

# **2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework for the national vocational education and training system**

**2005 Framework Business Plan**

The 2005 Framework Business Plan can be viewed and downloaded at  
<http://flexiblelearning.net.au/aboutus/keydocuments.htm>

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First published

ISBN: 1 920906 70 3

*Part of the Australian Flexible Learning Framework*

*Managed by the Flexible Learning Advisory Group on behalf of the Australian Government, all States and Territories in conjunction with ANTA*



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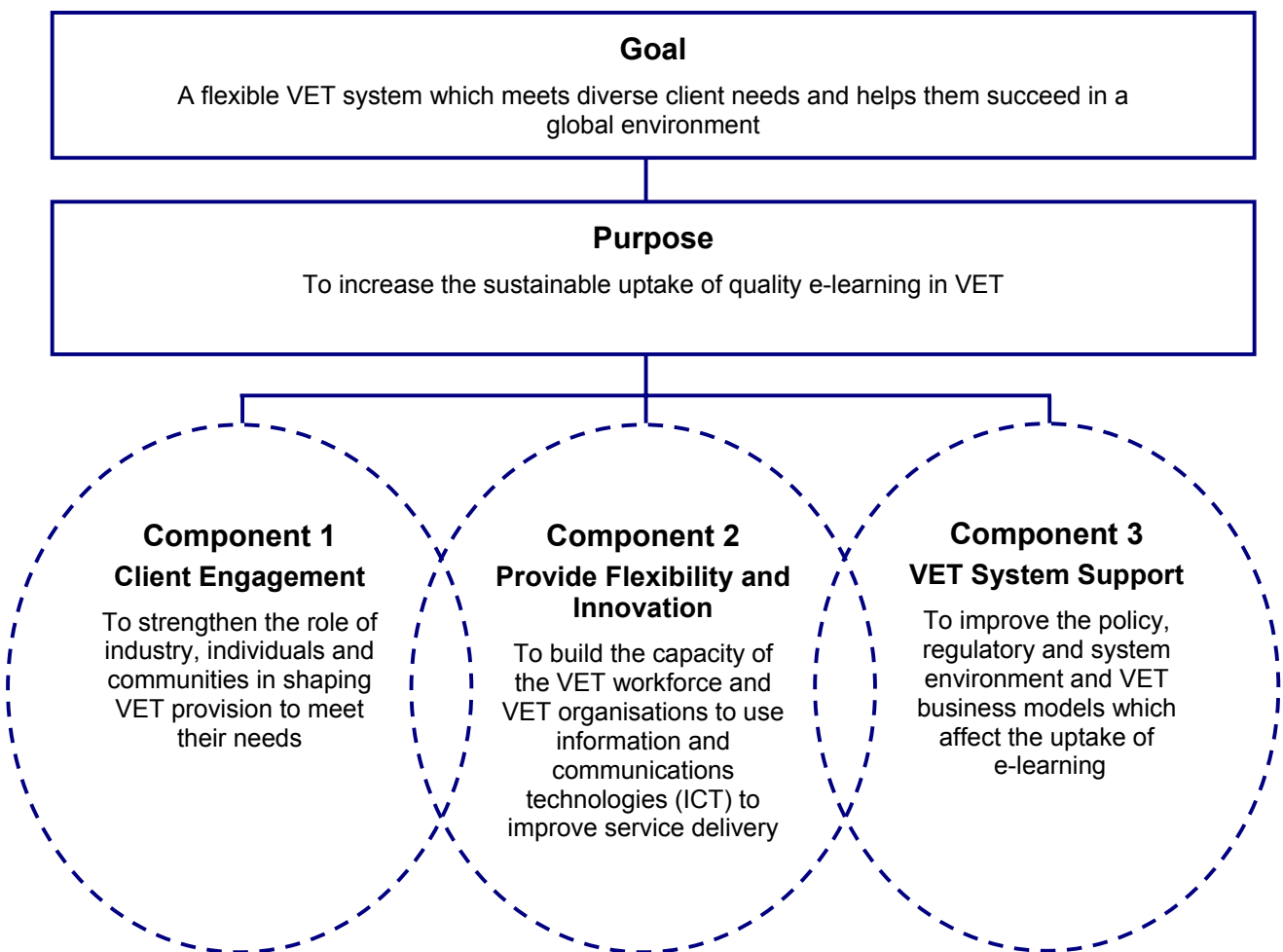
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## The 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework

Since 1993, the Australian Government and all States and Territories have worked together, in partnership with users of the vocational education and training (VET) system, to support more flexible learning. In 1999 they took a major step forward by developing and investing in a five-year national strategy known as the Australian Flexible Learning Framework (Framework) for the national vocational education and training (VET) system 2000-2004.

Australian Ministers responsible for the VET system will be asked to support a second Framework for the period 2005-2007 in 2005.<sup>1</sup>

Experience in implementing the 2000-2004 Framework has led to a streamlined design for the next three years and this is organised around one goal, one purpose and three components, shown in the diagram below:



**Diagram 1 – 2005 Framework Design**

<sup>1</sup> Framework 2000-2004 was administered by ANTA. From July 2005, the functions of ANTA will be transferred to the Australian Government's Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST). DEST has advised that 12 month contracts will be put in place for the 2005 Framework. Further commitment beyond 2005 for national collaboration for a continued national strategy such as the Framework rests with Ministers and is yet to be considered.

## Change and Continuity

The 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework) strikes out in some fresh directions:

- ❑ the 2005 Framework explicitly supports the national strategy for VET and Ministerial priorities for mainstreaming information and communication technology (ICT) into all facets of education and training, including VET
- ❑ a strong outcomes-focus, based on a rigorous approach to benchmarking, evaluation, and accountability
- ❑ the demand side – client needs and engagement – has a higher priority than in the past, thereby broadening the 2005 Framework’s change strategy<sup>2</sup>
- ❑ sustainability (the degree to which benefits produced by Framework activities are maintained after the 2000-2004 Framework support ceases) is a key criterion for selecting and supporting 2005 Framework activities
- ❑ building organisational and individual capability on the supply side will continue, but with tighter targeting and a strong emphasis on developing the design, management and administrative skills peculiar to e-learning
- ❑ e-learning remains a clear focus for 2005, but the integration of e-learning with e-business will be strengthened.

The 2005 Framework also builds on and extends the most successful activities of the first 2000-2004 Framework by:

- ❑ increasing the stock of people skilled in e-learning
- ❑ building national and international knowledge networks to reduce the cost of research and development and speed up the innovation process
- ❑ facilitating national collaboration in the discovery, application and diffusion of technologies which support e-learning
- ❑ supporting innovative and entrepreneurial e-learning activities which introduce new or improved e-learning products or processes
- ❑ promoting the sharing and dissemination of knowledge between individuals, firms, communities, providers and State and Territory VET systems.

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<sup>2</sup> “Clients of VET are the users of the services. They encompass businesses, small and large, full-time and part-time students, apprentices, trainees and people who work, are preparing for work and looking for work”, *Shaping Our Future*, Australia’s national strategy for VET 2004-2010.

