Northern Territory operates under Federal Awards. For non-award training, the NT implements a competency based system as per the <i>Northern Territory Employment and Training Act 2004</i>.</p> <p>(b) The Northern Territory participates on the Council of Australian Governments Working Party. The NT supports the mutual recognition of qualifications and has limited occupational licensing requirements, which are being reviewed.</p>
<p>Increase utilisation of publicly funded training infrastructure</p> <p>a. Ensure that publicly funded VET premises are available, on a commercial basis, for purposes that do not conflict with the providers' VET purposes <b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 14)</b></p>	<p>(a) The Northern Territory's Resource Agreement with the public providers identifies such and it is up to industry and public registered training organisations to negotiate commercial arrangements. The Northern Territory Government maintains major training facilities at Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Jabiru and Tennant Creek, with twelve smaller training centres located in remote communities throughout the Northern Territory. These facilities are available to any provider delivering VET or Adult Community Education programs in these regions.</p>
<p>Payments for capital expenditure</p> <p>a. Ensure that financial assistance paid to the State under the <i>Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005</i> for the purposes of capital expenditure on vocational education and training is spent for those purposes <b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 15)</b></p>	<p>(a) The Northern Territory has an acquittal process in place that covers capital expenditure that ensures financial assistance provided under the <i>Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005</i> is spent for the purposes of vocational education and training.</p>

<p><b>Role of State Training Authorities</b> Ensure the maintenance of a State Training Authority that:</p> <p>a. Participates in the preparation of the annual VET Plan; and</p> <p>b. Provides advice to the State Minister with responsibility for VET, including decisions about eligibility for user choice funding</p> <p><b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 16)</b></p>	<p>(a) The Northern Territory's Training Authority will participate in the submission of annual VET Plans.</p> <p>(b) The Northern Territory's Training Authority provides advice to the Minister with responsibility for VET, including decisions about eligibility for User Choice funding.</p>
<p><b>Advice about vocational education and training</b></p> <p>a. Ensure that client advisory arrangements ensure the views of all students, including disadvantaged and isolated students are considered in making decisions relating to VET delivery</p> <p><b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 17)</b></p>	<p>(a) Advice is provided through the six Northern Territory industry training advisory councils, the Ministerial Advisory Board on Employment and Training (MABET), the Employment and Training Portfolio Principals Group and the VET in Schools Strategic Planning Committee. The new Minister's Employment and Training Round Table, replacing MABET, will provide an advisory mechanism from February 2006.</p> <p>The NT engages with its clients by way of links with the community and stakeholder representatives through involvement in a number of working groups such as for disability, migrants and refugees, mature aged and youth.</p> <p>Through ongoing consultation and collaboration with agencies such as the NT Council of Social Service, Multicultural Council of the NT, the Regional Disability Liaison Officer and the Disability Coordination Officers, NT Working Women's Centre, NT Correctional Services, Community Engagement Division, NT Department of Chief Minister, Darwin Community Legal Aid Service, Centrelink, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR), Job Network Members and Open Employment Services and the NT Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Northern Territory is kept informed and receives relevant advice regarding the needs of all learners, particularly people with a disability, mature-aged and Indigenous Territorians.</p>
<p><b>Overseas students</b></p> <p>a. Ensure that payments received are not used for providing VET to overseas students</p> <p><b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 18)</b></p>	<p>(a) Payments received from the Australian Government are not used for providing VET to overseas students in the Northern Territory. The NT has a policy that outlines eligibility criteria in relation to Australian citizenship, residency status and visa holders for students applying to undertake vocational and technical education funded by both the NT and Australian Governments.</p>

<p>Recreational pursuits</p> <p>a. Ensure that payments received are not used for providing education or training for private recreational pursuits or hobbies</p> <p><b>(Part 2, Division 2 Section 19)</b></p>	<p>(a) Payments received from the Australian Government are not used for providing education and training for private recreational pursuits or hobbies in the Northern Territory.</p>
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## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

5. States and Territories may have other negotiated arrangements that need to be included in their VET Plans. These may include

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>State/Territory Planning</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	It is agreed that the Northern Territory will reserve the right to convert \$400 000 of its share of the Australian Government capital funds for use for recurrent funding purposes in 2006. If this right is exercised, this will equate to additional activity of 17 621 AHC, calculated at the rate of \$22.70 <sup>6</sup> per hour.
<b>Activity</b>	<p><u>Adjustments to Northern Territory Base Annual Hours Curriculum (AHC)</u></p> <p>It is agreed that the Northern Territory Base is 3.309m AHC. It is also agreed that this will be further adjusted in line with nationally agreed adjustment factors to take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· the move to end-date reporting and 100% Recognition of Prior Learning;</li> <li>· increased delivery in higher cost areas, to ensure cost neutrality; and</li> <li>· fixed national nominal hours.</li> </ul> <p><u>Cost of training delivery in remote areas of Northern Territory</u></p> <p>Limitations associated with delivery of VET training in remote communities present major challenges to the Northern Territory. The cost of remote training delivery is high. A widely dispersed population with a population density of only 0.15 people per square kilometre, compared to the Australia's population density of 2.55 (June 2002) presents difficulties in delivering vocational education and training.</p> <p>Approximately 22.1% of the Territory's population live outside the six regional centres, and a major proportion of this population is Indigenous. 31.1% of the Northern Territory population speaks a language other than English at home. The three main languages spoken at home (other than English) are Australian Indigenous languages.</p> <p>In terms of providing quality training services, large numbers of geographically dispersed, isolated and small communities in the Territory faces cost disadvantages as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· diseconomies of scale;</li> <li>· isolation and the costs of obtaining goods and services in remote areas; and</li> <li>· additional staffing and infrastructure costs such as housing, transport and relocation costs.</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> 2004 Annual National Report

	<p>The Northern Territory also has seasonal factors such as road blockages and airstrip closures during the wet season, which affect delivery by limiting access to communities. Often there is a shortage of suitable physical infrastructure to support required training in Indigenous communities. Major training facilities at Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Jabiru, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek and twelve smaller training centres located in remote communities throughout the Northern Territory are available to providers delivering VET in these regions. However, these do not meet the demand for training infrastructure in remote areas.</p> <p>Challenges exist in the building of a critical mass of VET practitioners that are able to realise the potential of flexible learning. VET practitioners must have the training, resources and experience to deliver VET in remote contexts and utilising innovative training delivery models such as Interactive Distance Learning and other e-learning techniques. DEET is addressing some of these issues by providing professional development programs for training practitioners in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>The Northern Territory supports a review of resourcing arrangements for vocational education and training under the stewardship of the Ministerial Council for Vocational and Technical Education. The NT proposes that this review recognises and addresses the unique characteristics of delivering vocational education and training in the NT and that these will be considered and appropriately reflected in a new resourcing model.</p>
<b>Additional funding</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Other</b>	Not applicable
<b>Use of AVETMISS</b>	The Northern Territory State Training Authority will provide information related to VET programs and Apprenticeship/Traineeship Training Contracts for publicly funded registered training organisations in the format of a full set of validated AVETMISS files as per the national standard of reporting to NCVET by the prescribed date.

## INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

6. Infrastructure Strategic Plan 2006-2008 is at Attachment B.

## VET in SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE PLAN

The Northern Territory supports VET in Schools delivery across all Northern Territory schools. The program includes the Training for Remote Youth program, which funds VET for Indigenous students in remote schools, and in 2005 VET in Schools programs were available for the first time to schools in remote areas. Northern Territory funding of \$2.195M has been committed under the VET in Schools 2006 program to fund 122 programs including 65 in regional and remote areas, to provide training to 1206 students in Northern Territory schools.

Note: VETiS activity reported by MCEETYA reflects all VETiS training activity in schools. The following tables detail the DEET funded VETiS 2006 allocations as well as a comparison with 2005:

**Table 1: 2006 VETiS Allocation by Region**

Region	Programs		Students		Total Funding (\$)	Total for Region (\$)		Percentage of Total Funding	
	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006	2005
Darwin Clusters	37		370		781 100				
Darwin Schools	20		196		223 500				
<b>Darwin Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>636</b>		<b>1 004 600</b>	<b>1 160 860</b>	<b>45.78%</b>	<b>51.04%</b>
Katherine Clusters	1		10		8 075				
Katherine Schools	10		100		90 715				
<b>Katherine Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>84</b>		<b>98 790</b>	<b>107 390</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>4.72%</b>
Alice Springs Clusters	9		90		137 065				
Alice Springs Schools	16		160		318 650				
<b>Alice Springs Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>234</b>		<b>455 715</b>	<b>437 418</b>	<b>20.77%</b>	<b>19.23%</b>
Barkly Schools	10	5	100	44	208 770	208 770	69 852	9.51%	3.07%
East Arnhem Schools	13	19	130	171	332 920	332 920	404 155	15.17%	17.77%
West Arnhem Schools	6	6	50	62	93 610	93 610	94 560	4.27%	4.16%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>1 206</b>	<b>1 231</b>	<b>2 194 405</b>	<b>2 194 405</b>	<b>2 274 235</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 2: 2006 VETiS Allocations by Industry**

Industry Area		Student Numbers		Programs		Total	
		2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005
01	Arts	230	280	23	26	508 030	551 470
02	Automotive	85	56	9	5	192 120	137 808
03	Building and Construction	90	64	9	6	176 480	167 984
04	Community Services	60	44	6	4	155 100	111 900
07	TCF and Furnishings	30	22	3	2	39 600	71 400
09	Engineering and Mining	115	86	12	9	261 420	174 680
10	Primary Industry	140	128	14	12	195 675	211 925
12	Sales and Personal Service	40	78	4	7	73 860	134 520
13	Tourism and Hospitality	120	150	12	14	208 310	229 554
14	Transport and Storage	16		2		20 100	
15	Utilities	20	24	2	2	54 000	64 800
16	Business and Commercial	50	171	5	18	62 600	222 290
17	Computing		42		4		37 800
18	Science, Technical and Other		10		1		28 200
19	General Education	100	62	10	6	112 020	81 296
21	Exceptions – Cookery	110		11		135 090	
25	Aeroskills VET in Schools		14		1		48 608
TOTAL		1206	1231	122	117	2 194 405	2 274 235

Within the Northern Territory Building Better Schools initiative, with a funding allocation of \$42M over the four years 2005 – 2008, strategies are being developed to provide a flexible blend of Northern Territory Certificate of Education options (Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia subjects, VET and embedded VET subjects – enterprise learning, VET courses and School-Based New Apprenticeships) for students in Northern Territory Government schools.

A key initiative aims to improve the delivery of vocational and enterprise learning and expand the VET programs available to secondary aged students. The aim of one key project is to offer a more relevant curriculum to senior students by expanding the vocational, enterprise and VET curriculum. Two Project Officers have been appointed to work with schools to improve access to, and the delivery of, current and new VET programs for secondary aged students and to support the implementation of the enterprise establishment grants program. The enterprise establishment grants program is available to assist schools to work with their local communities to utilise skills they learn from VET programs. An audit of the current range of VET, vocational and enterprise courses and current practices will be undertaken. This will include consideration of new models for VET programs for secondary aged students, such as the Pathways Program. The target group will be students who are enrolled in school or who are school aged and disengaged with school, particularly Indigenous students and those in remote areas.

