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Submission:

Currently I work as a lecturer in music for Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education. So my focus for a cultural policy is remote community and based in the arts, specifically music.

While the culture of music is strong in both first and second languages (English being the second language) in central desert communities, access to dedicated rehearsal and recording spaces is very limited, mostly non-existent.

In terms of cultural policy, means to support and either develop business opportunities and funding avenues for communities to build their own media centres would be a necessary step in supporting, maintaining and developing artistic practices in multi media.

As a lecturer, my ability to effectively deliver registered training is undermined by lack of resources on communities. Tin sheds are not an appropriate musical storage or rehearsal room. Equipment that is given to communities without training and understanding how to look after and respect the gear and without venue for storage and job for management is unwise and has not worked for the 30 years or so money has been thrown into music equipment on communities.

The way forward is to develop a business model of operating. Access to the internet for marketing, booking, touring and organising events with music, eg sports weekends, would help an already existing network of communities to continue practicing their culture (in this case football and music that is sports weekends) in a far more efficient manner with the potential to create revenue from sales of music and associated merchandise.