## 2005 Framework Management

The management of the 2005 Framework comprises three linked components: FLAG and the FLAG Secretariat, the Program Management Model and State and Territory Framework Coordinators.

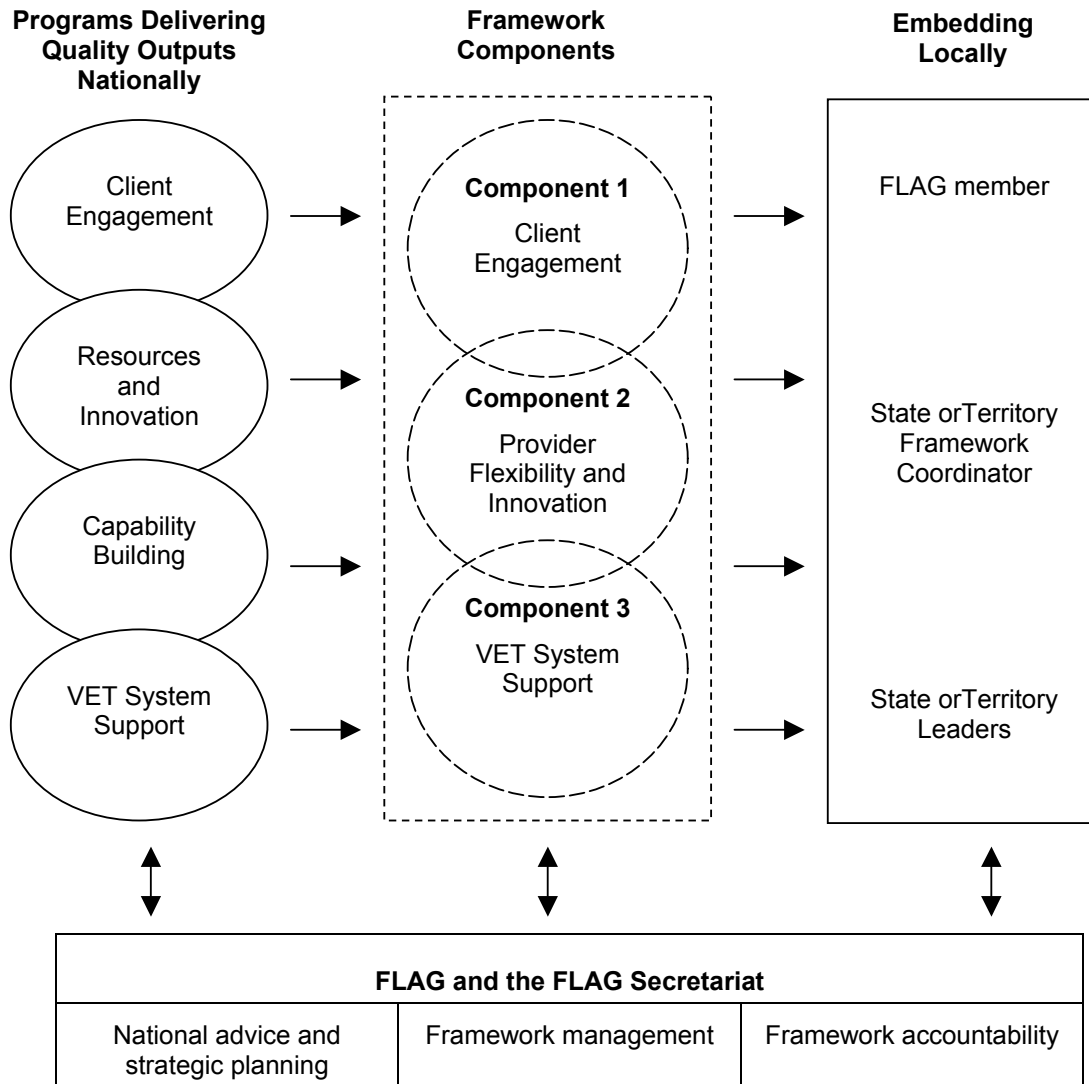


Diagram 2 – Framework Management

## **FLAG and the FLAG Secretariat**

### **FLAG**

Since 1996, FLAG has been the lead national body driving the development and implementation of flexible learning in the VET sector.

FLAG is a strategically-focused group of senior VET officers tasked to advise Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), the ANTA Board, the Australian Government's Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) and the Australian Information and Communication Technologies in Education Committee (AICTEC) on national issues related to the directions and priorities for flexible learning in VET, with particular reference to e-learning technologies. In all of its activities, FLAG includes consideration of the Adult and Community Education (ACE) sector and its needs.

Following the endorsement by ANTA CEOs in August 1999 of what is now known as the Australian Flexible Learning Framework for National Vocational Education and Training 2000-2004, FLAG was also given the task of leading national collaboration for flexible and e-learning in VET through this phase of development and of ensuring that the Framework was managed effectively.

### **FLAG Secretariat**

The FLAG Secretariat provides support for and coordination of the work of FLAG, including the implementation of FLAG decisions, managing the annual strategic review and planning process, preparing major reports to ANTA CEOs and managing evaluation activities.

In 2005, there is a distributed Secretariat comprising a national group based in Melbourne linked with 2005 Framework Coordination Officers based in each State and Territory, ACE, and the four Program Leaders.

### **Program Management Model**

The Program Management Model implemented in 2003 - 2004 has proved to be an efficient and effective approach to managing the Framework initiatives.<sup>3</sup> For the 2005 Framework, a streamlined program model has been designed to build on the successes of the previous model, while introducing new elements to facilitate the achievement of changing directions.

In 2005, the 15 Projects are grouped into four conceptually related clusters which are linked and coordinated through Program Management to create additional synergy to best achieve the actions and outputs identified in the 2005 Framework.

The role of the four Programs and Program Leaders is to focus on national coordination, identify Program and cross-Framework synergies, foster collaboration and sharing of best practice, and to ensure project accountability and Program reporting. A FLAG Member will chair each Program Management Group.

The four strategic Programs will be supported by national collaborative management arrangements through the FLAG Secretariat and through distributed management by individual States and Territories.

### **Framework Coordinators**

Over 2005, a key focus will be to build towards a sustainable future by ensuring that national 2005 Framework outcomes become embedded as part of sustainable client-focused VET practices within each State and Territory.

2005 Framework Coordinators based in each State and Territory will ensure synergies between National, State, and Territory flexible learning directions and activities. Coordinators will work collaboratively to build both local and national linkages, coordinate a range of State and Territory Framework activities, communicate the benefits

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<sup>3</sup> Evaluation of the Australian Flexible Learning Framework 2000-2004, Phase 2, Part C Solving Problems, pg. 45, I & J Management Services.

and products of e-learning across the jurisdiction, including ACE, and contribute to 2005 Framework benchmarking and overall evaluation activities.

## **Accountability**

The 2005 Framework is strongly results-focused. Each Program and Project will contribute to the achievement of component outputs and in turn each component will contribute to achieving the 2005 Framework's purpose and therefore its goal.

