Incorporation of Indigenous Design

Points Available: 1

Developed in partnership with WSP

Aim

To encourage the incorporation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in the design development of the projects and visibility throughout the project's life cycle using Indigenous Design and Planning principles

Rating Tool Eligibility

**Green Star
Design & As Built**

**Green Star
Interiors**

**Green Star
Communities**

Why is this Innovation Challenge Important?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledge, Culture and Traditional Practices have shaped the Australian landscape for at least 120,000 years. The Australian landscape itself holds Traditional Knowledge and Lore that has been carried from generation to generation for many thousands of years. Partnering with local Indigenous representatives to learn about and apply Traditional Knowledge and Design Practices is critical to achieving place-specific ad cultural responses sustainable outcomes. Adhering to cultural protocols and authentically engaging with First Nations Peoples is also vital to the education of non-Indigenous peoples and their awareness and respect for Indigenous Peoples and the Country on which the building, fit out or precinct is located.

There are several key benefits and outcomes that incorporating Indigenous Knowledge and design will deliver and encourage:

- Encourages all architectural designs to be delivered in a way which promotes reconciliation within the design process;
- Gives tenants the opportunity to learn and be educated in the importance of reconciliation and cultural awareness;
- Recognises and acknowledges the history of the land, Country and its traditional custodians in which the building, fitout or precinct is located on.
- Respects and incorporates the world views that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have of the landscape and Country.

Compliance Requirements

To achieve this Innovation Challenge, project teams must demonstrate that the Australian Indigenous Design Charter guiding principles are incorporated in the design of the building, fitout or precinct including:

- How local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities have been engaged throughout the design development;
- How the project has been designed to acknowledge and recognise the Indigenous culture of the site;
- How information on the reconciliation and cultural values of the project will be made available to the public, visitors and building tenants in the operational phase of the project's life.

At a **minimum**, the following **four principles** from the *Australian Indigenous Design Charter* are to be addressed:

- **Indigenous Led:** Ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation in the creation of the design.
- **Community Specific**: Ensure respect for the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture by following community specific cultural protocols
- **Impact of Design:** Always consider the reception and implications of all designs so that they are respectful to Indigenous culture.
- **Shared Knowledge (collaboration, co-creation, procurement):** Develop and implement respectful methods for all levels of engagement and sharing of Indigenous knowledge (collaboration, co-creation, procurement).

The project team must demonstrate engagement has happened from concept design and continues through to operational handover.

Alternative Compliance Methods
A technical question may be submitted to the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) when an applicant wishes to advocate for an alternative yet equivalent method of meeting the Compliance or Documentation Requirements. Any technical questions submitted for this Innovation Challenge will be processed as free-of-charge.

Documentation Requirements

Project teams must submit the following documentation:

- Submission Template
- Evidence to support your claim

Recommended supporting evidence:

- Drawings showing any design features that have been developed using the Indigenous Design Charter principles e.g. through furniture design, building or office layout, graphic design, lighting design, architectural/ structural design, landscape design
- Meeting Minutes of engagement with local Aboriginal communities
- Statement from the project team outlining the principles and how educational resources are being made available of the design itself and the processes throughout the project life cycle
- Evidence of ongoing operational policies e.g. through educational events, building tours, artist talk, signage, online

Guidance

Australian Indigenous Design Charter (AICD)

The Australian Indigenous Design Charter is a recognized body of researchers from Indigenous Architect and Design Victoria, Design Institute of Australia and Deakin University which have developed a formal protocol on sharing Indigenous knowledge in communication design practice. There are 10 principles developed to ensure the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is developed in a respectful manner. These can be incorporated in any form of design ranging from graphics and art to buildings and infrastructure design.

For more information on the context, role and protocols of these principles, including definitions, please refer to the original AIDC charter: http://indigenousdesigncharter.com.au/australian-indigenous-design-charter/

Database for Indigenous Consultancies

Project teams wanting to engage with qualified consultants such as Stakeholder Engagement Consultants, Aboriginal Artists, Indigenous Specialists, Local Land Officers should consider. Supply Nation is a starting point for finding these professionals to provide expertise on appropriate and authentic research, analysis and design services. https://supplynation.org.au/

Local Land Councils

Local Lands Councils represent the local communities and Aboriginal landowners during consultation processes of land use proposals. There are councils in each state which are a key source of information for projects based in these areas. Links are provided below as a starting point for project teams.

State	Area	Link
ACT	Region	https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/atsia/committees/ngunnawal_issues
QLD	North and Central	https://nqlc.com.au/
	Cape York	http://www.cylc.org.au/
NSW	Region	http://alc.org.au/
	Sydney	http://metrolalc.org.au/
VIC	Region	http://www.bglc.com.au/
SA	Region	http://www.anangu.com.au/
WA	South-West	http://www.noongar.org.au/
	Goldfields	http://www.glsc.com.au/
	Kimberley	http://klc.org.au/
	Ngaanyatjarra	http://www.ngaanyatjarra.org.au/
TAS	Region	https://www.acnc.gov.au/charity/307763c5033170591a70072caee1b026
NT	Central	https://www.clc.org.au/
	North	https://www.nlc.org.au/

State	Area	Link
	Tiwi	https://www.tiwilandcouncil.com/
	Anindilyakawa	https://www.anindilyakwa.com.au/
Torres-Strait Islands	Region	http://www.tsirc.qld.gov.au/

State Government Resources

Some states have more in-depth processes of Aboriginal engagement and have guidelines on how to approach community engagement, design and planning in a respectful manner. Links are provided below as a starting point for project teams.

State	Type	Link
National	Engagement with traditional owners	https://www.austrade.gov.au/land-tenure/Engagement/engaging-with-traditional-owners
NSW	Discussion paper	https://www.governmentarchitect.nsw.gov.au/resources/ga/media/files/ga/discussion-papers/discussion-paper-designing-with-country-2020-06-02.pdf
NT	Engagement Guide	https://bushready.nt.gov.au/good-engagement
NT	Cultural Competency	https://bushready.nt.gov.au/do-i-have-the-right-skills
QLD	Consultation protocol	https://www.datsip.qld.gov.au/people-communities/protocols-consultation
QLD	Community Profile Builder	https://www.datsip.qld.gov.au/people-communities/know-your-community

University/Institutional Publications

Some states have more in-depth processes of Aboriginal engagement and have guidelines on how to approach community engagement, design and planning in a respectful manner. Links are provided below as a starting point for project teams.

Institute	Topic	Type	Link
International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE)	Exploring a Cross-Cultural Theory of Architecture	Journal Article	https://www.jstor.org
University of Queensland	The Indigenous Design Place	Research Hub	https://www.architecture.uq.edu.au/aboriginal-environments-research-centre/idp
Planning Institute of Australia	Improving Planners' Understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and Recommendations for Reforming Planning Education Curricula for PIA Accreditation	Discussion Paper	https://www.planning.org.au/documents/item/2381