



Setting up for success in the bushfood industry

In recent times, there has been a dramatic rise in interest, locally and internationally, in animals, insects and plants traditionally used as food by Aboriginal people, commonly known as 'bushfoods'.

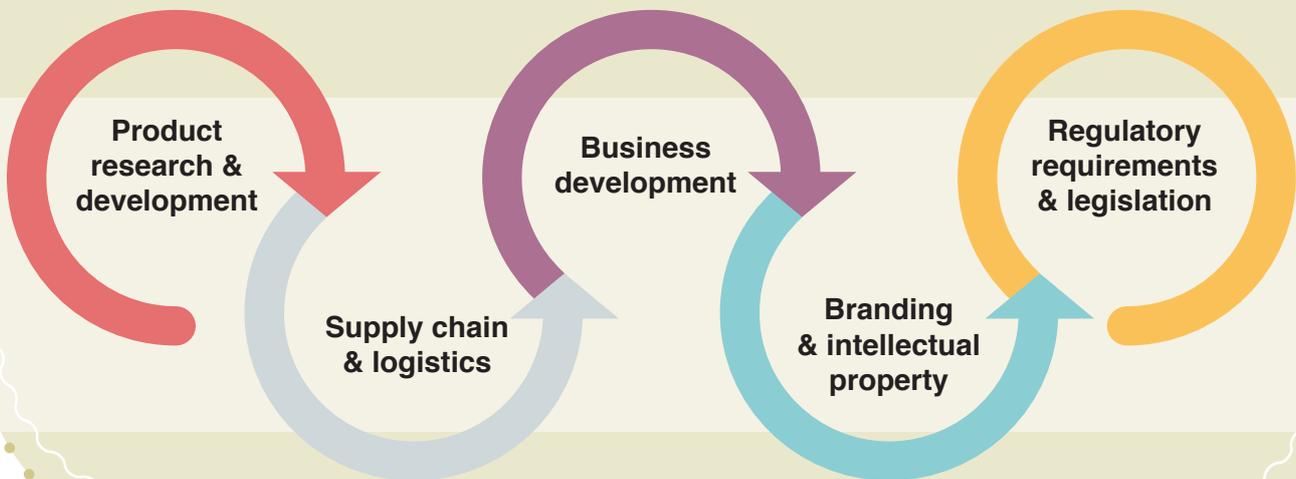
In 2019, the Australian bushfoods industry was valued at \$21.5 million at the farmgate, however, it is estimated that less than 15 per cent of Australian native food producers are Aboriginal enterprises.

Source: Laurie, S. (2020). Australian native foods and botanicals – 2019/20 market study. ANFAB.

The value of the Australian native foods industry will continue to grow. This growth and expansion of the industry provides an opportunity for Aboriginal people and communities to:

- Increase their representation in the industry.
- Build sustainable businesses on Country, harvesting, developing and selling bushfood products.
- Highlight their unique knowledge, stories and connection to Country and native food sources.
- Lead the way in the development, use and commercialisation of unique bushfoods.
- Control the use of native food sources and knowledge by the wider industry.
- Ensure bushfoods are developed, used, and commercialised in a culturally appropriate, respectful, and sustainable way, and ensure benefits are returned to community, and Country is protected and nurtured.

Consider the following:



The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has developed a *Setting up for Success: Bushfoods* guide for Aboriginal businesses wanting to enter or increase their participation in the bushfoods industry.

This 'how to' guide outlines the considerations that bushfood businesses need to consider when producing, harvesting, manufacturing, developing and selling bushfoods.

The accompanying *Protection of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge for bushfood businesses* guide outlines international and national obligations regarding bushfood businesses, Access and Benefit Sharing Agreements and best practice protocols for the protection of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property and Indigenous Ecological Knowledge.

The guides are available on the DPIRD website agric.wa.gov.au/aboriginal-business-development-0. Contact the Aboriginal Economic Development unit for more information and help, email aed@dpiird.wa.gov.au or call +61 (0)459 867 908.



Front cover photo: Kangaroo and emu; cover artwork: Damper by Beryl Ponce, image courtesy of Spinifex Hill Studio

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