To support schools in achieving the objectives of this project, professional development is being provided to schools through two newly appointed VET Coordinators.

In addition to the professional development provided direct to schools, a VET Portfolio Principals group meets quarterly with senior officers from DEET's Employment and Training Division to discuss VET issues and be informed of up to date information about the national and Territory strategic direction for VET. A focus is being placed on building and maintaining a productive relationship between schools, DEET central office and the vocational education and training division to ensure a coordinated and consolidated approach to VET in Schools policy, program planning and delivery.

The Northern Territory supports and delivers VET in Schools in line with the six principles agreed by Ministerial Council.

- i) *Recognising Training* - The Northern Territory Board of Studies and the Northern Territory Training Authority recognises VET in Schools in the Northern Territory that is delivered by providers that meet the registration requirements under the Australian Quality Training Framework.
- (ii) *Meeting industry and/or enterprise standards* – The Northern Territory Board of Studies and the Northern Territory Training Authority will recognise as VET in Schools only that which delivers national industry and/or enterprise competency standards or accredited training where no relevant Training Package qualification/pathway exists, within the National Training Framework.
- (iii) *Pathways through Senior Secondary Certificates* – VET in Schools in the Northern Territory contributes to qualifications defined by the AQF and the Northern Territory Certificate of Education and provides multiple pathways, which articulate with further training, education and where appropriate, employment.
- (iv) *Ensuring dual outcomes* – VET in Schools in the Northern Territory, undertaken within the Northern Territory Certificate of Education, contribute to a VET qualification defined by the AQF.
- (v) *Determining priorities for the delivery of VET in Schools* – Account is taken of national, local and regional skills shortages, industry needs and student demand in determining priority areas for the development of VET in Schools programs in the Northern Territory. The Northern Territory VET in Schools Strategic Planning Committee, comprising representation from industry, training advisory councils, schools and NT and Australian Governments, meets regularly to determine priority areas for the development of VET in Schools programs in the NT.
- (vi) *Using Training Packages* – Recognition procedures to enable Training Packages to be delivered in the Northern Territory, consistent with the AQTF and the requirements of the Northern Territory Certificate of Education, have been developed by the NT Board of Studies and the Northern Territory Training Authority.

To support the delivery of VET in Schools in line with the above principles, a School to Work Strategic Plan 2006-2008 is being developed in consultation with industry, community organisations, training advisory councils, urban and remote schools, tertiary institutions, unions, Registered Training Organisations, Indigenous organisations, NT and Australian Government agencies. Implementation of the strategic plan will lead to:

- an increase in the number of students making a successful transition from school to training and employment pathways;
- an expanded range of school to work pathways;
- a flexible blend of Northern Territory Certificate of Education options (Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia subjects, VET subjects and courses and School-Based New Apprenticeships) will be available to students in Northern Territory Government schools;
- stronger links developed between school, industry and external training providers and support organisations;
- improved outcomes for Indigenous students through collaboration with schools, industry and communities; and
- an increase in the uptake of School Based New Apprenticeships.

# Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

## Information Requirements

### Cover Sheet

The spreadsheets in this workbook contain templates associated with the required information as part of the Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 2008. States and Territories should fill out these templates and return them to DEST as part of their VET Plan.

"Traditional trades" are as listed in the DEWR National and State Skill Shortage Lists Australia - 2004

"Student" – is a course enrolment; the minimum for a student (that is a training place, previously termed an "enrolment" on the State VET Plan) is an enrolment in a module or competency in a relevant qualification.

Information should be entered into cells that are not shaded. The totals will update automatically. Cells that are shaded have been protected and you will not be able to change these cells.

Your State or Territory share of Additional National Targets is shown on the worksheet called Targets. Simply find the appropriate target for your State or Territory and place it in the cells marked with an asterisk. Copy and Paste functions may be used.

Include your name and contact details on this sheet in the space provided. Then return the workbook together with your Annual VET Plan via email to Bernard Page [bernard.page@dest.gov.au].

**Please complete this section first so that your selections will appear in the appropriate places in the tables.**

Name:	John Hassed
Position:	Deputy Chief Executive
State/Territory:	<b>Northern Territory</b>
Contact Phone number:	08 89011306
Email address:	<a href="mailto:john.hassed@nt.gov.au">john.hassed@nt.gov.au</a>
Base Year: 2003 or 2004	<b>2003</b>
Mature Age - 40-64 or 45-64	<b>40-64</b>
Date Prepared:	24/02/2006 by DEET NT

Please contact Bernard Page {bernard.page@dest.gov.au} if you have any problems.

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# Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

## National Targets for Additional Places: Target Area by States and Territories

			NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	TOTAL
Based on Population Share 15-64 years as at June 2004:			33.26%	24.77%	19.37%	7.52%	10.00%	2.34%	1.04%	1.71%	100.00%
Ref*	Target Areas	Additional Target Places	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
41 (i)	New Apprentice commencements in skill shortage areas in traditional trade areas (AQF III and IV) <i>See Table 3</i>	<b>10,000</b>	3,326	2,477	1,937	752	1,000	234	104	171	<b>10,000</b>
41 (ii)	Training Places in other skill shortage areas <i>See Table 4</i>	<b>10,000</b>	3,326	2,477	1,937	752	1,000	234	104	171	<b>10,000</b>
41 (iii)	Training Places for mature age people and/or youth <i>See Table 4</i>	<b>26,000</b>	8,647	6,440	5,035	1,956	2,600	608	270	443	<b>26,000</b>
41 (1v)	People with a Disability <i>See Table 4</i>	<b>10,000</b>	3,326	2,477	1,937	752	1,000	234	104	171	<b>10,000</b>

Note: \* Ref refers to the relevant clause in the Agreement 2005-2008

# Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

## Table1: Annual Hours Curriculum (AHC) by Industry Areas

Northern Territory	Base Year 2004 a)	2005		2006			2007			2008					
	Hrs ('000,000s)	Planned	Actual	Planned	Revised	Actual	Planned	Revised	Actual	Planned	Revised	Actual			
<b>Category A</b>															
Arts, Entertainment, Sports & Rec	0.284	0.262		0.264			0.264			0.264					
Automotive	0.104	0.096		0.095			0.097			0.097					
Building and Construction	0.205	0.189		0.177			0.178			0.179					
Communications	0.030	0.028		0.022			0.023			0.023					
Community Services, Health & Ed	0.623	0.574		0.603			0.604			0.605					
Engineering and Mining	0.100	0.092		0.091			0.091			0.094					
Finance, Banking & Insurance	0.033	0.030		0.014			0.008			0.003					
Food Processing	0.020	0.018		0.018			0.018			0.019					
Primary Industry	0.425	0.392		0.392			0.394			0.395					
Process Manufacturing	0.003	0.003		0.001			0.001			0.001					
Sales and Personal Service	0.127	0.117		0.138			0.138			0.139					
TCF and Furnishings	0.022	0.020		0.022			0.022			0.022					
Tourism and Hospitality	0.210	0.194		0.181			0.181			0.182					
Transport and Storage	0.042	0.039		0.029			0.030			0.031					
Utilities	0.100	0.092		0.118			0.119			0.119					
<b>Category B</b>															
Business and Clerical	0.539	0.497		0.536			0.536			0.537					
Computing	0.100	0.092		0.095			0.095			0.093					
Science, Technical and other	0.082	0.076		0.067			0.066			0.066					
<b>Category C</b>															
General Education and Training	0.140	0.129		0.094			0.096			0.096					
Unallocated	0.120	0.111		0.108			0.108			0.108					
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.309</b>	<b>3.050</b>		<b>3.066</b>			<b>3.069</b>			<b>3.072</b>					
<b>Adjusted 2004 Base b)</b>	<b>3.024</b>														
<b>Indicative Annual Targets c)</b>		<b>3.050</b>		<b>3.049</b>			<b>3.057</b>			<b>3.057</b>					
										<b>2005</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>2008</b>			
										<b>Planned</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Actual</b>			
<b>Total Over Life of Agreement (for 2005, Actual total used in Revised 2005-2008 total).</b>										<b>12.258</b>					
<b>Actual over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>										<b>Target AHC:</b>	<b>12.213</b>	<b>Difference:</b>	<b>0.045</b>	<b>-12.213</b>	<b>-12.213</b>

- a) From the 2004 VET Plan (2005 for NSW, SA)
- b) Adjusted for end-date, RPL, and Nominal Hours
- c) Figures linked to Derivation of Activity Target calculator

Comments:

## Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

**Table 2: Students by Industry Areas**

Northern Territory	Base Year	2006			2007			2008		
	2004	Planned	Revised	Actual	Planned	Revised	Actual	Planned	Revised	Actual
	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
<b>Category A</b>										
Arts, Entertainment, Sports & Rec	1,658	1,665			1,664			1,667		
Automotive	712	705			714			717		
Building and Construction	965	901			907			910		
Communications	4,179	27			27			28		
Community Services, Health & Ed	177	4,370			4,375			4,382		
Engineering and Mining	90	493			496			508		
Finance, Banking & Insurance	122	79			47			20		
Food Processing	33	87			88			90		
Primary Industry	503	2,440			2,449			2,456		
Process Manufacturing	2,449	27			29			30		
Sales and Personal Service	61	864			867			873		
TCF and Furnishings	737	130			129			129		
Tourism and Hospitality	1,174	1,092			1,094			1,096		
Transport and Storage	274	206			212			216		
Utilities	352	447			452			453		
<b>Category B</b>										
Business and Clerical	4,544	4,881			4,876			4,884		
Computing	341	351			349			341		
Science, Technical and other	970	851			849			848		
<b>Category C</b>										
General Education and Training	792	577			584			586		
Unallocated	1,408	1,365			1,365			1,368		
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,541</b>	<b>21,558</b>			<b>21,576</b>			<b>21,602</b>		
								<b>2006</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>2008</b>
								<b>Planned</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Total Over Life of Agreement</b>								<b>64,736</b>		

**Comments:**

Source: State and territory VET Plans 2005: Brian Knight has added 1408 course enrolments to unallocated in the base year. The ANR is reported as 20,133

# Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

## Table 3 Base Year Data for Information

Northern Territory	Base Year	Base Year
	2003	2004
<b>New Apprentices - In Training (March)</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
New Apprentices In Training from the NCVET data from Base Year	2,700	2,800
<b>New Apprentices - Commencements</b>		
User Choice Places	1,811	2,222
School Based New Apprentices	140	140
New Apprentices In Group Training	360	390
Total New Apprentices	1,907	2,339
User Choice places as proportion Percentage Change over Base Year	94.97%	95.00%
<b>Number of Qualifications available under User Choice</b>		
Available Under User Choice	374	381
Available as New Apprenticeships	392	400
Available Under User Choice as proportion Percentage Change over Base Year	95.4%	95.3%

Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

Table 3: New Apprentices - In Training and Commencements

Northern Territory	Base Year	2005		2006		2007		2008		2005 -2008	
	2003	Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual
<b>New Apprentices - In Training (March)</b>	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
New Apprentices In Training from the NCVET data from Base Year	2,700	2,900		3,000		3,100		3,200			
<b>New Apprentices - Commencements</b>											
User Choice Places	1,811	2,185		2,299		2,423		2,546			
School Based New Apprentices	140	105		108		112		115			
New Apprentices In Group Training	360	330		336		350		363			
Total New Apprentices	1,907	2,300		2,420		2,550		2,680			
User Choice places as proportion	94.97%	95.00%	#DIV/0!	95.00%	#DIV/0!	95.02%	#DIV/0!	95.00%	#DIV/0!		
Percentage Change over Base Year		0.04%	#DIV/0!	0.04%	#DIV/0!	0.06%	#DIV/0!	0.04%	#DIV/0!		
<b>Number of Qualifications available under User Choice</b>											
Available Under User Choice	374	405		407		410		415			
Available as New Apprenticeships	392	423		426		429		434			
Available Under User Choice as proportion	95.4%	95.7%	#DIV/0!	95.5%	#DIV/0!	95.6%	#DIV/0!	95.6%	#DIV/0!		
Percentage Change over Base Year		0.35%	#DIV/0!	0.14%	#DIV/0!	0.17%	#DIV/0!	0.22%	#DIV/0!		
<b>Skill Shortage Areas of Traditional Trades at AQF Cert III, Cert IV and above - Commencements</b>											
<b>ASCO Code or Course Code</b>	<b>Agreed Industry or Qualification</b>										
AUR30199	Cert III in Automotive (Electrical)	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	28		
AUR30499	Cert III in Automotive (Mech - Diesel Fitter)	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	17		
AUR30899	Cert III in Automotive (Mech - Heavy Vehicle Road	12	13	14	14	14	14	14	55		
AUR30999	Cert III in Automotive (Mech - Heavy Vehicle Mobil	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	72		
AUR31099	Cert III in Automotive ( Mech - Light Vehicle)	51	50	50	50	50	50	50	200		
AUR31699	Cert III in Automotive (Vehcile Body - Panel Beatin	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	27		
AUR31899	Cert III in Automotive ( Vehicle Body - Painting)	5	6	7	7	7	7	7	27		
AUR32299	Cert III in Marine (Mechanics)	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	14		
BCG30198 / BCG30103	Cert III in Bricklaying/ Block Laying	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	8		
MEA40602	Cert IV in Aeroskills (Avionics)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	12		
MEA40702	Cert IV in Aeroskills (Mechanical)	3	4	5	5	7	7	7	23		
MEM30298	Cert III in Engineering (Mechanical Trade)	16	17	18	19	19	19	19	73		
MEM30398	Cert III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade)	22	23	24	24	24	24	24	95		
UTE30999	Cert III in Electrotechnology (Refridg & Aircon)	28	28	29	30	30	30	30	117		
UTE31199	Cert III in Electrotechnology (Systems Electrician)	43	44	44	45	45	45	45	178		
WRH30100	Cert III in Hairdressing	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	144		
BCG30299/03	Cert III in Carpentry		1	2	3	3	3	3	9		
BCP30103	Cert III in Plumbing	10	11	12	12	12	12	12	47		
LMF30402	Cert III in Furniture Making (Cabinet Making)	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	19		
MTM30800	Cert III in Meat Processing (Meat Retailing)	15	16	17	18	18	18	18	69		
THH31502	Cert III in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)	37	37	38	39	39	39	39	153		
PDF30700 / FDF30703	Cert III in Food Processing (Retail Baking)	26	27	28	29	29	29	29	113		
BCG30303	Cert III in Concreting										
BCG31103	Cert III in Steel Fixing										
Please insert lines above this one if necessary											
<b>Total in Skills Shortage Areas</b>		349	360	373	383	383	384	384	1,500		
<b>Increase over Base Year</b>		11	349	24	349	34	349	35	349	104	1,396
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement should be no less than the Target</b>											
<b>Additional Traditional Trades SSA Target</b>										104	
<b>Difference:</b>											-1,500
<b>Comments:</b>											

# Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

**Table 4 Base Year Data for Information**

	Base Year	Base Year
	2003	2004
<b>Northern Territory</b>		
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>VET in Schools students</b>	1,900	1,851
<b>Indigenous Australians #</b>		
In regional and remote locations	7,770	7,087
In higher level qualifications (AQFIII and above)	1,830	1,889
<b>Age Target Groups #</b>		
Young people (15-19yrs)	3,723	3,385
Young people (20-24 yrs)	2,912	2,967
Mature Age	4,841	4,747
<b>Total in above age groups</b>	<b>11,476</b>	<b>11,099</b>
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		
<b>People with a Disability #</b>	907	868
<b>Total in above target group</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>868</b>
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		

**Comments:**

# Data from Annual National Report for Base Year.

## Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

**Table 4: Students by Target Area**

	Base Year	2005		2006		2007		2008		2005 -2008	
	2003 No	Plan No	Actual No	Plan No	Actual No	Plan No	Actual No	Plan No	Actual No	Plan No	Actual No
<b>Northern Territory</b>											
<b>VET in Schools students</b>	1,900	1,922		1,943		1,962		1,985		7,812	
<b>Indigenous Australians #</b>											
In regional and remote locations	7,770	7,780		7,785		7,790		7,805		31,160	
<b>Increase over Base Year</b>		10	-7,770	15	-7,770	20	-7,770	35	-7,770	80	-31,080
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		Regional and Remote Target				80		Difference:			31,160
In higher level qualifications (AQFIII and above)	1,830	1,832		1,833		1,834		1,836		7,335	
<b>Increase over Base Year</b>		2	-1,830	3	-1,830	4	-1,830	6	-1,830	15	-7,320
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		In Higher Level qualifications				15		Difference:			7,335
<b>Age Target Groups #</b>											
Young people (15-19yrs)	3,723	3,725		3,725		3,735		3,750		14,935	
Young people (20-24 yrs)	2,912	3,024		3,050		3,070		3,096		12,240	
Mature Age 40-64	4,841	4,724		4,725		4,725		4,800		18,999	
<b>Total in above age groups</b>	11,476	11,473		11,500		11,555		11,646		46,174	
<b>Increase over Base Year</b>		-3	-11,476	24	-11,476	79	-11,476	170	-11,476	270	-45,904
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		Age Group Target				270		Difference:			46,174
<b>People with a Disability #</b>	907	933		933		933		933		3,732	
<b>Increase over Base Year</b>		26	-907	26	-907	26	-907	26	-907	104	-3,628
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		People with a Disability Target				104		Difference:			3,732
<b>Students in Skill Shortage Areas other than Traditional Trades (VET)</b>											
<b>ASCO Code or Course Code</b>	<b>Agreed Industry or Qualification</b>										
ICA20201	CERT II IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (APPLIC)	758	759	759	759	759	759	759		3,036	
ICA20199	CERT II IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	224	226	226	226	226	226	226		904	
15715NT	CERT III IN ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORK (CLINIC)	111	113	113	113	113	113	113		452	
15716NT	CERT IV IN ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORK (CLINIC)	20	21	21	21	21	21	21		84	
70088NT	CERT IV IN COMMUNITY SERVICES & HEALTH (E	63	65	65	65	65	65	65		260	
THT30902	CERT III IN TOURISM (GUIDING)	22	24	24	24	24	24	24		96	
THH33002	CERT III IN HOSPITALITY (OPERATIONS)	63	65	65	65	65	65	65		260	
CHC50302/CHC50399	DIPLOMA OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES	233	235	235	235	235	235	235		940	
CHC30402	CERT III IN CHILDREN'S SERVICES		2	2	2	2	2	2		8	
BSB20101	CERT II IN BUSINESS	513	514	514	514	514	514	514		2,056	
BSB30101	CERT III IN BUSINESS	182	184	184	184	184	184	184		736	
WRR10102/WRR10197	CERT I IN RETAIL OPERATIONS	11	13	13	13	13	13	13		52	
WRR20102/WRR20197	CERT II IN RETAIL OPERATIONS	135	137	137	137	137	137	137		548	
THH11002	CERT I IN HOSPITALITY (OPERATIONS)	196	197	197	197	197	197	197		788	
THH21802	CERT II IN HOSPITALITY (OPERATIONS)	224	226	226	226	226	226	226		904	
Please insert lines above this one if necessary											
<b>Total Skill Shortage Areas other than Trad'I Trades</b>		2,755	2,781	2,781	2,781	2,781	2,781	2,781		11,124	
<b>Increase over Base Year</b>		26	-2,755	26	-2,755	26	-2,755	26	-2,755	104	-11,020
<b>Planned over the Life of the Agreement to be no less than the Target</b>		Add'l Skill Shortage Areas other than Traditional Trades Target				104		Difference:			11,124

**Comments:**

Base figures adjusted to reflect output of NCVET data cube of June 2005, differences previously reported added to new base by DEST 10-01-06

## Northern Territory - Annual VET Plans for 2006 - 08

**Table 5: VET Funding**

Northern Territory	Base Year	2005		2006		2007		2008	
	2004	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Total Expenditure	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
<b>VET Recurrent</b>									
Australian Government sourced recurrent	9.747	10.277		11.068		11.425		11.603	
State-sourced Recurrent expenditure	57.230	57.529		60.017		61.981		64.006	
<b>Total VET Recurrent</b>	<b>66.977</b>	<b>67.806</b>		<b>71.085</b>		<b>73.406</b>		<b>75.609</b>	
<b>Contestable Funds</b>									
Competitive Tendering	3.794	4.600		5.000		5.000		5.000	
User Choice	8.005	11.300		11.400		11.400		12.400	
<b>Total Contestable Funds</b>	<b>11.799</b>	<b>15.900</b>		<b>16.400</b>		<b>16.400</b>		<b>17.400</b>	
Total New Apprenticeship allocation	10.254	13.500		13.600		13.700		14.700	
User Choice allocation	8.005	11.300		11.400		11.400		12.400	
User Choice \$s - percentage of total	78.1%	83.7%	#DIV/0!	83.8%	#DIV/0!	83.2%	#DIV/0!	84.4%	#DIV/0!
User Choice \$s - percentage change on base year		41.2%	-100.00%	42.4%	-100.00%	42.4%	-100.00%	54.9%	-100.00%
User Choice proportion - percentage change on base year		7.2%	#DIV/0!	7.4%	#DIV/0!	6.6%	#DIV/0!	8.1%	#DIV/0!

**Comments:**

- a) Australian Government sourced recurrent funding is linked from the Funding Allocation model, as per MINCO 18 Nov 2005, by DEST.  
It includes the Historic Base, Growth and Australians Working Together (AWT) under the Vocational Education and Training Funding Act (VETFA).  
combined with the Additional Funding (\$215m) under the Skilling Australia's Workforce (SAW) Agreement for 2005-2008.
- b) State sourced recurrent figures are as calculated from base figures with the addition of matching funds as required by the 2005-2008 Agreement. These are also linked from the Funding Allocation model.  
All other figures are to be provided by each State or Territory.

