

Developing Corporate, Financial And Business Strengths

- **How do we build economies in local communities?
Infrastructure/ civil works projects are necessary. Funding should be aimed at promoting business opportunities.**
- **The management of stores in one community was used as a case study. After years of financial mismanagement a new direction of community participation in the store was undertaken. Priorities were given to better nutrition, better corporate structures, financial literacy and better financial reporting. Woolworths offered support in managing the store. A local person was trained in store management. The store now virtually runs under its own management with periodic oversight by Woolworths**
- **The introduction of new systems at ALPA was also discussed whereby community committees were formed to allow participation in issues regarding the store**
- **The importance of building an entrepreneurial spirit amongst indigenous people was emphasised.
Sustainability is an issue that needs to be urgently addressed.**
- **There needs to be some regional structure that can provide the higher level training (e.g. food preparation). There needs to access to expertise.**
- **The important thing is that it needs to be demand driven.
The community needs to seek the development of knowledge.**

- **Economies of scale also need to be considered, e.g. 3 stores coordinating orders to save on delivery costs**
- **We don't need bureaucratic structures that promote self-serving interests**
- **The need for structured business planning was stressed**
- **IHANT offers opportunity for jobs. So does civil works projects. Priority should be given to developing Indigenous jobs, rather than wasting on management salaries**
- **Start with a good idea. Support the person with that idea.**

In summary

- **Demand driven training needs to be responded to. It needs to be localised, well-planned and followed-up**
- **Financial literacy needs priority, and then providing timely and accurate information**
- **Training - what type is best? Accredited and non-accredited needs to be considered in each particular context**
- **Support at ground level (mentoring) is also important**
- **Defining the purpose of the training is important and this has a relationship with planning**
- **A register of disqualified persons will come into effect under Incorporated Associations Act.**
- **Proper remuneration needs to be paid to persons who participate in management process, e.g attendance at meetings**