INDIGI LAB

ABOUT INDIGI LAB

INDIGI LAB is about innovating and creating out of necessity.

INDIGI LABs goal is to create a future where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are leading in science, technology and digital innovation. They do this by providing education, training, and opportunities for Indigenous communities in science, technology and innovation space that draws on over 80,000 years of Indigenous science and innovation.

INDIGI LAB have worked on a range of educational and employment programs that support a more inclusive STEM sectors; and manage the STREAMS network which bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous scientist, environmentalist and policy makers to develop thought leadership sustainable sciences.

Our clients include; CSIRO, The Office of Environment and Heritage, The Australia High Commission, The Australian Maritime Museum, Maoriland Film Festival, ACARA, NSW Education and Engineers Without Boarders.

THE ISSUE

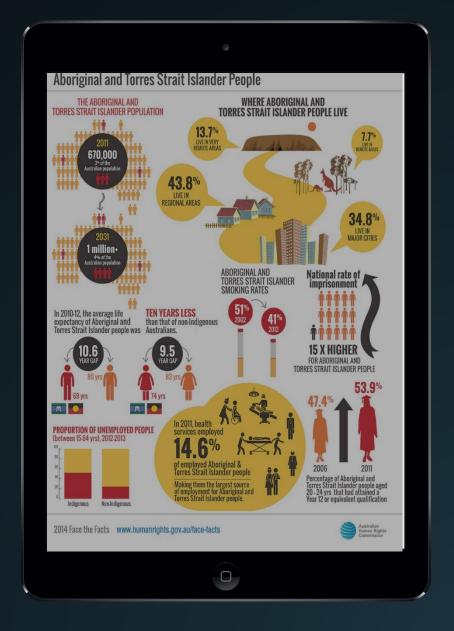Australia is home to some of the oldest languages in the world and we are at risk of losing them all if we don't act fast.

As many as half of the world's 7,000 languages are expected to be extinct by the end of this century; it is estimated that one language dies out every 14 days.

According to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIASTSIS), there are more than 250 cultural groups which make up Indigenous Australia, yet only 120 languages are still used. About 100 have been identified as endangered.
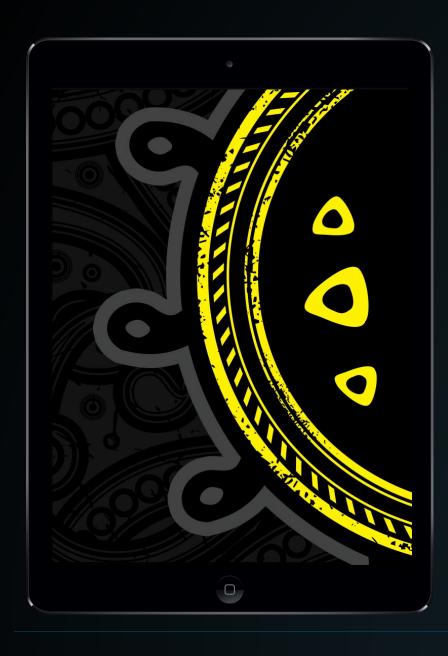
THE SOLUTION

Youth are a vital part to the continuation Indigenous language, so we need to involve youth in projects that aim to empower them to become culture leaders and language speakers.

INDIGI LAB in partnership with UNESCO will host a 2-day hackathon targeting Indigenous youth aged 8-18.

Youth compete to develop new app-based technology that aims to revitalise and retain Indigenous languages. INDIGI HACK will be held at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence in Sydney August 8-9, 2019. The winner hacker will go into an incubator to further develop and refine the product.

