



The Hon Kevin Andrews MP
Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service

Changes to the CDEP (Community Development Employment Projects) Programme

Why does CDEP need to be changed?

- ▶ The Government's CDEP discussion paper *Building on Success* set out a number of areas where CDEP can do more to help Indigenous Australians become more self reliant and find jobs away from Government assistance. In feedback to the discussion paper, most people agreed on the need for change and the directions proposed.

What are the future directions for CDEP?

- ▶ The Government has listened to the questions and concerns people had about some of the proposals in the Discussion Paper and is addressing these in the plan for CDEP. In 2005-06 the CDEP programme will:
 - ▶ Remain flexible with emphasis on a unique mix of employment, community activities and business development;
 - ▶ Have a stronger emphasis on results;
 - ▶ Use a new funding model which puts an emphasis on funding activities;
 - ▶ Involve a partnership between Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) and CDEP organisations to improve results and meet community needs.

What will DEWR do to implement the future directions?

- ▶ In 2005-06 DEWR will improve the links between its programmes for Indigenous people to make the best use of funds and get the best results. This will include links to training through Job Network. DEWR will work with its other service providers, especially those in Job Network and Disability Open Employment Services, to help them partner with CDEP organisations.
- ▶ DEWR will improve its communication with Indigenous people and communities so that they will know where and how to get help, especially with employment and business development.



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- ▶ DEWR will support CDEP organisations to work towards realistic goals for 2005-06, taking account of their local job opportunities and services available. It will help those CDEP organisations who become Indigenous Employment Centres or who trial employment services to make the transition to these new roles.
 - ▶ DEWR will negotiate with CDEP organisations to set targets which make sure that CDEP provides the right incentives to get Indigenous people non-CDEP jobs.
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What will happen in the future?

- ▶ DEWR will be carefully monitoring the changes made to CDEP in 2005-06. Also during 2005-06, DEWR will look at the links between CDEP, income support payments and changes being made to welfare, to ensure that Indigenous people have the best incentives to participate in opportunities, particularly work, to improve their lives.
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