**Australian Institute of Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Studies**
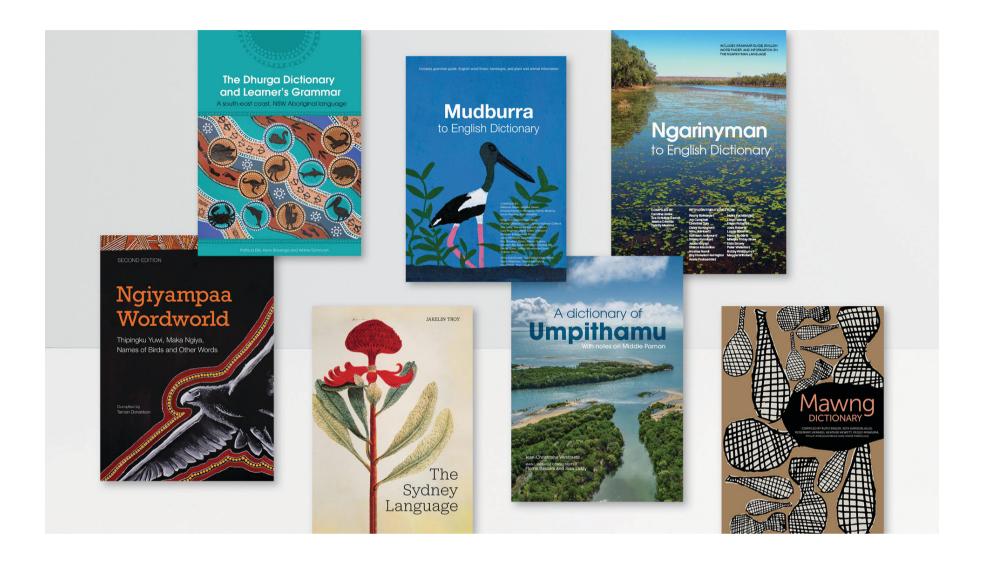51 Lawson Crescent, Acton ACT 2601
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Expression of Interest – AIATSIS Dictionaries Program

The advancement of languages is critical to strengthening the cultures, identities, and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Dictionaries are an important resource in language strengthening, both in schools and communities. They are also a way to share knowledge about languages with non-Indigenous Australians.

There are many cases where a good dictionary database has been created for a language, perhaps over decades of work, but a lack of funding has prevented publication from taking place. In other cases, publication has taken place, but in low-quality physical formats which have now deteriorated, leaving the community without a dictionary.

Via the AIATSIS Dictionaries Program, AIATSIS supports the publication of Indigenous language dictionaries.

Dictionary projects must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding:

- The dictionary must be supported by relevant Indigenous language communities.
- Community members must be meaningfully engaged in its development.
- The dictionary is rated highly by the Dictionary Assessors in terms of:
    - Significance (e.g., importance to the community)
    - Quality (e.g., richness of entries, number of entries, ease of use, reader guidance such as maps, grammatical information, etc.)

If you are developing a dictionary that meets the above criteria, you are invited to apply for funding by completing the form below. Applications are open at any time. Proposals will be assessed by members of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Centre for Australian Languages (ACAL), and at least two members of our Languages Advisory Committee, which is made up of Indigenous and non-Indigenous experts in community language work and lexicography.

The AIATSIS Dictionaries Program receives financial support from the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

Please note that AIATSIS is **not** seeking copyright. Any material submitted to us will **not** be used outside of the assessment process.

The AIATSIS Dictionaries team can support you to complete this form. Please contact us via dictionaries@aiatsis.gov.au if you require any assistance.

The Proposed Dictionary

1. Language name:

[ ]

2. Please Provide a brief description of the Language

Please include information such as the location of the language group, current language use (the approximate number of speakers / rememberers / learners etc.), and any other information you wish to share about the people belonging to this language group.

[ ]

3. Working title of dictionary:

[ ]

4. Project contact-

Please provide contact details for your project representative. This is the contact who will represent your project, liaise with us, and pass on information to the other authors and contributors.

a. Name:

[ ]

b. Organisation name:

If applicable

[ ]

c. Email:

[ ]

d. Phone:

[ ]

e. Postal address:

[ ]

5. Authors / editor / compiler(s)-

a. Author / editor / compiler

i. Name:

[ ]

ii. Is this person part of the relevant Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community?