OUTCOMES

- Advancement of First Nations led businesses and social ventures.
- Mobilisation of individuals, organisations and communities to combat First Nations disadvantage and in accordance to contemporary practice.
- Increased agency and autonomy for First Nations communities who favour self-determination over external intervention

OUTPUTS

- Incubation and implementation of the most promising prototypes.
- Delivery of a formal report that elaborates on key issues explored during INDIGI HACK.
- Creation of a global hub to mobilise and connect First Nations entrepreneurs virtually.
- This project will increase the entrepreneurial capacity of First Nations Australian youth and connect the community to key actors in the national innovation and technology sector.
- It is this pipeline of opportunity that will enable First Nations youth to rapidly extricate themselves and their families from economic disadvantage

THE PROCESS

INDIGI HACK is intense offline process that tasks diverse teams of specialists to "hack" a challenge and develop prototype solutions in a competitive race against the clock. A hackathon is centered on the notion of end-user empathy and can help deliver immediate and implementable solutions.

INDIGI HACK will run across two days and in three unique stages where the practice of design thinking is used to generate new products through a process which translates understanding and ideas into tangible outcomes.

DAY 1

MEET THE INDUSTRY AND MENTORS

In the initial phase, participants are introduced to knowledge experts and community experts who provide the pool for developing understanding. They are in essence the 'market sample'.
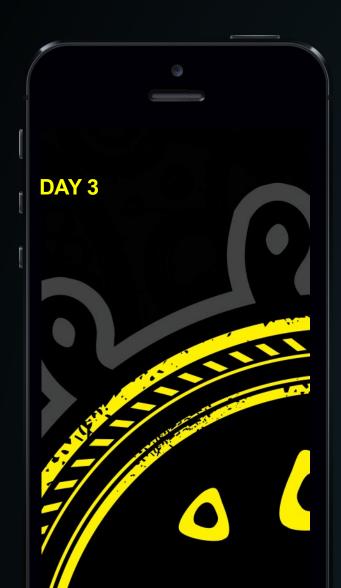
This phase is designed as an interactive and dynamic session where participants define the problem and refine concepts through an iterative process.

DAY 2

TEST THE PRODUCT

In the second phase, teams test, iterate, and refine prototype solutions as minimally viable products.

Mentors will work with the hackers to ensure products are ready for the test stage and ensure they have an MVP.

DAY 3

PRESENT AND PITCH

On the final day, each of the teams pitches their prototypes to an audience of key stakeholders and to an online voting community with the hopes of attracting the most support in the form of votes. The winning team will collect the seed capital necessary to realise their product to functional capacity. This citizen-centric process ensures the winning idea is responsive to community interests and priorities.

1ST PRIZE

The first place winner will receive a $5,000 prize.

2ND PRIZE

The second place winner will receive a $3,000 prize

3RD PRIZE

The third place winner will receive a $1,000 prize.

INDIGI HACK GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The role of the Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC)

The Indigenous Advisory Committee is guided by The United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the United Nations Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Indigenous Advisory Committee is made up of eight members will meet two times a year. The committee responsibilities include;

- Design annual themes concepts that align with UNDRIP and the SDGs.
- Advising on matters indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property.
- Advise and review of INDIGI HACK finances.
- Assist with the development of an annual event report.

The role of the Executive Management Team

The Executive Management team is made up of four members; INDIGI LAB CEO, IAC Member, Event Manager and Financial Manager. The management team responsibilities include;

- Planning, evaluating and reporting.
- Management of the finances.
- Operational management of INDIGI HACK.
- Coordinate the IAC meeting and report to the IAC.

2019 MAR

FORMAT DEVELOPMENT
Finalise INDIGI HACK concept, themes, tools and systems and develop formal Hackathon toolkit.

2019 ARP

TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE
Facilitators trained in the principles of design thinking, rapid prototyping and human centered design.

START

20 MAY

TALENT POOL
Human resource requirements including participants; mentors; facilitators; judges and incubators are lined up. Promotion of INDIGI HACK begins.

Project Timeline

2019 AUG

INDIGI HACK EVENT
INDIGI HACK Australia realised.

2019 SEP

EVALUATION AND REFINEMENT
Program evaluation to inform continuous improvement of the process, guidelines and principles.

2019 OCT

PROGRESS REPORT
Launch of major progress report to support Australian organisations in the delivery of Indigenous-led ventures.

2019 DEC

PROTOTYPE INCUBATION
Incubation and Implementation of winning product, service or campaign.

2020 JAN

INDIGI HACK 2020 LAUNCH

Project Timeline