The success and accountability of the Programs and Projects, and therefore the 2005 Framework, will be considered through three mechanisms: a program of monitoring and review, benchmarking and evaluation. Projects, components and the 2005 Framework as a whole will be regularly monitored to assure quality, ensure agreed outputs are being achieved and assist continuous improvement. A three year national performance measurement initiative will develop indicators and gather data on the uptake, use and impact of e-learning. An independent evaluation will also be commissioned.

### **Monitoring and Review**

A Monitoring and Review Committee will review and report on Project progress against agreed 2005 Framework actions, outputs and indicators and facilitate quality assurance aspects. External experts will be invited to participate in the process. Programs will provide a mid-year report on progress against Project outputs and indicators to the Committee.

### **Performance Measurement**

The ultimate test of the success of the 2005 Framework will be whether it achieves its purpose: *To increase the sustainable uptake of quality e-learning in vocational education and training* and contributes to its goal: *A flexible VET system which meets diverse client needs and helps them succeed in a global environment.*

The E-learning Benchmarking Project will identify, collect, analyse and report on a suite of quantitative and qualitative indicators on the uptake, use and impact of e-learning. When taken together, these indicators will provide a set of indicators relevant at National, State and Territory and provider level.

### **Evaluation**

The planned evaluation will inform future planning for national flexible learning, as well as delivering on accountability requirements for the 2005 Framework. .

The e-learning performance indicators and associated data-gathering developed through the E-learning Benchmarking Project will provide a supplementary data source to assist with evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of the 2005 Framework.

## 2005 Framework Programs

### Program 1: Client Engagement

<b>Project 1A</b>	<b>Industry Engagement</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Industry Engagement Project aims to increase industry use of e-learning in nationally recognised workplace learning. The Project will develop sector-specific strategies given the different e-learning needs of industry sectors and enterprises. The specific strategies to be pursued will be developed in close consultation with the industry sectors, working with the appropriate Industry Skills Councils. In this way, this Project will compliment the work of ANTA and the Industry Skills Councils in encouraging uptake of nationally recognised workplace learning.</p> <p>There are some well-documented exemplars of implementing e-learning in workplace settings, but research and consultations have identified that a wider set of tools and exemplars is needed across a range of industry sectors. The Project will target enterprises and industry networks which have demonstrated a readiness and interest towards e-learning but need access to expertise to move forward.</p> <p>The research and consultations that occurred during 2003 and 2004 and the specific consultations held in September and October 2004 around this Project have identified a number of strategies that will be pursued in 2005. Firstly, a toolkit will be developed on implementing e-learning to assist enterprises to put e-learning into practice. Secondly, practical help and advisory services will be implemented. Thirdly, building on the successful Flexible Learning Leaders model, 'e-champions' will be considered to influence e-learning change through industry networks, eg Skills Councils, peak bodies and professional bodies.</p> <p>A range of projects will be implemented to demonstrate effective implementation of e-learning in enterprises and industry. These projects will include projects on the customisation of e-learning resources, industry partnerships, partnerships with registered training organisations (RTOs), online assessment and performance. All projects will receive mentoring and be expected to share their learning with others in their industry. A series of industry seminars will be conducted focusing on e-learning implementation. Case studies and practical guides will be made widely available through websites, including <a href="http://training.com">training.com</a></p> <p>The Industry Engagement Project also aims to ensure that industry perspectives are considered in all aspects of the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework). The Project will facilitate partnerships between industry enterprises, industry sectors and 2005 Framework Projects. Industry views will be actively shared with others in the 2005 Framework. An ongoing dialogue between the 2005 Framework and industry will be encouraged, both nationally and in all States and Territories.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> to increase industry demand for e-learning in nationally recognised workplace training through targeted sector specific strategies.
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<p>For a minimum of five industry sectors:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> an Industry Sector E-learning Plan that identifies the strengths and weaknesses in relation to e-learning in the industry and the best strategies for increasing e-learning

	<input type="checkbox"/> a program of activities implemented in line with the identified priority strategies.
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> % of workplace structured <sup>4</sup> training that uses e-learning <input type="checkbox"/> % of workplace nationally recognised training <sup>5</sup> that uses e-learning <input type="checkbox"/> industry knowledge of and satisfaction with 2005 Framework activities <input type="checkbox"/> industry satisfaction with e-learning as a learning medium.
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> industry associations, unions and enterprises actively promoting and using e-learning in nationally recognised workplace learning.
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$1,000,000
<b>Contact</b>	Jenny Dodd Tel: 02 6207 4955 Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.dodd@cit.act.edu.au">jenny.dodd@cit.act.edu.au</a>

<sup>4</sup> Structured training is 'training activities that have a specified content or predetermined plan' (*ABS 2002 Employer Training Expenditure and Practices, Australia*) ie a planned learning event. Structured training does not include informal learning even though informal learning is increasingly being recognised by organisations as a legitimate learning process. Structured training can include organisation or industry sector specific compliance, induction and product training.

<sup>5</sup> Nationally recognised training is recognised as part of the Australian Quality Training Framework.

<b>Project 1B</b>	<b>Indigenous Engagement</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Indigenous Engagement Project will consolidate existing research and scope the current level of e-learning activity within the Indigenous sector through consultation with Indigenous organisations such as the Australian Indigenous Training Advisory Council (AITAC) and through an environmental scan of existing Flexible Learning Advisory Group (FLAG) projects. The specific project objective is to strengthen the role of indigenous people and communities in shaping vocational education and training (VET) provision in very remote, remote, provincial and urban contexts.</p> <p>The Project contains three sub projects in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• links to employment</li> <li>• capacity -building through e-learning</li> <li>• communication.</li> </ul> <p>The Project will consider proposals that build on lessons learned and that are harmonised with the six priorities identified in Partners in a Learning Culture National Strategy and Blueprint for Implementation 2000-2005.</p> <p><b>Note: the exact details of each sub project are still subject to ongoing work between FLAG and AITAC and the full project description will be made available in mid January 2005.</b></p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> the key aim of this Project is to ensure that the Indigenous VET sector is aware of and able to access e-learning options from providers and incorporate e-learning into its VET planning processes. E-learning will become integral as part of the way in which the Indigenous sector accesses VET nationally, particularly in communities with limited access to mainstream training delivery options.</p>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<p>This Project underpins Component 1.2: Indigenous Engagement. The Project will achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased demand for and delivery of e-learning in Indigenous communities through the professional development of mentors, promotion of available options and implementation of work plans that will see e-learning take-up as a sustainable option</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased demand for and delivery of e-learning through the establishment of Indigenous community or organisation and registered training organisation (RTO) partnerships that will proactively pursue e-learning as a sustainable option.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicator</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> measurable improvements on 2004 National Council for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) benchmarks for VET learning by an Indigenous VET sector that is aware of, and able to access e-learning options from providers and incorporate e-learning into its VET planning processes.</p>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<p>The Project will directly target 2005 Framework Output 1.2 Indigenous Engagement by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> establishing partnerships with the AITAC and other associated organisations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> identifying successful Indigenous e-learning initiatives and developing them through project partnerships with Indigenous organisations and training providers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> identifying, supporting and promoting Indigenous e-learning mentors in communities and enterprises in conjunction with project partnerships.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$800,000
<b>Contact</b>	Kim Jenkinson Tel: 08 8901 1303 Email: <a href="mailto:Kim.Jenkinson@nt.gov.au">Kim.Jenkinson@nt.gov.au</a>

