



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

FOI Reference: CMTEDDFOI 2019-228

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Documents and schedule	Published
4. Additional information identified	No
5. Fees	Waived
6. Processing time (in working days)	43
7. Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
8. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
9. Decision made by ACAT	N/A
10. Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CMTEDD FOI](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI Request - India delegation
Date: Tuesday, 24 September 2019 7:31:43 PM

Good evening

I write to request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* documents related to Chief Minister Andrew Barr and Mr Deepak-Raj Gupta MLA's trip to India.

These documents may include, but are not limited to, invoices, receipts, acquittals, reimbursements, meeting requests, meeting notes, briefs, booking documents, itinerary, internal correspondence, external correspondence, internal working documents, invitations, discussion of reporting, media plans, allowances, reporting requirements, guidelines, procedures, decision making documents, approvals, and any other advice or documents.

Should you require any further information or clarification about my request, [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI 2019-228

[REDACTED]

via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 24 September 2019, in which you sought access to documents relating to the 2019 delegation to India.

Specifically, you are seeking: *"...documents may include, but are not limited to, invoices, receipts, acquittals, reimbursements, meeting requests, meeting notes, briefs, booking documents, itinerary, internal correspondence, external correspondence, internal working documents, invitations, discussion of reporting, media plans, allowances, reporting requirements, guidelines, procedures, decision making documents, approvals, and any other advice or documents."*

On 18 October 2019 you agreed to a 10-working day extension due to the large number of documents identified as being within the scope of your request. The due date your request was extended to 6 November 2019.

On 29 October 2019 your access application was suspended under section 34(4) of the Act to further clarify the scope of the request. On 8 November 2019 you responded to this clarification request, however the reduction in scope did not significantly reduce the number of documents which were captured by this request.

On 18 November 2019 you were advised of the intention to refuse your request due the number of documents and number of third-party consultations that would be required to process it in its current form. CMTEDD considered the request would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources to process.

On 27 November 2019 you agreed to amended scope suggested by CMTEDD. This resulted in the new due date being 2 January 2020.

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General of CMTEDD under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application by 2 January 2020.

Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant documents and 19 documents were identified that fall within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant full access to eight documents and partial access to 11 documents. The information redacted in the documents I consider to be information that would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest to disclose under the test set out in section 17 of the Act.

I have included as Attachment A to this decision the schedule of relevant documents. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

My access decisions are detailed further in the following statement of reasons and the documents released to you are provided as Attachment B to this letter.

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decision is below.

Statement of Reasons

In reaching my access decision, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act;
- the content of the documents that fall within the scope of your request;
- the submissions made by the relevant third parties; and
- the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Exemption claimed

My reasons for deciding not to grant access to the identified documents and components of these documents are as follows:

Public Interest

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interests lies. As part of this process I must consider factors favouring disclosure and non-disclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when 'used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from "the subject matter and the scope and purpose" of the enactment in which it appears'. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are

relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

Factors favouring disclosure (Schedule 2 section 2.1)

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factor in favour of disclosure is relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

- (a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*
 - (ii) *contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest.*

Having considered the factors identified as relevant in this matter, I consider that release of the information within the scope of the request may contribute to positive and informed debate on matter of public interest and enhance the government's accountability. The documents identified as being within the scope of the request provide information regarding the recent 2019 delegation to India which falls within Canberra's International Engagement strategy as an identified key market. I consider the documents are a matter of public interest and the release of the information identified may promote open discussion around the international engagement. I am satisfied that this factor favouring disclosure carries significant weight. However, this weight is to be balanced with the weight of factors favouring non-disclosure.

Factors favouring non-disclosure (Schedule 2 section 2.2)

As required in the public interest test set out in section 17 of the Act, I have also identified the following public interest factor in favour of non-disclosure that I believe is relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest':

- (a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*
 - (ii) *prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004; and*
 - (xi) *prejudice trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person;*

When considering the documents and the factor in favour of non-disclosure, I have considered the personal information contained in the documents, including names and contact information. I am satisfied that the names and contact information of ACT Government employees, some official participants names and high level dignitaries of the delegation should be released as these individuals were acting in their official capacity and the personal information being released is done so in relation to these individuals exercising their delegations in a work-related capacity. I do not consider the release of this information is unreasonable or could prejudice their right to privacy.

However, I consider that it is unreasonable to release the names and contact information of individuals that are not ACT Government employees, including Commonwealth

employees below Senior Executive Service (SES) levels, various staff details involved in the delegation with administrative responsibilities including approving and clearing documents, investor, university partners, and the consul-general guest list names. I am satisfied that this factor favouring non-disclosure should be afforded significant weight as it relates to individual privacy. However, I have decided to leave the business details of these people as I do not believe the release of this information to be unreasonable.

I have also considered the impact of disclosing information which relates to business affairs. In the case of *Re Mangan and The Treasury* [2005] AATA 898 the term 'business affairs' was interpreted as meaning 'the totality of the money-making affairs of an organisation or undertaking as distinct from its private or internal affairs'. Schedule 2 section 2.2(a)(xi) allows for government information to be withheld from release if disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to prejudice the trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person. The information withheld from release could reasonably be expected to unfairly prejudice the business affairs of the ACT Government by disclosing the details of partnership agreements with international partners.

Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that is not in the public interest to release, while releasing the rest of the information to you will ensure that the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of the information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

Charges

Pursuant to *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2017 (No 2)* processing charges are applicable for this request because the total number of pages to be released to you exceeds the charging threshold of 50 pages. However, the charges have been waived in accordance with section 107(2)(e) of the Act.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. A description of the access application and my decision will be published in the CMTEDD disclosure log three days after the date of my decision. Your personal contact details will not be published. You may view the CMTEDD disclosure log at <https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi/disclosure-log>.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in CMTEDD disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

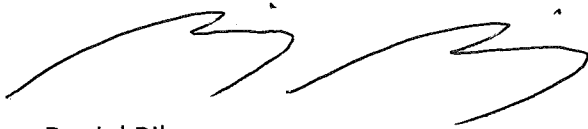
ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Level 4, 1 Moore St
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact me by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Daniel Riley
Information Officer
Information Access Team
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

6 December 2019



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

NAME	WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
	Documents in relation to the recent India trip	CMTEDDFOI2019-228

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-251	Delhi and Mumbai 2019 Chief Minister's Delegation	30 Aug 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii) Sch 2 s2.2(a)(xi)	Yes
2	252	Letter to CM from MLA Gupta	5 Aug 2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
3	253-254	Letter to MLA Gupta from CM	undated	Full release	N/A	Yes
TRAVEL DOCUMENTS						
4	255-273	CM Barr	Various	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
5	274-284	MLA Gupta	Various	Full release	N/A	Yes
6	285-298	Staff member Dynon	Various	Full release	N/A	Yes
7	299-339	Brief 2019/4022/Travel documents Smyth	Various	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
8	340-370	Travel documents Balaretnaraja	Various	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
Payments						
9	371-376	Invoice 34092 – Eco Rent a Car x2	10 Sep 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
10	377-380	Breakfast meeting in Mumbai	20 Sep 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
11	381	Meeting room hire – The Imperial	3 Sep 2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
12	382	Banquets Invoice	4 Sep 2019	Full release	N/A	Yes

13	383-384	The Taj Mahal Palace Invoice	4 Sep 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
14	385	Barr receipt – The Taj Mahal Place	24 Oct 2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
15	386-387	Tourism Meeting in Mumbai invoice	5 Sep 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
MLA Documents						
16	388-391	Letter to Mr Deepak Raj Gupta (Akshardham visit)	26 Aug 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
17	392-393	India Visit	27 Aug 2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
18	394-395	As discussed, - ...Akshardham visit	26 Aug 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
19	396-398	Visit of Mr. Andrew Barr MLA	29 Aug 2019	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
Total No of Docs						
19						



DELHI AND MUMBAI 2019

**Chief Minister's Delegation
31 August – 5 September 2019**

CMTEDD

As at 30 August 2019

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OVERVIEW

DAY	EVENTS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
SAT 31 AUG	Travel from SYDNEY to SINGAPORE to DELHI Recovery	Depart Sydney: 0755 Depart Singapore: 1650 Arrive Delhi: 2010
SUN 1 SEPT	DELHI Recovery	
MON 2 SEPT	DELHI	<i><u>See itinerary</u></i>
TUES 3 SEPT	DELHI Travel from DELHI to MUMBAI	<i><u>See itinerary</u></i> Depart Delhi: 1745 Arrive Mumbai: 2010
WED 4 SEPT	MUMBAI Reception	<i><u>See itinerary</u></i>
THURS 5 SEPT	Travel from MUMBAI to SINGAPORE to CANBERRA	Depart Mumbai: 2340 Depart Singapore: 1030 Arrive Canberra: 2220 (+1)

KEY CONTACTS

Travelling Party

- Kaarin Dynon, Senior Communications Advisor – 2.2(a)(ii)
- Deepak-Raj Gupta, MLA – [REDACTED]
- Brendan Smyth, Commissioner for International Engagement – 2.2(a)(ii)
- Ash BalaretnaRaja – Senior Director, Tertiary Education, Training and Research – 2.2(a)(ii)

Canberra

- Morgan Campbell, Senior Director, Strategic Coordination and Governance – 2.2(a)(ii)

Delhi

Dr Timothy Kendall	Counsellor (Economic)	2.2(a)(ii)
Ms Lyndal Corbett	Counsellor (Education and Research)	[REDACTED]
<i>Hotel</i>	The Imperial New Delhi	+11 2334 1234
<i>Driver</i>	2.2(a)(ii)	2.2(a)(ii)

Mumbai

Mr Chris Ellinger	Deputy Consul General	2.2(a)(ii)
Dr Matthew Durvan	Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner	[REDACTED]
<i>Hotel</i>	The Taj Mahal Tower	+91 22 6665 3000
<i>Driver</i>	XXX	+XX

TRAVEL DETAILS

Flights

Saturday 31 August

SQ 212 - Canberra (0755) - Singapore (1415)

SQ 406- Singapore (1650) – Delhi (2010)

Flight departs from TERMINAL 3 and arrives at TERMINAL 3

Facilitation: VIP Facilitation has been organised.

Tuesday 3 September

UK 955- Delhi (1745) – Mumbai (2010)

Flight departs from TERMINAL 3 and arrives at TERMINAL 2

Facilitation: VIP Facilitation has been organised.

Thursday 5 September

SQ 423 Mumbai (2340) – Singapore (0740)

Flight departs from TERMINAL 2 and arrives at TERMINAL 3.

SQ288 - Singapore (1030) - Canberra (2220 +1)

Flight departs from TERMINAL 3.

Facilitation: VIP Facilitation has been organised for departure from Mumbai to Singapore.

