



Indigenous Languages and Arts fact sheet

The Australian Government's vision is for an Australia where respect for our rich diversity begins with respect for the world's oldest continuing culture, that of our First Australians.

Cultural heritage and knowledge is passed on throughout each generation by language and art expression. Language and art contain complex understandings of a person's values, identity, pride, self-worth and connection with others and their environment.

\$20m

Annual Australian Government investment in the Indigenous Languages and Arts program



165

Approximate number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages supported



Language Centres across Australia

The Indigenous Languages and Arts (ILA) grant program assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to express, preserve and maintain their cultures through languages and arts across Australia.



Language worker team, Mirima Language Centre, Kununurra W.A.

ILA program funding is vital for revitalising and maintaining our Indigenous languages and in ensuring continued support of Indigenous language workers and community-led language programs.

Each year, the Australian Government invests over \$20 million through the ILA program to promote participation in, and maintenance of, Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures through languages and arts.



How is the ILA program helping Indigenous communities?

The ILA program provides grant funding to support the following objectives:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are empowered to preserve and teach their culture through languages and arts.
- A strong sense of cultural identity and wellbeing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, which contributes to sustainable and strong communities.
- Celebration and increased recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and arts in the wider Australian community.

Grant funding opportunities

There is an annual grant opportunity for organisations to submit an application for project funding to deliver community-based Indigenous languages and arts activities. ILA program guidelines are available on the government's GrantConnect website at www.grants.gov.au.

Indigenous Languages and Arts activities

In 2018–19, the ILA program funded over 150 projects that support a wide variety of community-based Indigenous languages and arts activities, including 22 Indigenous Language Centres around the country:



For more information on the ILA program, including location and contact details of the Indigenous Language Centres, you can:

- visit our website: www.arts.gov.au/ila
- phone: 1800 006 992
- email: ILA@arts.gov.au.

