



On Country For Country

ABC Partnerships

ABC ON-COUNTRY IMPACT

OUR VISION

Strengthening Aboriginal Regional Communities.

OUR MISSION

To build sustainable Aboriginal Community Organisations and empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to lead their communities.

OUR VALUES

Respect

Empowerment

Sustainability

Collaboration

Integrity

Respect for Culture

We honor and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Community Empowerment

We believe in the strength and capability of our communities to lead and inspire change.

Sustainability

We are committed to building lasting and resilient organizations that support our communities for generations to come.

Collaboration

We foster partnerships and work together to achieve our common goals.

Integrity

We operate with transparency, honesty, and accountability in all our actions.

About **ABC Foundation Ltd**

The ABC Foundation Ltd (ABCFL) was established in May 2016 and operates in remote and regional areas of Australia. ABCFL is a majority Aboriginal owned member-based charitable social enterprise; a diverse Foundation with a point of difference. Our strategic focus is to achieve social and environmental benefits through progressive community partnerships that create meaningful economic benefits with our corporate and capacity partners. This ensures Aboriginal people lead the growth of a sustainable land and sea economy.

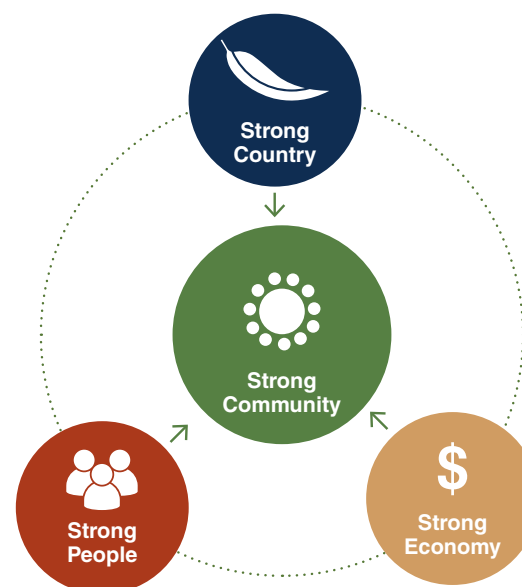
Commencing in regional Western Australia, ABCFL is now an established Foundation with the ability to operate nationally. In the beginning our primary focus was on securing operational contracts to build our own capability to provide meaningful On-Country products and services aligned with our vision and purpose. As Aboriginal environmental leaders we continue to innovate and evolve, forging ahead through proven collective partnership models.

Our business growth resulted from our strategic approach and investment in establishing a Foundation with strong corporate and organisational governance. This success has paralleled our strengthening relationships with our business and community partners and helps ABCFL and its partners to create diversified income streams with a core focus on purposeful On-Country Impact.

Since 2016, ABCFL has been strengthening Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and Indigenous Led Businesses through its revitalisation and transformational change partnership services.

Our On-Country Impact is measured by the ability of our partners to holistically reinvest back into the communities in which they operate.

Strengthening Aboriginal Regional Communities





What is an **On-Country Partner**?

Our On-Country partners are Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs), who are at different stages within their business journey. We specialise in working with ACCOs that need support in improving their financial and operational governance.

Our approach is to provide a holistic transparent service which builds local capability and reduces the reliance on external consulting services. Working with the Board and its funders we collectively manage compliance, leadership, finance and operational delivery.

As an On-Country Partner we charge a competitive fixed rate based on annual turnover with two year terms. Aimed at empowering Indigenous Led decision making to ensure the ACCOs sustainability. Once initial priorities are addressed our focus moves to working strategically together to identify new and innovative income sources to support its community into the longer term.