Ground transport

Delhi

- 8 seater van booked (Toyota Commuter) through ECOS (India) Mobility & Hospitality Pty Ltd on the High Commission's recommendation
- The Registration Number is DL1VC 0621
- The van is available for –
 - The trip from the airport to your hotel on Saturday 31 August;
 - The full day for all engagements on Monday 2 September;
 - The trip from your hotel to the airport on Tuesday 3 September.
- A credit card has been provided to ECOS which will be charged at the conclusion the Delhi leg.
- Driver: 2.2(a)(ii)

Mumbai

- 12 seater van booked (Isuzu Sml) through Euro Cars India.
- The Registration Number is XXX
- The van is available for –
 - The trip from the airport to your hotel on Saturday 13 July
 - The full day for all engagements on Monday 15 July, Tuesday 16 July and Wednesday 17 July; and
 - The trip from your hotel to the airport on Thursday 18 July.
- A credit card hard been provided to Euro Cars which will be charged at the conclusion of the Mumbai leg.
- Contacts:
 - 2.2(a)(ii) Head of Sales, +918879671663
 - 2.2(a)(ii) Head of Client Relations, +918879671666
- Driver: XXX

Accommodation

Delhi

The Imperial New Delhi

Janpath Lane, Connaught Place, New Delhi, 110001 India

Tel: +11 2334 1234

Mr Andrew Barr: **20542778**

Ms Kaarin Dynon: **20542779**

Mr Deepak-Raj Gupta: **20542777**

Mr Brendan Smyth: **233737590**

Mr Ash BalaretnaRaja: **233677779**

Mumbai

The Taj Mahal Tower

Apollo Bandar, Colaba, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400001, India

Tel: +91 22 6665 3000

Mr Andrew Barr: **113075079**

Ms Kaarin Dynon: **113075080**

Mr Deepak-Raj Gupta: **113075078**

Mr Brendan Smyth: **WYLTSP;75768SB094764**

Mr Ash BalaretnaRaja: **131043908**

DAY 1: SATURDAY 31 AUGUST

CANBERRA/SINGAPORE/DELHI

Local Time	Event	Information
0755	Depart on SQ 212 to Singapore	
1415	Arrive in Singapore	
1650	Depart on SQ 406 to Delhi	
2010	Arrive New Delhi, Delhi	Met by Indian Government official for VIP Facilitation You will be escorted to your driver <i>Travel to The Imperial New Delhi (50 mins approx.)</i> <i>Janpath Ln, Janpath, Connaught Place, New Delhi, Delhi, India, 110001</i>
2130 approx.	Check in + Recovery	

DAY 2: SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

DELHI

Local Time		Information
	Recovery	
1730-1930	Tour of Swaminarayan Akshardhan	BRIEF
		Organised by Mr Gupta – metro travel suggested

DAY 3: MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

DELHI

Local Time		Information
0730	Meet your driver. <i>Travel to Australian High Commission (approximately 20 minutes)</i>	
0800 - 0900	Meeting with the Australian High Commission (Incl Austrade, Education Counsellor and Tourism Australia) Location: Australian High Commission Opposite British High Commission, 1/50 G Panchsheel Marg, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, Delhi 110021, India <i>Travel to meet with the Chief Minister of Delhi (20-35 mins approx.)</i>	BRIEF
1100 – 1200	Meeting with Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal Location: Office of Chief Minister Govt. of NCT of Delhi 3rd Floor, A-Wing Delhi Secretariat <i>Travel to Ministry of Human Resource Development (30mins-1hr approx.)</i>	BRIEF
TBC	Meeting with the Ministry of Human Resource Development Location: Ministry of Human Resource Development Ministry of H.R.D., 1, West Block, Rama Krishna Puram, New Delhi, Delhi 110066, India <i>Travel to Australian High Commission (break at hotel depending on timing) (10-20 mins approx.)</i>	BRIEF
1800 - 2000	Welcome Reception Australian High Commission Opposite British High Commission, 1/50 G Panchsheel Marg, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, Delhi 110021, India	BRIEF

DAY 4: TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

DELHI/MUMBAI

Local Time		Information
0845-0945	Meeting with Tourism Infrastructure Investors Location: The Imperial Hotel	BRIEF
1000-1100	Meeting with AAERI Location: The Imperial Hotel	BRIEF
1100-1230	Domestic work Location: The Imperial Hotel	
1200-1300	<i>Brendan Smyth meeting with Vistara</i> <i>Location: TBC</i>	
1230-1400	Lunch roundtable with UNSW Institution Location: The Imperial Hotel	BRIEF
TBC	<i>Brendan Smyth and Ash BalaretnaRaja meeting with the Department of Education</i> <i>Location: TBC</i>	
1430-1530	Travel to Airport Indira Gandhi International Airport	
1700	Depart on UK 955 to Mumbai	
1920	Arrive in Mumbai Travel to Taj Mahal Tower Mumbai (1hr 10mins approx.) <i>Apollo Bandar, Colaba, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400001, India</i>	
2100 approx.	Check in and Recovery	

DAY 5: WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

MUMBAI

Local Time		Information
0800 - 0900	Meeting with the Australian Consul-General (Incl Austrade) Location: Taj Mahal Tower Mumbai	BRIEF
	Travel to next meeting TBC	
TBC	Meeting with Chief Minister of Mumbai Location: TBC	BRIEF
	Travel to Taj Mahal Tower Mumbai (1hr 10mins approx.) <i>Apollo Bandar, Colaba, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400001, India</i>	
1200-1400	Lunch meeting with university of Canberra Partners' Reception Hosted by UC, including signing of three MOUs Location: Princes Room, Taj Mahal Tower, Mumbai	BRIEF
1400-1900	Domestic work. Location: Taj Mahal Tower Mumbai	
1530-1630	<i>Brendan Smyth and Ash BalaretnaRaja meeting with AAERI</i>	
1900-2100	Reception Location: Taj Mahal Tower Mumbai	BRIEF

