

**Indigenous Expenditure Report
Project Update December 2009**

The first comprehensive annual Indigenous Expenditure Report in Australia is being developed for release in mid-2010.

The Indigenous Expenditure Report is an initiative of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), which agreed to report transparently on expenditure on services for Indigenous Australians. It will include expenditure on both Indigenous specific services and key mainstream programs provided by the Australian, State and Territory governments.

The Indigenous Expenditure Report is being developed by a Steering Committee that includes all of the Treasuries; and the Productivity Commission as the Steering Committee's Secretariat.

In progress to date, a Stocktake Report, which is a blueprint for the Indigenous Expenditure Report, has been endorsed by COAG and is available from the Indigenous Expenditure Report website (www.pc.gov.au/ier).

The Steering Committee has consulted with Australian, state and territory government departments and other data experts on the methodology and data collection process for the Report.

The Indigenous Expenditure Report complements other reporting initiatives such as the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage Key Indicators Report (OID), which provides information about the disparities in outcomes for Indigenous Australians, and the Report on Government Services (RoGS). These reports, together with reporting on the Indigenous National Agreements and Partnerships through COAG, will help governments at all levels to better assess the effectiveness of their expenditure on Indigenous Australians.

The Steering Committee welcomes the participation of interested parties, including Indigenous people and their representatives, in the report process. Similar to the consultation process for the OID, stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the development of successive Indigenous Expenditure Reports, commencing after the release of the first Expenditure Report.

Interested parties, including Indigenous people and their representatives in particular, are invited to contact the Secretariat (gsp.ier@pc.gov.au) if they have any questions or would like to contribute views to the Indigenous Expenditure Report project.