

# Supporting Social Enterprises Project (SSEP)

Social Ventures Australia (SVA) has pioneered work to support the development of social enterprises in Australia. With an increasing focus on social enterprise from government, philanthropists, the commercial sector and the non-profit sector, SVA has targeted the development of social enterprises that support employment for people who have been excluded from the labour market. This has included people with

a disability, those experiencing mental illness, Indigenous Australians, ex-offenders, homeless people, refugees or migrants. These social enterprises create real work for real pay either as a transition to the open labour market or as a supported employment option for those people who need a supportive working environment.

Through the Supporting Social Enterprises Project (SSEP), funded by the Australian Government, SVA has successfully

supported 11 social enterprises in Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan and Western Sydney.

Since December 2009, SSEP has provided \$3.09 million (\$1.62 million from DEEWR and \$1.47 million from SVA leveraged funds) in funding to SVA supported social enterprises, creating a total of 173 jobs.

The Supporting Social Enterprises Project (SSEP), came to an end on 30 June 2011.

## QLD based social enterprises who received funding through SSEP

### **Australian Indigenous Youth Academy (AIYA) \* †**

Australian Indigenous Youth Academy (AIYA) is an Indigenous social enterprise operating in Queensland, committed to closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians through providing holistic, school-based traineeships and fee-for-service programs and employment outcomes for Indigenous versus non-Indigenous Australians.

Brisbane, Queensland  
[www.aiya.com.au](http://www.aiya.com.au)

### **Espresso Train Café and Catering \* ∞**

Espresso Train Café, located next to Nundah Train Station, provides beautiful food through the café and catering services. Espresso Train is a part of the Nundah Community Enterprises Co-operative (NCEC).

The NCEC provides meaningful employment for those who have been excluded from the labour market because of intellectual disability, learning difficulties or mental illness. NCEC offers on-the-job support to staff, providing them with additional income, a valued role in society and important social connection to the community.

Brisbane, Queensland  
[www.espressotrainscatering.com.au](http://www.espressotrainscatering.com.au)

### **Food Connect Brisbane †**

Food Connect Brisbane (FCB) distributes fresh produce that is locally and ethically grown, direct to households in South East Queensland. This provides a fair price to farmers, making locally grown fresh food and vegetables readily available and affordable to households, and provides a supportive and fair work environment for people from all walks of life. FCB employs people who experience barriers to employment, those who are long-term unemployed and young people disengaged from school.

Brisbane, Queensland  
[www.foodconnect.com.au](http://www.foodconnect.com.au)

### **Ipswich Healthy Hampers Co-operative ∞**

Ipswich Healthy Hampers Co-operative (IHHC) is an innovative social enterprise that provides access to low cost food for families that are experiencing financial hardship, as well as employment opportunities for people excluded from the labour market. IHHC sources food through a mixture of donations and bulk purchases and then on-sells to members of the co-op at a fraction of their retail cost.

Ipswich, Queensland  
[www.tivolimc.com.au](http://www.tivolimc.com.au)

### **Livingin Constructions and Livingin Landscapes \* ∞**

Livingin Constructions and Livingin Landscapes are social enterprises established by Kyabra Community Association. They design and construct buildings and landscapes that meet the requirements of families with complex needs. Livingin Constructions and Livingin Landscapes also provide supportive employment for disadvantaged job seekers by employing them to work alongside trained staff and contractors.

Brisbane, Queensland  
[www.livinginconstructions.com.au](http://www.livinginconstructions.com.au)  
[www.livinginlandscapes.com.au](http://www.livinginlandscapes.com.au)

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### **Mu'ooz Eritrean Restaurant and Catering \***

Mu'ooz Eritrean Restaurant and Catering Service provides a unique cultural dining experience in the heart of Moorooka Brisbane. Mu'ooz employs refugee women from Africa, either as a long-term option or as a springboard to other employment. Many of these women are struggling to settle into life in Australia with limited English language skills and no formal qualifications, documentation or work history.

Brisbane, Queensland  
[www.muooz.com.au](http://www.muooz.com.au)

### **SEED Parks and Property Maintenance (SEEDPPM) \* ∞**

Sandgate Enterprise for Economic Development Parks and Property Maintenance (SEEDPPM) offers a wide range of quality property maintenance and commercial cleaning services at reasonable rates. SEED is a Queensland based social enterprise that employs people in the local community who have been excluded from the labour market due to mental illness, disability, addiction or their status as refugees.

Brisbane, Queensland  
[www.seedppm.com](http://www.seedppm.com)

## NSW based social enterprises who received funding through SSEP

### **CareerTrackers**

CareerTrackers creates private sector internships for talented Indigenous Australian university students, giving them the opportunity to become the business leaders of tomorrow. The internship program was developed in response to the critical need to develop and promote diversity throughout corporate Australia, specifically with respect to Indigenous Australians.

Sydney/Melbourne/Canberra  
[www.careertrackers.org.au](http://www.careertrackers.org.au)

### **Fair Business**

Fair Business provides jobs with real pay for the long-term unemployed or those experiencing significant barriers to employment. Fair Business buys and grows existing businesses, recruiting long-term unemployed and ensuring they receive wraparound support to help them successfully rejoin the workforce. Fair Business ensures their work environments are integrated and supportive.

Sydney, NSW  
[www.fairbusiness.org.au](http://www.fairbusiness.org.au)

### **Food Connect Sydney**

Food Connect Sydney (FCS), based on the successful business model of Food Connect Brisbane, is an innovative solution that provides consumers across Sydney with ethically grown fresh produce direct from local farmers and producers. The model ensures that farmers receive fair prices for their produce, that distribution systems are used that reduce carbon emissions associated with transporting food over long distances, and that people experiencing significant barriers to employment are employed.

Arndell Park, NSW  
[www.sydney.foodconnect.com.au](http://www.sydney.foodconnect.com.au)

### **Information and Cultural Exchange (ICE)**

Information and Cultural Exchange (ICE) provides digital media and arts programs that engage, support and enrich the diverse communities and artists across Greater Western Sydney. These programs engage thousands of individuals each year and are focused on allowing refugees, migrants, and young artists within the community to express themselves, create and collaborate, leading to new skills development and job creation.

Parramatta, NSW  
[www.ice.org.au](http://www.ice.org.au)

\* Social enterprises that also received funding from Queensland Inclusive Social Enterprises Project (QISEP) funded by the Queensland Government.

† Social enterprises that also received funding from YEP.

∞ Social enterprises that also received funding from DEEDI.