Supporting **Indigenous Led Businesses**

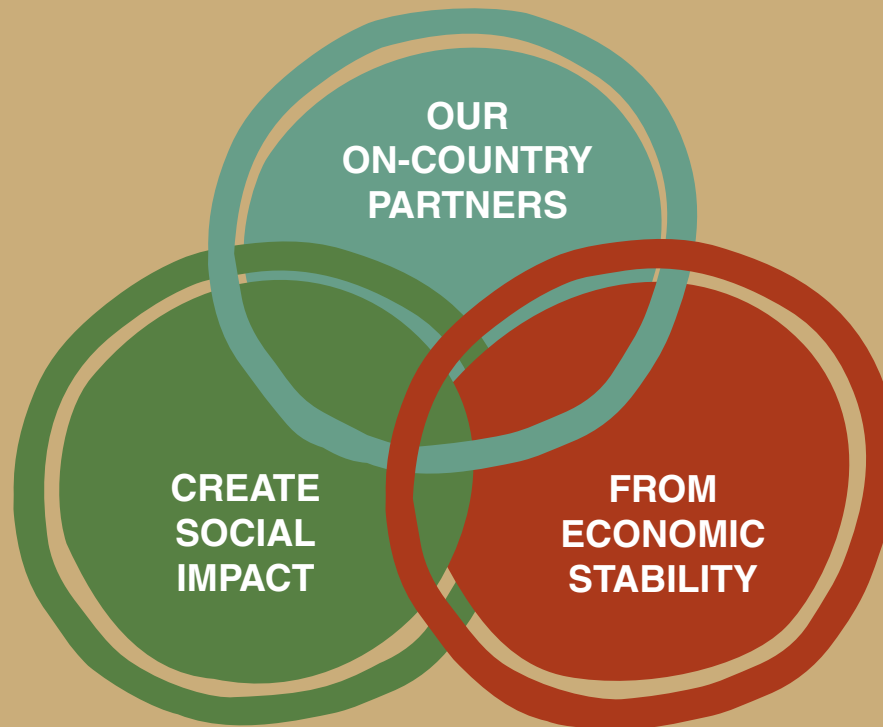
Not all Aboriginal businesses are ACCOs, we also provide support where possible to Indigenous Led Businesses, be it commercial or not for profit. Our focus however, is to work with businesses which aim to create community and/or environmental impact.

We acknowledge our success in helping us achieve our goals and objectives is based on a strong partnership framework.



ON-COUNTRY PARTNERS

We provide support services to ACCOs or Indigenous Led Businesses to build long term sustainability through empowering local decision making.



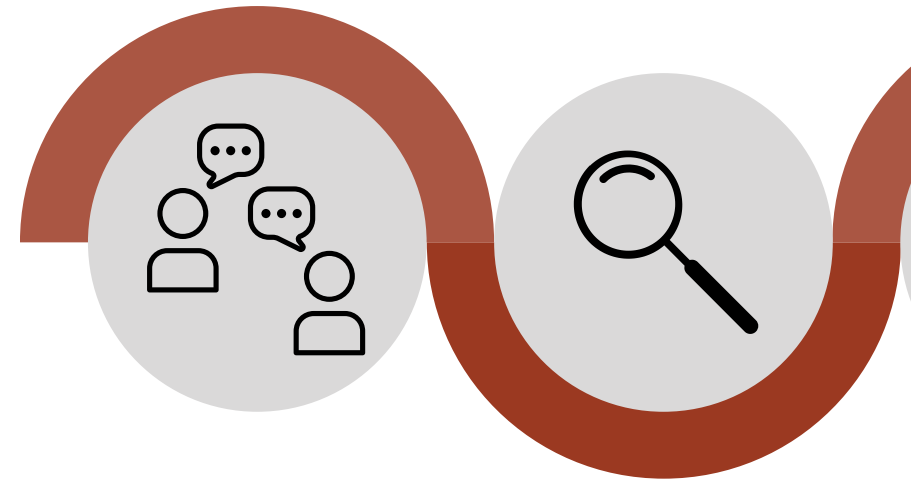
COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Building local capability while developing new and innovative income sources to allow for community led and co-designed programs and services.