<b>Project 1C</b>	<b><i>E-learning Creative Community Partnerships</i></b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The E-learning Creative Community Partnerships Project aims to create sustainable demand for, and use of, e-learning in communities, to foster both learning in the communities, and through learning, economic and regional development for the communities themselves. It provides an exciting and innovative platform to enhance and grow community capacity building through effective skills development and to reach under-represented and disadvantaged client groups.</p> <p>It will build on the strong partnerships and extensive networks of Adult Learning Australia, as the peak body for adult learning in Australia, with national learning-based peak bodies such as the Australian Learning Communities Network, National Link of Neighbourhood Houses and Community Learning Centres and relevant State and Territory organisations.</p> <p>A foundation of the Project will be the support provided for up to 16 existing community or regional development initiatives over a period of three years.</p> <p>The selected communities will each have a supported community Flexible Learning Leader and will develop a specific consultation and implementation plan to meet local needs. The diversity of these communities and their outcomes will be a major strength of this Project.</p> <p>The Project will build on existing successful initiatives and the current and future Projects, Programs and services of the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework), and will develop a 'virtual package' of e-learning resources, services and guides that can be applied to a range of community and regional development initiatives.</p> <p>A key focus will be on strengthening partnerships at a Local, State and Territory and National levels, to use the experiences of the selected community projects to inform and engage other community and regional development initiatives on a broader scale and to inform National, State and Territory and Local program and funding models.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to embed e-learning in existing community based and regional development initiatives</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to foster strong partnerships between registered training organisations (RTOs), community based organisations, business and government to use e-learning to increase participation of targeted client groups in formal education.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> community and regional leaders able to support and advocate at State and Territory and National levels for the integration of e-learning in community and regional development initiatives</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> models and approaches for incorporating the use of e-learning to enhance the goals of community and regional development.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased participation of community providers in vocational education and training (VET) e-learning alliances and networks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> uptake and use of e-learning in community and regional development initiatives at State and Territory and National levels</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased client knowledge of and demand for e-learning.</li> </ul>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> e-learning embedded in existing community-based and regional development initiatives.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$350,000
<b>Contact</b>	Mary Hannan Tel: 02 6274 9508 Email: m.hannan@ala.asn.au

<b>Program 2: Resources and Innovation</b>	
<b>Project 2A</b>	<b><i>New Practices in Flexible Learning</i></b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The aim of the New Practices in Flexible Learning Project is to fund innovative, practical and sustainable approaches to flexible learning in workplaces, communities and training organisations. In essence, it is about people and their capacity to turn knowledge into ideas and ideas into actions. New Practices strives to provide leverage for organisations to implement cultural, workplace and technological change through innovation and implementation.</p> <p>In 2005 the New Practices in Flexible Learning Project will fund projects to produce systems, processes and practices that will have lasting benefit to the national vocational education and training (VET) system and provide innovative teaching, learning and delivery models able to be replicated by VET organisations across Australia. It will continue with its focus on projects providing learner/client centred solutions while continuing to aim at resetting benchmarks for new practice in the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework's (2005 Framework) activities.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> to stimulate providers to implement innovative practices with a focus on e-learning, e-business, online student support and self-service.
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<p><b>Focussed alignment to 2005 Framework Output 2.2:</b></p> <p>Increased provider and VET practitioner capability to provide sustainable innovation across the spectrum of training delivery activities and support services, including e-learning, e-business, teaching, assessment, business process, collaboration and integration with other educational sectors, with a direct impact on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> industry associations, unions and enterprises actively promoting and using e-learning in nationally recognised workplace learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous people actively participating in planning, designing, implementing and evaluating e-learning at national, State and local levels</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> e-learning embedded in existing community based and regional development initiatives</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> the VET workforce has the knowledge and skills necessary to implement and sustain quality e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> quality customisable and innovative e-learning resources</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> educationally effective teaching and learning practices which meet the diverse needs of learners in e-learning environments.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased embedding of innovation into VET practices</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> contribute to a positive attitude of VET leaders and managers to e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> change attitudes to innovative e-learning opportunities and solutions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increase the range of solutions and e-learning options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> assist clients to develop solutions to meet their e-learning requirements and improve satisfaction</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> assist VET providers to develop new solutions to issues related to access to e-learning and e-business service infrastructure.</li> </ul>

<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> increased provider capability to provide training delivery and support service innovation for improved flexibility, quality, productivity and client satisfaction. Support, facilitation and mentoring for innovation within all aspects and outcomes of 2005 Framework activities.
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$750,000
<b>Contact</b>	Melanie Sorensen Tel: 08 9229 5331 Email: <a href="mailto:melanie.sorensen@westone.wa.gov.au">melanie.sorensen@westone.wa.gov.au</a>

<b>Project 2B</b>	<b>Quality E-learning Resources</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Quality E-learning Resources Project will extend its recent ground-breaking work in Interoperable Learning Objects to improve the flexibility of e-learning products for the vocational education and training (VET) system's Training Package programs. A new series of customisable e-learning content will be developed and packaged according to international standards, for availability through an enhanced Flexible Learning Toolbox repository of Learning Objects. This material will also be available in complete packages to support whole qualifications including support material for teachers.</p> <p>The Project will consolidate and further develop VET system understanding of Learning Objects, both techniques for development, and how to customise and use them in teaching contexts.</p> <p>To broaden the developer expertise base, opportunities will be provided for previously uninvolved registered training organisations (RTOs) to become Toolbox developers, in supported arrangements.</p> <p>Evaluation of the usage of recent products will enable continuous improvement, expanding the VET system's knowledge and practice in this area.</p> <p>Greater leverage from the work of the schools and higher education sectors will be sought, through exchange of research findings on learner preferences and instructional design. Where appropriate, agreements on access for VET staff to other sectors' content will be pursued.</p> <p>The Toolbox Champions service will continue with an expanded focus to also support customisation of Learning Objects and the uptake of Learning Object Repositories.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to increase the range of customisable e-learning content available to VET providers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to facilitate flexible access to e-learning content by providers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to increase sector-wide understanding of the effective use of Learning Objects</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to build teachers' skills in using and customising e-learning content</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to increase the use of national e-learning content in VET programs.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> expanded range of Toolbox Learning Object suites for Training Package programs</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> enhanced and expanded repository of Toolbox Learning Objects</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> improved system-wide understanding of the effective use of Learning Objects</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased capability of VET practitioners in developing, customising and using e-learning content</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> widespread use and customisation of national e-learning resources by VET providers.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> a national set of shareable e-learning tools and resources</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> quality and range of VET e-learning resources produced nationally</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> provider access to and usage of nationally developed e-learning content</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> % of Training Package qualifications supported by customisable e-learning resources</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> % of VET teachers and trainers able to customise e-learning content</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> increased take-up, use, sharing and personalisation of e-learning resources by providers.</li></ul>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	This Project will contribute to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> 2.3 Quality customisable e-learning resources</li></ul>
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$3,000,000
<b>Contact</b>	Lisa Wait Tel: 03 9691 8614 Email: <a href="mailto:lisa.wait@eworks.edu.au">lisa.wait@eworks.edu.au</a>