DAY 6: THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

LONDON

Local Time	Event	Information
1030-1100	Meeting with Singapore Airlines Location: Taj Mahal Tower Hotel	BRIEF
1100-1130	Meeting with Tourism Australian on Market Update Location: Taj Mahal Tower Hotel	BRIEF
1130-1400	Meeting with India-based tourism and media followed by lunch. Location: Taj Mahal Tower Hotel	BRIEF
1400-2100	Desk time. Recovery. <u>Chief Minister has late check-out until 8pm.</u>	
2100	Travel to Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai Mumbai, Maharashtra 400099, India	
2340	Depart on SQ 423 to Singapore	
0740	Arrive Singapore, Terminal 3.	
1030	Depart on SQ288 to Canberra.	
2200 (+1)	Arrive Canberra	



Economic Development Division
CMTEDD

As at 30 August 2019



Welcome guide

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Taxis and transport

Your hotel will be able to arrange a taxi for you when needed, and on departing the High Commission the guards at each guard house will arrange a taxi for you on request. Uber and Ola operate within New Delhi.

The High Commission does not recommend the use of rickshaws.

Tipping

Tipping staff in restaurants and hotels is generally expected. As a general rule, 10% of the bill is appropriate, even where a service charge has been levied.

Porters will expect payment of Rs 20 (approximately 40 cents) per bag.

Employees of the High Commission, including official drivers are not permitted to accept tips.



Security

Current travel advice for India advises travelers to exercise a high degree of caution due to high threat of terrorist activity, civil unrest, crime and the high rate of vehicle accidents. Travelers should pay close attention to their personal security at all times.

The safety of women is a concern in India and women are encouraged to take particular care, including when traveling in a group.

Security briefings can be provided by the Regional Security Advisor if required.



Beggars

Beggars and exposure to poverty is common in Delhi and can be confronting.

Visitors should respond to beggars in the way they feel most comfortable while ensuring they pay close attention to their personal security.

If providing money or other items to a beggar you should be aware that a larger group of beggars may quickly congregate, or your vehicle may be recognised on return trips to the area.

Water

Tap water at hotels is generally considered to be safe for showering, but should not be used for drinking or brushing teeth. Sealed bottled water should be used for all drinking and brushing teeth.

Food safety

'Delhi Belly' is a common concern for visitors to India. Some preventative measures include:

Avoid drinking or ingesting tap water, including ice and drinks that may have been watered down (such as fruit juice)

Wash hands and use hand sanitizer regularly

Use restaurants recommended by officers and avoid street food

Avoid uncooked or washed foods such as salads

Sun protection

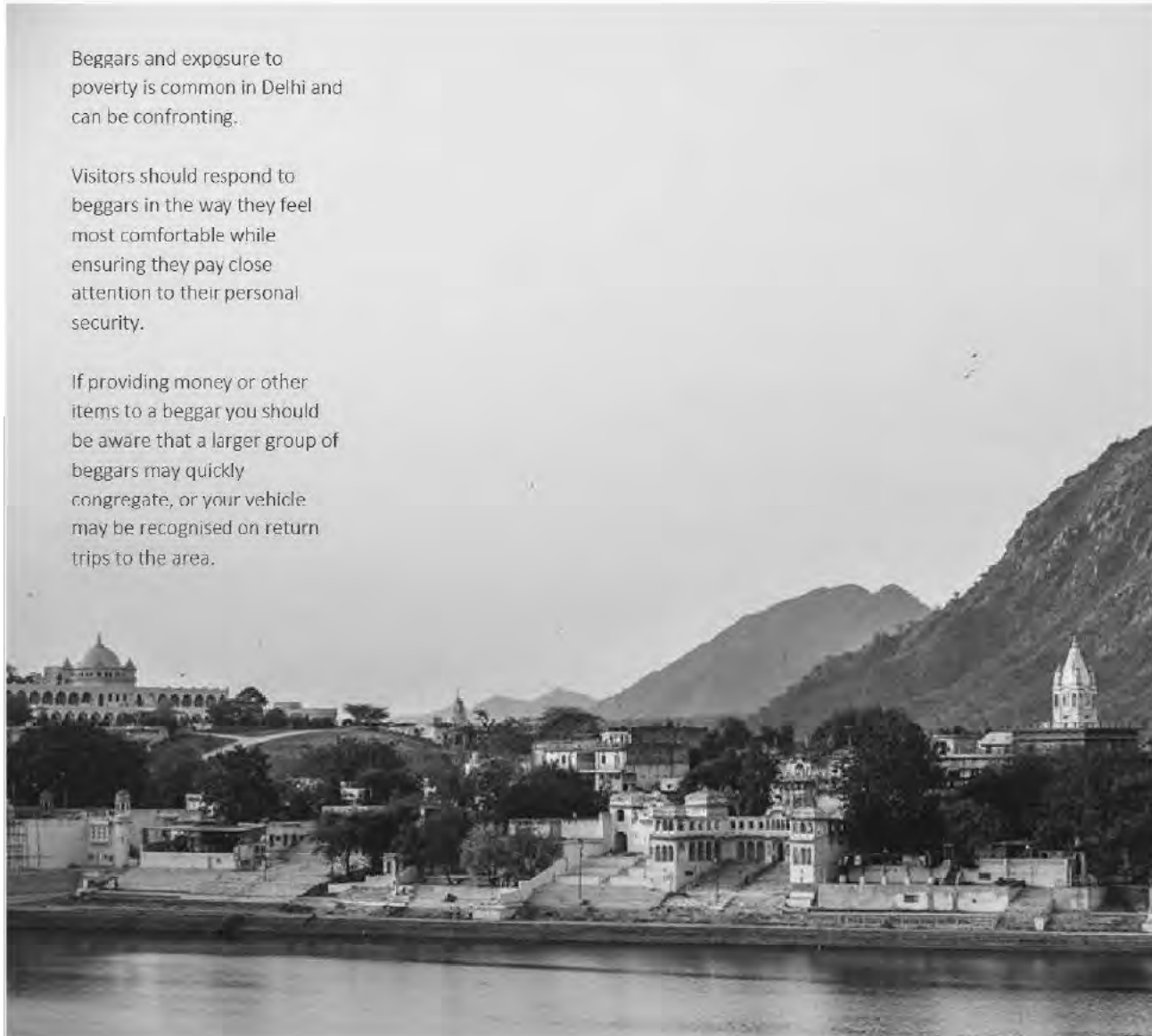
If spending time outside during summer periods visitors are encouraged to wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen lotion.

