



**NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL**

Our Land, Our Sea, Our Life

Community Planning and Development

Building stronger communities and better lives.

Newsletter 5, December 2020



Traditional Owners at Galiwin'ku perform bunggul to unveil a plaque and open the school playground they have jointly funded with the school

Aboriginal groups keep moving forward to achieve development goals

COVID-19 has made 2020 a challenging year for many people and also for community planning and development. But Aboriginal groups from across the NLC region are still determined to achieve positive outcomes for their community. Some groups have done strong community planning and have benefited from their development outcomes in the face of COVID-19.

NLC's Community Planning and Development (CP&D) Program started in 2016 and has been successful. So this year, NLC completed a strategic plan to grow CP&D's reach and impact over the next five years. In the future and over time, CP&D's process will develop to include groups with little or no income. CP&D will work with these groups to secure funds and partnerships to support them achieve their development goals.

Program Facts:

- Over \$8 million has been set aside by Aboriginal groups for community development using the CP&D Program.
- 8 groups across the NLC region are working with the CP&D Program.
- Aboriginal groups have approved a total of 29 projects:
 - > TOs have refunded 6 of those projects to keep them going and keep delivering benefits;
 - > 8 projects support language and culture; and
 - > 6 are governance projects.

2020 Fast Facts:

- 11 projects from 2019 have continued around COVID-19 restrictions;
- 6 new projects or continuations of projects were approved by Aboriginal groups between July to October – totalling \$749,607; and
- 3 of those new projects have started in communities

Traditional Owners keep driving community development through the challenges of 2020

A good place for many years to come!

The Minjin Family of the Rak Papangala Traditional Owners are now living back on country. At the end of 2019, they completed their outstation. They put funds from their gravel extraction agreement to make a bush track, install a bore and tank, and to build a house.

"It will be a good place for many years to come!"
Anzac Minjin

The group have lived on their outstation throughout the dry season this year. They have a plan of having a home on their outstation for generations to come, so now they have partnered with West Daly Regional Council to do repairs and maintenance work to keep their new home in good condition. Being on country is an important aspect for the group to preserve culture and connection.



Minjin family at their new outstation

Building a Strong Foundation

The Gapuwiyak Traditional Owners continue to focus strongly on their vision of supporting future generations through the creation of businesses, jobs and training opportunities. In 2019, they completed their first project to set up the Milintji Development Trust. And this year they completed a strategic plan to guide their corporation's direction. Now they are taking the next steps in their plan. Traditional Owners have approved another project with Matrix Consulting and Training to help them strengthen and develop good governance and move forward with their business development. This includes mentoring young people so they can run the corporation in the future and deliver on their vision for the next generations.



Gapuwiyak Traditional Owners discuss their logo design

Being On Country, Keeping Culture Strong

Malak Malak traditional owners partnered with the Malak Malak Rangers to fund their third culture camp in September this year. Many people attended, a large number travelling down from Darwin to be on country. The week's events included sharing stories, whittling wooden canoes, boating on the Daly River and eating lots of good tucker! The group are planning to build on the success of this camp next year. Maybe they will even build a full sized canoe as a project challenge!



Malak Malak Traditional Owners and Rangers planning projects

Komunidi Lida Treining

The SEAL Advisory Committee (AC) are keen to assist the next generation of community leaders to emerge and have funded a training program for 6 (Ngukurr & Numbulwar) locals focused on good governance and decision making, clear communication, and better financial & planning skills.

The training has been developed with a "Train the Trainer" approach so the initial 6 will also be skilled to train other local people.

The AC believe this project will lessen their dependence on outsiders as it develops the local capacity to organise and run meetings, facilitate decision making about projects and activities, and put in place good planning processes.



Skilling the next generation in Ngukurr and Numbulwar

"Manymak for djamarrkuli" Galiwin'ku playground and youth

Galiwin'ku Traditional Owners jointly funded a new playground with Shepherdson College at the Galiwin'ku school. And now the kids are playing on the equipment! It is really "manymak for djamarrkuli", said one Traditional Owner. The playground is a colourful jungle of rope challenges, swinging bridges, monkey bars and double slides! Last week the playground was officially opened. A plaque was put up to acknowledge the great contribution of Traditional Owners to their community. This project meets this group's focus on supporting children and youth in their community. Galiwin'ku Traditional Owners have funded 9 projects in total; the playground is just one way they are supporting their young people to grow up strong and healthy in both Balanda and Yolngu worlds.



Traditional Owners at Galiwin'ku open the school playground which they jointly funded with Shepherdson College

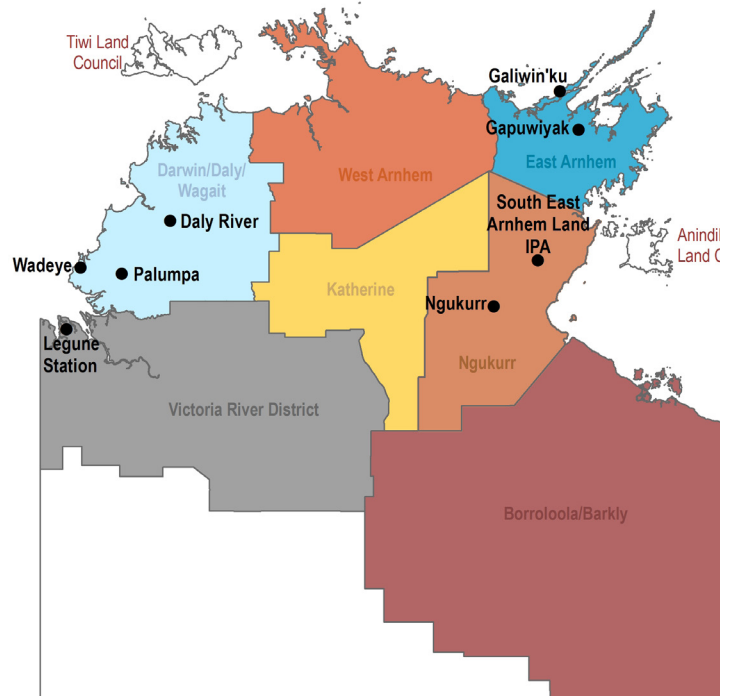
About the CP&D Program

The NLC's CP&D Program works alongside Aboriginal groups in building their governance and planning capacity to effectively drive their own development and secure benefits from their land ownership.

The CP&D Program uses principles of participation and Aboriginal decision making at every step of the way. When groups opt to work through CP&D:

- Each group decides how plans and decisions will be made.
- They then talk about values and ideas and choose important issues to plan projects for.
- When ready, NLC supports the group to make project plans and find the right partner organisation to work with.
- At the end of each project, the group look back with NLC to check it achieved their goals.

Community development locations



Children participate in youth program funded by Galiwin'ku Traditional Owners

2019 Monitoring Report

Check out the latest CP&D Program Monitoring Report. The report looks at CP&D activities and community projects across 2019 to check NLC is working in a good way with groups and that Aboriginal groups are getting the benefits from their community projects. Overall, NLC got a positive review. Aboriginal people continue to see value in the support offered through NLC's CP&D Program. Information in the report will help NLC to continually improve the quality of its CP&D Program. Find the full report on the NLC website at www.nlc.org.au.

CP&D's key goals for 2021

- Continue to improve Program service delivery, practices and quality through our monitoring practices.
- Communicate the value of CP&D from the view of groups using the Program.
- Expand its footprint by supporting groups already working with us to do more development projects and by more groups opting to use NLC's Program.

To find out more, email cpd@nlc.org.au or freecall 1800 645 299