<b>Project 2C</b>	<b>E-learning for Target Learner Groups</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>In 2005, the E-learning for Target Learner Groups Project will focus on e-learning for two target groups: learners with disabilities, and young people in the 15–19 age group (including vocational education and training (VET) in Schools, disengaged youth and school-based apprenticeships). Collaboration will be sought with the Australian Disabilities Training Advisory Council (ADTAC) and relevant disabilities support groups; and for youth programs, the Dusseldorp Skills Forum and the <a href="#">Ministerial Council on Education, Employment Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA)</a> initiatives for youth, and State and Territory based coordinating groups.</p> <p>An initial exploratory phase will establish a number of studies. For disabilities training, these will include investigations of existing jurisdictional work, advances in assistive technologies, employment opportunities for people with various disabilities, and identification of priorities for resource development or re-purposing.</p> <p>Based on recommendations from these studies, the second phase will involve trial activities using new technologies for learners with disabilities, resource development or re-purposing, and a source of advice on assistive technologies and accessibility of learning products.</p> <p>For youth programs, a study of the context, coordination and networks in each State and Territory will be undertaken, and identification of the priority programs and emerging technologies relevant to youth.</p> <p>This study will lead to guidelines for a number of innovative provider projects for youth to take place over the following 12 months. It will also identify priorities for Learning Object development or repurposing for this learner group.</p> <p>Provider staff running programs for learners with disabilities and for youth will be supported in their use of e-learning through other 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework activities such as Toolbox Champions and LearnScope.</p> <p>Relationships with peak support groups will be on-going to promote sustainability of initial outcomes.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to improve employment-related training opportunities for people with disabilities through the use of appropriate e-learning resources and technologies</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to motivate and enhance the employment skills of young people through innovative e-learning programs and resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> partnerships with relevant peak and jurisdictional agencies to promote e-learning solutions for learners with disabilities and learners in youth programs</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> an up-to-date information base and advisory service on assistive technologies and accessibility standards for learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> report on employment opportunities for people with disabilities and relationship with existing e-learning resources</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> provider trials of new technologies and resources for disabilities groups</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> report for providers on the potential for e-learning solutions in youth programs</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a series of innovative provider programs for youth involving e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> repurposed or new e-learning material for learners with disabilities and</li> </ul>

	<p>learners in youth programs</p> <input type="checkbox"/> support for teachers of learners with disabilities and youth through Toolbox Champions or other sources.
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> increased use of e-learning by targeted learner segments including people with disabilities and youth <input type="checkbox"/> % of learners satisfied with e-learning as an educational medium <input type="checkbox"/> % of VET teachers and trainers able to customise e-learning content.
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.3 Quality customisable e-learning resources <input type="checkbox"/> 2.4 Educationally effective teaching and learning practices which meet the diverse needs of learners in e-learning environments.
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$500,000
<b>Contact</b>	<p>Clint Smith  Tel: 03 9670 7976  Email: <a href="mailto:csmith@tafefrontiers.com.au">csmith@tafefrontiers.com.au</a></p>

<b>Project 2D</b>	<b>Learning Object Repository (LOR) Network</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The purpose of the Learning Object Repository (LOR) Implementation Network Project is to build the capacity of the Australian vocational and education training (VET) system to share teaching and learning resources that support flexible delivery through the establishment and embedding of agreed principles in the design and development of resources and resource repositories.</p> <p>The Project will promote and progress interoperability within the VET system by monitoring international standards and facilitating adoption of these as appropriate.</p> <p>In 2005 the focus will be on refining technical specifications and extending the operation of a network of federated repositories in terms of more advanced services beyond those established in 2004, <i>vis a vis</i>, searching, viewing, downloading and transfer of reusable learning resources.</p> <p>The business model is a federation of trusted organisations that cooperate via agreed standards to enable the discovery and use of digital learning resources.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to facilitate and share access to managed re-usable and re-purposable e-learning resources across the VET system and other sectors</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to establish and maintain links with other key national projects, <i>vis a vis</i> quality e-learning resources</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to establish a national approach to digital rights management (DRM) in relation to the federated search model.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> access to shared high quality standards-based e-learning resources designed for VET and Training Package use</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> ongoing access to nationally developed resources and provision of common services for resource repositories</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> extension of the keyword search facility to incorporate more advanced search options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> secure authentication for individuals and access to web-based resources, payment and copyright licensing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> preview services of integrated management system (IMS)<sup>6</sup> content packages for easy selection of Learning Objects for download</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> an interoperability committee that aligns and integrates cross-Framework interoperability activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> learning resource sharing service widely used by VET</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sustainable management model for national e-learning resources</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> % of usage and resource sharing through network</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> user satisfaction with access and usability of resources.</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> The IMS content packaging specification provides a common framework for the packaging and distribution of learning materials. It defines how the content should be packaged digitally to facilitate the sharing of learning resources. This enables all systems that use the IMS content packaging specification to share learning resources.

<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> integrated system for sharing and managing national VET e-learning resources <input type="checkbox"/> increased number of repositories participating in the national federated network
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$250,000
<b>Contact</b>	Ian Kenny Tel: 08 9229 5200 Email: <a href="mailto:ian.kenny@westone.wa.gov.au">ian.kenny@westone.wa.gov.au</a>