Avoid spending long periods in the sun during the middle of the day, and drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration, similar to as you would in Australia.

Air Quality

Air pollution in Delhi can regularly reach 'hazardous' levels, especially during winter months. During periods of high pollution, visitors are encouraged to minimise time outdoors, minimise physical exertion outdoors and may wish to consider use of a personal mask.

N95 masks are available from the High Commission.





Climate

Temperatures in Delhi range from mild (5 to 20 degrees) during winter months to very hot (45 degrees) during summer months.

Seasons:

December – January	Winter	5 – 25 degrees
February – March	Spring	20 – 25 degrees
April – June	Summer	25 – 45 degrees
July – September	Monsoon	30 – 35 degrees
October – December	Autumn	20 – 30 degrees

Contacts

Reception	+91 (011) 4139 9913
Regional Security Advisor	+91 8800 332 257
SAO	+91 9810 096 493
DHOM	+91 9667 344 224

When calling a landline from a mobile phone, dial 011 before the number.

INDIA MISSION – SEPTEMBER 2019

OVERVIEW BRIEF

MEETING:	India Mission
DATE:	Saturday, 31 August 2019 – Thursday, 5 September 2019

Overview

India is identified as a key market in the ACT Government's *International Engagement Strategy*. Identified markets for potential collaboration is tourism, education and research, ICT e-Government and Health and sports sciences. This mission will focus on tourism and education and research.

TOURISM

- Canberra's potential as a global aviation hub is growing. 14 international air services land in Canberra each week via Singapore Airlines and Qatar Airways.
- As a result, Canberra is currently seeing record international visitation and spend. Visitation is being driven by people coming to the capital to holiday, visit their friends and relatives, and for education purposes.
- With significant growth in international visitation and ongoing investment in new tourism infrastructure, the ACT Government is looking for continued growth from the international airlines that connect with Canberra.
- Aviation partnerships are key to reaching identified international markets.
- International co-operative marketing campaigns have been delivered in partnership with Singapore Airlines in Singapore, Malaysia, India, Hong Kong, China and UK.
- Partnership with Tourism Australia allows VisitCanberra to amplify key messages through their programs and in-market teams.
- Spend by international visitors in Canberra increased to \$603 million for year ending March 2019.
- India is developing into one of the most important international markets for Canberra.
- It is now the fourth largest market by volume behind China, UK and USA. The Indian market provides 6.5 per cent of total international visitors to Canberra.
- Visitation from India grew by 41 percent for the year ending March 2019. The market is performing strongly across leisure, visiting friends and relatives and education.
- VisitCanberra has appointed a full time staff member that is based in Tourism Australia's Singapore office. The resource is dedicated to building and managing key relationships and promoting Canberra to Singapore, Malaysia and India

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

To provide you with a briefing on the current state of Australian-Indian relations, the Indian Government's broader economic and tertiary education priorities, and the current influence of India on Australia's and Canberra's tertiary education systems. More detailed information will be covered in the detailed meeting briefings, as appropriate.

- India's higher education system is the second largest in the world in terms of enrolments and largest in the world in terms of number of institutions – 864 university level institutions, 38,000 colleges and 10,000 standalone colleges.

- India's higher education student population totalled over 36.5 million in 2017, the second largest in the world after China. Nearly 79 per cent of all India's higher education students were enrolled at the undergraduate level.
- Indian students are highly mobile in comparison to other jurisdictions. Of five million higher education students studying outside their home countries globally in 2017, over 300,000 came from India – the second highest number after China. For these students, Australia is their second destination of choice, after the United States. In 2018, 108,071 Indian students studied in Australia, primarily in higher education and VET.
- There remains significant levels of unmet demand for undergraduate and postgraduate education in India. This is particularly the case for elite higher education institutions where admission remains limited and intensely competitive.
- On 6 May 2019, ABC's Four Corners aired a program titled "cash cows" highlighting issues with the student recruitment practices of some Australian universities. No Canberra universities were raised in the program, however, it is recommended that the delegation view the Four Corners program at <https://www.abc.net.au/4corners/cash-cows/11084858> or via the ABC iView app.
- This is the first delegation to India you have led. India is a large market, and the Austrade presentation at Attachment A has been to illustrate the breadth of the work in India in this delegation's tertiary education focus.

Indian Students in Australian Tertiary Education

As India grows, it will look to other countries for three things:

- to provide on-shore training;
- to provide offshore education; and,
- to offer pathways for Indian workers to take up jobs overseas.

