



New South Wales
Aboriginal Land Council

The NSW Aboriginal Land Council **SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT**

2022 - 2023





Acknowledgement of Country & Community

The NSW Aboriginal Land Council
acknowledges and pays respect to the
Traditional Owners of the lands on which
we work, and the lands we travel through.
We also acknowledge our Elders – past
and present and extend that respect to all
Aboriginal people.



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About NSWALC

The NSW Aboriginal Land Council (**NSWALC**) is the largest member-based Aboriginal organisation in Australia, with a network of 121 Local Aboriginal Land Councils (**LALCs**) and over 30,000 members. We are the peak elected Aboriginal community-controlled representative body for the 280,000 Aboriginal people in NSW, Australia's largest Aboriginal population.

The NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Network is a key vehicle to deliver social, cultural and economic outcomes to Aboriginal communities, and is the framework for achieving Aboriginal self-determination in NSW. Our vision for Aboriginal Land Rights continues to build on the vision of NSWALC when it was established in 1977 – the return and activation of lands and waters, harnessing the strength of our communities, protecting and promoting our culture and heritage, and securing our future.

Following the introduction of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (the ALRA)*, NSWALC received 7.5% of the land tax paid in NSW for 15 years. This money was deposited into a statutory fund, and through prudent investment has grown to enable NSWALC to continue to support the Aboriginal Land Rights Network for more than 40 years.

As an organisation, NSWALC has a wide range of functions as outlined in Division 2, Section 106 of the ALRA. These include:

- land acquisition and management,
- administration of the statutory fund,
- assisting and supporting LALCs with their functions,

- advising the Minister (and government) on Aboriginal rights and interests; including legislative and policy amendments to better meet the needs of Aboriginal people in NSW,
- and the promotion and protection of Aboriginal culture and heritage.

NSWALC provides programs, grants, and loans for land activation, land management, culture and heritage protection and community development initiatives.

In addition to supporting LALC businesses and ongoing community development, NSWALC has also established Yarpa, an Aboriginal business and employment hub, with support from the Commonwealth Government. Yarpa provides business support and connects Aboriginal businesses with procurement opportunities. NSWALC has also established two subsidiaries: Yilabara - which provides training and employment support for Aboriginal job seekers; and Birribee - which provides LALCs with social and affordable housing, and tenancy and housing maintenance support. These subsidiaries operate as social enterprises, with profits reinvested back into the enterprise to ensure long-term sustainability and benefit to future generations.

The Community Development Levy is applied to certain land dealings by LALCs with more valuable land holdings, matched by contributions from NSWALC, and is utilised to support LALCs that have fewer opportunities from their land holdings due to their location. The Community Fund is used to assist LALCs in building and strengthening their communities through improved facilities and income-generating activities.



Message from the Chair

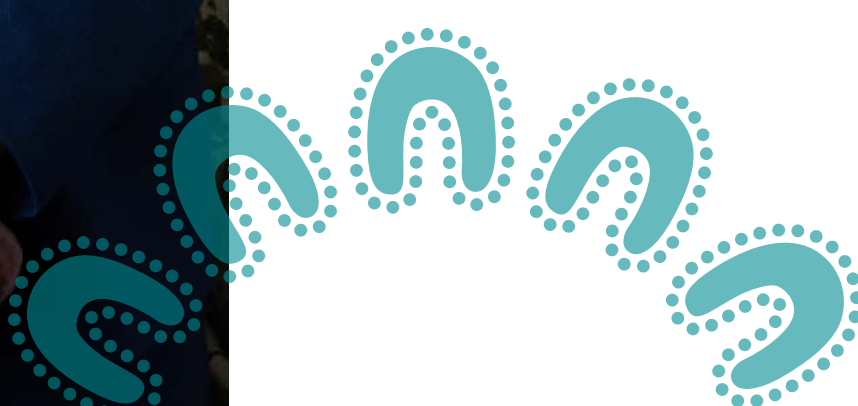
I would like to pay my respect to the Traditional Owners of the lands where we work, live and travel through. I also acknowledge with respect our Elders past and present, we respect and value the wisdom of our Old People, passed down from generation to generation through respectful listening and teaching.

It is my great pleasure to present our Social Impact Report, for the first time, it represents a full year of the implementation of our Social Impact Evaluation Framework (**the Framework**), providing a valuable snapshot of how we are meeting the needs of Aboriginal communities and our 121 Local Aboriginal Land Councils across NSW.

Here at NSWALC, we have a strong focus on delivery, outcomes and solutions. Everything we do is to improve the lives of Aboriginal peoples and their communities. We strive for this every single day as we build on the success of the Land Rights Network. Through our Strategic Plan we have established five important goals, and we will continue to strengthen and secure our three greatest assets: our culture and heritage; the land we've acquired; and our people.

The report reveals many pleasing outcomes as well as areas where we have work to do. Intensifying our services to the community and highlighting the influence of NSWALC activities – whether this is through successfully arguing for significant policy reform; lodging and managing land claims; or through business support to LALCs and our financial grants program. Our collaborative focus is on improving community resilience, sustainability and economic stability.