## ATTACHMENT A

The Northern Territory will work to achieve the following outcomes of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), 10 February 2006, Canberra.

### ADDRESSING SKILLS SHORTAGES THROUGH A NATIONAL APPROACH TO APPRENTICESHIPS, TRAINING AND SKILLS RECOGNITION

#### ACTION PLAN

Issue	Agreed Outcome	Timeline		
		2006	2007	2008
<b>The commitment to quality training</b>				
Accelerated implementation of an outcomes-based auditing model for registered training organisations within Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) standards reviewed and amended to place a stronger focus on quality skills outcomes;</li> <li>▪ An outcomes-based auditing model for registered training organisations developed to support the new standards               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– As part of the actions above, ensure national consistency of the application of the revised AQTF standards by States and Territories</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Ministerial Council for Vocational and Technical Education report back to COAG on the implementation of these recommendations</li> </ul>	By October 2006	Introduced 1 July 2007	
		Developed by October 2006	By December 2007	
<b>A more mobile workforce to help meet skills needs</b>				
The effective implementation of full mutual recognition of skills qualifications across Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Individuals in licensed trades have full mutual recognition of their licences in all jurisdictions and do not face duplicate assessment requirements for obtaining qualifications and licences:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ in six priority trades - electricians, plumbers,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		By 30 June	



Issue	Agreed Outcome	Timeline		
		2006	2007	2008
Portability and recognition of skills and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A new look nationally portable Statement of Attainment to set out consistently and clearly for employers the competencies and skills a person has achieved</li> </ul>	By 31 December 2006		
<b>A more flexible and responsive training system</b>				
Shortening the duration of apprenticeships where competencies are demonstrated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apprentices to be certified as competent by a State or Territory Training Authority without the need to make a special application when they have demonstrated competence to industry standards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ through the amendment of training legislation and administrative procedures where necessary; and</li> <li>○ by removing references to fixed duration from awards and legislation in all jurisdictions where such awards prevent early sign off based on competency.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	By 31 December 2006		
Enabling School-based New Apprenticeships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legislative, regulatory and education barriers to school-based apprenticeships are removed in all jurisdictions</li> <li>▪ Industrial barriers are removed, in collaboration with Industry, for school-based apprenticeships in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ metals and engineering;</li> <li>○ automotive;</li> <li>○ building and construction;</li> <li>○ electrotechnology; and</li> <li>○ commercial cookery</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	By 31 December 2006  By 31 December 2006		
Allowing intermediate or specialised qualifications as well as full apprenticeships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional nationally portable qualifications are to be examined for the residential building and construction industry to enable apprentices to have skills recognised at and</li> </ul>	By 30 June 2006		

Issue	Agreed Outcome	Timeline		
		2006	2007	2008
	below the full trade qualification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where there is industry demand, national training qualifications will include identified skills clusters</li> </ul>			By 31 December 2008
Achieving maximum flexibility in training for employers and individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All workers entering publicly funded training will be able to have their existing skills recognised quickly and simply so that wherever possible their training time is reduced</li> <li>A joint three year Commonwealth/State and Territory programme, to be agreed on a bilateral basis, will be established to support delivery and good practice of recognition of prior learning</li> </ul>	By 1 July 2006	By 1 January 2007	
Effective competition between training providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministerial Council for Vocational and Technical Education is to report to COAG on the progress of competition between training providers under the new vocational education and training (VET) legislation and arrangements</li> </ul>	By 31 December 2006		
<b>A targeted response to skills shortages in regions</b>				
In relation to the impacts of skills shortages on particular industries and regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding will be made available for a regional programme to improve the supply of skilled labour in industries and regions of strategic economic importance</li> </ul>	By 1 July 2006		
<b>Understanding skills shortages better</b>				
In relation to the impacts of skills shortages on particular industries and regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governments will establish new labour market data sharing arrangements to identify skills shortages and enable them to make appropriate responses</li> </ul>	1 July 2006 (starts)	By 30 June 2007 (first report due)	
<b>Next stages of reform</b>				
Further reform of vocational education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report to be provided to COAG on further reform of the VET system.</li> </ul>	By 31 October 2006		

# Strategic Infrastructure Plan: 2005 – 2008

<b>State or Territory:</b>	Northern Territory
<b>Key Contact for Plan:</b>	Mr Kim Jenkinson Department of Employment, Education and Training General Manager Employment and Training
<b>Address:</b>	GPO Box 4821, Darwin NT 0801
<b>Telephone:</b>	08 8901 1303
<b>Facsimile</b>	08 8901 1362
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:kim.jenkinson@nt.gov.au">kim.jenkinson@nt.gov.au</a>

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A key focus of the Northern Territory Government is to ensure that appropriate employment and training is available to Territorians, irrespective of location. The overarching strategic impetus for the Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) is to allow for the best provision of facilities to meet this need and to enhance employment, particularly in remote areas and amongst Indigenous communities.

This Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SIP) addresses facilities and equipment issues for the period 2005-2008 and is guided by the *Jobs Plan - Building the Northern Territory Workforce* launched in November 2003.

The 2005-2007 SIP advised that major expenditure would be directed to the completion of the Desert Peoples Centre (DPC), and the upgrading of regional training centres ensuring the maximisation of infrastructure development for Indigenous people in remote communities.

During 2006-2008 DEET will continue to build on these initiatives. It is intended that during this period major capital funding will be directed to facilities at Charles Darwin University (CDU) and to Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE).

The majority of vocational training is delivered in the facilities of the two public providers; however, there is a reliance on private training organisations, because they can be readily engaged to meet emerging requirements at short notice across the full range of communities within the jurisdiction.

DEET regional field officers assist industry groups, schools and Indigenous communities to prepare submissions to access funding through the Skill Centre programs.

Generally, the government training facilities are maintained in a reasonable condition, and it is the responsibility of the public providers and individual private providers to ensure training is conducted in appropriate and safe facilities.

Several DEET sites are earmarked for disposal, rationalisation or refurbishment, and whilst enhancements are being achieved, demand remains greater than available funding.

Significant development in the upgrading of information technology support is envisaged including the upgrade of enterprise IT, the expansion of regional access to information technology services and the replacement of equipment.

Equipment grants will be directed at the two major public providers with skill centre funding for schools targeted to meet needs in line with the *Jobs Plan and Building Better Schools* in areas of remote delivery and skill shortages.

## STRATEGIC TRAINING DIRECTIONS

Launched in November 2003 the *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce* complements the Territory's economic and industry strategies; it is a comprehensive and coordinated approach to planning for jobs and mapping the future to a skilled, flexible and responsive workforce. The *Jobs Plan* is a three-way planning structure supported by the employment and training strategy, government programs and workforce information:

- *Workforce Employment and Training Strategy*
- *Jobs NT*
- *Workforce NT 2*

The *Workforce Employment and Training Strategy* delivers the government's vision, strategic direction and key priorities for the *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce*.

*Jobs NT* outlines programs in the *Jobs Plan* that link to employment opportunities the government has committed to funding over a budget cycle period. *Jobs NT* is updated on an annual basis in line with the budget cycle. *Jobs NT* is responsive to the information in *Workforce NT* and aligned to the *Workforce Employment and Training Strategy*.

In May 2005 the Northern Territory Government released *Jobs Plan II* focusing on programs aimed at lessening skills shortages, upskilling and reskilling, additional support for apprentices/trainees and employers and strengthening pathways from school to work.

*Workforce NT 2* released in 2006, is a comprehensive report on the state of employment in the Territory. The report draws together research data and related information for the *Jobs Plan*. This ongoing comprehensive and complex exercise assists in the formulation of future employment and training strategies and program development. The report also contributes to measuring achievements and reviewing the strategic directions of the *Workforce Employment and Training Strategy*.

The Northern Territory will continue to strategically identify the training needs of industry and communities informed by the development of annual training profiles, *Workforce NT 2*, labour market scenarios, consultation with industry, communities and peak bodies, and other empirical supply and demand drivers.

The *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce* and the three way planning cycle contained in the strategy are integral to developing and informing infrastructure placement across the Northern Territory.

## CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

### Policies

The role of DEET is to develop employment initiatives that will enhance the social and economic prosperity of the Northern Territory, engage Territorians through preschool, primary, secondary and vocational education and training (VET) programs, and manage work health programs to ensure that people in the Territory have a safe working environment.

As part of this role, DEET oversees the provision of employment initiatives and government funded vocational training through leadership, direction and support across the public and private sectors of the Northern Territory. Over the life of this plan the department will implement the strategies and programs outlined in the *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce* and *Building Better Schools* in order to grow and develop its skills base, maximise employment and training opportunities for Territorians and construct a highly skilled and flexible workforce.

This will include:

- increased expenditure and support for training in the skill shortage trade areas;
- improved access to training and employment opportunities for Indigenous Territorians;
- support for emerging industries; and
- improved pathways from school to work for school students.

A key element of this is the appropriate distribution of outcomes based funding for VET programs, so that relevant training is available to Territorians irrespective of location. Facilities support is achieved through the provision of funding to public providers for specific infrastructure development and the purchasing of training from a range of commercial providers who are responsible for the acquisition and operation of facilities or capacity required to meet respective training commitments.

DEET will direct funding to both public providers where industry and community demand is shown to exist, priorities align with the *Jobs Plan I and II* and where the institutions are able to demonstrate the capacity to deliver training in regional and remote locations. This may be achieved by the establishment of basic teaching infrastructure at remote sites; purchase of vehicles to be used for travel to remote delivery sites; maintenance and/or the establishment of Mobile Adult Learning Units and the maintenance and expansion of interactive learning and video-based delivery facilities throughout the regions.

Expanding the range of VET and enterprise education and improving the delivery of VET courses is a project under the *Building Better Schools* initiative. The aim of the project is to offer a more relevant curriculum to senior students by expanding the vocational, enterprise and VET curriculum.

Policy direction is to support skill centre applications, particularly in remote locations, that ensure appropriate infrastructure is positioned to support the increase of VET in Schools programs under *Building Better Schools*.

Regional field officers from DEET provide information and advice to private providers in accessing the following programs:

- Industry Based Skills Centre;
- Skills Centre for School Students; and
- VET Infrastructure for Indigenous People (VIIP).

Many of the emerging infrastructure needs are in high-cost remote locations and will service both community and school demands. As a consequence, DEET policy will be to support applications that seek to access funding from a combination of skills centre funding sources.

The overarching policy direction is to allow for the best provision of facilities and the widest possible access to employment and training. This is particularly a challenge in small and remote communities, especially where employment is available but cannot be undertaken by local people because they do not possess the right mix of skills and training.

## **Existing Assets**

### ***Scope of VET Infrastructure***

There are fifty-nine training organisations registered by DEET permanently located within the Northern Territory. The number providing government funded training varies from year to year in accordance with market needs. (Refer Appendix 1 for listing).

Six schools remain as RTOs and are recipients of DEST funding for the provision of VET in Schools (VETiS) with supplementary operational funding provided through DEET and Building Better Schools programs.