## Program 3: Capability Building

<b>Project 3A</b>	<b>LearnScope</b>
<p><b>Project Description</b></p>	<p>LearnScope is a major professional development Project which focuses on the enhancement of the professional skills that underpin e-learning and e-business. LearnScope guidelines and activities will be influenced by recent thinking about the acquisition of skills development of vocational education and training (VET) professionals in the 'knowledge era'. The Project will emphasise both individual and team responsibilities to model sustainable professional learning practices in their own learning through a range of strategies – particularly the integration of working, learning and knowing.</p> <p>LearnScope activities will support both individual and team based development and in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support VET practitioners and managers in the development of capacity to provide quality e-learning options to clients.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Build on the successful 'Flexible Learning Leaders' model to provide learning opportunities to leaders, mentors, coaches, facilitators and innovators in e-learning and to assist them in providing ongoing support to individuals and teams taking up e-learning and e-business opportunities in their own organisations or other 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework) initiatives. As part of their role 'Leaders' will both contribute to and be supported by the activities of the Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community Project.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish processes which enable VET professionals and providers to assess their professional e-learning and e-business skills and skills development against nationally agreed benchmarks (currently under development and due for completion at the end of 2004).</li> </ul> <p>States and Territories will be guided by a LearnScope framework which will provide opportunities for jurisdictions, organisations and individuals to develop new and innovative ways of achieving enhanced capacity for e-learning and e-business in VET. The LearnScope framework will also facilitate the development of networks and partnerships through links to clients, inter/intra-State and Territory learning alliances and integration with other 2005 Framework Projects such as Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community and Knowledge Sharing Services.</p>
<p><b>Project Objective/s</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LearnScope will increase and improve organisational capacity to provide quality e-learning and e-business solutions to clients</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> LearnScope will provide a framework and benchmarks that enable VET providers to monitor and report on the skills development of their staff.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Project Output/s</b></p>	<p>LearnScope outputs will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increase the knowledge and skills of the VET workforce to implement and sustain quality e-learning and support service innovation for improved flexibility, quality, productivity and client satisfaction</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increase organisational capability to embrace sustainable models for the continuous development of the professional skills of the workforce as organisations move towards and adapt to the 'knowledge era'</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increase engagement by VET professionals in online accredited formal and informal learning opportunities courses which enhance their professional skills</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> identify a process for organisational monitoring and reporting on skills development (subject to the E-learning Benchmarking Project) through planning and reporting processes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Performance Indicators</b></p>	<p>LearnScope will measure its performance against the performance benchmarks (currently being developed) and which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased % of VET teachers and trainers able to customise e-learning content</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased % of VET teachers and trainers using and satisfied with e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased take-up, use, sharing and personalisation of e-learning resources by providers.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> contribute to a positive attitude of VET leaders and managers to e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased % of VET providers offering e-learning options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased % of clients satisfied with e-business experiences in VET</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased number of VET professionals with the skills required to take on the role of 'Flexible Learning Leaders'.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> the VET workforce has the knowledge and skills necessary to implement and sustain quality e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased provider capability to provide training delivery and support service innovation for improved flexibility, quality, productivity and client satisfaction</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> educationally effective teaching and learning practices which meet the diverse needs of learners in e-learning environments</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> integrated system for sharing national information and knowledge about e-learning.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Budget 2005</b></p>	<p>\$3,800,000</p>
<p><b>Contact</b></p>	<p>Robby Weatherley          Tel: 02 9448 2310          Email: robby.weatherley@det.nsw.edu.au</p>

<b>Project 3B</b>	<b>Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community Project will advance the vocational education and training (VET) system in establishing sustainable professional learning practices within an environment of online networking, knowledge sharing and knowledge management. It will initiate and sustain a series of 'online' environments which enable learning to take place by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> consolidating and extending existing VET professional networks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> making new connections between VET staff, industry, researchers, professional groups, enterprises and communities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> facilitating the exchange and capture of explicit and tacit knowledge about e-learning and its applications within the VET sector</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> coordinating linkages and online activities with relevant National and State and Territory based initiatives.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> the Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community Project will provide an online environment and support systems that result in individuals, providers, industry, researchers, clients and suppliers making connections in order to share knowledge, develop ongoing and sustainable professional networks and generate links to key people, information and processes.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<p>The Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community output will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a series of national coordinated forums/seminars/research and development activities on e-learning supported at State and Territory level</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> an online learning community for national and international interaction, sharing of knowledge, events and activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<p>The Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community will provide environments which will assist in gathering evidence of the performance indicators listed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> % of VET teachers and trainers able to customise e-learning content</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> % of VET teachers and trainers using and satisfied with e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased take-up, use, sharing and personalisation of e-learning resources by providers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> positive attitude of VET leaders and managers to e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> % of VET providers offering e-learning options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> % of clients satisfied with e-business experiences in VET</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> % of VET providers with access to e-learning and e-business service infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2.1 The VET workforce has the knowledge and skills necessary to implement and sustain quality e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2.2 Increased provider capability to provide training delivery and support service innovation for improved flexibility, quality, productivity and client satisfaction</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 3.3 Integrated system for sharing national information and knowledge about e-learning.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$500,000
<b>Contact</b>	Jenny Dodd Tel: 02 6207 4955 Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.dodd@cit.act.edu.au">jenny.dodd@cit.act.edu.au</a>

<b>Project 3C</b>	<b>VET E-learning International</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The VET E-learning International Project will build an e-learning 'international gateway' and 'international interface' for e-learning in Australia and the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework) in particular. It will strategically position the Australian vocational education and training (VET) system in the global e-learning industry. The immediate goal is to provide international opportunities for Australian VET to shape and participate in learning innovation internationally and to demonstrate global e-learning market leadership.</p> <p>The downstream impact will be the positioning of Australian VET in the knowledge economy as a provider of e-learning know-how and innovative product (rather than the lowest cost training provider). In addition, this project will facilitate a quality check by providing opportunities to internationally benchmark Australian VET in terms of its global relevance and capacity to impact locally on industry, community and individuals.</p> <p>In 2005 the VET E-learning International Project will focus particularly on providing a 'gateway' for international engagement with the <a href="http://flexiblelearning.net.au">flexiblelearning.net.au</a> website and the Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community project. It will comprise the following major pieces of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• work with the Knowledge Sharing Services Project team to review <a href="http://flexiblelearning.net.au">flexiblelearning.net.au</a> content from the point of view of an international audience and develop a set of requirements for a specific 'international entry point' into the website</li> <li>• work with the Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community team to support the engagement of international participants in appropriate networks</li> <li>• technical development of the 'international entry point' to the <a href="http://flexiblelearning.net.au">flexiblelearning.net.au</a> website</li> <li>• stimulation and support for the engagement of all 2005 Framework projects with international opportunities and perspectives</li> <li>• develop a strategy to raise awareness within the international e-learning community of the proposed international entry point and the opportunities for engagement with Australian VET sector expertise and experience in e-learning. This strategy will build on the already significant international participation in the Australian Flexible Learning 'Community', the benefit of expertise and experience from the National Communication Project and the outcomes of other subprojects. It will be the first step in the development of a longer term Internet strategy that increases global awareness of Australian VET generally, strategically positions Australian VET in the global e-learning industry and will culminate in an international conference in 2007.</li> </ul> <p>The initiative will aim to achieve another layer of outcomes from 2005 Framework Projects.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> ensure local exposure to international perspectives on e-learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> build sustainable international relationships and networks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> globally position Australian VET e-learning products and services</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> enhance and extend the outcomes from other 2005 Framework projects</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> consultation with key agencies that promote Australian educational services</li> </ul>

	<p>overseas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased VET presence in international e-learning community activities and events</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a long term strategy for positioning the Australian VET system in the international e-learning 'community' enabling the VET community to exchange research and good practice ideas with overseas practitioners culminating in an initial scoping document and business plan for an international conference in 2007.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased (international) client knowledge and demand for e-learning services</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> range and impact of collaborative research projects with (international personnel)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased take-up, use, sharing and personalisation of resources by providers (as a result of international contacts).</li> </ul>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2.4 Educationally effective teaching and learning practices which meet the diverse needs of learners in e-learning environments.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$200,000
<b>Contact</b>	<p>Rodney Spark          Tel: 03 9691 8603          Email: <a href="mailto:rodney.spark@eworks.edu.au">rodney.spark@eworks.edu.au</a></p>

