Aboriginal Economic Development Program framework
The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country, the Aboriginal people of the many lands that we work on and their language groups throughout Western Australia, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waters. DPIRD respects the continuing culture of Aboriginal people and the contribution they make to the life of our regions and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Bundy’s Cultural Tours, Dampier Peninsula  Photo: Tourism Western Australia
Aboriginal Economic Development

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development’s (DPIRD) Aboriginal Economic Development team consists of dedicated specialists who work to grow and support Aboriginal employment and economic outcomes in a range of industries and strategic projects.

Our vision
Develop and foster economic development opportunities that will bring prosperity for Aboriginal people in Western Australia.

The way we work
The Aboriginal Economic Development team has a long-term commitment to deliver positive outcomes and change in a complex environment through innovation, flexibility and responsiveness.

The team engages across all areas of primary industries and a range of regional development activities. Team members are located throughout Western Australia, from Kununurra to Esperance.

The Aboriginal Economic Development team collaborates with the State and Federal Governments to achieve whole of government targets for Aboriginal employment and economic development.
Strategic intent
To unlock significant and impactful regional Aboriginal economic development opportunities, and generate local capacity, new businesses, and jobs for Aboriginal people in primary industries and strategic regional projects by:

1. Delivering economic development support as a catalyst for broader social, cultural, and environmental outcomes.

2. Designing new models of support delivery that empower Aboriginal people to drive and sustain long-term economic and governance outcomes.

3. Facilitating Aboriginal employment and business participation in Western Australia’s primary industries and strategic regional projects.

4. Increasing the impact of State Government investment in Aboriginal economic development.

5. Improving Aboriginal cultural competency, and creating more Aboriginal employment opportunities within DPIRD.
Koomal Dreaming bushfoods  Photo: Frances Andrijich
What we do

- Engagement
- Facilitation
- Referral
- Leveraging
- Collaboration
- Advocacy
Economic opportunities

The Aboriginal Economic Development team aims to realise Aboriginal business development, jobs, and economic opportunities in the regions, and support Aboriginal governance, capacity building, and leadership development in the following areas of primary industries, and regional development:

**Primary industries**

1. Pastoral lands
2. Rangelands diversification
3. Farming
4. Aquaculture, forestry, fishing
5. Bush products

**Regional development**

6. Aboriginal owned businesses
7. Tourism
8. Creative industries
9. Procurement and local content
10. Native title settlement agreements