Regional Training Centres (RTC) are located in Nhulunbuy, Jabiru, Katherine and Tennant Creek. They are the regional bases for many government and non-government representatives including Registered Training Organisations (RTO) and a wide range of other community organisations. They are placed to assist the growth and consolidation of community capacity. The RTCs have recently enhanced their capability in Information Communication Technology (ICT) with the installation of 117 new computers. Improved ICT systems in the regions will enable increased numbers of Territorians to access programs through RTC facilities.

The government VET facilities indicated above, yield a total floor area of 26 773 square metres with a replacement value of \$36.414 million equating to an average replacement value of \$1360 per square metre.

Six industry Training Advisory Councils (TACs) are located in Darwin in commercially leased premises paid for and arranged through Northern Territory Property Management, a sub-agency of the Northern Territory Government. The total area occupied is 793 square metres and occupants are responsible for meeting all associated recurrent operating costs through general funding grants from DEET and revenue from aligned industry sectors.

Responsibility for the maintenance of buildings occupied by providers is dependent upon the status of the entity. CDU and BIITE are funded directly for the maintenance and upgrading of their respective infrastructure through DEET. Private facilities are required to meet functionality and safety requirements from within their own budgets.

Funding for DEET managed training facilities is overseen on its behalf by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI). DPI oversees the preventative and unforeseen maintenance for mechanical and electrical aspects of all buildings including the financial management of programmed and urgent maintenance.

### ***Asset Condition***

All government facilities are assessed annually for condition under the Building Asset Management System (BAMS) program. The inspections address repairs and programmed maintenance requirements only. Upgrading, enhancements and other new works are not included in the inspection process, nor are requirements arising from changes in the Building Code of Australia, even if these have safety implications. Submissions for such upgrading work are generated by the respective entity on a case-by-case basis and funded as budget allows.

## **Non-Public Assets**

Private providers use a range of options to meet their infrastructure needs including:

- wholly owning training infrastructure
- utilising the client's workplace for training delivery
- leasing facilities in government owned training facilities(i.e. Regional Training Centres)
- third party access to public provider facilities/infrastructure

The Northern Territory's Resource Agreement with the public providers specifies a third party access policy that allows private providers and public registered training organisations to negotiate commercial arrangements for use by private providers of public provider infrastructure.

The Northern Territory Government maintains major training facilities at Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Jabiru and Tennant Creek, with twelve smaller training centres located in remote communities throughout the Northern Territory. These facilities are available to any provider delivering VET or Adult Community Education programs in these regions.

## **FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS**

### **Planning Process**

Future training infrastructure proposals are developed through business planning processes incorporating both top-down and bottom-up input. Government direction and policy provides the top-down impetus, while providers and respective TACs provide bottom-up advice of emerging industry requirements.

Capital grants under the skills centre programs are provided directly to the providers on the successful completion of a submission. Generally the oversight and management of the associated funding is the responsibility of the respective providers with DEET field officers monitoring progress against funding and program objectives/guidelines and providing appropriate advice to DEST and the provider where necessary. Appendix 2 indicates the status of the current skill centre infrastructure under the school and Indigenous programs.

Major capital funding is directed to the two public providers however funding may be provided to non public providers in special circumstances, on the basis they are registered and their submission relates to the delivery of VET.

The development and management of all works programs accord with the government's Total Asset Management approach to managing its fixed asset portfolio. This includes rigorous examination of proposed works in the context of agencies' asset management strategies that have been endorsed by the responsible Ministers, determining standards, priorities and a cost effective, methodical approach to the work activities of the Northern Territory Government.

The Minister and/or the Minister's delegate endorse major capital proposals and skills centre applications. The proposals for large projects such as the DPC form part of DEET's Capital Works program.

## **Physical Infrastructure Strategy**

A key project for government is the establishment of the Desert Knowledge Precinct (DKP), which aims to develop a desert knowledge economy in Central Australia based on science, training, technology, commercial development and research initiatives. Fundamental to this is the establishment of the DPC where BIITE and the Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT) will provide coordinated delivery of appropriate employment and vocational education and training for Indigenous people.

The Northern Territory Government committed \$1.81 million in 2004-05 with total expenditure for stage 1 Desert Peoples Centre is expected to be \$30.22 million from 2005/06 to 2007-08. The Australian Government is providing \$8.4m of the \$30.22 million stage 1 DPC. Stage 2 Desert Peoples Centre is estimated to be \$20 million over the financial years 2008-09 to 2010-11. Early delays in commencement of the project have been due to the complexity of dealings with Indigenous landholders and native title negotiations. Development of infrastructure on Indigenous land involving negotiations around native title and governance issues can be a lengthy and delicate process in the Northern Territory. The project has been further delayed as a result of significant cost escalation and required reworks of the design brief to bring the project in on budget.

Head works to and within the precinct are almost complete. The contract target date for the administration building is March 2006 with completion due December 2006. The new building will provide a central administration building for the centre, incorporating reception and canteen for Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and Centre for Appropriate Technology for \$4 million. This will be followed by the first package of learning theme buildings in the centre for \$5 million with a contract target date of January 2007 and completion due December 2007. Stage 1 DPC is official opening date is estimated at December 2008.

DEET VET facilities in regional and remote areas will move to a more integrated asset management approach through the Community Learning Centre Network (CLCN). The CLCN comprises Regional Training Centres (RTC), Open Learning Centres (OLC) and the Remote Community Centres (RCC). The CLCN concept has been developed to overcome the current access and equity issues surrounding VET delivery to regional and remote centres in the NT and is shown diagrammatically below:

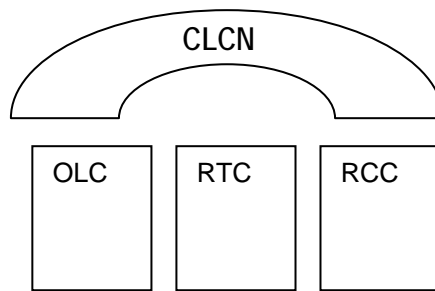


Fig 2. Community Learning Centre Network

At present only Nhulunbuy and Jabiru operate OLCs providing 24-hour access to training facilities and on line resources for authorised students and community representatives. The facilities at Tennant Creek and Katherine are only open during standard working hours due to the lack of proper security systems within the centres. Both are working towards 24-hour access before the end of the year.

The future of RCCs are still being finalised on a case-by-case basis. Early indications are that the transition of RCC facilities back to the community and/or public RTOs is the most cost effective mechanism to maximise the provision of VET in remote areas.

A VET coordination committee in each region allows stakeholders and community members to input into the development of VET facilities and training capacity. It is envisioned that the RCC will continue to have a relationship with the CLCN through the RTC and the VET coordination committees. Skills centres funded through VIIP are also encouraged to participate in the CLCN.

### **IT Infrastructure Strategy**

The unique dynamic of the Territory's demography, geography and culture provide challenges that other state jurisdictions do not face in the delivery of training, which is significantly more costly in the Northern Territory (\$19.73 per hour) than elsewhere in Australia (average \$12.42 per hour)<sup>1</sup>. In addition, while the main thrust of training is to improve an individual's job specific and general employability skills, in the Territory, training to increase individual and community capacity is essential. Therefore the Northern Territory Government has pursued innovation through information communication technology solutions to assist in overcoming these additional equity and access issues.

<sup>1</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth / State Service Provision 2003, *Report on Government Services 2003*, Productivity Commission, Canberra

In 2004, the NT Government launched the Flexible Learning Strategy. The alignment of the strategy with the priority areas of Indigenous and regional and remote communities identified in Australia's National Strategy for Vocational Education and Training (VET) 2004–2010, 'Shaping our Future', has generated significant national interest and exposure. The key basis of the strategy is to provide guidelines by which our stakeholders can consider the resourcing, implementation and the measures for success required to venture into this important and much needed initiative for the flexible delivery of training in the Territory.

A number of priority areas for ICT infrastructure have been identified to complement the NT strategy with our major stakeholders for 2006. These include:

- upgrading Enterprise IT
- expanding regional access
- renewing equipment
- upgrading business systems

Current initiatives in the NT include an expansion of the Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) project within the NT VET sector to include the CLCN. The key drivers revolve around access to remote client sites and community and stakeholder engagement in pilot activities. Currently IDL has been installed at four RTCs, with Jabiru RTC being employed as a pilot site for the application of IDL across the entire network within the environment.

The first live VET program was delivered in 2004 to students accessing IDL on remote properties and in remote schools. Childcare students at Anninginie Station, Yulara, Katherine and Titjikala, studying for their Diploma in Children's Services, were connected via an IDL link to their CDU lecturer. The link allowed delivery of an IDL session that simulated the face-to-face experience of a classroom session.

Under the auspices of the upgrade of the NT business systems, the transition of the apprenticeship and traineeship management system from the NORVET system to the DELTA system is now complete.

## **Maintenance Management Strategy**

Maintenance for government training facilities is determined primarily through the annual BAMS inspections, arranged by DPI. CDU and BIITE are provided maintenance funding directly from DEET and arrange maintenance in accordance with internal priorities and directives.

All government-training facilities are maintained so that a safer and functional environment is available to support learning outcomes. There is an ongoing program of asbestos identification and removal, which is being managed through DPI. Removal of asbestos occurs as required through enhancement of the facility or repair of damaged asbestos material.

## **Acquisition and Disposal Strategy**

DEET's asset management in acquisition and disposal follows the whole of government asset management strategy.

Disposal in terms of transferring DEET's RCCs to community or provider ownership requires a community or provider commitment to ongoing use of the facilities for VET.

## **Leasing Strategy**

The Northern Territory's Resource Agreement with the public providers specifies a third party access policy that allows private providers and public registered training organisations to negotiate commercial arrangements for use by private providers of public provider infrastructure.

Both public and private RTOs, not-for-profit and community organisations with a focus on lifelong learning that supports VET within the region are eligible to lease training facilities in the regional training centres. Charges are set at the approved Northern Territory Government rates.

## **Equipment Strategy**

Equipment grants are only available to the two public providers in the Northern Territory. The general criteria applied is that equipment sought by the provider should enhance the delivery of VET and improve the ability of the RTO to respond to current and future needs of industry and the community.

High priority is given to equipment that contributes to better quality VET delivery in traditional trades and contributes to increased delivery capacity for Indigenous communities.

### **Collaborative Partnerships and Innovation**

Emerging industries in defence and oil and gas generate opportunities for both public and private providers over the next three years. In oil and gas, NT public providers are supported by DEET to pursue collaborative arrangements with providers in other jurisdictions such as Western Australia in providing complimentary training opportunities in the Timor Gap. This collaboration is expected to negate the need for duplicating expensive training infrastructure in two jurisdictions competing in a limited specialised market.

Options for private providers to form partnerships with industry to service defence and aviation training markets are in early stages of planning but offer great opportunities to leverage industry commitment to, and investment in training infrastructure.

