



NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL

Our Land, Our Sea, Our Life

Community Planning and Development

Building stronger communities and better lives.

Newsletter 6, July 2021



Djarrandjarrany Native Title Holders for Project Sea Dragon came together in Kununurra in March 2021 to talk about community development projects.

Aboriginal groups continue to work with the NLC's Community Planning and Development (CP&D) team to drive their own development

The NLC supports Aboriginal groups to control their interests and benefits from their lands and seas. One way is through the CP&D Program which supports groups to invest in community development aspirations.

The CP&D Program has been operating for over 5 years and Aboriginal groups have tangible benefits from this collaboration. Outstation upgrades, culture camps and business development support are just some of the outcomes. Groups continue to set aside more income and reinvest in projects that make a difference now and for the next generation.

2021 Program Highlights:

- 18 Aboriginal groups now work with CP&D, setting aside more than \$8.5 million towards community benefit projects
- Two new groups have started planning with CP&D
 - Dhukurrdji TOs from Maningrida community; and
 - Managarrayi TO group who have a land trust area east of Mataranka
- Community researcher Nyomba Gandangu presents at AIATSIS Summit 2021

Staying focused on young people in Galiwin'ku

Galiwin'ku TOs continue to fund projects supporting youth diversion and engagement, as well as law and justice. The TO group currently fund three Yolngu positions in East Arnhem Regional Council (1x trainee coordinator role and 2 x casuals) to help keep young community members engaged in activities after school. TOs also fund the North

Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency's (NAAJA) Community Legal Education team to visit Galiwin'ku for the week before each court week to help the community with legal matters. TO funds support NAAJA's Yolngu law student, as well as provide the community with access to education around Balanda law relative to Yolngu world.



Malak Malak TOs researching building design options

Malak Malak culture center planning underway!

Malak Malak TOs are planning a culture center, a keeping and sharing place to honor the group's history and culture. Together the TO working group and Malak Malak Rangers have looked at potential sites for the centre. They are researching building design options and how to display stories in the centre. This project is a big one and evolving. Malak Malak TOs are excited to see their goals reached soon.

Dhukurrdji TOs dream big!

Dhukurrdji TOs are the newest group to start working together on projects that will benefit their community. They met with CP&D staff in March 2021 and started thinking about their ideas and the needs of their community. The group split into men and women to brainstorm and together they came up with six pages of ideas!

Ideas focus on supporting young people, culture, connection with country, the elderly and business. The next step is for the group to prioritise their ideas, decide how they will work together and then start planning projects. Stay tuned for the next update!



South East Arnhem Land Indigenous Protected Area Advisory Committee came together in May to plan projects



Djarrandjarrany native title holders at Marralam Legune

Project Sea Dragon: Native title holders take a leading role as building starts at Legune

After many years of preparations, Seafarms will start the construction of Project Sea Dragon this dry season. Project Sea Dragon is a large-scale commercial prawn farm at Legune Station, at full scale it will be the world's largest aquaculture project. The NLC has been working closely with native title holders for the Project Sea Dragon Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) to help them make the most of opportunities arising from the project.

With Seafarms funding and NLC support, Djarrandjarrany native title holders have:

- funded and planned projects such as an education fund and bush culture camps;
- upgraded their outstation at Marralam, creating local jobs in the process;
- developed cultural awareness training materials for visitors to Legune and a welcome to country program involving ongoing native title holder employment;
- worked with their neighbouring native title holders to develop a healthy country plan to provide jobs and training opportunities for native title holders in caring for country; and
- commenced a film project capturing their stories about the project and their hopes for the future.

Native title holders look forward to more job and training opportunities now that the project is up and running.



Nyomba Gandangu presenting at AIATSIS conference

AIATSIS Summit 2021: Yolngu approach to monitoring and evaluation

Senior community researcher from Galiwin'ku, Nyomba Gandangu took to the stage at the AIATSIS Summit 2021 in Adelaide this May. Nyomba showcased the Yolngu approach to monitoring and evaluation.

"From Yolngu lens we straightaway have to see the very important part for those children, even for those adults. It's really important, just makes our spirit happy and excited to see the child first trying for themselves, guided and monitored by family. Then later, that moment of evaluation when the child is dancing together with their family, knowing who and where they are"

Nyomba works with Charles Darwin University and NLC on a monitoring project. Through Nyomba, Galiwin'ku TOs provide feedback on their community development projects. Feedback is then used to improve projects and their outcomes.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The CP&D Program is in its final year of the three year monitoring project. The project tracks the progress of the CP&D Program and gives accountability to Aboriginal people. For more information check out these publications:

- CP&D Program Ground Up Monitoring and Evaluation Interim Report – December 2020
- CP&D Program 2020 Monitoring Report
- Checking up to keep on track: An Aboriginal-led approach to monitoring wellbeing (Academic paper accepted by the Australian Evaluation Journal)



Djarrandjarrany looking at their Mayi Kuwayu wellbeing survey results

Djarrandjarrany review their wellbeing survey results

Djarrandjarrany Native Title Holders (NTH) met in Kununurra in March to discuss their CP&D projects and aspirations. They also looked at their results from the Mayi Kuwayu, a national survey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander wellbeing. Community researchers did the

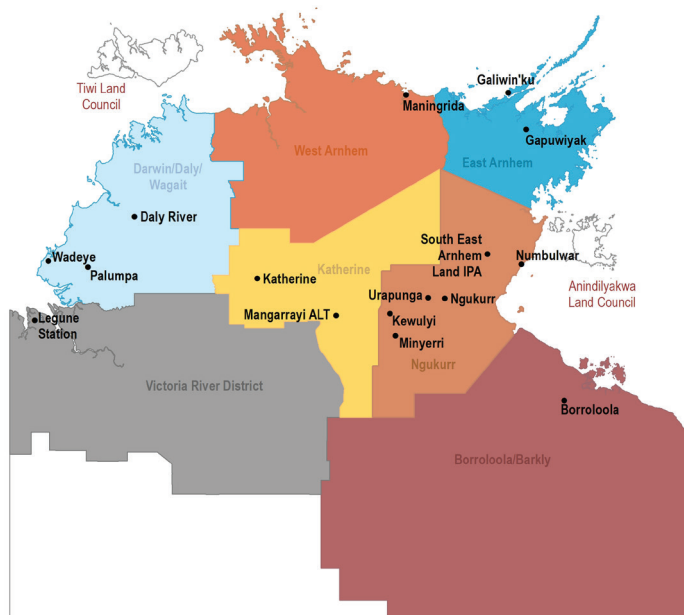
survey with family members in 2020. The survey asked questions around culture, health and wellbeing. The NTH broke into small groups, reviewed their results and shared ideas on how they would like to use their data and their next steps.

About the CP&D Program

The CP&D Program is based on good governance and Aboriginal decision making at every step of the way. This is how a project gets completed:

- Aboriginal groups decide if they want to work through the CP&D Program and how much of their money to use.
- Groups agree on a vision and choose their own development projects.
- NLC works with groups to plan the projects, set a budget and find someone to do the work.
- At the end of each project, together we look back at how it went – what worked and what didn't? What should be done differently next time?

Where we work



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



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