



bushfire&natural
HAZARDSCRC

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Scoping remote community resilience, building better governance, finding new opportunities to grow resilience

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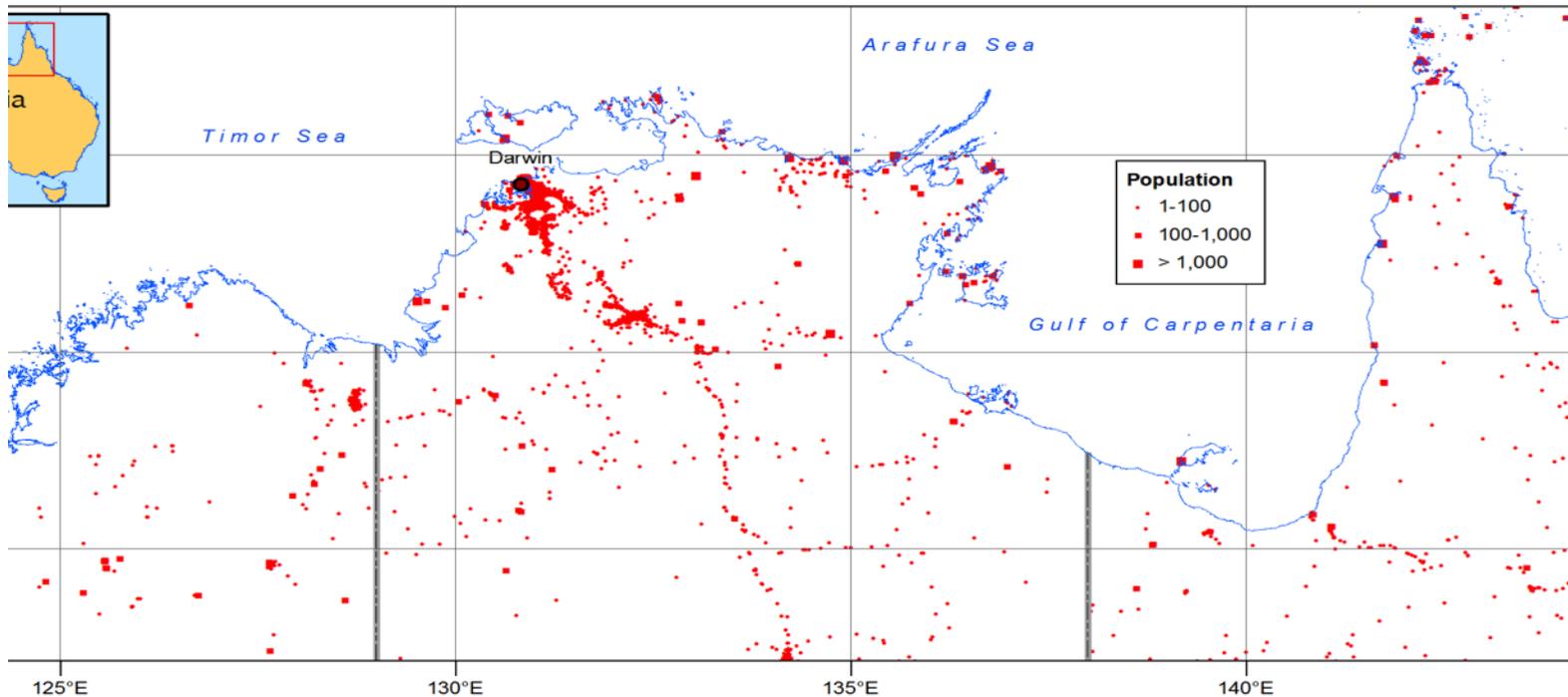
² North Australian Indigenous Land & Sea Management Alliance, Darwin



