



Indigenous Evaluation Committee

Meeting Communiqué for 26 September 2025

The Indigenous Evaluation Committee's third meeting of 2025 was held on Friday 26 September 2025. Mr Jason Ardler, Dr Fiona Cram, Mr Tony Kiessler, and ex-officio member Ms Eleanor Williams attended in person. Dr Simon Gordon and Ms Nattlie Smith also attended for NIAA, in person. Professor Michelle Dickson was an apology.

Key discussions

- The Committee discussed the **Independent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-Led Review of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap**, and implications for NIAA evaluation practice.
- The Committee received a briefing about the Evaluation Centre's **case study analysis of recently completed evaluations and summary IEC out-of-session feedback**. The Committee discussed the analysis and learnings including how to improve the measurement of impact of evaluation evidence on Indigenous peoples.
- The project plan for the development of a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Strategy for the **Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES)** was discussed.
- The Kimberley Aboriginal Law And Culture Centre and Australian National University **presented the Strong Culture, Strong Place, Strong Families Research and Evaluation Project Final Report**.
- The Committee reviewed the **Indigenous Advancement Strategy Evaluation Work Plan** and discussed alignment to the NIAA Corporate Plan 2025-29.
- The Committee received a briefing from the **Australian Centre for Evaluation**.
- The Committee noted updates and upcoming opportunities for input on priority areas for evaluation not discussed elsewhere in the agenda, including: Central Australia Plan; Food Security; Indigenous Rangers; Junior Rangers; Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment; Northern Territory Remote Housing; Remote Jobs and Economic Development.

Next meeting

The next Indigenous Evaluation Committee meeting is proposed to be held in early 2026.

Mr Jason Ardler