Our On-Country Partners Engagement approach

STAGE ONE - REVITALISATION



STEP 1

Preparing

Initial yarning with organisation's Board, management, relevant stakeholders and inspection of business.

STEP 2

Analysis

A deep dive audit of the financial, operational, compliance and leadership to better inform the Board on current position.

STAGE TWO - TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE



STEP 3

Prioritisation

Work collaboratively with the organisation to address key priorities to ensure business continuity.

STEP 4

Strategic Review

A detailed strategic review and recommendation provided to the Board for review and partner endorsement.

STEP 5

Partnership Agreement

Put in place a bi-annual partnership agreement aimed at providing on-going support services to manage change and provide stability.

STEP 6

Ongoing Sustainability

Providing leadership support, building local capability, while sourcing new and innovative income sources for growth and sustainability.

STEP 7

Closing the Loop

As economic stability returns the Board can focus on Community Led Investment to achieve its aspirations.



Our On-Country Partners

Case studies



Yulella Aboriginal Corporation



STAGE 1

Initial Completed Stages: Organizational Strengthening and Strategic Realignment

- Partnered to deliver a Community Development Program (CDP) Ranger Project, addressing the need for additional support to enhance operations.
- Conducted a thorough analysis of significant issues, prioritizing actions to improve current operations and ensure continuity.
- Collaborated with the Board to develop a new Strategic Plan and an Organizational Management Plan.
- Established a bi-annual management agreement focusing on capability building, organizational growth, and sustainability.
- Restructured the organization to align with its strategic vision, repositioning it as an Aboriginal Community Resource Centre.
- Integrated a robust financial management system, providing localized control and transparency to the Board.

STAGE 2

Last few years: System Stabilization, Leadership Development, and Strategic Growth

- Implemented stable systems and processes, ensuring checks and balances to safeguard organizational integrity.
- Focused on capacity building within the leadership team, preparing them to lead effectively and sustain growth.
- Played a key role in mentoring and supporting the new CEO, ensuring strong and capable leadership for the future.
- Emphasized strategic development, aligning leadership goals with the organization's long-term vision.

- Working on growing fee-for-service revenue streams to reduce reliance on external funding, promoting financial independence.
- Strengthening partnerships with community stakeholders and funding bodies to enhance project delivery and impact.

Our impact

- Established stable and robust systems and processes, creating a foundation for long-term success.
- Strengthened Yulella's financial position, providing the working capital needed for strategic investments and growth.
- Successfully mentored and supported the transition to a new CEO, ensuring strong and capable leadership for the future.
- Enhanced internal management capabilities and built a foundation for sustained growth and community impact.
- Diversified revenue streams by growing fee-for-service opportunities, reducing dependency on external funding sources.
- Positioned Yulella as a key community resource, well-prepared to deliver impactful services and projects.

"It was just so stressful one time ago, till ABC came on board and after about 12 months we could relax, with this fair idea that Yulella was still going to go on and move on to better things. Empowering us to know that with a good partnership and governance with ABC that we actually can go out and deal with and work with our community"

- Philo Curley, Chairperson Yulella

Gascoyne Community Services Aboriginal Corporation



Stage 1: Establishment and Foundation

- Partnered to establish a brand new Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation, focusing on community needs and aspirations.
- Assisted with the formal registration of the organization with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC).
- Set up organizational structures across all key areas, ensuring a solid foundation for future operations.
- Provided guidance on developing governance frameworks, teaching the board about their obligations and professionalism.
- Developed and implemented operational processes and procedures to support the organization's daily activities.
- Focused on the emergence of the organization, leading efforts to launch and establish its presence within the community.
- Worked to establish a track record of project delivery to build credibility and attract further support.

Stage 2: Growth and Development

- Transitioning focus to the growth and development of the organization, identifying opportunities for capacity building and expansion.
- Actively seeking funding for projects that align with the organization's mission, enabling it to employ a full-time operations/activities coordinator.
- Continuing to provide training on good governance to ensure the board operates effectively and in the best interest of the community.