An Australian Government Initiative

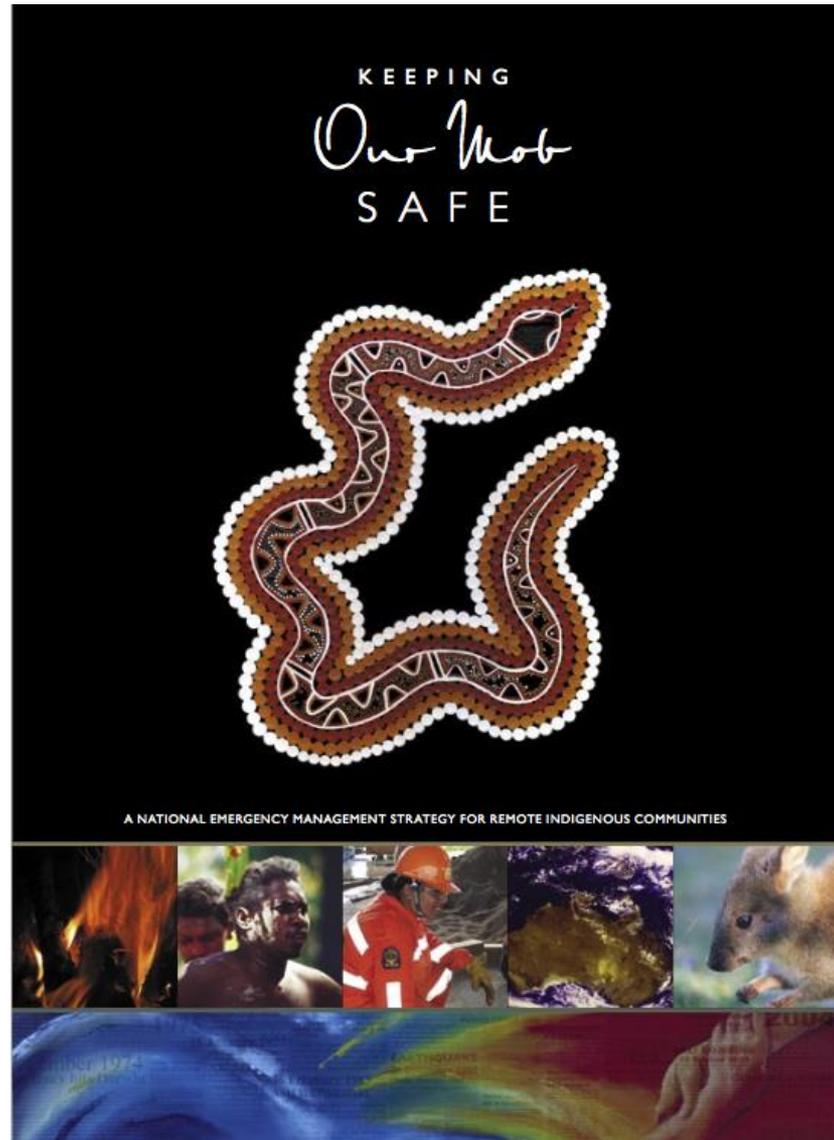


THE NORTH AUSTRALIAN BNH CONTEXT: INDIGENOUS POPULATION DISTRIBUTION



Keeping our mob safe

COAG 2007



BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Key Component Projects:

- 1) Scenario planning for remote community risk management in northern Australia
- 2) Developing effective emergency management partnerships in remote north Australian communities

Direct links to north Australian Landscape Fire
Management and Training projects

OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES

- 1) *Scope remote community resilience issues*
- 2) *Develop enhanced understanding of remote community governance requirements*
- 3) *Promote opportunities for EM agency and remote community partnerships*
- 4) *Find new enterprise opportunities to help grow resilience—including contract services*
- 5) *Provide useful information tools and training resources*
- 6) *Assess opportunities for broader implementation of Keeping our mob safe policy objectives*

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Project Team

Emergency management partnerships

Dr Bev Sithole (ARPNNet)

ARPNNet Practitioners

Mr Glenn James (NAILSMA)

Scenario planning

Dr Kamaljit Sangha (CDU)

Dr Andrew Edwards (CDU)

Prof Douglas Paton (CDU)

Dr Judith Lovell (CDU)

Prof Jeremy Russell-Smith (CDU)

Kate van Wezel (BNHCRC & CDU PhD student)

Clare Hawkes (CDU PhD student)