Localised decision making along with opportunities for collaboration, are identified throughout the report, which is so important. Community engagement is crucial, particularly in rural and remote areas where our LALCs are the lifeblood of the community. As the report suggests: getting a growing number of visitors and people accessing services provided by our LALCs would help towards economic self-sufficiency for Aboriginal communities, and it would also result in an amazing win-win outcome for NSW for improved social cohesion and wellbeing across the State.





CEO's Foreword

The NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Network is a powerful vehicle for delivering social, cultural, and economic outcomes to our communities. It is testament to our commitment to achieving Aboriginal self-determination in NSW. Our vision is the return and activation of lands and waters, building on the strengths of our communities, protecting and promoting our rich culture and heritage, and securing a prosperous future for our peoples.

The findings of this report highlight the significant impact of the work NSWALC undertakes to support the Aboriginal Land Rights Network, and Aboriginal peoples in NSW, and underline the potential that could be unlocked with further financial redress.

Our efforts include advocating for legislative and policy changes to better meet the needs of Aboriginal people in NSW, and providing programs, grants, and loans for land activation, land management, culture and heritage protection, and community development initiatives. The benefits of these activities are far-reaching: from business development and social housing to improved community infrastructure, enhanced education, employment, and health outcomes, as well as a strengthened connection to Culture and better access to Country.

The development of our Social Impact Evaluation Framework is a pivotal part of NSWALC's strategic planning and reporting processes. The Framework allows us to measure the impact and performance of our programs and services to ensure they meet the needs of Aboriginal communities and the 121 LALCs across NSW.

The first full year of implementing this Framework has yielded valuable insights, and findings will be published annually in our Social Impact Report. These findings will play a crucial role in enhancing our services to the community and showcasing the impact of NSWALC activities.

Executive Summary

The development of a Social Impact Evaluation Framework is an integral part of the NSWALC's strategic planning and reporting processes. This Framework aims to enhance NSWALC's approach to evaluating programs by systematically collecting and reporting data. It aligns with the strategies outlined in the NSWALC Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and the Strategic Plan Supplement for 2022-2023, facilitating the measurement of impact and performance of programs delivered to Aboriginal communities and the 121 LALCs in NSW.

Development and Purpose

The Framework was developed through collaboration with NSWALC teams to identify key activities, outputs, outcomes, indicators, and data sources for each strategy under the five strategic goals. This collaborative effort included creating 'Story of Change' diagrams (**Appendix B**), which visually represent the theory of change for areas such as land/water rights, culture, economy, community support, and future security.

The purpose of the Framework is to provide an evidence base to inform decision-making and to assess the extent to which programs meet the needs of Aboriginal communities and LALCs.

Implementation and Consultation

The initial Framework was approved in December 2020, with updates in December 2022 to align with the new Strategic Plan. Due to COVID-19, planned consultations with LALCs were delayed but resumed in 2023 through 11 Regional Forums. These forums gathered feedback from over 200 attendees, which informed the data collection methodology, including the design of the survey and interviews with LALC members.

Key successes include:

- » Returning 9,275 hectares of land to 67 LALCs, and land negotiations which returned a total compensation value of \$140 million to LALCs.
- » Providing funding and support for numerous cultural activities within communities, including NAIDOC celebrations, culture and heritage education programs, Indigenous Ranger programs and cultural tourism businesses.
- » Supporting over 50 LALC businesses, 37 procurement opportunities for Yarpa Indigenous Business Members and dispersing \$1.7 million in funding to support Aboriginal fishing businesses.
- » Funding to develop a business development grant which led to \$1.4 million in funding from the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation to support Saltwater Freshwater Arts Alliance - an arts social enterprise owned by a consortium of Mid North Coast LALCs. For every \$1 NSWALC invested, \$27 of external funding was provided.
- » Delivering \$10.5 million worth of repairs, maintenance and improvements to housing for 17 LALCs.
- » Providing over \$3.3 million in grant funding to support LALCs and Aboriginal people across NSW including over \$770,000 in funeral support funding.
- » Securing \$159.6 million in government funding to deliver 27 initiatives over four years under the Closing the Gap partnership, seven of which are being delivered by NSWALC.
- » Helping to deliver the Aboriginal Community Connector program – supporting over 200 Aboriginal students to stay at school and complete their HSC and maintain their connection to Culture.

Activities, Outputs, and Outcomes

Goal 1: Secure Our Land and Water Rights

- » Significant achievements included lodging and managing land claims, resulting in substantial land returns and economic benefits to LALCs.

Goal 2: Protect and Promote Our Culture and Heritage

- » Efforts included advocating for legislative reform, developing strategic relationships, and supporting cultural preservation activities.

Goal 3: Pursue Economic Independence and Prosperity for Our Peoples

- » Business support, job opportunities, and housing assistance were provided to enhance economic self-sufficiency and prosperity for Aboriginal communities.

Goal 4: Support Our People and Local Aboriginal Land Councils

- » Advocacy, legal support, and financial grants improved community facilities, governance, and wellbeing.