Australia is well placed to partner with India across all three.

In Canberra, the top five source markets or regions for international students are China, India, South Korea, Bhutan, and Vietnam. China accounts for three-fifths of all international students in Canberra, with India a distant second at six per cent (1,200 total students in 2018).

	National (Total)			ACT (Total)		
	Market	Number	Share	Market	Number	Share
1 st	China	255,283	29.2%	China	11,579	60.3%
2 nd	India	107,635	12.3%	India	1,225	6.4%
3 rd	Nepal	52,048	6.0%	S. Korea	479	2.5%
4 th	Brazil	40,772	4.7%	Bhutan	442	2.3%
5 th	Malaysia	33,577	3.8%	Vietnam	396	2.1%

Presently, the five dominant source markets or regions for Australia's international higher education student population are China, India, Nepal, Malaysia, and Vietnam. These five countries account for over half (53 per cent) of Australia's international higher education student population, while India alone accounts for 11 per cent.

	National (Higher Ed. Only)			ACT (Higher Ed. Only)		
	Market	Number	Share	Market	Number	Share
1 st	China	152,558	38.3%	China	8,538	66.2%
2 nd	India	71,756	18.0%	India	828	6.4%
3 rd	Nepal	28,197	7.1%	Indonesia	324	2.5%
4 th	Vietnam	15,699	3.9%	Malaysia	298	2.3%
5 th	Malaysia	13,984	3.5%	Hong Kong	247	1.9%

Both Australia-wide and in Canberra, Indian students have a higher representation in higher education than in vocational education (66 per cent nationally, 69 per cent in Canberra). This is mainly due to the fact that there is a perception that the economics of sending a student here for vocational education are worse than higher education. In both higher and vocational education, and both Australia-wide and in Canberra the largest field of study for Indian students are courses in Management and Commerce, followed by Information and Communication Technology. In Canberra, three-fourths of Indian vocational students are studying in Management and Commerce.

Indian students also largely study in Australia at higher qualification levels. Australia-wide, in higher education, almost three-fourths of Indian students are studying at the post-graduate level; and in vocational education, almost three-fifths are working towards either a Diploma or Advanced Diploma. The trend is similar in Canberra, although the percentage of students in advanced qualifications for the vocational sector somewhat higher than national.

Presently, the number of Indian students studying in Australian higher education is approximately 0.2 per cent of its internal student population. If that rate remains unchanged as India's higher education sector grows, then that would result in approximately 200,000 Indian students in the Australian higher education sector within 20 years, which is only a slight increase.

Were Canberra to only maintain its share of the number of Indians studying in Australia, then it could expect to host approximately 2,000 Indian students – an almost doubling of the current Indian international student population over the next 20 years.

Australian-Indian Relations

Both the Indian and Australian governments recognise there is significant potential for further cooperation across a broad range of areas. Two-way Prime Ministerial visits in 2014 built significant momentum in the relationship and re-affirmed the Strategic Partnership agreed to in 2009.

The Department of Education and Training office at the Australian High Commission leads strategic policy, regulation and government-to-government engagement in international education and research across India and the region. Additionally, Australia and India have instituted a program of close cooperation on education, training and research, chiefly through the Australia India Education Council (AIEC).

The AIEC is a bi-national body chaired by the Education Ministers of India and Australia to expand collaboration in education, training and research. The AIEC is a 'working council' of representatives from government, academia and industry. The AIEC provides a forum for members to collaborate with Ministers in deciding major bilateral education priorities for the coming year. Whilst the AIEC has facilitated high level knowledge partnerships and exchange, it has not engaged with states or territories in a meaningful way.

In August 2015, the third AIEC meeting resulted in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Governments of Australia and India to reaffirm their commitment to the AIEC as the principal body for guiding the strategic direction of the knowledge partnership between both countries ([Attachment B](#), related Joint Communiqués at [Attachments C and D](#)). The MoU stressed mutual support for formal exchange programmes, research collaboration, twinning arrangements between institutions, and sharing best-practices. The MoU remains in force through August 2020.

Australian-Indian Economic Relationship and Strategy to 2035

India's economy is of global importance. It has a large and young population and an open and democratic political system. It is already the third largest economy and contributor to global economic growth, yet there is considerable untapped potential. With more than a sixth of the world's population, India produces only seven per cent of the world's output.

India is Australia's fourth largest trading partner, with Australian merchandise and services exports to India valued at A\$21.1 billion in 2018. Two-way trade was valued at A\$29.1 billion in 2018. Total Indian investment in Australia is near A\$15.5 billion, while total Australian investment in India is over A\$13.9 billion.

India is engaged in an ambitious infrastructure push that includes highway and railway construction, a nation-wide 100 smart cities programme, modernising sea- and airports, and creating industrial corridors. It also has some of the world's most ambitious renewable energy targets in order to industrialise without sharply increasing reliance on fossil fuels.

Major opportunities for collaboration, trade and investment exist in India's education, agribusiness, energy, health, and innovation sectors.

But while India is investing heavily in physical and industrial infrastructure, the share of its economy which is driven by services industries continues to grow faster than other sectors. As of 2016-17, India's services sector accounted for almost half of India's GDP, whereas trade and services accounts for almost three-fifths of the Australian economy.

India's economic progress will not be linear. It will be subject to structural shifts and will be shaped by technological and environmental disruptions. However, current trends indicate that India's economy could overtake the United States' position as the world's second-largest by share of global GDP within the next 20 years.

