

**Discussion  
paper  
response -  
Submission  
No 48**

## **INQUIRY INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES**

**Organisation:** Banbai Enterprise Development Aboriginal Corporation

**Date received:** 18/08/2016

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## **OUR BACKGROUND**

### **BANBAI ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT ABORIGINAL CORPORATION**

**Our vision:** is for our country to be self-sustaining for future generations where our children learn cultural values (such as bush tucker and traditional practices) and have greater economic and social opportunities. Our country is a meeting place for family and community gatherings where knowledge is shared and what we see now, generations will see in the future. Healthy country, healthy people and healthy waterways will make our country self-sustaining.

**Corporate Governance:** Banbai Enterprise Development Aboriginal Corporation (BEDAC) Board of Directors holds and protects the title of our traditional lands, the Board consists of 6 members, and two positions are held for young Banbai members.

**Aboriginal Employment:** BEDAC employs a total of 16 Aboriginal people consisting of: 1 Project Manager, 12 rangers, (i.e. consisting of 2 FTE supervising rangers, 5 FTE rangers and 5 PTE rangers) and 3 administration staff (i.e. consisting of 1 FTE admin, 1 PTE admin and 1 casual). Our program provides **crucially employment/training opportunities** for Aboriginal people of New England Northern Tablelands region.

## **CHALLENGES OUR ORGANISATION(S) HAVE FACED AND HOW YOU OVERCAME THEM**

**Our biggest challenge is:** financial and program uncertainty with regards to the federal governments Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) and Working on Country (WoC) programs (i.e. IPA and WoC contracts finish in 2018)

**Our response is to:**

- Investigate and lobby for Joint management with NSW national parks (natural/cultural planning/management/employment)
- Finalise BEDAC's business plan by September 2016 and circulate for industry review (i.e. Aboriginal small business development/employment): This includes: land and cultural heritage management services (i.e. fencing, pest animal control, biodiversity management, weed control, cultural heritage consultancy services) domestic services (i.e. catering, cleaning and maintenance services).

## **RECOMMENDATIONS WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE COME OUT OF THIS ENQUIRY**

- Joint management with NSW national parks.
- Ongoing industry mentoring support - project management/financial management/ business planning and corporate governance (we are at the centre of decision making at all times)
- Expansion/creation of industry incentive programs that allow Aboriginal people to develop sustainable economic enterprises that will drive greater employment opportunities for Aboriginal people of our region.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

Tanya Elone  
Manager  
Banbai Enterprise Development Aboriginal Corporation