Goal 5: Secure Our Future

- » Engagement strategies, training, and financial stewardship ensured increased participation, improved governance, and youth engagement in the Land Rights Network.

Survey and Interview Findings

The survey was open from 30 October 2023 to 31 March 2024. A total of 50 responses were received, and 10 interviews with LALCs were conducted.

NSWALC Grants and Programs Feedback

- » Awareness and satisfaction with grants and loans were generally high, with suggestions for process improvements, including better communication about funding opportunities and more capacity-building support for grant applications. The majority of LALCs who responded to the survey said NSWALC support had increased their opportunities to take part in culture and heritage activities/initiatives.

Training Effectiveness

- » NSWALC training was deemed effective, enhancing participants' understanding of land rights and governance and providing an opportunity for networking. Suggestions for improvement included more face-to-face training to help community understand the importance of the ALRA and training in LALC operations (business management and administration) perhaps in conjunction with Yarpa.

Interview Insights

- » LALCs benefited from legal and technical support, governance and leadership development, financial assistance, and culture and heritage activities facilitated by NSWALC funding. However, while some participants felt supported by their Zone Office Staff and Councillors, some LALCs noted the difficulty in servicing large regions and said that they would like more support from Zone Office Staff. These comments support NSWALC's new Community Outcomes model which is intended to focus more on supporting LALCs.





Conclusion

The first year of implementing the Framework (2022-2023) demonstrated that NSWALC is having an impact, particularly in relation to improved access, management and ownership/control of land, and in supporting LALCs to take part in culture and heritage activities.

Introduction

The development of a Social Impact Evaluation Framework is a key part of NSWALC’s strategic planning and reporting processes. The Framework is part of an improved organisation-wide approach to evaluation at NSWALC, including a more systematic approach to collecting and reporting on program data.

The activities, outputs, outcomes and measures identified in the Framework align with the strategies identified under the five goals in NSWALC’s Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and the activities and measures in NSWALC’s Strategic Plan Supplement 2022-2023 (see **Appendix A** for a copy of the Framework).

The purpose of the Framework is to measure the impact and performance of the programs and services delivered by NSWALC; to provide an evidence base to inform decision-making; and to assess to what extent the programs and services are meeting the needs of Aboriginal communities and the 121 LALCs in NSW.

The development of the Framework involved collaborating with each of the different teams at NSWALC and identifying the key activities, outputs, outcomes, indicators and potential data sources (program logic) for each of the strategies under the five goals in the Strategic Plan.

‘Story of Change’ diagrams were developed to provide a simplified visual representation of the theory of change for each area of work i.e. land/water rights, culture, economy, community support, and securing our future (**Appendix B**). A Story of Change illustrates the steps that need to occur in order for outcomes to be achieved.

This report summarises the key findings from the first full year of the implementation of NSWALC’s quarterly reporting (2022-2023) and the outcomes from interviews with LALCs and a LALC feedback survey. The findings of this report will be used as a baseline for future reports, which will be published annually.

NSWALC commenced the development of a Social Impact Evaluation Framework in 2020, with the Council of NSWALC approving a draft Framework in December 2020. Unfortunately, planned consultation with LALCs in 2021 were delayed due to COVID-19. The Framework was updated in December 2022 to align with NSWALC’s new Strategic Plan introduced in 2022. Consultation with LALCs on NSWALC’s Social Impact Evaluation Framework occurred at 11 Regional Forums throughout 2023 (attended by over 200 people in total). The findings from the Regional Forum consultations were used to inform the methodology for data collection, including the LALC members’ feedback survey and interviews.

Key findings from NSWALC’s consultations with LALCs at Regional Forums on social impact and the best way to engage with LALCs.

Key themes identified from consultation with LALCs included the following:

Community Engagement



- ▶ Suggestion for community members to participate in data collection.
- ▶ Need for community surveys, with options for interviews and promotion of surveys at community events to encourage survey participation.
- ▶ Round tables and regional forums for collective feedback from LALCs to NSWALC.

Feedback Loops



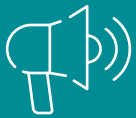
- ▶ The need for better feedback loops between LALCs and NSWALC.
- ▶ Feedback from LALCs should be incorporated into the NSW Closing the Gap Implementation Plan.

Transparency and Trust



- ▶ Clear communication about the consultation process to rebuild trust.
- ▶ Need to clarify benefits of the consultation to LALCs.

Promote Good News



- ▶ LALCs emphasised the importance of sharing good news stories from within the community and promoting these good news stories to the government.
- ▶ Celebrate successes while addressing limitations and issues within LALCs.

Wellbeing and Evaluation



- ▶ LALCs were interested in measuring personal wellbeing using a wellbeing index.
- ▶ Some LALCs thought NSWALC Regional Plans could feed into the Social Impact Evaluation Framework.

Overall, there was support for all of the five goals in NSWALC Strategic Plan by the LALCs at the Regional Forums, though there were differences of opinion on which goals were a priority for each LALC.

