



## Introduction

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# A strategic approach to increasing the participation of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland's economy 2016-2022

The Queensland Government has a vision that Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples participate fully in Queensland's growing economy through skilling, training and employment, and business growth and development.

*Moving Ahead* is the new whole-of-government strategy to improve economic participation outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

*Moving Ahead* includes 27 actions to drive specific improvements in economic participation outcomes, which are aligned with the following 5 priorities:

1. Build a more skilled and diverse workforce.
2. Focus on youth, and plan for future success.
3. Build our partnership with industry.
4. Increase entrepreneurship, business growth and innovation.
5. Overcome barriers and realise opportunities to completion.

*Moving Ahead* highlights that economic participation is everyone's responsibility and focuses on forming partnerships with industry and growth sectors to drive sustainable improvements.

We look forward to working together to implement the strategy and improve economic participation outcomes for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

## About the strategy

[Jobs Now, Jobs for the Future](#) is the Queensland Government's employment plan to create jobs and reduce unemployment, and includes Working Queensland, a \$1.6 billion package to implement broader economic policies and implement specific, targeted programs. In this context, it is important to recognise that economic participation is not just about finding a job: instead it is the sum total of activities that aim to develop the skills, education and experience necessary to build a sustainable career of choice, and support independence.

Therefore, to support improvements in economic participation, we need to assist individuals to access employment, build their careers, and develop their businesses, as well as working with industry and employers to increase the demand for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees and Indigenous businesses. We also acknowledge that many activities throughout an individual's life affect their ability to participate in the

economy, including their education and experiences in accessing training and employment.

Therefore, *Moving Ahead: A strategic approach to increasing the participation of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland's economy 2016-2022* reflects an integrated, whole-of-government approach to improving economic participation outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

The 27 actions included in the *Moving Ahead* strategy, to be implemented by Queensland Government departments, are being coordinated centrally to drive targeted, sustainable change.

While these actions do not represent an exhaustive list of all Queensland Government initiatives, they represent a comprehensive program of work that focuses on achieving increased economic participation, through training or employment, and business growth and development opportunities.

*Moving Ahead* also needs to be seen in the context of other Queensland Government strategies that address disadvantage, or promote and enable inclusion such as [Advance Queensland](#), the [Queensland Women's Strategy](#), the [Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy](#), [Advancing Education - an Action Plan for Education in Queensland](#) and the 10-year Queensland Health strategy, [My Health, Queensland's Future](#), as well as developing initiatives such as the new [Housing Strategy](#) and [Youth Strategy](#).

*Moving Ahead* will enable the Queensland Government, in partnership with individuals, communities, industry and other levels of government, to deliver on the strategy's vision that "Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people participate fully in Queensland's growing economy through skills, training and employment, and business growth and development".

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### Moving Ahead strategy

The Moving Ahead strategy includes 27 actions, to be implemented by Queensland Government departments, and coordinated centrally, to drive targeted, sustainable change.