- Supporting the development of strategic plans to guide the organization's growth and secure long-term sustainability.
- Establishing strong partnerships with community stakeholders and funding bodies to enhance project delivery and impact.

Our impact

- Successfully established the organization as a fully functional and operational entity, laying the groundwork for future success.
- Developed governance structures and processes that ensure compliance and accountability.
- Built internal capacity and prepared the organization for growth through strategic planning and targeted funding efforts.
- Positioned the organization as a key player in the community, ready to deliver impactful projects and services.
- Established a foundation for ongoing development, with a focus on sustainable growth and increased community engagement.

"ABC Foundation Ltd has been instrumental in our growth at Gascoyne Community Services, providing essential support from our establishment through to our ongoing development. I'm excited about the future as we plan out our next steps to bring significant benefits to our community, and I'm grateful for their unwavering assistance and support every step of the way."

- Sahneemah Moncrieff - Chair, GCS



Stage 1: Establishing Independence and Strengthening Governance

- Partnered to assist the organization in achieving independence, laying the foundation for self-sustained operations.
- Provided comprehensive governance and Board training, ensuring Board understand their roles, responsibilities, and best practices.
- Assisted the Board in fulfilling their duties, including compliance with ORIC (Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations) regulations.
- Conducted a gap analysis of services in the area to identify unmet needs and opportunities for impactful community projects.
- Offered strategic guidance on project management, funding acquisition, and feasibility studies to support the organization's initiatives.

Stage 2: Capacity Building, Mentorship, and Community Engagement

- Developed a mentorship program aimed at nurturing up-and-coming young members, preparing the next generation of leaders.
- Established and set up a fully functional office to support the organization's operations and growth.
- Engaged in stakeholder outreach to build strong relationships and secure support from key community partners and funding bodies.
- Provided ongoing assistance in strategic planning and operational management to ensure the organization's long-term sustainability.
- Facilitated community engagement activities to ensure that the organization's initiatives are aligned with the needs and aspirations of the community it serves.

- Supported the Board and leadership team in establishing processes for continuous improvement and effective decision-making.

Our impact

- Strengthened the organization's governance structures, enabling it to operate independently and effectively.
- Empowered the Board and leadership team with the skills and knowledge needed to guide the organization's growth.
- Successfully launched a mentorship program, fostering leadership development and succession planning within the organization.
- Conducted a thorough gap analysis, enabling the organization to strategically address community needs and enhance service delivery.
- Established strong community and stakeholder relationships, positioning the organization for sustained impact and growth.
- Established hub from which organisation could service the community.

"Thank you to you mob. Without Alisson and the ABC team we wouldn't be where we are today. Your patience and support have been a big help"

Rose Stretch – Chairperson Olabud Doogethu Aboriginal Corporation

Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation



Stage 1: Strategic Planning and Program Development

- Collaborated on strategic planning to establish a ranger team, focusing on creating a solid foundation for the program's success.
- Delivered workshops to build capacity and equip the team with necessary skills and knowledge.
- Developed a comprehensive Strategic Vision for the Ranger Program and crafted a Capability Statement to articulate the team's objectives and strengths.
- Conducted feasibility studies to evaluate the viability of proposed initiatives and projects.

Stage 2: Site Assessment and Stakeholder Engagement

- Assessed Hamel Eco Park as a potential future ranger base, including conducting site visits to evaluate suitability.
- Undertook an infrastructure assessment of existing facilities at Hamel Eco Park, in preparation for submitting an expression of interest for leasing the facility.
- Conducted a stakeholder review to support the development of a business case, ensuring alignment with community and partner needs.
- Engaged with stakeholders to build relationships and secure support for the ranger program's initiatives.

Stage 3: Operational Planning and Business Development

- Focused on further developing fee-for-service business opportunities, expanding the revenue base for the ranger program.