[ ]

iii. Background details relevant to this project:

Please provide a paragraph about the authors' relevant background, experience, and credentials. Please limit to 100 words.

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b. **Author / editor / compiler**

    i. **Name:**

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    ii. **Is this person part of the relevant Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community?**

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    iii. **Background details relevant to this project:**

Please provide a paragraph about the authors' relevant background, experience, and credentials. Please limit to 100 words.

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c. **Author / editor / compiler**

    i. **Name:**

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    ii. **Is this person part of the relevant Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community?**

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    iii. **Background details relevant to this project:**

Please provide a paragraph about the authors' relevant background, experience, and credentials. Please limit to 100 words.

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d. **If you have additional authors / editors / compilers, please attach their details on an additional document.**

6. **Community Support-**

a. **Please provide evidence of community support in the form of at least one (1+) signed letter of support.**

If there is more than one relevant community, please include a letter of support for each.

b. **Please describe your engagement with the relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and how they have been meaningfully involved in and supported the project.**

c. **Are there any community sensitivities around the publication of this dictionary?**

7. **Why are you looking to publish this dictionary?**

Please provide a summary of the need for this dictionary and any other relevant information that will help us make our decision. You may wish to outline how your work is different to other resources in the language. For example, it may be the first dictionary of the language, or it could be a substantially expanded version of a previously published dictionary. Please limit to 350 words.

8. **What previous works have been published for this language?**

For example, what previous dictionaries, wordlists, and other significant works have been published for this language?

9. **Target Audience:**

Who is the main audience? For example, the audience might be community members, language learners, students, researchers, libraries, organisations, and/or the public.

10. **Is the target audience restricted?**

For example, will the dictionary only be available to certain people? If so, please explain who and why.

Contents

1. Estimated number of entries (headwords):

Please respond in numerals only.

[ ]

2. Outline the contents of your dictionary:

Please attach a one-to-two-page outline of the contents. For example, the front matter could contain an introduction, notes on the spelling system and pronunciation, a sketch grammar, abbreviations, and/or guidance on how to use the dictionary. The back matter could include an English to language finder list, a topical wordlist, and/or further information. Please outline all the contents and provide an estimate of the number of pages for each section.

Files must be less than 8MB and allowed file types are txt, pdf, doc, docx & rtf.

3. Sample of body matter entries:

Please attach a one-to-two-page sample that presents several entries that display the typical entry structure, which could include information such as the part of speech, example sentences, translations, etc.

Files must be less than 8MB and allowed file types are txt, pdf, doc, docx & rtf.

4. If you have a lexical database, what software was used to create it?

E.g. FLEx, Toolbox, Shoebox, etc.

[ ]

a. Please attach a copy of your lexical database, if available.

Uploading your database is not required but is strongly preferred. Please upload as a plain text file if possible. You can upload multiple files by creating a ZIP archive and uploading that as a single file.

Files must be less than 20MB and allowed file types are txt, rtf, xml, xls, xlsx, csv & zip.

b. Please provide an estimate of the number and type of illustrations (or any other feature) to be included.

If applicable – Illustration types include maps, line drawings, colour photographs, and black and white photographs.

[ ]

Production Information

1. Current state of project

In 100 words max, please give us an overall idea of how complete your dictionary project is.

2. What tasks are remaining to be completed in the pre-publication stage?

For example, you may need to edit the front matter, finalise definitions, check entries, and/or develop line drawings.

3. Estimated dictionary completion date

When do you expect to have the dictionary ready to be sent to the publisher? Do not include time for the publication process.

4. How many total copies do you wish to be printed?

The initial print run must be at least 500 dictionaries.

5. How many of these copies are to be provided to the community free of charge?

6. Has the project been supported by another grant?

If so, please provide details on where the previous grants were from, and what they provided funds to support.

7. Are you able to offer any other funds toward the publishing cost?

8. Estimated funding amount needed:

In estimating the amount you require, please first seek a quote from the Publisher of your choice.

Publishing - Please attach quote from publisher**:**

Other (ensure that you consider costs for things such as final community consultation costs, artwork costs, a Launch event, etc., if relevant)**:**

Total Amount Needed:

AIATSIS can support you to obtain a quote from our publishing arm (Aboriginal Studies Press).
Please contact dictionaries@aiatsis.gov.au for assistance.