Making Information Linkages and Capacity Building better

Our plans for the future

December 2018

Easy English version

How to use this document

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this document.

When you see the word 'we', it means the NDIA.

This document is written in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.

You can ask for help to read this document. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

Some words are written in **bold**. We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 25.

This Easy English document is a summary of another document.

You can find the other document on our website at **www.ndis.gov.au/communities/ilc-home/ilc-investment-strategy.html**

What's in this document?

What's this document about?

This document is about our plans for the future of Information Linkages and Capacity Building.

We usually call it ILC.

ILC is an important part of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The NDIS is designed to help people with disability:

- be more independent

- meet other people and make friends

- find work and earn money

- live an ordinary life.

We're planning to change the way we provide **grants** for **ILC projects**.

A grant is money from the government for important work that helps others.

An ILC project uses grant money from ILC to start and run the project.

This document explains:

- what ILC is and how it works

- the changes we plan to make to ILC.

What's good about ILC?

ILC gives support to all people with disability, including people who:

- take part in the NDIS

- don't take part in the NDIS.

This helps make Australia more:

- **accessible**

- **inclusive**.

If something is accessible, it means everyone can use it. This might be:

- a service

- information

- a website.

If something is inclusive, it means everyone can take part.

ILC helps build the **capacity** of people with disability.

Your capacity is:

- your ability to do something

- the skills you have

- knowing who's the right person to go to when you need something.

ILC can help you do what you need to do by yourself so you can take part in your community.

ILC helps build the capacity of communities.

ILC can help to make services meet everyone's needs and community organisations to be more inclusive.

ILC can help us make sure the NDIS will keep working well for a long time.

Why is ILC changing?

The NDIS and ILC are both new ways of doing things.

We have learned a lot about how things have been going so far with ILC projects.

The things we have learned include:

- it takes a lot of work to apply for an ILC grant

- 1 year is not enough time to really get good results from an ILC project

- we need to plan better

- good ILC projects should be able to grow

- we need good ways of working out how well ILC projects are going.

Not everything about ILC is going to change.

ILC gives extra help to some community groups. They include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

- **Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities** – communities with people:
  - from different cultures and backgrounds
  - who speak languages other than English

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Questioning and Plus (LGBTIQ+) communities

- communities in **rural and remote areas** – areas far away from big cities or towns.

What are our goals for ILC?

We are changing ILC so we can make sure you can:

- live the life you want to live

- find and use the information and supports you need

- grow your:

    o knowledge

    o skills

    o confidence

- meet other people and make friends

- find work and earn money.

We want ILC projects to be run:

- by people with disability

- for people with disability.

We want people and governments to work together so we can get the most out of ILC.

We want to clearly see what results we get from changing ILC.

What changes are we making?

The things we have learned have helped us understand what changes we need to make.

Below, we look at:

- how things were in the past

- how they should be in the future.

Past

Anyone could apply for a grant for their project.

As long as the grant followed the ILC grant guidelines.

If it didn't, they might not have received a grant.
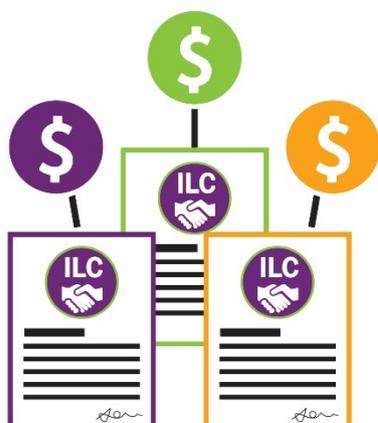
Future

We will offer different types of grants for different types of projects.

Organisations might not be able to apply for every grant.

Past

Grants only lasted 1 or 2 years.

Future

Grants will last up to 3 years.

Past

We used to give grants to lots of different ILC projects.

We have learned a lot from this.

Future

We will limit the options for ILC projects to ones that:

- work really well

- can grow.

What's new about ILC?

We have 4 new programs that we will offer:

- **Individual Capacity Building Program**

- **National Information Program**

- **Economic and Community Participation Program**

- **Mainstream Capacity Building Program**.

We explain each new program in detail on the following pages.

Individual Capacity Building Program

This program supports:

- people with disability

- families

- carers.

It helps these people grow their:

- knowledge

- skills

- confidence.

They will be able to:

- set goals

- reach their goals.

It also helps these people find and use:

- peer support – support from other people who are like you

- mentoring – someone guides you, so you can do well

- skill building – you learn how to do things and can do them on your own.

National Information Program

This program supports:

- people with disability

- families

- carers.

It makes sure these people can get information that links them to supports and services in their community.

It makes sure the information is:

- up to date

- right for the people who need it.
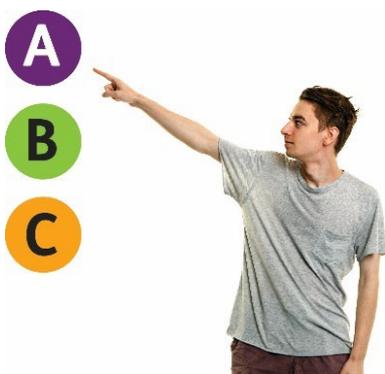
This program will help these people find out more so they can make better:

- choices

- decisions.

Economic and Community Participation Program

This program connects people with disability to:

- activities they can do

- jobs and work

- supports in their community.

This program supports communities and employers to:

- be more inclusive

- listen to what people really need.

Mainstream Capacity Building Program

Mainstream services are services in the community for everyone to use, such as:

- schools

- hospitals

- transport.

This program supports mainstream services to be:

- accessible

- inclusive.

It helps mainstream services build skills and knowledge so they can meet the needs of people with disability.

When will ILC change?

The 4 new programs will start running from July 2019.

There are 3 important things we need to do before we can start running the new programs.

1. Run 2 early grant rounds to get things started.

One of these rounds started in November 2018.

Another one will start early in 2019.

2. Keep some ILC funded programs going while things are changing.

Lots of people with disability already take part in ILC projects.

$$$ These projects might need more money when ILC changes.

We have put aside money to help some projects keep going until the changes are in place.

3. Start things in stages.

March 2019 Grants will start to become available in March 2019.

How can you get more information?

We will share more information about the new programs in 2019.

We will also hold information sessions.

To get more information about our new plans, you can:

- visit the NDIS website

  www.ndis.gov.au/communities/ilc-home.html
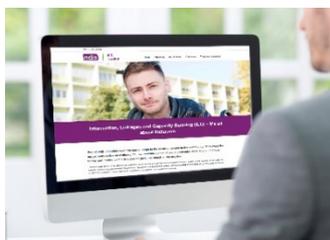
- use the ILC Toolkit

  www.ilctoolkit.ndis.gov.au/

- sign up to get ILC updates

  www.ndis.gov.au/communities/ilc-home.html

- call us

  1800 800 110.

Word list

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- information

- a website.

Capacity

Your capacity is:

- your ability to do something

- the skills you have

- knowing who's the right person to go to when you need something.

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities

Communities with people:

- from different cultures and backgrounds

- who speak languages other than English.

ILC project

An ILC project uses grant money from ILC to start and run the project.

Grant

Money from the government for important work that helps others.

Inclusive

If something is inclusive, it means everyone can take part.

Mainstream services

Services in the community for everyone to use, such as:

- schools

- hospitals

- transport.

Rural and remote areas

Areas far away from big cities or towns.

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