<b>Project 3D</b>	<b>Knowledge Sharing Services</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Knowledge Sharing Services Project will facilitate access to knowledge about e-learning in vocational education and training (VET). This includes access to 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework) developed resources, 2005 Framework facilitated discussions and presentations, and appropriate people and networks. The Knowledge Sharing Services Project will maintain the <i>Knowledge Tree</i> as an electronic journal opportunity for sharing knowledge. The Project will provide access to this knowledge through the <a href="http://flexiblelearning.net.au">flexiblelearning.net.au</a> website, <a href="http://EdNA VET Online">EdNA VET Online</a> website, email enquiries and alert services.</p> <p>The Project recognises that VET professionals are not limited by artificial boundaries such as 'e-learning' or specific national projects such as the '2005 Framework'. Hence, this Project will be interoperable with broader educational initiatives such as the <a href="http://EdNA">EdNA</a> and <a href="http://training.com">training.com</a> websites and with State and Territory and local knowledge bases.</p> <p>The Project will utilise a range of push and pull technologies to achieve its objectives including databases, search and browse tools, really simple syndication (RSS) feeds, blogging and wikis. The Project will model best practice in online knowledge management systems, taxonomy and ontology and interoperability. This Project will implement e-knowledge standards for capturing and transferring knowledge across different contexts, including metadata and standards associated with the semantic web.</p> <p>The Knowledge Sharing Services Project, as a cross Framework Project, will provide a common technology infrastructure to support all 2005 Framework activities. The Project will provide a range of website development services and web-based tools for use by 2005 Framework Projects to support the 2005 Framework's activities.</p> <p>The Project will work closely with the Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community Project to ensure that tacit knowledge made explicit through online collaborative activities are made available to others. The Project will work closely with the National Communication Project and the Client Engagement Program to ensure that the knowledge gained is shared with all the relevant target markets.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to facilitate access to knowledge about e-learning in VET.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> up-to-date <a href="http://flexiblelearning.net.au">flexiblelearning.net.au</a> website, including maintaining currency of Interoperability website</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> up-to-date <a href="http://EdNA VET Online Service">EdNA VET Online Service</a></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> regular information distribution undertaken using a range of 'push' services (email, alerts, RSS feeds) – in conjunction with the National Communication Project</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a range of interoperable services provided to ensure information and knowledge is available across the system (eg through '<a href="http://training.com">training.com</a>'.)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> website development and web-based tools available for use by 2005 Framework Project Managers.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Sharing Services Project widely used by VET staff</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> sustainable content management model for knowledge sharing about e-learning adopted by jurisdictions and registered training organisations (RTOs)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> increased stakeholder use of integrated systems and tools.</li> </ul>

<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> integrated system for sharing national information and knowledge about e-learning <input type="checkbox"/> as a cross-Framework activity, this Project will contribute to the achievement of all 2005 Framework outputs.
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$600,000
<b>Contact</b>	Richard Arkell Tel: 02 9715 8138 Email: <a href="mailto:Richard.arkell@tafensw.edu.au">Richard.arkell@tafensw.edu.au</a>

<b>Program 4: VET System Support</b>	
<b>Project 4A</b>	<b>E-learning Benchmarking</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The E-learning Benchmarking Project will identify, collect, analyse and report on a suite of quantitative and qualitative indicators on the uptake, use and impact of e-learning in vocational education and training (VET). When taken together, these indicators will provide a set of indicators relevant at National, State and Territory and provider level.</p> <p>The performance indicators, used to collect the data, may also be adapted and used by individual providers to establish organisational goals and benchmarks for e-learning. The process will assist VET providers to establish and maintain good data systems.</p> <p>The primary data source for assessing uptake and use and impact will be a baseline survey of e-learning in VET which will be administered in early 2005. The survey data will be supplemented by existing data drawn from VET data sources including the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS) and, more widely, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).</p> <p>Some of the data gathered through the benchmarking process will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework).</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to provide data to assess the uptake, use and impact of e-learning in VET</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> to provide agreed national performance measures.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> develop a baseline survey tool for measuring uptake and impact from 2005</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> administer a baseline survey of e-learning in VET in 2005</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> analysis of baseline survey data</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> report on the 2005 baseline survey</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> encourage establishment of State and Territory based data collections on flexible learning for long-term measurement of uptake and impact</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> following the baseline survey, confirm the value and validity of the agreed measures and, by December 2005, develop strategies to be implemented to enable the capture of relevant information beyond the end of 2007.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> benchmark survey administered and analysed in 2005</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> dissemination of findings of survey to key stakeholders</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> extent of application of national e-learning benchmarks across VET</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> identification of critical dates for follow-up project activity in 2006–2007.</li> </ul>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> research and advocacy which supports the uptake and maximises the impact of e-learning.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$500,000
<b>Contact</b>	Ros Gill Tel: 08 8207 1133 Email: <a href="mailto:rosgill@tafe.sa.edu.au">rosgill@tafe.sa.edu.au</a>

<b>Project 4B</b>	<b>Research and Policy Advice</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Research and Policy Advice Project will provide a high quality and flexible research program, which contributes to the achievement of the vision, goals and implementation of the national vocational education and training (VET) strategy and of the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework). It will support carefully targeted and rigorous research which will provide timely and evidence-based research to inform the Flexible Learning Advisory Group (FLAG) and 2005 Framework activities.</p> <p>The Research and Policy Advice Project will commission research projects that inform FLAG on significant policy issues.</p> <p>Existing partnerships with other national research agencies will be strengthened and new ones formed in order to address the long-term sustainability of research relevant to flexible learning in VET.</p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> provide timely and evidence-based research to inform FLAG and the 2005 Framework Program activities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> build strong links to other research agencies, both national and international</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> research and develop advocacy positions including discussion papers, messages and target groups for FLAG, building on work achieved in the 2000-2004 Framework including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• copyright/intellectual property (IP)</li> <li>• accessibility</li> <li>• electronic authentication</li> <li>• other emerging issues</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> disseminate Project findings and outputs to relevant stakeholders both within and outside VET.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> a range of research projects to respond to policy issues targeted by FLAG and to support 2005 Framework activity</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> research and policy advice which supports the uptake and maximises the impact of e-learning.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> stakeholder assessment of the value of 2005 Framework research and policy advice</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> range and impact of collaborative research projects including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a set of commissioned research briefing papers to inform FLAG and the 2005 Framework</li> <li>• number of research papers and overviews</li> <li>• number of policy and practitioner briefs to segmented audiences</li> <li>• sets of recommendations for action by practitioners and policy makers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> research and advocacy which supports the uptake and maximises the impact of e-learning.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$350,000
<b>Contact</b>	Kate Fannon Tel: 08 8303 2616 Email: <a href="mailto:katefann@tafe.sa.edu.au">katefann@tafe.sa.edu.au</a>

