Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators Report

A consultation paper

2013

Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage consultation paper   June 2013

This paper

This paper has been prepared to assist individuals and organisations to participate in consultations on proposed changes to the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage (OID) report.

A separate, longer, paper describes the proposed changes in more detail. This paper is available from: http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp/indigenous/oid-review-2012.

Participants should not feel restricted to commenting on matters raised in this paper. We welcome comment on any issues that you consider relevant to the report.

Key date

We are seeking feedback on the proposed changes to the OID report by **Friday 19 July 2013**.

Responses to this paper can be made:

By email: gsp.indigenous@pc.gov.au   By fax: 03 9653 2199

By post: OID report consultations
                 Productivity Commission
                 Locked Bag 2
                 Collins Street East
                 Melbourne VIC 8003

Contacts

Administrative matters:	Catherine Andersson	Ph: 03 9653 2354
Other matters:	Lawrence McDonald	Ph: 03 9653 2178
Freecall number for regional areas:	1800 020 083	

More information

The following information can be found on the Steering Committee's website:
- the full consultant's report on the review of the OID
- previous editions of the OID report
- previous consultation reports.

Website   www.pc.gov.au/gsp/indigenous

Why are we consulting on the OID report?

The OID report, commissioned by COAG, is published by a Steering Committee made up of senior representatives from all Australian governments, with the chairman and secretariat provided by the Productivity Commission. The Steering Committee is advised by a working group made up of representatives from all Australian governments, the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Five editions of the OID report have been published (the latest in 2011). In 2012, the Steering Committee agreed to an independent review of the report. The review found that most users considered the report to be a useful compendium of information on the wellbeing of Indigenous Australians. However, areas for improvement were identified, in particular:

- a desire for more 'strengths based' reporting
- a desire for more visible Indigenous engagement
- desires for both more simple messages and greater complexity in reporting, including increased disaggregation and additional contextual material.

What are we proposing to change?

The Steering Committee is considering the following key changes:

- an increased focus on 'strengths-based' reporting and Indigenous concepts of wellbeing, through:
  - re-naming the 'governance and leadership' area in the OID framework to 'Indigenous wellbeing and culture', and grouping current 'cultural' indicators under this area
  - developing additional indicators reflecting Indigenous concepts of wellbeing
- increasing Indigenous engagement in all phases of the reporting process, including seeking the advice of relevant Indigenous expert bodies
- ensuring report commentary notes positive outcomes for the majority of Indigenous people, and the gains made over time, before discussing gaps
- reporting on sub-groups within the Indigenous population, such as alternative concepts of remoteness, 'welfare dependency' and Indigenous people who were part of the 'stolen generation' (subject to data availability)
- improving the accessibility and useability of OID report material, with a particular focus on improving the web presence of the report.

These proposals are at a preliminary stage only. Our conclusions and views may change as a result of responses we receive as part of the consultation process.
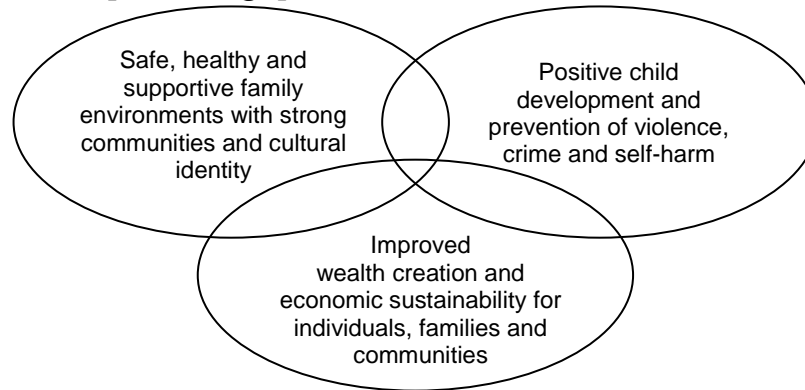
The OID report strategic framework

In making your comments, you may wish to consider the OID report's strategic framework (illustrated on the next page). The framework was developed through extensive consultation with Indigenous individuals and organisations, governments and researchers, and reflects the best available evidence about the underlying causes of disadvantage.

The framework logic is that strategic change indicators will measure outcomes in selected strategic areas for action. Over time, improvements in the strategic change indicators will lead to changes in the COAG targets and headline indicators, demonstrating progress toward the priority outcomes.

Potential OID report framework (with proposed changes)

Priority outcomes [*no change*]

Safe, healthy and supportive family environments with strong communities and cultural identity

Positive child development and prevention of violence, crime and self-harm

Improved wealth creation and economic sustainability for individuals, families and communities

COAG targets and headline indicators [*no change*]

COAG targets	*Headline indicators*
Life expectancy	Post-secondary education — participation and attainment
Young child mortality	Disability and chronic disease
Early childhood education	Household and individual income
Reading, writing and numeracy	Substantiated child abuse and neglect
Year 12 attainment	Family and community violence
Employment	Imprisonment and juvenile detention

Strategic areas for action [*changes shaded and bold italic*]

Early child development	*Education and training*	*Healthy lives*	*Economic participation*	*Home environment*	*Safe and supportive communities*	***Indigenous wellbeing and culture***
Maternal health Teenage birth rate Birth weight Early childhood hospitalisations Injury and preventable disease Basic skills for life and learning Hearing impairment	School enrolment and attendance Teacher quality Year 9 attainment Year 10 attainment Transition from school to work	Access to primary health care Potentially preventable hospitalisations Avoidable mortality Tobacco consumption and harm Obesity and nutrition Tooth decay Mental health Suicide and self-harm	Employment by full time/part time status, sector and occupation Indigenous owned or controlled land and business Home ownership Income support	Overcrowding in housing Rates of disease associated with poor environmental health Access to clean water and functional sewerage and electricity services	Alcohol consumption and harm Drug and other substance use and harm Juvenile diversions Repeat offending	Case studies in governance Governance capacity and skills Engagement with service delivery ***Indigenous cultural studies*** ***Participation in organised sport, arts or community group activities*** ***Access to traditional lands***