### **Non-Public Provider Strategy (including Skill Centres)**

Private provider facilities are required to meet functionality and safety requirements commensurate with industry and legislative expectations. Individual providers are responsible for meeting these requirements and secure funding from fees and a range of sources to ensure facilities and capacity allow safe and effective VET delivery.

Regional field officers from DEET provide information and advice to private providers in accessing the following programs:

- Industry Based Skills Centre;
- Skills Centre for School Students; and
- VET Infrastructure for Indigenous People (VIIP).

Details of the current skill centre projects are list in Appendix 2.

DEET will support skill centre submissions where they clearly demonstrate linkages to the *NT Jobs Plan* and./or *Building Better Schools*.

## 2006 Major Capital

### Charles Darwin University

Project Name	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Completion Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Progress Notes
				Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000)	
<b>Commenced Projects – Charles Darwin University</b>								
Further Education Building Alice Springs	November 2005	August 2006	Lingiari	5,934	2,000 360 (VET)	2,500	1,074	Tender cost exceeds initial funding by \$1,434. At this time VET usage, mainly nursing and multi media, is estimated to be 25% of bldg hence further allocation of AG funding \$360.
Enhancements to Finance Systems and IT Infrastructure	Ongoing	Ongoing	Solomon and Lingiari	550	275 275 (VET)			This ongoing project covers the capital components of up grades and enhancements to the hardware and infrastructure supporting our operating systems. Funding is shared 50/50 with DEST (Higher Education) and DEST (VET).

Project Name	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Completion Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Progress Notes
				Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000)	
<b>Planned 2006 - Charles Darwin University</b>								
Palmerston Bakery Up Grade	January 2006	September 2006	Solomon	1,260	1,260			Redesign to meet budget constraints has been finalised. Funding approved in 2005.
VET Multi Media Laboratory	January 2006	June 2006	Solomon	900	450 (VET)		450	\$450 approved ANTA (VET) funding Dec 2004. Design is in process. Final cost is estimated to be \$900.
Up Grade stock yards, stock watering facilities and infrastructure at Rural College	March 2006	July 2006	Lingiari	500	500 (VET)			Some design work has commenced. Rural College is at this time 100% VET hence allocation against DEST VET funding.
Improve utilisation and modernise trades buildings. Casuarina and Alice Springs campus, through refurbishment. Modernisation and additions where necessary	January 2006	2008	Solomon and Lingiari	1, 600	1,100 (VET)		500	Trades area is currently experiencing growth in the demand for building trades training and this project is to determine how current buildings can be modified/modernised to meet demand. Total cost is estimated to be \$4,2 million. Design work and costs have been determined for refurbishment of bldg 29 and works in other buildings.

Planned Projects- Charles Darwin University									
Improve Utilisation of Trades Buildings	Improve Utilisation and Modernise Trades Buildings	January 2006	2008	Solomon and Lingiari	4,200	4.200			
New Chancellery	Construct a New Chancellery	January 2006	2010	Solomon	16,000	16,000			Shared 50/50 with DEST
Improve Utilisation of Teaching Facilities	To Up Grade and Improve Current Teaching Facilities to Maximise Usage	March 2006	2010	Solomon and Lingiari	9,500	9,500			Shared 50/50 with DEST
Refurbish University Theatre	Modify seating to improve viewing of stage	January 2007	February 2008	Solomon	300	300			Shared 50/50 with DEST

## Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education

Project Name	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Completion Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Progress Notes
				Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000)	
<b>Commenced Projects- Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education</b>								
Air conditioning of residential areas	January 2006	September 2006	Lingiari	\$500	\$250		\$250	Funding approved December 2005.
<b>Planned 2006 Project</b>								
Scope of work, drawing and certification of 2007 building project	March 2006	November 2006	Lingiari	\$360	\$360			15% of estimated total cost of \$2.5m project.

Project Name	Project Description & Purpose	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Complet'n Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Contact Details of S/T Program Manager & Proponents
					Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000) specify source	
<b>Planned Projects- BIITE</b>									
E-learning and research building	To provide teaching, learning and research space in an e-learning environment	March 2007	December 2007		\$2,500	\$2,000 higher ed funding \$400 VET funding		\$100	
Smart card security and identification project	To provide one card to students and staff which acts as an identification card, allows access to rooms, allows access to library and other e-learning materials, records entitlements such as meals for residents and telephone credit	Jan 2008	December 2008		\$750	\$400		\$150	

Project Name	Project Description & Purpose	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Complet'n Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Contact Details of S/T Program Manager & Proponents
					Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000) specify source	
<b>Planned Projects- Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education</b>									
Air- conditioning of residences repayment of 2006 arrangement	In 2006 the Institute will undertake a \$500k air-conditioning project. \$250k will be repaid in 2006 with repayments of \$60k becoming due in each of the following 4 years.	Jan 2007	December 2010		\$240	\$240 over four years			
Library extension	The Institute library has not been extended since 1988 in which time the Institute has grown from under 500 students to one that caters for nearly 3000 students doing nearly 50 courses	January 2009	December 2009		\$2,000	\$500		\$1,500 to be identified	

## Desert Peoples Centre

Total expenditure for Stage 1 Desert Peoples Centre is expected to be \$30.22 million from 2005-06 to 2007-08. Stage 2 Desert Peoples Centre is estimated to be \$20 million over the financial years 2008-09 to 2010-11.

Project Name	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Completion Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Progress Notes
				Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000)	
<b>Commenced Projects- Desert Peoples Centre</b>								
Desert Knowledge Precinct including DPC headworks and court yards	2004	August 2008	Lingiari	\$10,700	\$0 in 2006.	\$1,500		Design and headworks commenced in 2004. Completion is estimated September 2006. AG funds from approved carryover funds Courtyards accompanying DPC elements will be completed as DPC buildings are completed. DPC stage 1 due for completion in 2008. AG funding was part of this expenditure figures indicated earlier.
<b>Planned 2006 Projects</b>								
DPC Administration Building	March 2006	Dec 2006	Lingiari	\$4,100	\$4,100			Stage 1 to commence in March 2006 and stage 2 extensions in July 2008. AG funds from approved carryover funds.

Project Name	Project Description & Purpose	Estimated or Actual Start Date	Estimated or Actual Complet'n Date	Federal Electorate	Funding Details				Contact Details of S/T Program Manager & Proponents
					Total (\$ 000)	A/G's Cont. (\$ 000)	S/T Cont. (\$ 000)	Other Cont. (\$ 000) specify source	
<b>Planned Projects- Desert Peoples Centre</b>									
BIITE Stage 1 Buildings		January 2007	December 2007	Lingiari	\$5,000	\$2,400	\$2,000		
BIITE Stage 2 Buildings		June 2007	June 2008	Lingiari	\$5,000	\$600	\$5,000		
Student Residential		January 2008	December 2008		\$3,000		\$3,000		
Headworks and remaining courtyards		January 2008	July 2008		\$2,500		\$2,500		

## BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

### ANTICIPATED 2006 MAJOR CAPITAL and REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE ALLOCATIONS

Item	Australian Government Funds	NT Government Funds
Major Capital		
• CDU	\$2.6 m	-
• BIITE	\$0.360 m	-
• DPC***	\$4.10 m	\$4.9 m
• Other*	\$0.0 m	-
• System support****	\$0.04 m	
Repairs & Maintenance**	-	\$2.8 m
Equipment	\$0.3 m	\$0.1 m
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.1 m</b>	<b>\$7.8 m</b>

\* DEET will reserve the opportunity to convert up to \$400k of capital funds to recurrent purposes in 2006. This will result in a decrease to CDU, BIITE and DPC.

\*\* Estimated repairs and maintenance expenditure relating to CDU, BIITE and regional training centres.

\*\*\* \$4.1 million carryover AG funds from previous years to be spent against DPC Admin Building and approximately \$4.9 million NTG funds on headworks/courtyards in the Desert Knowledge Precinct.

\*\*\*\* \$40 000 to DEET to maintain system level support that provides access to resources for RTOs operating in the Northern Territory.

### ANTICIPATED 2007 MAJOR CAPITAL and REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE ALLOCATIONS

Item	Australian Government Funds	NT Government Funds
Major Capital		
• CDU	\$2.6 m	-
• BIITE	\$0.460 m	-
• DPC***	\$3.2m	\$5.1 m
• Other*	\$0.0 m	-
• System support****	\$0.04 m	
Repairs & Maintenance**	-	\$2.8 m
Equipment	\$0.3 m	\$0.1 m
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6.64m</b>	<b>\$ 8.0m</b>

- \* DEET will reserve the opportunity to convert up to \$400k of capital funds to recurrent purposes in 2007. This will result in a decrease to CDU, BIITE and DPC.
- \*\* Estimated repairs and maintenance expenditure relating to CDU, BIITE and regional training centres.
- \*\*\* \$ 3.2 million carryover AG funds from previous years to be spent against DPC Admin Building and approximately \$5.1 million NTG funds on headworks/courtyards in the Desert Knowledge Precinct.
- \*\*\*\* \$40 000 to DEET to maintain system level support that provides access to resources for RTOs operating in the Northern Territory.

**ANTICIPATED 2008 MAJOR CAPITAL  
and  
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE ALLOCATIONS**

Item	Australian Government Funds	NT Government Funds
Major Capital		
• CDU	\$2.6 m	-
• BIITE	\$0.460 m	-
• DPC***	\$0.0m	\$5.5m
• Other*	\$0.0 m	-
• System support****	\$0.04 m	
Repairs & Maintenance**	-	\$2.8 m
Equipment	\$0.3 m	\$0.1 m
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3.4 m</b>	<b>\$8.4m</b>

- \* DEET will reserve the opportunity to convert up to \$400k of capital funds to recurrent purposes in 2008. This will result in a decrease to CDU, BIITE and DPC.
- \*\* Estimated repairs and maintenance expenditure relating to CDU, BIITE and regional training centres.
- \*\*\* approximately \$5.5 million NTG funds on headworks/courtyards in the Desert Knowledge Precinct.
- \*\*\*\* \$40 000 to DEET to maintain system level support that provides access to resources for RTOs operating in the Northern Territory.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

### Asset Condition and Utilisation

All government facilities are assessed annually for condition under the Building Asset Management System (BAMS) program. The inspections address repairs and programmed maintenance requirements only. Upgrading, enhancements and other new works are not included in the inspection process, nor are requirements arising from changes in the *Building Code of Australia*, even if these have safety implications. Submissions for such upgrading work are generated by the respective entity on a case-by-case basis and funded as budget allows.