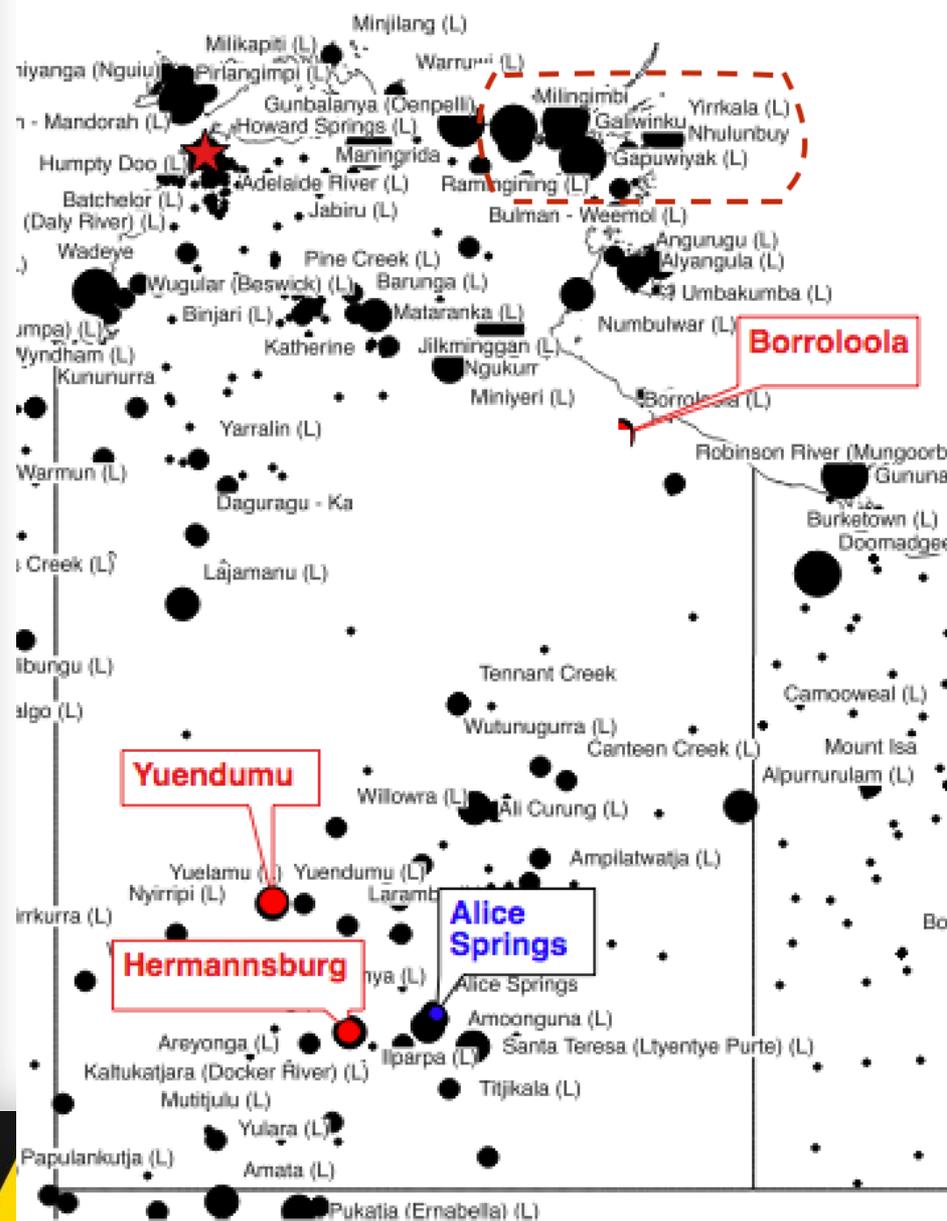
Cluster Lead End User

John Schauble (Emergency Management Victoria)



Indigenous discrete communities

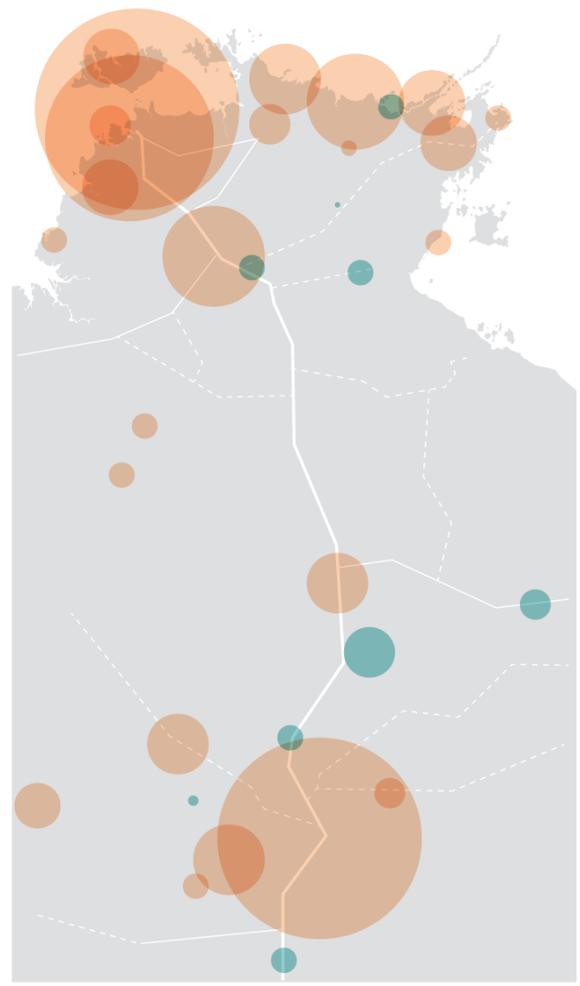
- 1 - 100
- 100 - 500
- 500 - 1000
- 1000 - 9999