Indian Tertiary Education: Context and Strategy

India's higher education student population totals 36.5 million, considerably more students than the entire population of Australia. However, as India is still undergoing modernisation, the proportion of Indian 18 to 49 year olds enrolled in higher education compared to its population significantly lags Australia and other developed economies.

One-in-seven Australians aged 18 to 49 are enrolled in higher education, compared to less than one-in-twenty in India. And whereas one-in-three Australians aged 25 to 64 have a graduate or post-graduate degree, only one-in-ten Indians in that age cohort do.

Recognising their deficits in higher education compared to developed nations, both China and India have invested significant resources to boost the attractiveness and attainment of higher education qualifications.

Since 2011, India has opened 240 degree-offering higher education institutions (with a total of 864). If India sustains its current growth rates of their higher education student population, then in 20 years India would be expected to have 60 million higher education students (87 per cent growth), representing eight per cent of its 18 to 49 cohort.

By way of comparison, Australia has 176 registered higher education providers – unchanged in three years. And while the share of India's higher education student population compared to its adult population still lags Australia's and the developed world economies', its share has improved each year.

If India were to achieve a rate of enrolment in higher education similar to Australia, and with a similar ratio of higher education providers, then India would have 88 million students

and 10,400 institutions. These levels are improbable and unrealistic in the near-term, but are indicative of its higher education capacity relative to Australia.

ABC's Four Corners aired a program titled "cash cows" which investigated how Australia's higher education system has growing reliance on foreign fee-paying students. No Canberra based universities were implicated in this report, however, it is important context amid the growing concern that some universities and/or student recruitment agencies are undermining the reputation of Australian universities who are focused on quality outcomes for students, rather than the revenue they bring.

India's New Education Policy

Following the 2019 Indian general election, the Indian Government released a draft New Education Policy (NEP) which promises to overhaul school and higher education policy for the first time since 1992. The draft NEP is a 484 page report resulting from five years of consultations and two committees. In a system of 864 universities, 40,000 colleges and over 1.5 million schools, the NEP emphasises the need to increase flexibility, improve the quality of teachers, integrate 21st century skills and improve quality. The NEP is currently out for consultation and has so far received 77,000 responses.

The NEP aims to overhaul the delivery of degrees in India, increasing the flexibility afforded to students, by streamlining the process for credit recognition and transfer with a new National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF), a framework currently only available in the skills sector. The NEP also recognises the need for better quality online education, with a particular focus on online teacher education.

India's Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme

The Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme (EQUIP) is a five year action plan prepared by the Department of Higher Education to bridge the gap between policy and implementation in the field of higher education and accessibility. The full report is not publicly available, as it is currently under consideration by the Indian Government.

Among other aspirations, EQUIP seeks to double the gross enrolment ratio in higher education, position at least 50 Indian institutions among the top-1000 global universities, promote research and innovation ecosystems to position India in the top three countries in the world in matters of knowledge creation, and promote India as a global study destination.

Attachments

[Attachment A](#): "India Education Forum: State to State Priorities" by Austrade, 13 August 2019

[Attachment B](#): "Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the Fields of Education, Training and Research," 24 August 2015

[Attachment C](#): "Australia-India Ministerial Dialogue on Education Cooperation," 24 August 2015

[Attachment D](#): "Australia-India Ministerial Dialogue on Education Cooperation," 29 June 2018

India Education Forum

Session 2:

State to State priorities – foundations and partnerships

Austrade

13 August 2019



Australian Government
Austrade



INDIA MARKET PRIORITIES AND MARKET ACTION PLAN



SUMMARY

- There is no sector with greater promise for Australia in India than education.
- Australia's future growth and prosperity will be driven by our ability to generate and attract the 'best and brightest'.
- Getting education right is also critical for India to maximise the potential of its demographic dividend.
- India cannot meet the demand for education on its own.
- As a world-class education provider, Australia is well placed to partner with India across secondary, university and vocational sectors.
- Australia should look to increase the number of high calibre Indian students at its universities and deepen two way research links while continuing to welcome Indian students who seek an Australian education primarily for a migration outcome.
- Australia's vocational system is highly regarded in India and providers can benefit from this reputation if they can adjust their business model to reflect India's low-cost, high-volume environment.
- Online education will be crucial if India is to meet its massive education needs and Australia should work more closely with India in this area.
- Increasing the recognition in India of Australian qualifications will give a significant boost to the education relationship and should be a priority for the Australian Government.
- India is big enough to accommodate all Australian education providers, which need to collaborate more and place increased emphasis on the quality of an Australian education in their marketing.

A SIMPLIFIED LOOK AT AUSTRADE'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Brand Australia, digital platform and campaigns

Market intelligence, data and insights

Tailored support, market entry and market access

APPLYING A NEW WAY OF WORKING - MARKET ACTION PLANS



Council for International Education endorsed Market Action Plans (MAP) as a means to leverage the Collaborative Marketing Framework that seeks to align state and territory, Australian governments and provider efforts. They are dynamic and living plans, reviewed annually.

What is a Market Action Plan?

Australian education and training providers are **actively seeking opportunities**, both in terms of traditional recruitment and in-market delivery, and those arising from digital and disruptive technologies.

Market Action Plans (MAPs) provide a collective view of opportunities and Australia's comparative advantages. They provide **actions to coordinate** government and sector efforts to collectively grow brand Australia.

MAPs **reflect core objectives** of the National Strategy for International Education and Austrade's market development roadmap AIE2025. Central to these strategies is the need for government at all levels and the sector to work collaboratively.