Goal 1



- ▶ Some LALC members mentioned the first strategic goal relating to land is most important: *“Land is very important, what are we doing to activate the land for economic, cultural and social purpose.”*

Goal 2



- ▶ LALCs noted the importance of protecting their culture and heritage sites.

Goal 3



- ▶ Economic independence was seen as the most important goal by some LALCs. *“As CEO – I care most about Goal 3 – economic independence, however, members & community probably care more about securing our land and water rights.”*

Goal 4



- ▶ Some LALCs felt there was the need for more support from NSWALC for LALCs, members and community. *“We need more people coming out to support us.”* Some LALCs also felt government, including local government, might listen more to people who come from head office.

Goal 5



- ▶ Several LALCs felt it was important for LALCs to engage more with young people as they are the future of the Land Rights Network: *“Need to secure our future – young people, they’re the legacy that’s going to take over and support us in our jobs.”*
- ▶ *“Having programs that bring young people into LALCs like the Community Connector initiative is really important.”*

How do LALCs measure change in their community?

Increased Employment and Economic Stability:



- ▶ Increase in employment numbers at the LALC and in the community more broadly.
- ▶ LALC staff receiving commensurate payment with other similar organisations/government.
- ▶ Reduction in youth unemployment: *“We don’t have youth sitting under the tree anymore because they’re working.”*

Improved Community Resilience and Wellbeing:



- ▶ Development of a resilient community.
- ▶ Improvements in social and emotional wellbeing.
- ▶ Enhanced social cohesion.

Improvements to Housing and Infrastructure:



- ▶ Improvements in housing quality.
- ▶ Adaptation of housing stock to meet the needs of an aging population.
- ▶ Installation of solar panels to reduce electricity costs.

Increased Engagement/Attendance at Events:



- ▶ Increased school and community engagement.
- ▶ High attendance at NAIDOC events and cultural camps.
- ▶ Growing number of visitors and people accessing services provided by LALCs.

There were 50 responses to the online survey and 10 interviews with LALCs.

NSWALC's Strategic Goals



Goal 1

Secure Our Land and Water Rights to Country



Goal 2

Protect and Promote Our Culture and Heritage



Goal 3

Pursue Economic Independence and Prosperity for Our Peoples



Goal 4

Support Our People and Local Aboriginal Land Councils



Goal 5

Secure Our Future



The following section outlines the different activities undertaken in relation to each of the five goals and the outputs and initial outcomes of these activities. In some cases, it is possible to identify the impact of these outcomes, but in most cases this information is not currently available as it generally takes time for more long-term change to occur. There is usually a hierarchy of outcomes, from outputs (numbers of people who participated) to outcomes (immediate – intermediate result of participation) to impact (long-term result of participation).



Goal 1

Secure Our Land and Water Rights to Country

This goal is about securing our land and water rights to Country so that Aboriginal peoples can realise the full social, cultural and economic outcomes of the Land Rights system by unlocking and activating the benefits of our lands and waters.

Issues


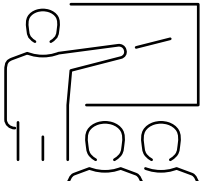
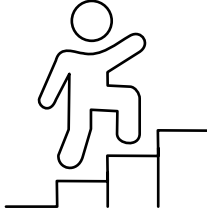
Backlog of land claims and limited social, cultural and economic outcomes and opportunities from the return of land. Aboriginal water rights are not recognised or protected.

Assumptions

LALCs want to lodge land claims/negotiate for land and own land and water.

External Factors

Level of funding provided by NSW Government for land claims processes and support for increased Aboriginal ownership of land and water.

Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Investigate, lodge and actively manage Aboriginal land claims and support LALCs to lodge land claims, negotiate for land/manage and activate land.	<p>782 Land Claims lodged.</p> <p>776 of Land Claims determined.</p> <p>545 of Land Claims favourably determined.</p> <p>926 of Land parcels transferred to LALCs.</p>	<p>9,275 hectares of land returned to 67 LALCs, and land negotiations returned a total compensation value of \$140 million payable to LALCs.</p>	<p>LALCS have improved access, management and ownership/control of land.</p> 
Deliver training to LALCs in land claims, land acquisition land management and land negotiations, including Native Title claims.	<p>5 LALCs participated in land claims training.</p> 	Improved decision making and skill in the lodging of land claims.	
Support LALCs in appealing land claim refusals and negotiating Aboriginal Land Agreements and Native Title claims.	<p>59 land claim refusals reviewed (cumulative).</p> <p>3 appeals lodged.</p> <p>10 successful appeals from previous lodgements.</p>	\$1.5 million secured benefit to the claimant - cash or equivalent.	<p>LALCs have increased economic independence and prosperity.</p> 
Work with relevant agencies to advocate for land and water rights and influence policy and legislation.	<p>55 advocacy actions undertaken.</p> <p>22 political engagement activities undertaken.</p>	Increased recognition of Aboriginal peoples' land and water rights by government.	<p>Policy/legislative changes supporting Aboriginal land and water rights – examples include amendments to the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983</i>, and the <i>Water Amendment (Restoring Our Rivers) Bill 2023</i> (see below for more detail).</p>

Land Rights

In the last financial year NSWALC has helped LALCs to improve the size of their land holdings, which in turn will lead to greater prosperity and improve Aboriginal peoples' ability to use, manage and control land for cultural, social and economic wellbeing.