NT Emergency Service Volunteer Numbers

The number of NTES volunteers has increased to 390 in 2015-16 from 318 in the previous year. Currently there are 264 NTES volunteers in the Northern Region and 126 in the Southern Region.

Ali Curung	4
Alice Springs	44
Avon Downs	11
Bulman	0*
Cox Peninsula	8
Daly River	9
Darwin	60
Galiwinku	18
Gapuwiyak	11
Gunbalanya (Oenpelli)	8
Harts Range	0*
Kalkaringi	0*
Katherine	19
Kintore	12
Kulgera	0*
Lajamanu	10
Maningrida	23
Maranboy	0*
Milingimbi	0*
Ngukurr	0*
Nhulunbuy	9
Ntaria (Hermannsburg)	19
Numbulwar	8
Palmerston	38
Papunya	1
Pirlangimpi	11
Ramingining	2
Tennant Creek	17
Ti Tree	0*
Wadeye	15
Waruwi	15
Watarrka	9
Yuendumu	9
TOTAL	390



Note: * Volunteer numbers in these locations fluctuate, however police are equipped and trained to provide emergency response for road crash rescue and basic fire response. Communities highlighted in blue are Emergency Response Groups, all other communities are established NTES Units.

Scenario planning for remote community risk management in northern Australia

Consult EM agencies to identify target remote communities	NT—BFNT, NTES, NTFRS, DCM WA—DFES QLD—IGEM, QRA
Initial discussion with communities and stakeholders	NT—Borroloola, Hermannsburg, Yuendumu WA—Bidyadanga
Contract participating communities	✓
Undertake formal Ethics Approval	✓
Assist participating communities assemble preparatory resources	✓
Implement formal scenario planning with stakeholders	
Report back to communities / Govt	

Scenario planning for remote community risk management in northern Australia

Region / community	Key stakeholders consulted to date
Borroloola (NT Gulf)	Waanyi Garawa Rangers Lianthawirriyarra Rangers (marine) Northern Land Council DCM; Bushfires NT PM&C & Borroloola Interagency Secretariat
Central Australia	Warlpiri Rangers (Yuendumu) Tjuwanpa Women Rangers (Hermannsburg) Central Land council Centralian Land Management Association NTES; Bushfires NT MacDonnell Regional Council Central Desert Regional Council