<b>Project 4C</b>	<b>Access to Broadband</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Access to Broadband Project will facilitate the establishment of jurisdictional connections to a common communication service provider, such as Australian Academic Research Network (AARNet). The service provider would provide a low cost option for sharing and communication between jurisdictions and provide a level of security not currently available over the Internet.</p> <p>This Project will support and gain leverage off other national VET initiatives, such as the Learning Objects Repository Project.</p> <p>Pilot projects may be undertaken to test the models developed in previous Bandwidth projects.<sup>7</sup></p>
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> to enable and support cost effective and secure sharing of information and resources, and communication across jurisdictions, by leveraging the most cost effective services.
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> connections to a common service provider for pilot jurisdictions <input type="checkbox"/> facilitation of access to national educational repositories of information and resources <input type="checkbox"/> systemic jurisdictional access to preferred cost effective service provision through a relationship such as associate membership of (AARNet) <input type="checkbox"/> a proof of concept for sharing and communications scenarios across jurisdictions.
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> network availability, performance and cost of access <input type="checkbox"/> number and percentage of jurisdictions connected to and successfully using the service provider <input type="checkbox"/> stakeholder feedback (exemplar projects and surveys).
<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> support and advocate access to core broadband to achieve innovative teaching and learning at a sustainable cost <input type="checkbox"/> low cost access to jurisdictional resources via a service provider such as AARNet.
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$400,000
<b>Contact</b>	Jennifer Dunbabin Tel: 03 6233 8487 Email: <a href="mailto:jennifer.dunbabin@education.tas.gov.au">jennifer.dunbabin@education.tas.gov.au</a>

<sup>7</sup> While the Project in 2004 mostly centred around larger public providers, the aspects of the blueprint that deal with provision of bandwidth to other users (Eg Adult and Community Education (ACE), private registered training organisations (RTOs)) will be included in pilots if the opportunity arises.

<b>Project 4D</b>	<b>National Communication</b>
<b>Project Description</b>	The National Communication Project's primary focus is to generate awareness of the enormous potential and benefits of e-learning to stimulate the widespread uptake, sustainability and embedding of e-learning for vocational education and training (VET) system clients including industry, Indigenous and community.
<b>Project Objective/s</b>	<p>The objectives of the National Communication Project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> strategically coordinate the promotion of e-learning on behalf of the 2005 Australian Flexible Learning Framework (2005 Framework) to Australian VET system clients through a range of communication activities including media, marketing, public relations, promotional collateral, events, advertising, website, case studies and client relationship management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> profile, brand and position the 2005 Framework through its promotional activities as a key driver and supporter of e-learning for VET system clients</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> communicate the benefits of e-learning and promote the availability of products, resources and support networks from the 2005 Framework to all target markets within the VET system</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> proactively manage public relations issues relating to the public communication of e-learning and the 2005 Framework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> offer a shared national communication service to all 2005 Framework Projects in areas identified as priorities for States and Territories.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Output/s</b>	<p>Outputs of the National Communication Project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> develop and implement a strategic, research-based 2005 Framework Communication Strategy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> implement a Strategic Communication Plan</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> initiate and manage a 2005 Framework Communication Advisory Group</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> manage targeted marketing campaigns on behalf of Projects and Programs and States and Territories</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> develop and implement a National Media Plan</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> manage external 2005 Framework client enquiries</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> provide communication support to 2005 Framework Coordination Officers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> strategically manage the communication components of all external client tools including news, <i>Flex e-News</i> and the website.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Performance Indicators</b>	<p>Increased uptake of e-learning throughout the VET system, industry and enterprise as evidenced by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. increased positive external awareness of e-learning</li> <li>2. higher positioning and profile of e-learning</li> <li>3. increased demand for the 2005 Framework's e-learning products, resources and support networks</li> <li>4. increased capacity of sectors, organisations and individuals to sustainability implement e-learning</li> <li>5. satisfaction from Project Managers and States and Territories that their communication objectives are achieved effectively.</li> </ol>

<b>Direct Contribution of Project to 2005 Framework Outputs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> the National Communication Project will offer a shared support service to assist all Project areas achieve 2005 Outputs in relation to their communication needs and opportunities.
<b>Project Budget 2005</b>	\$700,000
<b>Contact</b>	Lindy Smith Tel: <a href="tel:0732341852">07 3234 1852</a> Email: <a href="mailto:lindy.smith@det.qld.gov.au">lindy.smith@det.qld.gov.au</a>

## 2005 Budget Summary

### CLIENT ENGAGEMENT

Industry Engagement	1,000,000
Indigenous Engagement	800,000
E-learning Creative Community Partnerships	350,000

### RESOURCES AND INNOVATION

New Practices in Flexible Learning	750,000
Quality E-learning Resources	3,000,000
E-learning for Target Learner Groups	500,000
Learning Object Repositories Network	250,000

### CAPABILITY BUILDING

LearnScope	3,800,000
Networks of the Australian Flexible Learning Community	500,000
VET E-learning International	200,000
Knowledge Sharing Services	600,000

### VET SYSTEM SUPPORT

E-learning Benchmarking	500,000
Research and Policy Advice	350,000
Access to Broadband	400,000
National Communication	700,000
Flexible Learning Advisory Group (FLAG) and the FLAG Secretariat	500,000
2005 Framework Coordination Officers	800,000

**15,000,000**

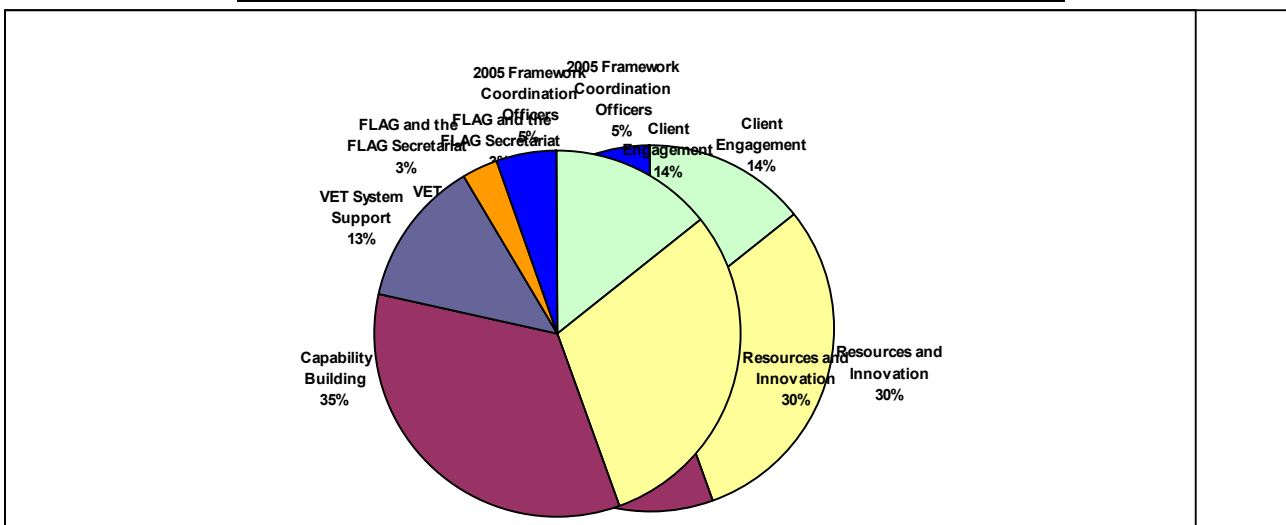


Table 1 – Percentage Breakdown