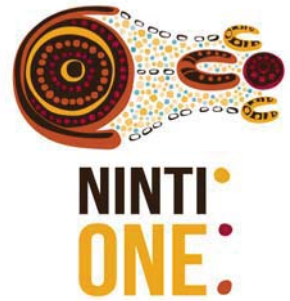


Partnering with the CRC for Remote Economic Participation



Welcome to CRC-REP. This document explains about who we are, what we do and how we operate. It describes the roles and responsibilities of partners in a CRC, and how to join.

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About CRCs

CRCs are Cooperative Research Centres, set up with Commonwealth Government support as a partnership of publicly funded researchers and end users to carry out research into an issue of national importance. The fundamental idea of a CRC is to bring together Australia's best minds, from science, industry, the community or government, to solve a problem or create opportunities and to apply the results of their research beneficially.

Typically CRCs involve private companies, government and non-government agencies. They are usually structured as a company or other enterprise with a Board representing the main partners. They have a life of 7 years, after which they can apply for renewal, if their work is considered important. There are 42 CRCs currently operating in Australia.

About CRC-REP

The Cooperative Research Centre for Remote Economic Participation (CRC-REP) is a public-good research centre that delivers solutions to economic disadvantage in remote Australia – the three-quarters of the continent which lies beyond the heavily-populated regions.

The Centre is run by the non-for-profit company Ninti One Ltd (NOL). NOL has a Board of 10 people and is the governing body for the CRC-REP. NOL has signed the Funding Agreement for the Centre with the Australian Government Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and is therefore responsible for the delivery of the Centre's outputs, outcomes and intellectual property management.

The CRC-REP began operations as an unincorporated joint venture on 1 July 2010, and is funded until 30 June 2017. CRC-REP's work is founded to a significant degree on partnerships and research outcomes from the former Desert Knowledge CRC, which concluded on 30 June 2010.

CRC-REP's aim is to generate a more vibrant Australian remote economy, with greater opportunity for remote Australians, their enterprises and communities to take part. We systemically investigate and provide practical solutions for the complex issues that hinder economic participation in Australia's remote regions.

CRC-REP contributes by studying and understanding the drivers and nature of the 'gap' between Aboriginal people in remote areas and the rest of Australia in employment, welfare and ability to participate in the wider national economy. The Centre aspires to:

- Develop new ways to build resilience and strengthen regional communities and economies across remote Australia
- Build new enterprises and strengthen existing industries that provide jobs, livelihoods and incomes in remote areas
- Improve the education and training pathways in remote areas so that people have better opportunities to participate in the range of economies that exist.

Reflecting these goals, CRC-REP has three main research programs, divided into a number of smaller themes. These are:

- **Regional Economies** – finding ways to strengthen the economy of remote regions
- **Enterprise Development** – identifying ways to build remote enterprises to provide jobs and livelihoods for people living in remote regions
- **Investing in People** – improving the education and training pathways for people living in remote regions, to equip them with the skills for livelihoods and jobs that enable them to participate in the wider economy.



Outcomes from our research are designed to transform peoples' lives by driving policy and service delivery innovation, business development and employment. Over a 15-year period CRC-REP aims to have the following impacts:

- Over 2,295 jobs for Aboriginal people
- Savings in welfare payments of \$160 million
- Greater profitability in the remote pastoral industry of \$292 million
- Improved education, health and training standards for remote residents
- Better health and wellbeing.

For more details, see our website: www.crc-rep.com.au

About our Partners

CRC-REP has more than 50 partners, in two categories: (i) Essential Participants take part in work across the organisation and contribute to planning and other core activities. These contribute both financially and in-kind to the work of the CRC. (ii) Project Participants contribute to individual research projects within the CRC.

Examples of Essential Participants are Chares Darwin University, CSIRO, the Central Land Council, Newmont Mining and the NT Government. Examples of Project Participants are Australian Council for Educational Research, Iga Warta, Kimberley Land Council, North Australia Pastoral Co., Outback Spirit and Waltja Tjuṯanguku Palyapayi. For a full list of current partners see www.crc-rep.com.au.

What CRC partners do

The partners in a CRC help to define and plan the work of the Centre. In many cases they are the ones responsible for its original conception and for designing its goals and programs. They may take



part in its governance. They contribute either financially or 'in kind' (i.e. with skills, staff time, equipment and other resources) to the research carried out in the CRC. This participation entitles them to access to the results of the CRC's work and to benefit from them. These results may be available either on a commercial-in-confidence basis or in the public domain. In either case, CRC partners benefit from early access to new knowledge and technology. Under legal agreements, they can be shareholders in specific intellectual property generated by the research.

Who can be a partner?

Any organisation with an interest in furthering our research or benefitting from its outcomes can apply to be a partner in CRC-REP. It could be a university, a large corporation, a small enterprise, a government agency, a community organisation, or a local or industry body.

The rules for adding a new Essential Participant to the CRC-REP are broad and the process onerous. In general, existing Essential Participants are only likely to entertain the approval of a new Essential Participant if they bring to the Centre significant new untied cash contributions (greater than \$100K per annum) or other strategic advantage that contributes to achieving the Centre's objectives. If you wish to join our CRC as an Essential Participant, the process is:

- We seek our Board's view.
- We give the Commonwealth 60 days notice of the intending participation of your organisation.
- We obtain approval from the other Essential Participants, the Commonwealth and our Board.
- You sign the Essential Participants Agreement and CRC-REP Trust Deed.

If you would like to join CRC-REP as either an Essential Participant or a Project Participant, to share the benefits of our research and help contribute to a more vibrant and progressive remote Australian economy, please contact Ms Jan Ferguson, Managing Director of Ninti One Ltd.