Policy and Legislative Reform

In the last financial year NSWALC contributed to the Statutory Review of the ALRA which culminated in *the Aboriginal Land Rights Amendment Bill 2022* (Bill). The Bill passed NSW Parliament on 16 November 2022 and came into force on 25 November 2022. As part of the review, NSWALC undertook engagements with LALCs on possible reform proposals.

The Bill was the first stage of reforms outlined in the 2021 Statutory Review of the ALRA intended to improve the operation of the ALRA. NSWALC is currently working on broader reforms in accordance with the next stages outlined in the ALRA review report:

- » Stage 2 – improving options to allow Aboriginal Land Councils to utilise land holdings for social, cultural and economic purposes, subject to native title, and
- » Stage 3 – consideration and consultation on ideas for broader aspirational reforms including Aboriginal culture and heritage, strategic land use improvements, compensatory mechanisms, compliance and regulatory roles, and housing.

NSWALC also provided 20 submissions to government inquiries into land and water management. Particularly successful examples include NSWALC's submission to the Statutory Five-year Review of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the *Water Amendment (Restoring Our Rivers) Bill 2023*. Several important recommendations made by NSWALC were adopted including:

- » Acknowledgement that the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* and the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* do not align, and that government should "consider what arrangements would better support application of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme on land subject to a successful land claim under *the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983...*" The independent review also proposed six key Pillars to support a nature positive strategy for NSW, with all pillars underpinned and informed by Aboriginal culture and traditional ecological knowledge.
- » Amendments to the *Water Act 2007* to strengthen and embed reporting and accountability in relation to Indigenous matters (by both the Authority and the Secretary), including how the Plan recognises and protects the rights of Indigenous people and supports Aboriginal perspectives and involvement in the management of the Basin.
- » Amendments to ensure future reviews of the *Water Act 2007* must "also identify opportunities under this Act to promote the principles set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, being the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 September 2007."



Goal 2

Protect and Promote Our Culture and Heritage

This goal is about protecting and promoting our culture and heritage by advocating for legislative and policy reforms that recognise and respect Aboriginal culture and heritage and prevent the destruction and desecration of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and loss of Aboriginal culture.

Issues

Aboriginal people do not have adequate legal protection of their culture and heritage. They also have limited decision-making power in relation to managing their culture and heritage and there is the risk that cultural knowledge will be lost as older generations pass away.



Assumptions

That the NSW Government will implement a Culture and Heritage Bill that meets the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal peoples in NSW and provides the necessary legal protections.

That LALCs have the internal capabilities to pursue and manage their own culture and heritage initiatives.

External Factors

NSW Government and political parties support legislative and policy reform.

Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Analyse and provide advice on legislation and advocate for policy and legislative reform.	NSWALC provided advice on the NSW Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Culture is Identity) Bill 2022. 28 Advocacy actions undertaken.	Private members Bill lapsed on Prorogation (discontinuation of session of parliament) on Monday 27 February 2023. 	
Develop strategic relationships to advocate for reform.	30 professional networks/ relationships established.		
Develop and provide information on Aboriginal culture and heritage rights.	2 culture and heritage resources developed and distributed.		
Support preservation of culture and heritage	1 new protected site/ heritage listing. 81 artefacts repatriated.	Aboriginal culture and heritage is protected.	
Provide grants to LALCs for culture and heritage purposes.	NSWALC grants have supported 4 culture and heritage initiatives.	40% of LALCs who participated in the survey said NSWALC support had increased their opportunities to take part in cultural and heritage activities/initiatives.	 Aboriginal peoples & communities have strengthened connection to Culture.

Aboriginal Culture and Heritage

In the last financial year in NSW, the change in government stalled culture and heritage legislative reform. The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty has committed to consulting on new Aboriginal culture and heritage laws in 2024.

Interviews conducted revealed the importance of NSWALC's support in facilitating cultural activities within communities. This assistance allows LALCs to organise and execute various initiatives, such as NAIDOC celebrations, culture and heritage education programs, Indigenous Ranger programs, cultural tourism walks, and the exploration of traditional bush tucker sources and cooking.



Goal 3

Pursue Economic Independence and Prosperity for Our People

This goal is about pursuing economic independence and prosperity for our people. Currently Aboriginal peoples in NSW do not have access to their fair share of the economy - our aim is to restore economic independence and prosperity to Aboriginal communities to ensure their survival as a distinct and self-determining people.

Issues

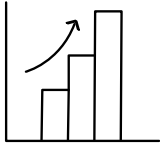

Past government policies excluded Aboriginal people from the economy. Aboriginal people were denied the right to own their own homes and businesses which would have enabled inter-generational wealth creation. Aboriginal peoples still experience high rates of disadvantage as a result of these discriminatory policies.