Hermannsburg Tjuwanpa Women Rangers April 2018



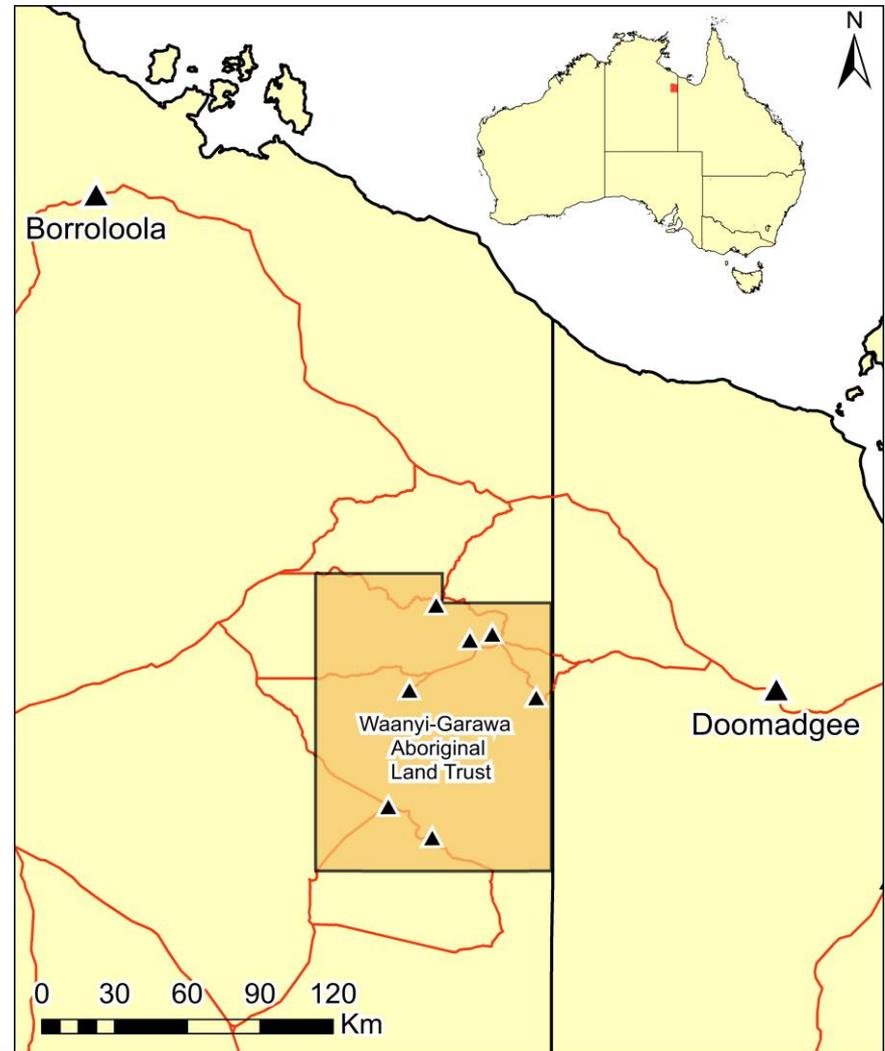


CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION WITH WOMEN CARING FOR COUNTRY

Joy Seccin making a firebreak on the Ganalanga-Mindibirrina IPA. Photo: van Wezel, May 2017

PARTNERSHIP WITH WAANYI-GARAWA RANGERS

*Waanyi-Garawa ALT and outstations in relation to Doomadgee and Borroloola in the southwest Gulf of Carpentaria.
Map supplied by Harry MacDermott*



CRITICAL ACTION RESEARCH

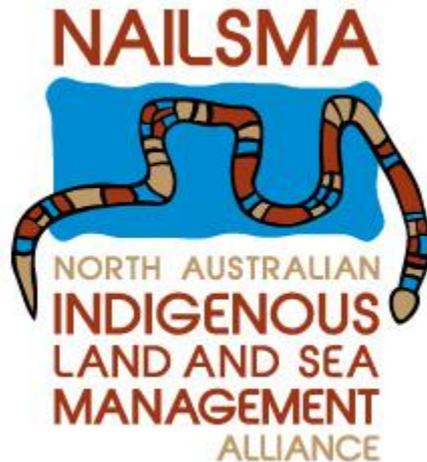
Iris Hogan, Kate van Wezel, Katie Seccin, Joy Seccin, Topsy Green, and Kathleen O'Keefe planning fieldwork at Wallace Creek on the Ganalang-Mindibirrina IPA. Photo: MacDermott, May 2016

A photograph of two women, Josephine Davey and Shauntrell Green, standing in a natural, wooded area. They are holding several large yellow goannas. The woman on the left is wearing a colorful, patterned wrap, and the woman on the right is wearing a pink shirt and a patterned skirt. In the background, there are trees and a tent. In the foreground, there is a black container with various items inside, including a white plate and a green bowl, and a black tray on the ground.