- Engaged in detailed project planning, including the development of an activity list and the creation of a shared Smartsheet for progress project tracking.
- Confirmed monthly plans to ensure clear timelines and milestones for ongoing and future projects.

Our impact

- Laid the groundwork for a successful ranger program by providing strategic direction, planning, and capacity building.
- Positioned Hamel Eco Park as a potential ranger base, advancing plans to secure and develop the site.
- Strengthened stakeholder relationships and engaged in collaborative planning to ensure the program's sustainability and growth.
- Enhanced the team's capability to deliver on its strategic vision through structured planning and progress tracking.

"At Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation, our partnership with ABC Foundation supports the great impact we can achieve when we work together. This collaboration not only amplifies our commitment to cultural preservation and community empowerment but also showcases the strength that comes from shared values and mutual respect. Together, we are building a better future for our community, honouring our heritage, and creating opportunities for generations to come."

- Bruce Jorgensen - Chief Executive Officer GKB

Stage 1: Financial Rescue and Recovery

- Partnered to initiate a financial rescue and recovery mission, recognizing the urgent need for organizational stability.
- Rebranded the organization to align with its renewed vision and mission.
- Downsized the organization strategically to ensure a more sustainable operation.
- Implemented robust financial structures to stabilize finances and ensure long-term viability.
- Ensured organizational compliance with relevant regulations and standards to build a foundation for stability.
- Developed a risk management framework to mitigate potential financial and operational risks.

Stage 2 - Growth and Development

- Transitioned into the growth stage with a focus on setting clear strategic goals for the organization's future.
- Developed a comprehensive strategic plan to guide the organization's expansion and enhance its service offerings.
- Focused on capacity building for the team, providing training and development to equip staff for growth and leadership roles.
- Established a performance management system to monitor progress and ensure alignment with strategic objectives.
- Strengthened partnerships with community stakeholders to support the organization's expansion and increase its impact.
- Identified and pursued new revenue streams and funding opportunities to support sustainable growth.

Our impact

- Stabilized the organization's financial position, enabling it to plan and invest strategically in growth initiatives.
- Successfully rebranded and repositioned the organization, increasing its visibility and credibility within the community.
- Built a strong, capable team equipped to lead the organization through its growth phase.
- Enhanced the organization's compliance and governance structures, ensuring continued stability and resilience.
- Expanded services and partnerships, positioning the organization as a key resource within the community.

"GACS have been strongly supported as we mitigated through stage one of financial recovery, organisational stability, secure change and setting strategic goals for the organisation to continually become a key respected ACCO in the Goldfields.

With the support and guidance from the ABCF this has allowed GACS confidence and strength in our Management Team, which has reflected on our staff, areas of project delivery and team performance as we continue growth focused on strategic objectives aligning with our Mission statement.

GACS have strengthened our partnerships and community stakeholders to support our expansion with funding opportunities and sustainable growth. The ABCF have continually supported GACS with our grants and funding opportunities. " We are focused on our Growth and development utilizing strategic Plan for future sustainability."

- Jacqueline Barton - Operations Manager GACS

Investing in On-Country Partners

We Need Your Help

We want to help as many ACCOs or Indigenous Led Businesses as possible so they can continue to create social or environmental impact. So we need your financial support!

We generally find that ACCOs or Indigenous Led Businesses struggle to engage us initially due to their financial position and/or governance structures.

We seek a 10% investment into our On-Country Partners against the organisations turnover* over a two year term. This will support groups through the initial revitalisation stage. We will then work with the organisations through transformational change with no additional financial support, as these services will be paid by our partner.

For Government investment, this can be through the current funding allocation to ensure money is used to achieve the proposed outcomes.

EXAMPLE:

A one off \$100,000 investment we can revitalise \$1million of community programs and services. **1:10 cost benefit impact.**

**Each project will be assessed independently.*







To view the full strategic plan go to our website:
www.abcau.com.au

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