### IDENTIFIED MAINTENANCE AS % OF BUILDING REPLACEMENT – YEAR 2005

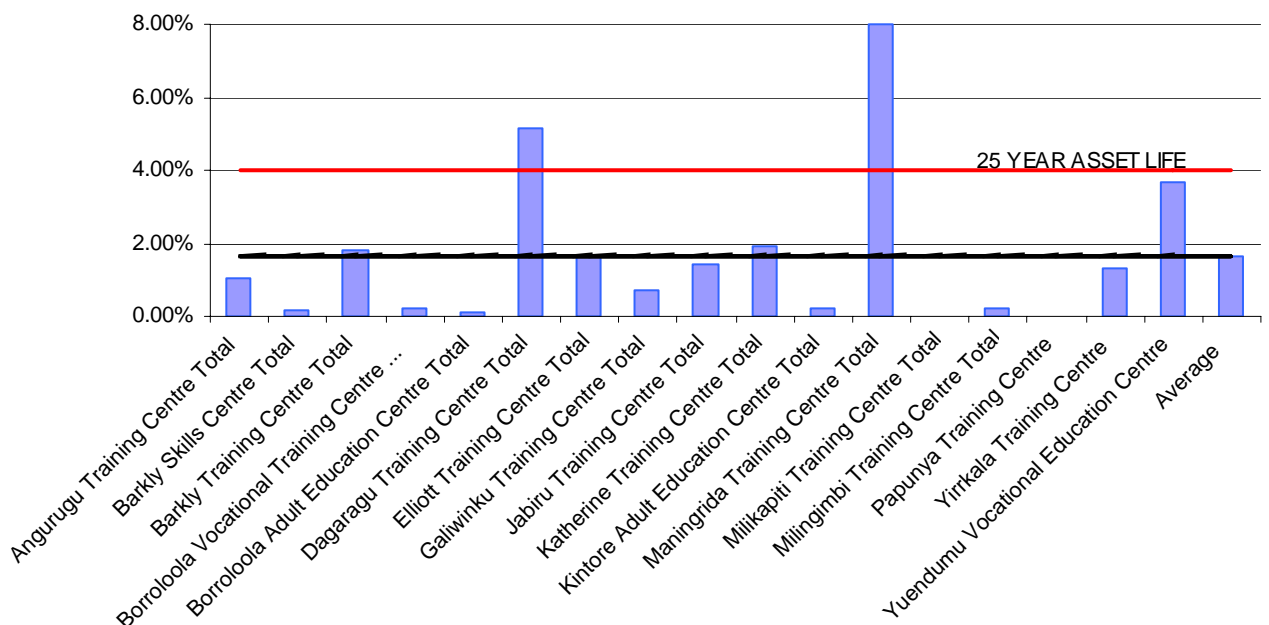


Figure 1: Building serviceability – the higher the identified maintenance estimate, the poorer the building condition.

Within the Northern Territory there is no analysis or benchmarking of asset condition or performance on a formal basis. The graph at Figure 1 correlates estimated BAMS estimates for the 2003-04 financial year with present replacement valuation, to indicate a broad measure of serviceability of each facility.

Figure 1 illustrates a number of important features:

- The higher the maintenance percentage, the more unserviceable the building.

- The average maintenance determination is 1.62% of the cost of replacement at year 2005 costs.
- In its simplest form, the average maintenance effort required is 4% per annum over the 25-year life of the building.

The maintenance value illustrated does not quantify the suitability of the building for present usage, nor does it indicate that the building requires additional work to change or improve the level of amenity.

The information conveys that under present levels of funded maintenance, the majority of buildings are in good condition. Overall levels of maintenance can be expected to reduce slightly in line with construction of new facilities. This will be the case for training infrastructure in Alice Springs, with the construction of the DPC, the recently completed facilities at the Institute for Aboriginal Development and the expected development of training facilities in Maningrida under VET Indigenous Infrastructure Program (VIIP).

Utilisation of assets is not formally reported. Measures will be undertaken in collaboration with DEST, to ascertain a reliable asset utilisation methodology over the life of this SIP.

### **The Way Ahead**

The period 2006-2008 will see key enhancements in the provision of management of training facilities throughout the Northern Territory.

Continued funding of, and improved working relationships with private training providers will provide increased flexibility in the provision of emerging training requirements.

Over the life of this plan DEET will implement the strategies and programs outlined in the *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce* in order to grow and develop its skills base, maximise employment and training opportunities for Territorians and construct a highly skilled and flexible workforce.

Professional development programs for registered training organisations, an ongoing VET marketing campaign, enhancements to DEET business practices, improved stakeholder, community and industry engagement initiatives and a managed, and responsive Strategic Infrastructure Plan is integral to a quality VET system in the Northern Territory.

## APPENDIX 1

### **Northern Territory Registered Training Organisations** Advanced Training International Inc

Janue Pty Ltd  
Amity Community Services  
Midioz Pty Ltd (as trustee for) Midi Masters Trust  
Accrete Pty Ltd  
Barkly Region Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Group Inc  
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education  
Best Practice Skills Pty Ltd  
Casuarina Senior College  
Catholic Education Office  
Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc.  
Central Australian Remote Health Development Services  
Centre for Appropriate Technology  
Northern Territory Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Charles Darwin University  
Communication in Education and Training Pty Ltd Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services Inc  
Danila Dilba Biluru Butji Ninnilutlum Health Service Aboriginal Corporation  
Darwin High School  
Darwin Human Resource and Computer Academy Pty Ltd  
Darwin Skills Development Scheme  
Darwin TRAC Association  
Department of Health and Community Services  
Direct Four WD Awareness  
Dovaston Consulting Group Pty Ltd  
Drug and Alcohol Services Alice Springs Inc  
Employee Assistance Service NT Inc  
Energy Resources of Australia Ltd – Ranger Mine  
Family Planning and Welfare Association of the NT  
Top End Group Training Pty Ltd  
Hanson Training Services (Australia) Pty Ltd  
Ian Cuthbert and Mark Butler  
Industries Services Training Pty Ltd  
Institute for Aboriginal Development Inc  
International College of Advanced Education Pty Ltd  
Judith Trezise  
Kakadu Studios  
Maningrida Jobs Education and Training Aboriginal Corporation  
Nhulunbuy High School  
North Australian Safety Centre Inc  
Northern Territory Christian Schools Association Inc  
Northern Territory Correctional Services  
Northern Territory Open Education Centre  
Police, Fire and Emergency Services  
Nungalinya College  
Real Estate Institute of the Northern Territory (REINT)  
Royal Life Saving Society Australia (NT Branch) Inc  
Sanderson High School  
Seafood and Maritime Industries Training Ltd  
Smith, LJ  
St John Ambulance Australia NT Inc  
PD & T Raines Pty Ltd  
Stringybark Training  
Taminmin High School  
The Arnhemland Progress Association Incorporated  
Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board  
Training Plus NT Pty Ltd  
Voyages Hotels and Resorts Pty Ltd  
Waikan Employment and Training Services Pty Ltd  
Waltja Tjutangku Palyapayi Aboriginal

**Appendix 2 - Current Skill Centre and VIIP Projects in NT - DEET's updated version 10 January 2006**

Project Name	Project Description	Funding Year	Program	Amount	Status	Progress / Action required	file no	DEET comments	Field Officer action	Electoral Region
		<b>2004</b>	<b>Skill Centre</b>							
Taminmin High School RTO 031	Home economics upgrade the facility to allow for the effective delivery of Cert. 1 & Cert 2 (Kitchen Operations) Hospitality	2004	SCSS	<b>\$278553.00</b> (\$139276.50 \$83565.90 \$55710.60)	funds received by DEET	First payment will be released on receipt of executed contract. <b>Completion date now 30/06/06</b>	2004/2418	School to provide DEET Infrastructure with revised submission for variation funding from DEST Dec 2005.	Inspect progress when visiting. Start date TBA Completion date TBA	Lingiari
		<b>2003</b>	<b>Skill Centre</b>							
Tennant Creek ORG 060	Tennant Creek High School - Home Economics Kitchen upgrade the facility to allow for the effective delivery of Cert. 1 & Cert 2 (Kitchen Operations) Hospitality	2003	SCSS	<b>\$30594.00</b> (\$15297.00 (\$9178.20) \$6118.80)	funds received by DEET	First payment acquired (22/10/04). Second payment released (7/06/05). Awaiting acquital prior to release of balance of funds \$6118.80. <b>Completion date now 14/09/05. Proposed opening date 26-30 Sept or 10-14 Oct.</b>	2004/1486	Grant has been approved and is in the process of being released.	Inspect progress when visiting	Lingiari
Nhulunbuy High RTO 109	VET Skills Centre - to enable school to deliver business training skills - modifying classroom and provision of furniture and equipment	2003	SCSS	<b>\$34913.00</b> (\$17456.50) \$10473.90 \$6982.60	funds received by DEET	First payment released (5/08/04). NHS advise project delayed by tender process. <b>Completion date now 31/12/05</b>	2004/1487	Grant has been approved and is in the process of being released.	Inspect progress when visiting	Lingiari
Katherine High RTO 042	WITHDRAWN/ REINSTATED in July 2004. Info Tech school based new apprenticeship Skill Centre for students at risk.	2003	SCSS	<b>\$44804.00</b> (\$22402.00) (\$13441.20) (\$8960.80)	funds received by DEET	First (25/10/04), second (23/12/04) and third (3/06/05) payments released. Awaiting final acquital of funds. <b>Completion date now 30/09/05. Proposed opening date 14/10/2005.</b>	2004/1488	Grant has been approved and is in the process of being released.	Inspect progress when visiting	Lingiari
Casuarina Senior College (CSC) RTO 016	CSC Facilities associated with an Automotive and Engineering Workshop Skill Centre - The Skill Centre will enhance the opportunity for VET training of year 11 and year 12 students.	2003	SCSS	<b>\$226211.00</b> (\$113105.50) (\$67863.30) \$45242.20	funds received by DEET	First payment released (26/11/04), second payment released (13/11/2005). Await acquital prior to release of third payment. <b>Completion date now 31/12/05</b>	2004/1484	DEET preparing request to DEST for 10% variation increase Dec 2005.		Solomon

DEET's version of DEST VET information

Project Name	Project Description	Funding Year	Program	Amount	Status	Progress / Action required	file no	DEET comments	Field Officer action	Electoral Region
		<b>2005</b>	<b>VIIP</b>							
Murwangi Community Aboriginal Corporation RTO	Construct training facilities and accomodation at darwin Crocodile Farm.	2005	VIIP	\$275000.00	Endorsed	Stage 2 project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to DEST. <b>Completion date 31/12/06</b>	2006/0020	Letter sent requesting Stage 2 application details.	Field officer TBC.	Lingiari
Barkly Regional Arts RTO	Construction of a mens resource and training centre.	2005	VIIP	\$115000.00	Endorsed	Stage 2 project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to DEST. <b>Completion date 31/12/06</b>	2006/0022	Letter sent requesting Stage 2 application details. Pirlangimpi forestry & horticulture training centre re-submitted to DEST as part of 2nd funding round Dec 2005.	Field officer TBC.	Lingiari
Tiwi Islands Training & Employment Board RTO	Pirlangimpi - Construction of classroom with shed & equipment for metals and automotive/diesel training.	2005	VIIP	\$105000.00	Endorsed	Stage 2 project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to DEST. <b>Completion date 31/12/06</b>	2006/0024	Letter sent requesting Stage 2 application details.	Field officer TBC.	Lingiari
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation RTO	Construction of multi purpose training facility.	2005	VIIP	\$100000.00	Endorsed	Stage 2 project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to DEST. <b>Completion date 31/12/06</b>	2006/0023	Letter sent requesting Stage 2 application details.	Field officer TBC.	Lingiari
		<b>2004</b>	<b>VIIP</b>							
Maningrida Jet Centre RTO 086	Construction of training facility/ multi purpose training rooms / equipment / resource centre and accommodation	2004	VIIP	\$750000	Endorsed	Full project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to DEST. <b>Completion date 31/12/06</b>	2004/2750	Letter sent requesting Stage 2 status. 12/5/05 Contact from manager requesting advice to start progress on application.	Field officer contact to be maintained. New JET Centre Manager Ali McKay	Lingiari
Tangentyere Council Incorporated RTO 054	Upgrade of existing training facility / purchase mobile trainer / equip both	2004	VIIP	\$110000	Endorsed	Full project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to DEST. <b>Completion date now 31/06/06</b>	2004/2751	Letter sent requesting Stage 2 status 9/5/05. Proponent requests change of project. DEET require further information.	Field officer contact to be maintained with Peter Cowham	Lingiari

