

Submission No. 45

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Inquiry in Developing Indigenous Enterprises

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Presented by:

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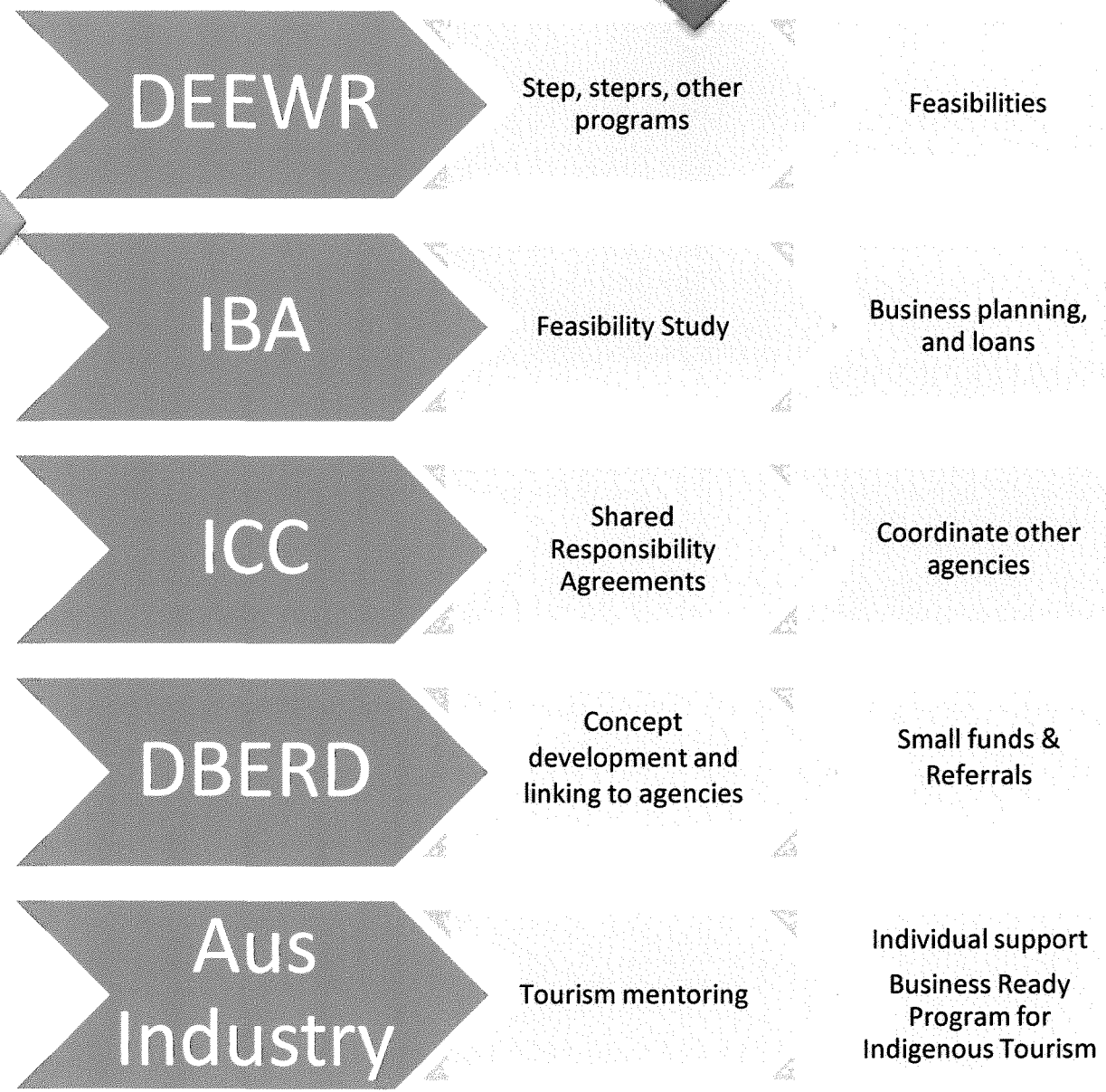
Iain Govan TLE North Pty Ltd

1. Current programs

Needs seed funding for individuals and communities to undertake enterprise activities

Disabling remote / regional 'goo' in which individuals and communities are stuck ; not able to experience and develop an enterprise culture. Generations of welfare and limited exposure to enterprise culture

Current programs meet the need once a person or enterprise idea reaches out of the 'goo'



Three different economic environments in which indigenous enterprise exists

Disenabling Economies
(Usually remote)

- Very limited infrastructure
- Difficult access and transport
- Prohibitively high operating costs
- Severely limited services
- Limited exposure to the culture of enterprise

Typical organisations people have experience with:

Store
School
Clinic
Council

Emerging Economies
(Environment like Kakadu)

- Limited infrastructure
- Greater access and some transport
- High operating costs
- Limited services available
- Some exposure to enterprise culture

Typical organisations people have experience with:

Store Roadhouse
School small shop
Clinic Police
Council Civil Works yard
Workshop and mechanic
Plumber and builder
Art Centre Crèche

Established Economies
(Urban based indigenous individuals and corporations)

- Good infrastructure
- Access to range of transport services
- Competitive operating costs
- Full range of services
- Enterprise culture is everywhere, imbedded in daily activity

Typical organisations people have experience with:

Whole range of mainstream enterprises

2. Commercial advantage/strengths

Land

Manage the way land is 'hired out'

- Access to the coast, icons, and natural features
- Access to resources for mining
- Control over land and water resources

Intellectual Property

A creative culture, non western world view

- Creative life and culture
- Visual Arts, painting,
- Performing arts
- Indigenous knowledge, environment, plants
- History, culture, languages, beliefs

Time

Many Indigenous people have underutilised time

- Potential time and energy to be involved in commerce

3. Positive advantage programs

- 1. Remote Indigenous people generally are not in competition with mainstream enterprise**
- 2. Could be useful in non remote regions where Indigenous enterprise start ups provided with a soft entry to the market place**
 - Eg civil works projects, construction and indigenous employment opportunities in major main stream infrastructure projects**

4. Incentives for sub contracts, joint ventures and mentoring

1. Financial incentives would encourage a greater level of involvement
2. Would be useful to establish some form of oversight that ensured that such arrangements were equitable to all parties
3. Many examples of inappropriate arrangements being negotiated in the past to the detriment of indigenous participants