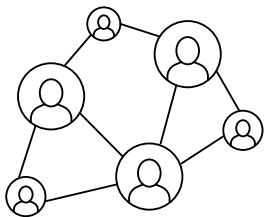
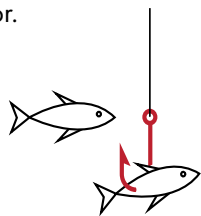
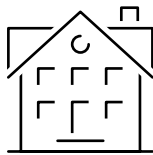
Assumptions

That NSWALC enterprises will contribute to improved economic outcomes and that LALCs have the capability, resources and opportunities to undertake economic development activities.

External Factors

The NSW Government through planning/land use and land development regimes and reforms support Aboriginal peoples' economic self-determination. The NSW Government and the Federal Government continue to support Aboriginal businesses and job seekers through their procurement and employment policies. That there is a stable economic environment conducive to economic initiatives.

Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Provide tailored business support to LALCs and Aboriginal people, including reviewing applications and project managing grants and loans.	<p>11 Applications for business development grants.</p> <p>\$410,136.18 in business grants dispersed.</p> <p>53 Aboriginal businesses provided with business support.</p> <p>11 Aboriginal businesses participating in Yarpa Grow.</p> <p>5 Yarpa Grow pop-ups held in regional areas.</p>	<p>LALCs and Aboriginal business owners have increased confidence.</p>  <p>Increase in LALCs self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Increase in the number of successful and sustainable Aboriginal businesses.</p>	
Help to identify business opportunities for LALCs.	10 LALC business opportunities identified.	Increase in the number of Aboriginal businesses.	
Provide mentoring and other support to Aboriginal people looking for a job or a better job.	50 Aboriginal Job Seekers placed in jobs.	 <p>Aboriginal people have improved access to employment opportunities.</p>	

Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Support employers/ businesses to hire Aboriginal people and partner with Aboriginal businesses.	<p>72 Indigenous Businesses showcasing at Meet the Buyer events.</p> <p>27 Buyers attending Meet the Buyer events.</p> <p>13 Indigenous Business networking events held.</p> <p>37 Procurement opportunities for Yarpa Indigenous Business Members.</p>	<p>Strategic partnerships provide economic opportunities.</p> 	
Promote and administer the NSWALC Fishing Fund.	<p>8 EOIs and applications received.</p> <p>5 successful applications.</p> <p>4 grants/loans dispersed.</p> <p>\$1.7 million dispersed for new fishing businesses.</p> <p>14 Aboriginal people employed in fishing businesses.</p>	<p>Increase in the number of Aboriginal fishing/ aquaculture businesses and Aboriginal people employed in the fishing sector.</p> 	
Provide housing assistance to Aboriginal people, including improving their housing service experience and referral pathways.	<p>114 LALCs supported in engaging with managing providers.</p> <p>Delivered \$10.5 million worth of repairs, maintenance and improvements to housing for 17 LALCs.</p> <p>444 social housing dwellings managed by Birribee.</p> <p>1017 social housing tenants in dwellings managed by Birribee.</p>	<p>Aboriginal people have greater housing independence.</p> <p>Increase in culturally appropriate housing services.</p> 	
Land development – investigate and identify a pipeline of feasible projects.	<p>9,536 potential new lots identified.</p> <p>3 DAs lodged (one approved and two pending approval).</p>	<p>Land development that meets LALCs/Aboriginal peoples' needs.</p>	



Goal 4

Support Our people and Local Aboriginal Land Councils

This goal is about supporting Aboriginal people and LALCs. Currently, Aboriginal peoples in NSW do not have all the support they need to achieve their community aspirations and improve community wellbeing and cohesion.

Issues

The rights of Aboriginal peoples in NSW have not been realised and Aboriginal people continue to experience disproportionate socio-economic outcomes in comparison to non-Indigenous people.

Assumptions


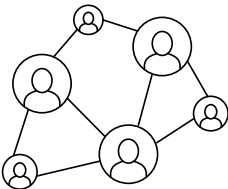

That Aboriginal people will know about the support provided by NSWALC and how to approach NSWALC for support.

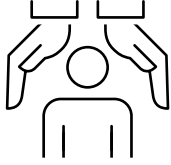
External Factors

The prevailing economic climate and the amount of funding available to disperse.

That the NSW Government continues to fund the water and sewerage program for discrete communities. That Australian governments continue to support Closing the Gap Priority Reforms, NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Organisations (**NSW CAPO**) and Socio-Economic Targets.



Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Advocate for Aboriginal peoples' rights and interests.	<p>29 Advocacy actions (Human Rights).</p> <p>15 Advocacy actions (CAPO).</p> <p>19 LALC water & sewerage matters advocated by NSWALC.</p> <p>14 LALC asbestos matters advocated by NSWALC.</p>	<p>1 policy and legislative change supporting Human Rights.</p> 	
Provide funding to support LALCs and Aboriginal people, including legal support for LALCs.	<p>2 Education scholarships.</p> <p>14 applications for the Community Fund.</p> <p>\$1.75 million in funding committed to 14 LALC community projects.</p> <p>32 Regional Grants awarded and \$168,500 in Regional Grant funding dispersed.</p> <p>\$85,000 for the NSW Rugby League Knockout Carnival and Ball and \$89,920 in Small Grant funding dispersed.</p> <p>497 Funeral Fund grants dispersed worth \$779,494.85.</p>	<p>Strengthened relationship between LALCs and NSWALC.</p> <p>Improved community facilities and community pride.</p> <p>Increase in the value of LALC land and property assets.</p> 	Increased community wellbeing and cohesion.
Support government programs for discrete communities and LALCs/Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.	<p>39 LALC water & sewerage initiatives funded and \$1.05 million in funding dispersed, including \$262,500 in funding from NSWALC.</p> <p>\$782,902 in funding for the Aboriginal Land Clean Up and Prevention Program (ALCUP).</p> <p>\$600,000 in grants dispersed for the NSWALC Cumberland Plains Grant Program.</p> <p>\$1.028 million in funding for the Aboriginal Community Connector program dispersed to LALCs and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations with 489 students referred and 333 students actively engaged in Community Connector program.</p>	<p>Strengthened relationship between NSWALC and other Aboriginal Peak Bodies and Community Controlled Organisations.</p> <p>Improved community facilities and community pride.</p> <p>Increase in the value of LALC land and property assets.</p> <p>Increased educational outcomes.</p> <p>Improvements in health and wellbeing.</p> 	

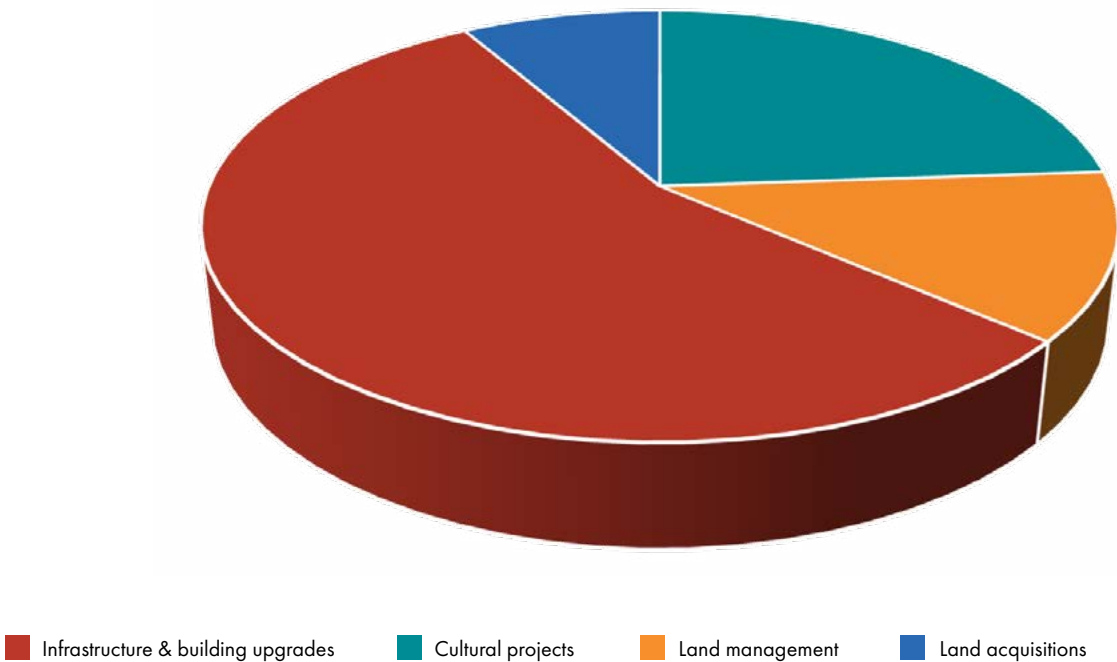
Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Engagement with human rights organisations.	<p>4 Human Rights campaigns supported.</p> <p>22 Human Rights engagement opportunities identified.</p> <p>4 Research Initiatives undertaken.</p> <p>11 professional networks and relationships established.</p>	<p>Increased awareness of NSWALC's role in promoting Aboriginal rights.</p> 	
Sharing knowledge on human rights through the development and distribution of fact sheets.	9 fact sheets developed.	Increased awareness of Aboriginal rights and Human Rights instruments.	

NSWALC Community Fund

The NSWALC Community Fund (NCF) and the Community Development Levy (CDL) that funds it were devised as a wealth redistribution mechanism to redistribute wealth from LALCs with more valuable land holdings to those with less valuable land and development opportunities.