INSIGHTS

Josephine Davey and Shauntrell Green are Junkayi (a certain type of custodian) for Warrnguna (yellow goanna). Photo: van Wezel at Radjidi on the Ganalanga-Mindibirrina IPA, May 2017

DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE EM PARTNERSHIPS IN REMOTE NORTH AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES



Aboriginal Research Practitioners' Network

Yalu Marnggithinyaraw
Indigenous Corporation

BUILDING THE STORY

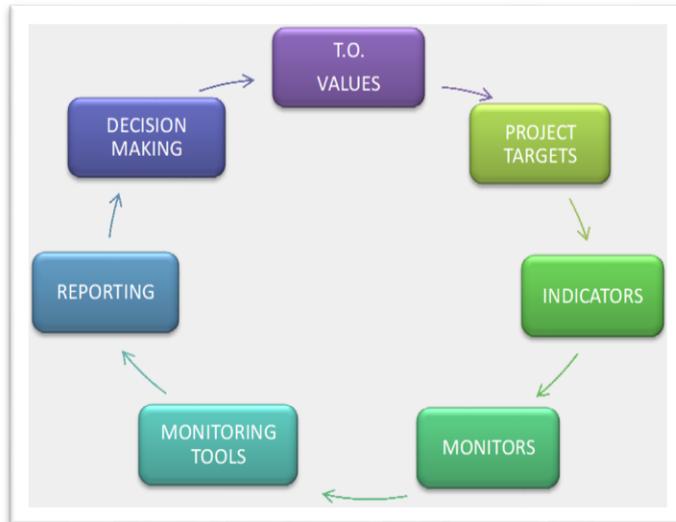
2014-2017

- Asset mapping at Ngukurr and Gunbalanya
- Living with Widdijith - Protocols for building community resilience
- Burrumala – Strong Winds project at Galiwin’ku
- *Community resilience and Reliable Prosperity*, in Sustainable Land Sector Development in Northern Australia: Indigenous Rights, Aspirations and Cultural Responsibilities.

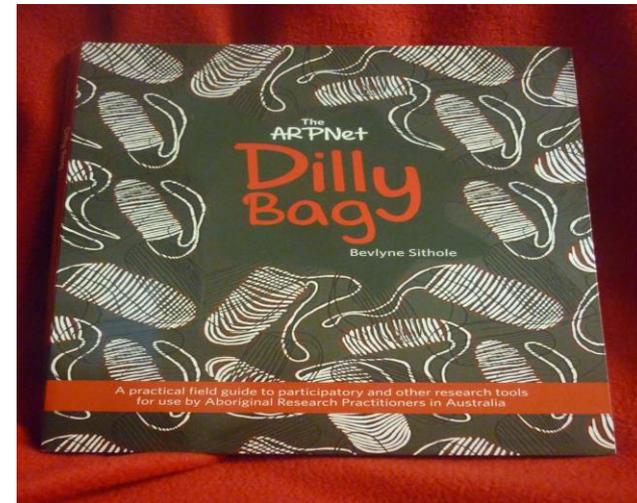
2018-2021

- Looking at local governance and building stronger partnerships - Galiwin’ku (Elcho Island)
- How Bininj and Balanda can work together to be prepared for natural hazards like cyclones, floods and bushfires - Ramingining

DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF TOOLS FOR THE JOB



Keeping Track - A toolkit for monitoring and decision-making based on local values



ARPNet PAR Tools

- **Bininj Hazard Assessment Framework**
 - **Protocols for Agency engagement**
- **Draft Framework Approach for improved EM partnerships elsewhere**

TAKING THE NEXT STEPS

Defining the issues:

- long term erosion of local authority and over-governance.
- categorised by generalised assessments based on criteria like social, economic, built and other capital, invites response to resilience issues from without and above.

Local resilience factors and the need for trust, respect and recognition:

- Cohesion through kin networks, ceremony etc
- Nuanced local language and knowledge systems, connected intimately with local landscapes
- Networked co-dependence on traditional estates and kin
- Local authority and decision-making structures
- Historical knowledge and memory

These features have to be addressed to regain authority and confidence for building better partnerships with EM and other agencies.

Making sure next steps deliver useful, desired and lasting outcomes:

- Improved local governance
- Better working relationships with external agencies
- Model approaches that can assist other communities (e.g. assessment frameworks, agreed protocols, transferable frameworks for resilience building)

Individually, the projects at Galiwin'ku, Ramingining, Borroloola, Hermannsburg and Yuendumu work to address issues uniquely expressed in each

Collectively, the projects illustrate serious issues with ineffective and deleterious engagement and, alternatively, offer Indigenous-driven approaches for application in other communities

Empowerment is an essential ingredient for supporting resilience and self-reliance in remote communities and highlights the need to revisit the *Keeping Our Mob Safe* strategy