

# Government 2.0 Taskforce Request for Project Proposal

## Project 10: Framework for Stimulating Information Philanthropy in Australia

### Scope:

This project will investigate the potential for taxation and other concessions that would stimulate increased investment in “information philanthropy” projects, including consideration of whether charitable status should apply to such ventures.

### Context:

One of the barriers to large scale investment in information philanthropy in Australia is the difficulty of attracting charitable giving and tax deductible status as these laws were never designed with the digital economy in mind. In order to stimulate and support increased investment in “info-philanthropic” projects that create valuable new infrastructure and information assets in the Australian commons to underpin a vibrant knowledge based economy in the same way that existing policies support ongoing investment in areas such as charitable services and medical research.

### Objectives:

- Advise the current legal situation regarding charitable giving and tax deductible status in relation to information philanthropy ventures;
- Provide best practice examples of taxation and other schemes around the world that have successfully been implemented to stimulate increased investment in info-philanthropic projects;
- Provide options for legislative and policy measures to overcome the current impediments and increase the flow of information philanthropy investments including economic modeling of the costs and benefits.

### Deliverables:

A final report provided to the Gov 2.0 Taskforce Secretariat via email ([gov2secretariat@finance.gov.au](mailto:gov2secretariat@finance.gov.au)) by 30 October 2009. The report will be in Microsoft Word DOC format, Rich Text Format RTF or OpenDocument Text ODT. It will contain at minimum: executive summary; findings; discussion of issues; and recommendations.

As part of the project, the successful contractor may be asked to provide services to further inform the Taskforce or assist with researching/authoring/editing sections of the Taskforce report. The Taskforce may also request progress reports and/or draft versions of the report be provided, and members of the Taskforce may choose to collaborate with the successful contractor on the project.

### Cost Estimate:

Estimated budget for this research is \$15,000 - \$30,000 GST inclusive.