CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

“Leaving No One Behind”
Australia, Indigenous Peoples and the SDGs

October 23-25 2017, Sydney


To mark the 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the Diplomacy Training Program, in partnership with National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples and the Indigenous Law Centre (UNSW) is holding a capacity building program on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is calling for applications for this new program to build capacity on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This special program to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) will build the capacity of advocates from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations to use UNDRIP as they engage with governments and the private sector in SDG planning and programming.

On the 25th of September 2015, the 193 member countries of the United Nations agreed the 2030 Agenda – Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030. Australia is committed to achieving the SDGs in Australia and globally. The SDGs commit all governments,

... to end poverty and hunger everywhere; to combat inequalities within and among countries; to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; to protect human rights and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources.

The SDGs are a new and significant opportunity to refocus on the rights of Indigenous peoples to participate in decision making and to determine the policies addressing poverty, discrimination, and inequality in Australia.

The SDGs challenge governments, development agencies, service providers, businesses, and others to change the way development is viewed and to find new ways to achieve shared goals. The commitment to ‘leave no one behind’ and ‘reach the furthest behind first’ are particularly relevant to Australian governments and Indigenous Australians.

UNDRIP emphasises the right to participate. The Uluru Statement from the Heart prioritises the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to have a voice.

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country. We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

The SDGs reaffirm that sustainable progress can only be made with participation. Together the SDG targets, UNDRIP and the Redfern Statement and Calls for Government Action emphasise the need for government and the private sector to engage with Indigenous Peoples organisations and representatives.

Australia has committed to sharing and reviewing its progress in achieving the SDGs in the UN’s High Level Political Forum in July 2018.
The Program will:

- Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of adoption of UNDRIP in 2007
- Increase awareness and understanding of the UNDRIP and SDGs and their relevance to Australia
- Build knowledge and skills to promote the application and implementation of UNDRIP, including the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent;
- Catalyze engagement and coordination to ensure that SDG planning, resourcing and monitoring prioritise the perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples;
- Contribute to inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Peoples’ rights in Australia’s reporting to the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and national SDG review processes.

Who Should Apply for the Training?

The program is targeted at individuals who are actively engaged in efforts to realise the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Priority will be given to Indigenous applicants.

Trainers

Trainers on DTP programs are experienced and highly respected local, regional and international human rights practitioners, academics, and officials who understand and support DTP’s philosophy of participatory learning. DTP’s methodology is interactive with an emphasis on group work, role plays, case studies and discussion.

Program Partners

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an independent non-governmental organisation (NGO) advancing human rights and empowering civil society in the region through quality education and training and the building of skills and capacity in NGOs. DTP was founded in 1989 by José Ramos-Horta, the 1996 Nobel Peace Laureate and President of Timor-Leste. It is affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990 DTP has provided training to over 2800 community advocates and human rights defenders across the Asia-Pacific region. www.dtp.unsw.edu.au

National Congress of Australia’s First Nations (Congress)

Congress is a national voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples with members from each State and Territory. Congress is an independent and representative body – a national voice, a leader, an advocate and a source of advice and expertise for all Australians.

Indigenous Law Centre of UNSW

Established in 1981, the ILC is the only Indigenous law research centre in Australia. The ILC contributes to the recognition, protection and development of the legal rights and freedoms of Indigenous peoples both in Australia and internationally. The Centre achieves this by conducting and disseminating innovative and high quality research on Indigenous legal issues and through community legal education on issues of particular significance.

Course Fees

DTP is an independent organisation and course fees are an important source of income. The course fee covers tuition, catering and resource materials during the training. Accommodation and travel expenses to and from the training are not included in this fee.

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Subsidies available upon request

How to Apply

Application forms can be downloaded from the DTP website or can be requested from dtp@unsw.edu.au.

The Closing Date for Applications