DEET's version of DEST VET information

Project Name	Project Description	Funding Year	Program	Amount	Status	Progress / Action required	file no	DEET comments	Field Officer action	Electoral Region
		<b>2003</b>	<b>VIIP</b>							
Waltja Tjutanku Palyapayi Aboriginal Corporation RTO 136	Demountable building for Learning Together	2003	VIIP	<b>\$70000.00</b> (63000.00) \$7000.0	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment now released (FS 159447 20/05/05). <b>Completion date now 31/12/05</b>	2004/1689	Grant has been approved and in process of being released	Maintain contact with Kate Laurence	Lingiari
Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services RTO 007	Upgrade existing training facility	2003	VIIP	<b>\$150000.00</b> (75000.00) (45000.00) \$30000.00	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment released (FS 159448 22/04/05). Second payment released (FS 62428 4/08/05). <b>Completion date now 31/12/05</b>	2004/1685	Grant has been approved and in process of being released	Maintain contact with Alan James	Lingiari
Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation ORG 062	Extension / upgrade existing Art Centre facility -verandah / toilet	2003	VIIP	<b>\$110000.00</b> (55000.00) \$33000.00 \$22000.00	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment released. (FS 162527 21/06/05). <b>Completion date now 31/12/05</b>	2004/1682	Grant has been approved and in process of being released	Maintain contact with Alan Murn	Lingiari
Kaltukatjarra Community Council (Docker River)	Extension for accommodation	2003	VIIP	<b>\$145000.00</b>	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment now ready to be released. <b>Completion date now 30/06/06</b>	2004/2815	Grant has been approved and in process of being released	Maintain contact with Leon Chapman.	Lingiari
Nyangatjara College	Stage 1 of multi stage project flexible teaching/workshop and administrative area	2003	VIIP	<b>\$230000.00</b>	Endorsed	Project plans and estimates submitted to DEST and awaiting approval Nov 2005. <b>Completion date now 30/06/06</b>	2004/1683	Proponet requested change of project to Imanpa - refused. Advised to make Imanpa separate submission for 2005 (no EI submitted)	Maintain contact with Ralph Folds	Lingiari
Belyuen Communtiy Government Council ORG 025	Extension to council offices to provide Training centre facilities	2003	VIIP	<b>\$176000.00</b> (88000.00) (52800.00) \$35200.00	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment released (FS 162524 20/06/05). Second payment released (FS 162519 01/11/2005). <b>Completion date now 31/10/05</b>	2004/1692	Grant has been approved and in process of being released. Request for variation funding submitted to DEST Dec 2005.	Maintain contact with Bronwen King	Lingiari
Yothu Yindi Foundation Aboriginal Corporation ORG 027	Extension and upgrade to existing facility to provide accommodation and studio facilities	2003	VIIP	<b>\$85000.00</b> (4200.00) (72300.00) \$8500.00	funds received by DEET	First payment \$4,200 consultant fee released (FS 150001 28/01/05). Second payment released (FS 162528 21/06/05). <b>Completion date now 31/10/05</b>	2004/1681	Grant has been approved and in process of being released. Proponent to advise completion and opening dates.	Maintain contact with Alan James and Jan Leo	Lingiari

DEET's version of DEST VET information

Project Name	Project Description	Funding Year	Program	Amount	Status	Progress / Action required	file no	DEET comments	Field Officer action	Electoral Region
		<b>2002</b>	<b>VIIP</b>							
Kardu Numida Inc Wadeye	Construction of Training Centre	2002	VIIP	<b>\$440000.00</b>	Endorsed	ANTA advise processed 15/12/04 for approval at original \$150k. Subsequent decision to endorse \$440,000 funding. All information provided to ANTA. Awaiting advice from DEST re Stage 2 application details re submitted Dec 2005. <b>Completion date now 31/12/06</b>	2004/2417	Stage 2 application submitted for \$440k. DEET advised Mike Harrison ( GTNT ) and Terry Bulemore ( Wadeye ) of ANTA decision. Deet await receipt of updated submission with plans / estimates etc. 1/4/05 MH advises 3year plan / certificate of Incorpor and plans/ estimates / schedule to be with ANTA May month end	Kim Jenkinson to be kept advised	Lingiari
Numbulwar Numburindi Government Council ORG 021	Construction of Training Centre	2002	VIIP	<b>\$150000.00</b> (135000.00) \$15000.00	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment released (FS 162511 20/05/05). <b>Completion date now 31/08/05.</b> <b>Proposed opening date 22 /10/05</b>	2004/1687	Grant has been approved and in process of being released Acqutal of first payment req'd email sent.	Field officer to inspect project next visit and report. Contact Marc Gardner	Lingiari
Yuelamu Community Inc ORG 069	Demountable building for RTO	2002	VIIP	<b>\$50000.00</b> (45000.00) \$5000.00	funds received by DEET	Funding to hand and first payment released (FS 62421 27/07/05). <b>Completion date now 31/12/05</b>	2004/1686	Grant has been approved and in process of being released. MOA with E&T for execution.	Maintain contact with Shiela Cross	Lingiari
		<b>2001</b>	<b>VIIP</b>							
Ngaliwurru-Wuli Association ORG 008	Relocation of building and alterations for training centre purposes	2001	VIIP	<b>\$91268.00</b>	Acquittal overdue	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project should be completed - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is required to finalise this project		Awaiting acquittal - letter sent DEET to followed up New manager advises accountant will provide as information comes to hand.	Maintain contact with Andrew Martin	Lingiari
Murwangi Community Aboriginal Corporation ORG 013	Provision of training facilities	2001	VIIP	<b>\$143374.00</b>	Acquittal overdue	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project should be completed - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is required to finalise this project		Awaiting acquittal - letter sent DEET to follow up.		Lingiari
		<b>1996</b>	<b>VIIP</b>							
Institute for Aboriginal Development (IAD) RTO 010		1996	ATSI	<b>\$2600000.00</b>	Acquittal overdue	This project was given final approval in 2002. Construction is underway. ANTA have paid \$1,802,827 and there was \$797,173 remaining upon completion of the buildings This has now been paid. Waiting on advice from IAD re completion / acquital / opening date.	2002/1480	DEET, ANTA and IAD have agreed to vary the contract and release the last payment as two separate payments of 440,000 and 436,890. R Harvey.		Lingiari

## Current Skill Centre and VIIP Projects in NT - DEET's updated version 12 August 2005

Project Name	Project Description	Funding Year	Program	Amount	Status	Progress / Action required	file no	DEET comments	Field Officer action
		<b>2003</b>	<b>Skill Centre</b>						
Nhulunbuy High School RTO 109	Nhulunbuy High School Electro Tech Skills Centre	2003	SCSS	51,000	Acquitted	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project should be completed - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is required to finalise this project	2004/1485	Financial statement and evaluation has been received from school. DEET has acquitted grant and sent notice of acquittal to ANTA. Final payment \$10.5k has been processed by DEET.R Harvey.	
				\$ 51,000					
		<b>2002</b>	<b>Skill Centre</b>						
Taminmin High School (variation) RTO 031	Automotive and Engineering School Skill Centre - upgrade the power facilities by installing a new transformer	2002	SCSS	\$142,606	Acquitted	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project should be completed - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is required to finalise this project	2004/1483	Acquittal received being processed by DEET 7/6/04 DEET acquittal sent to ANTA..	
Casuarina Senior College RTO 016	CSC Electro tech Skills Centre	2002	SCSS	\$33,498	Acquitted	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project should be completed - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is required to finalise this project	2004/1482	CSC has sent copies of acquittal documents. DEET acquittal sent to ANTA. R Harvey	
				\$ 176,104					
		<b>2003</b>	<b>VIIP</b>						
Larrakia Nation-Aboriginal Corporation	Demountable building for RTO	2003	VIIP	400000	Endorsed	Full project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to ANTA by 22 October 2004	cancelled by proponent	Application withdrawn.	Field officer advised
				\$ -					
		<b>2002</b>	<b>VIIP</b>						
Waikan Employment and Training Services RTO 139	Refurbish facilities at Katherine	2002	VIIP	\$355500.00	Endorsed	ANTA / DEST will not release monies until conditions met. Stage 2 application still being prepared for submission to DEST DEC 2005. Completion date now 30/06/06	2004/1688	Subject to Waikan providing plans/estimates. PS liaising with Didge Campbell (Waikan) and Samir Raut (NBC consultants). DEET provided permit application. DEST advised that project withdrawn following Waikan being placed in to receivership Dec 2005.	Maintain contact with Sylvia (Didge) Campbell at Waikan
NT DEET (TRY-Program)	Funds to be used to support TRY-Program	2002	VIIP	\$ 300,000	Endorsed	Full project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to ANTA by 1 May 2004	cancelled by proponent	Unknown - DEET to follow up and determine project profile. Paul Rider to notify Kathy Pickering of funds to action.	kathy pickering to forward proposal - officer advised
Papulu Apparr- Kari-Aboriginal Corporation	Purchase musical equipment	2002	VIIP	\$ 45,000	Endorsed	Full project proposal to be developed between organisation and NT and submitted to ANTA by 1 May 2004	cancelled by proponent	Application withdrawn	Field officer advised
				\$ -					
		<b>2001</b>	<b>VIIP</b>						
Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board RTO 124	Tiwi Islands Training Centre Provision of facility and equipment at Ngiuu	2001	VIIP	\$ 357,829	Acquitted	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project should be completed - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is required to finalise this project. DEET is waiting to finalise acquittal. Opening 5/8/05		\$357,829 has been granted via VIIP with a further \$150k variation provided through ANTA as a capital grant. Grant formally acquitted to ANTA. R Harvey.	Field officer contact to be maintained

25/07/2006

DEET's version of ANTA information

Project Name	Project Description	Funding Year	Program	Amount	Status	Progress / Action required	file no	DEET comments	Field Officer action
Tapatjatjaka Community Government Council	Provision of training facilities	2001	VIIP	\$ 159,658	Acquitted	All funds have been paid to NT Department and project is complete - final audit of grant funds and acquittal is complete.		Grant formally acquitted to ANTA .	
				\$ 517,487					