Previous MAPs have been funded through the Enabling Growth and Innovation program part of a broad range of activities underway to **ensure Australian education remains globally competitive.**

DESIGNED TO BUILD GREATER COLLABORATION IN KEY MARKETS

WITH A KEY FOCUS ON STATE AND TERRITORY ALIGNMENT



Benefits of Market Action Plans

- 1 Enable a **Cooperative focus and aligned** effort to **maximise impact** and benefit for the sector, and Australia's brand
- 2 Support translation of strong growth potential **into sustained engagement** for Australia
- 3 Provide a coordinated **set of actions** across government and sectors to collectively grow brand Australia
- 4 Create a blueprint for **trailing new ways** of working in target markets

MARKET ACTION PLANS ARE INFORMED BY THE COLLABORATIVE MARKETING FRAMEWORK

The Collaborative Marketing Framework identifies where cooperative marketing efforts are likely to be most effective.

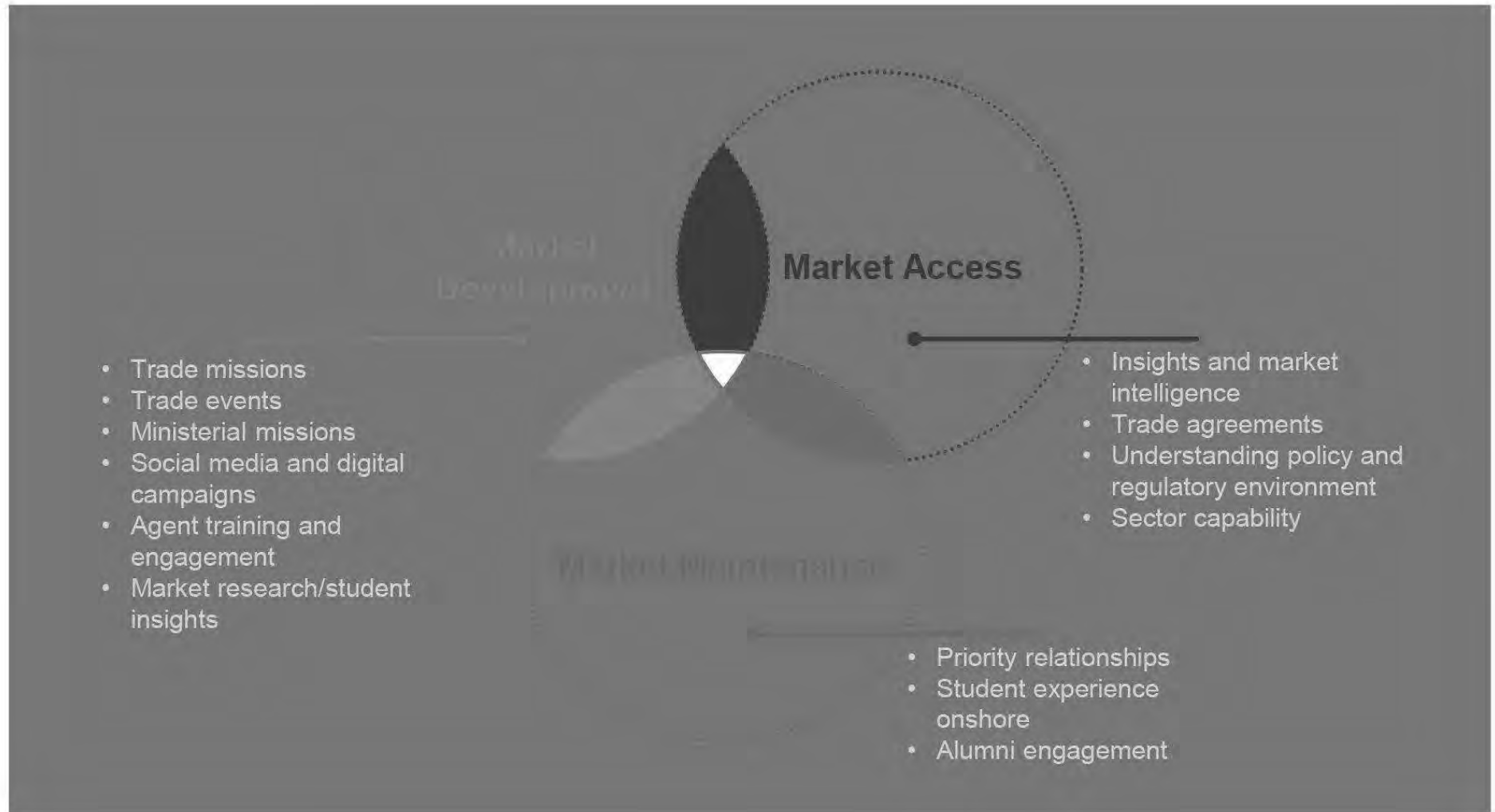
It was developed and endorsed by the National Council for International Education and refined for use with all states and territories through our collaborative work on the Austrade Marketing Forum

It is a data and evidence-based tool that enables market prioritisation and outlines models and approaches to collaboration.

The Collaborative Marketing Framework also supports the management of communications and messaging through the Reputational Risk Framework.



TOOLS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT ENGAGEMENT



STATE OF PLAY 2018 INDIAN STUDENT ENROLMENTS BY STATE



However we know this is only one dimension of education, training and research engagement between Australia and India, but also most visible

GLOBAL SECTOR STRATEGIES - ALIGNING AUSTRADE'S EFFORTS

84

Points of presence overseas

49

Countries

10

Offices in Australia

35

Education priority markets

5

Landing Pads in global innovation hubs

7

Regional Trade Commissioners(Education)

50

Education specialist staff across the globe



Global International Education Team