



Australian Best Practice in Grants Management

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Introduction Challenges and Opportunities

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Make a Difference:

Australian Giving Centre

Community & Business Partnerships

Boards, Committees & Governance

Join in - Join Up Centre

Find & Manage Money:

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Build Capacity:

Management & Training Centre

Leadership Centre

Communities in Control

Advocacy Centre

Marketing, Media & Post Centre

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Community Marketplace

Insurance & Risk Management

Tech Community



Building on past practice in grants management

- Are we getting any better?
- 35 years of grants management in Australia.
- Opportunity exists to use best practice, what works, but the **risk is that we will not necessarily practise best.**
- Grants management framework further developed as a result of input from the conference last year identifies 20 dimensions that guide best practice in grants program design.
- As an organisation committed to best practice and sharing lessons learnt Our Community has used this framework to develop its Integrated Grants Management Services.

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The challenge today.....

- Government grant management is a community, administrative and political process.
- Government grant makers – be they local, state or Australian, want high profile projects that are: **value for money; high quality; on time; on budget; and with minimal risk.**
- Our challenge as grants managers is to construct programs and processes that deliver on all of these criteria including the last.
- The challenge is to use the best of the wisdom that we collectively have accumulated over 35 years.

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The opportunity today....

- This conference is **about sharing, about listening to the lessons learnt.**
- The opportunity today is that individual and organisations will: share what works; and **contribute** to what works to address the challenge to build and implement a grants management system that delivers for government, the organisations and above all the local communities.
- The 'experts' in this conference will be those of us that can add to the knowledge base a gem of experience; or ask the question that enables the gem to emerge.

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The opportunity tomorrow....

- To take the lessons and build or access the best grants management system.
- For our future work we will be able to take forward knowledge on how to:
 - make choices in program targeting;
 - do high quality but fair assessment;
 - manage risk through compliance checks;
 - create a bigger public profile for our programs;
 - turn IT into your best friend;
 - plan for program downsizing; and
 - manage issues by not creating them.

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