The Country Liberals Government is committed to working with Indigenous Territorians to improve education, employment, training and business opportunities.

The draft Indigenous Economic Development (IED) Strategy 2013-2020, being launched for consultation today in Alice Springs, lays out a long term plan to strengthen the Territory’s economic base through empowering Indigenous people.

IED strategy 2013-2020 provides a simplified framework to complement existing Territory and Commonwealth Government programs while also allowing periodic opportunities for review.

The success of this new strategy will be measured using Australian Bureau of Statistics data, which will provide an independent and transparent benchmark.

Minister for Regional Development, Alison Anderson, says this new strategy will increase Indigenous participation in our economy by promoting entrepreneurship, self-reliance and resilience.

"Indigenous Territory household's weekly median income is $370 less than the wider population with Indigenous unemployment 16 per cent higher than that of non-Indigenous Territorians," Ms Anderson said.

"While the previous IED strategy tried to address these inequities, it failed to reach two of its three targets in the areas of Indigenous private employment, Indigenous public service employment and Indigenous businesses.

"The new strategy is not about welfare or handouts, this strategy is about empowering Indigenous people to take charge of their own destiny and contribute to the economy by participating in it.

"We will use the measures of household and personal weekly income and the number of Indigenous business to monitor the success of this strategy.

"The IED strategy 2013-2020 is not rigid; it will remain flexible, adaptable and innovative over the seven year period allowing for structural change to achieve the targeted outcomes."

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