



# The South West Native Title Settlement

## Noongar Economic Participation Framework

The South West Native Title Settlement (Settlement) is a landmark native title agreement negotiated between the Noongar people and the Western Australian Government (WA Government). The Settlement commenced 25 February 2021.

The Settlement, involving six Noongar Native Title Agreement Groups, and covering 200,000 square kilometres of land, represents significant social and economic investment in the Noongar community and the shared future of Western Australia. For the latest Settlement information visit [wa.gov.au](http://wa.gov.au) (the WA Government website)

### Noongar Economic Participation Framework

The Framework is a mutual commitment from the WA Government and the Noongar people to work together on strengthening Noongar economic development and participation.

### What are the objectives of the Framework?

- Grow Noongar owned businesses and Noongar/non-Noongar joint ventures, and increase Noongar employment in Noongar businesses;
- Increase the knowledge and skills of the Noongar community in the areas of Government procurement, tendering and contracting;
- Increase Noongar participation and representation in employment and the broader economy; and
- Build on the existing strengths of the Noongar community to foster the Noongar entrepreneurial culture.

## Principles of the Framework

- Recognition that Noongar people and business are a valued part of the local and regional economy particularly in the South West;
- Channels of communication are open to ensure Noongar businesses and corporations are provided with information regarding Government contracting and tendering opportunities; and
- A demonstrated commitment to transparent, accountable and appropriate governance structures.

## How will the Framework be implemented?

A Steering Group will oversee the implementation of the Framework and its deliverables.

The Steering Group is comprised of:

- Representatives from each of the six Noongar Regional Corporations;
- A representative from the Central Services Corporation; and
- Senior executives from key WA Government departments focused on training, development and economic opportunities.

The Steering Group provides a Noongar voice direct to WA Government departments, and updates about progress will be provided to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

## Timing

The Framework was originally negotiated in 2014-15 and considerable time has since passed. The members of the Steering Group will work together to understand how current Government approaches and Noongar community aspirations can be reflected in the Framework's Implementation Plan.

The Steering Group will meet quarterly once the Noongar corporations are established later in 2022. Visit the [South West Native Title Settlement news](#) for the latest updates about the Settlement.

## Growing Noongar economic assets

The scope of the Framework complements the significant economic assets and development opportunities made through the Settlement. Noongar assets include the:

- Noongar Land Estate;
- Noongar Boodja Trust Funds;
- Capital works program (offices and cultural centre)
- Housing program; and
- Noongar Land Fund.

The Noongar people, through their Noongar Corporations, will also build capacity and employment opportunities linked directly to the Settlement. For example, the ongoing joint and co-operative management of the South West Conservation Estate presents a broad range of cultural, environmental and economic opportunities for the Noongar people, in partnership with the WA Government. Heritage and Community Development partnership arrangements are similarly expected to create a range of opportunities.

### Further information

Further information about the Settlement, including the six ILUAs made in compliance with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*, can be found on the website of the WA Government

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/south-west-native-title-settlement>