In the last financial year, 14 applications were received and approved, with a total of over **\$1.75 million in funding committed to 14 LALC community projects.**

AMOUNT OF NSWALC COMMUNITY FUNDING BY PROJECT TYPE

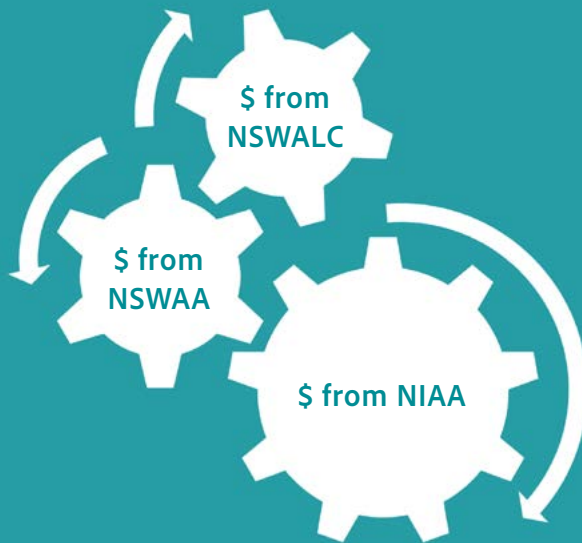


The Multiplier Effect of NSWALC Grant Funding

Case study of recipient of NSWALC Community Fund

The following case study illustrates the multiplier effects of NSWALC funding.

Nungaroo LALC received an initial NSWALC Community Fund Grant to do up their community hall, including removing asbestos. However, the initial funding was not sufficient to complete all the renovations, but the grant attracted a similar sized grant from Aboriginal Affairs NSW, which enabled the LALC to install two more toilets, increasing the number of toilets to three, and making the hall much more useable for community events. As a result of this funding the Nungaroo LALC was successful in securing a grant from the National Indigenous Affairs Agency (NIAA). Aboriginal Affairs NSW are also interested in funding cultural activities in the hall.



“...you really need to be spending the time and effort putting on stuff for community that everybody can access. This is where the NSWALC dollars have helped us. We were able to get an initial grant to do up part of the community hall. Now the community are really keen to start using the hall again. The hall was unusable until we acquired it and once we got the asbestos removed and the hall refurbished now other people want to use it...It's definitely had a positive effect across the community.”



Goal 5 Secure Our Future

This goal is about securing our future and engaging with the Aboriginal community to help them realise the importance of the work we do to ensure that a stronger Aboriginal Land Rights system is handed to the next generation.

Issues

Some Aboriginal people, particularly young Aboriginal people, are engaging with the Land Rights Network and becoming LALC members. LALCs need governance and management support.

Assumptions

That Aboriginal young people will want to become engaged with the Land Rights Network.

That Aboriginal peoples will want to actively participate in the Land Rights Network and be employees of NSWALC and LALCs.

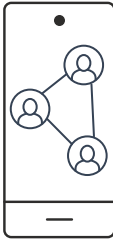
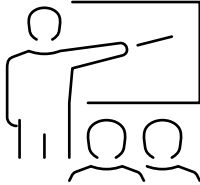
That NSWALC's engagement and promotion activities will help to attract new members to the Land Rights Network.


External Factors

Other influences on young people that will compete for their time.

LALC Board members are all volunteers and have many other competing demands on their time.

The prevailing economic climate and the impact on the Statutory Fund and the level of resources that NSWALC can provide to LALCs.

Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Outreach and social media engagement strategies.	<p>53% open rate of Council Communiques, Network Messages and Media Releases (an increase of 10% from the first quarter).</p> <p>44,113 social media followers, representing a 2% growth since the beginning of the financial year.</p> <p>2% increase in time spent on website.</p> <p>28,996 LALC members, an increase of 1,736 members.</p>	<p>Increase in the number of Aboriginal people engaging with NSWALC.</p> 	
Providing funding and training to assist with the operational cost and governance of LALCs, including supporting the performance of LALCs in meeting their regulatory obligations.	<p>\$158,243 to each funded LALC for assistance with administrative costs, totalling \$18.5 million for 117 LALCs.</p> <p>631 LALC Board members completed Mandatory Governance Training.</p> <p>34 LALC CEOs enrolled in the CEO Skillset Course.</p> <p>18 LALC CEOs who have completed CEO Skillset Course.</p> <p>12 LALCs who have enrolled and completed the Housing Management Skillset Course.</p> <p>40 LALCs who have enrolled in Capacity Development Courses LMS.</p>	<p>80% of respondents to the survey said they had increased understanding and knowledge as a result of training.</p> <p>Increased confidence.</p> <p>Increased skills.</p> <p>Increased self-management and governance of LALCs.</p> 	

Activitie/s	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Responsible stewardship of the Statutory Account.	Equity balance at the end of the financial year of \$605.6 million compared with \$598.7 million at 30 June 2022. This represents an increase of \$6.9 million in the value of the Account for the 2022–23 financial year.	Increase in Statutory Account. 	
Supporting the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and engagement with youth, including leadership, public speaking and employment opportunities for youth.	3 YAC meetings and events with youth. 2 professional development opportunities for youth. YAC members engaged attended 7 public events representing NSWALC and Regional Forums with the Land Rights Network.	Increased opportunities for young people to be engaged in the Land Rights Network. 