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| <b>Project ID No.</b> | CP 366 / 4 / 1 / 1 |
| <b>GOAL</b>           | 4                  |
| <b>SUB-PROGRAM</b>    |                    |

## Effective Networking Communities of Practice

Action plans must be submitted online to [www.reframingthefuture.net](http://www.reframingthefuture.net) by COB Tuesday 20 June 2006.

Please refer to 'How to submit an action plan online' in the Reframing the Future handout or on the website.

All sections must be completed.

Please note: sections 1 – 9 of this document will be uploaded onto the Reframing the Future website. Details of participants in item 11 will be only be used in accordance with our privacy policy and will not be published on the website.

### Name of organisation funded by Reframing the Future

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|--|
| Queensland Indigenous RTO Association (QIRTOA) |
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### 1. Convenor's details

|  |                  |                    |
|--|------------------|--------------------|
| Name: Stephen Tait   |                  |                    |
| Position: CEO  |                  |                    |
| Organisation: Qld Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health Worker Education Program Aboriginal Corporation (QATSIHWEPAC) |                  |                    |
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### 2. Facilitators' details

|              |      |           |
|--------------|------|-----------|
| Name:        |      |           |
| Address:     |      |           |
| City/Suburb: |      | Postcode: |
| Ph:          | Fax: | Mobile:   |
| Email:       |      |           |

### 3. Project overview (100 words maximum)

QIRTOA, which are the small group of Indigenous RTOs in Queensland, have been coming together for quarterly roundtables. Primarily, activity has focussed on the transfer of information from DET to new RTOs. QIRTOA members deliver a wide range of scope areas, yet still share many commonalities. QIRTOA members are working more closely with each other to support each other. This has been achieved through the setting up of a website. We are now ready to move to the next stage to formalise our structure and collaborate on issues such as professional development, AQTF compliance, continuous improvement, flexible communication, learning strategies and methodologies.

### 4. Domain of knowledge

What aspects of the national training system will be addressed by your project?  
(e.g. establishing relationships with industry clients; improving workplace assessment or delivery; implementing new Training Packages)

Our current domain of knowledge broadly covers

Professional development

AQTF compliance

Continuous improvement

Flexible communication,

Learning strategies and methodologies

### 5. Facilitating your community of practice

Please describe how you propose to facilitate your group progressing through the stages of growth of a Community of Practice (see Table 4.1 in the report: *The Potential for Communities of Practice to underpin the National Training Framework*):

**Potential:** Much of this stage has already been completed through the planning at QIRTOA Roundtables. The formalisation of our activities and direction of activities needs to be determined. Currently there are 7 members but have the capacity to include more Indigenous RTOs as they gain registration. To this point we have been working closely with the Indigenous Section of the Department of Employment and Training Queensland, who have guided the group in its infancy. QIRTOA is now working towards setting its own direction. At this point we need to prioritise activities and work closely with a facilitator to the map the direction and roles.

**Coalescing:** The community will continue to have forums and will enhance communication through our web page It is anticipated that we will have an official launch to coincide

Maturing Stage: By this stage we should be in a position to reflect on the outcomes of the project and be well placed to sustain the activities of the community of practice

### 6. Structuring your community

Please describe how you propose to support the development of the three components of your community: its domain of knowledge, community and practice (see *Effectively Structuring Communities of Practice in VET*):

QIRTOA will utilise Wegner et al (2002) model to develop our methodology for forming and supporting our community of practice - the three components of a community of practice being

#### **Domain of Knowledge** (What we are going to improve)

- Delivery and assessment of training products and packages
- Compliance with changing AQTF standards
- Professional development of trainers
- Flexible communication
- Continuous improvement

#### **Community**

The community members will be drawn from the existing QIRTOA membership, but will have the flexibility to take on additional members if more Indigenous RTOs are registered. The core group will contain at least 1 representative from each RTO. Activities that will build the community include

- Secretariat support to link members. This is done on a rotational basis to ensure greater participation
- 3 facilitated forums to coincide with the priorities identified in the Domain of Knowledge
- The consolidation of the QIRTOA website on EDNA and its possible expansion
- The QIRTOA website to have an online discussion group
- Surveys and feedback provided through the QIRTOA website

**Practice**

Each member organisation will attempt implement ideas and best practice as identified through the forum sessions. The objective is to increase understanding within the domain of knowledge by focusing on areas such as:

- Strategic and business planning within each QIRTOA member ensuring continuity so that local solutions fall within national frameworks
- Resource management including the usage of the webpage so that it suits community needs
- Optimal utilisation

**7. Anticipated outcomes** (see Chapters 6-7 of *The Potential*)

Please describe the outcomes anticipated as a result of your project:

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| for participating individuals   | Colleagues being able to support each other and provide niche expertise<br>Increased network contact<br>Increased knowledge of AQTF, AQF and training system<br>Improved management and training skills |
| for participating organisations | Strengthened partnerships<br>Improvements in management, training and learning<br>A powerful lobby group that can look after the interests of private NFP Indigenous RTOs in a system dominated by te   |

**8. Evaluation**

Please provide an outline of the methods you will use to evaluate the participants' learning and your project's efficiency and effectiveness.

Each forum will conclude with evaluation forms. Similarly inter-organisational meetings evaluations will be posted on the website either as summaries of blogs of information

**9. Project timeframe**

Please list project milestones and key dates

(Please add rows as required)

| Milestone                                 | Key date       |
|---|----------------|
| Introduction to project to QIRTOA members | June 2006      |
| Forum 1                                   | July 2006      |
| Forum 2                                   | September 2006 |
| Forum 3                                   | November 2006  |
| Project feedback to QIRTOA community      | December 2006  |