

Second Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) Indigenous Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Forum¹

7th and 8th November 2012

Cairns Colonial Resort, Cairns, Queensland



Prepared by

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Key Terms and Acronyms

Key Terms	Descriptor
11 Principles	The Eleven Key RD&E Principles for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders These principles were developed at the Cairns Forum 2011
Principles Document	Key RD&E Principles, Context and RD&E Outputs A document developed by the IRG and Endorsed by the Cairns Forum 2012 which built on the 11 Principles
RD&E Priorities document	Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Priorities for Fishing and Aquaculture A document developed by the IRG and Endorsed by the Cairns Forum 2012 which was built from the 11 Principles

Acronym	Descriptor
AAHSP	Aquatic Animal Health Sub Program (FRDC)
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
Cairns Forum 2011	Indigenous forum held in Cairns - March 2011
Cairns Forum 2012	Indigenous forum held in Cairns – November 2012
DAFF	Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Fishery and Forestry
FRAB	Fisheries Research Advisory Board (FRDC)
FRDC	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
IRG	Indigenous Reference Group (FRDC)
NAILSMA	North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance
NPF	National Priorities Forum
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NSILP	National Seafood Industry Leadership Program
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
PNG	Papua New Guinea
QLD	Queensland
RD&E	Research, Development and Extension
RPN	Research Providers Network (FRDC)
SA	South Australia
SSCP	Social Science Coordination Program (FRDC)
TAS	Tasmania
ToR	Terms of Reference
TRF	Tactical Research Fund
TSI	Torres Strait Islands
VIC	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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1 Introduction

This document summarises the outcomes from a Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) and Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Fishery and Forestry (DAFF) funded forum held in Cairns in November 2012 (Cairns Forum 2012).

The Cairns Forum 2012, sought to build on a forum held in March 2011² (Cairns Forum 2011) that was undertaken as part of addressing an identified gap in indigenous focused RD&E as part of the development of the national research, development and extension (RD&E) strategy for fishing and aquaculture.

Over the last 18 months the FRDC Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) has expanded on the preliminary outputs from the Cairns Forum 2011³. At that forum there was an action to bring the participants back together to review and endorse the work that the IRG was tasked, and to confirm that the outputs and the outcomes aligned with the desires of the Group.

The Cairns Forum 2012 participants fully endorsed the work that the IRG had undertaken to date and supported a revised IRG to continue to seek to bridge the gap in indigenous focused RD&E in the fishing and seafood industry.

2 Background

This document provides background to the lead up to the Cairns Forum 2012 and outlines the key outputs that participants believed would provide guidance for fishing and seafood industry focused RD&E for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia.

At the Cairns Forum 2011, the major focus was to bring together members of the IRG, along with a wider group of people, to discuss issues around indigenous involvement in fishing and seafood based RD&E. Participants at the forum included Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with experience or expertise in fishing and seafood, or Natural Resource Management (NRM) fields from across Australia. In addition, a small number of non-indigenous participants with specific relevant interests or skills also attended.

Working in small groups, each indigenous participant's views were sought on issues around the fishing and seafood industry that impacted on them, their families, communities and industries. By the conclusion of the Cairns Forum 2011, these critical issues were distilled and grouped into general themes, which resulted in the development of Eleven Key RD&E Principles for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (11 Principles) (Figure 1).

The 11 Principles were developed and were proposed to be used as a starting point for guiding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander focused RD&E in the fishing and seafood industry. They also felt that there was merit in distilling the 11 Principles into a more focused document that provided

² [FRDC Project 2010/401 'Shaping Advice for Indigenous Fishing and Aquaculture RD&E within the National Strategy'](#)

³ [FRDC 2010/405 'Facilitation of the FRDC Indigenous Reference Group \(IRG\) to progress RD&E outcomes'](#)

context, direction and clear outputs. The IRG was tasked with this role with a view to bringing this work back to the larger group in the future for further input, endorsement or adaption.

The Eleven Key RD&E Principles for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as Identified by the Shaping Indigenous Fishing and Aquaculture RD&E Forum, Cairns March 2011

Research, development and extension that:

1. Seeks to enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander recognition
2. Resolves issues around access
3. Improves governance and provide pathways to better representation and management models
4. Provides resourcing options in a user friendly and culturally appropriate manner
5. Leads to improved capacity that empowers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
6. Leads to Agencies developing capacity to recognise and utilise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander expertise, processes and knowledge
7. Leads to recognition of customary rights and knowledge, including processes to incorporate Traditional Fishing Knowledge and Traditional Fisheries Management
8. Improves knowledge and awareness of impacts on the environment and traditional harvest
9. Provides management arrangements that lead to improved access, protection and incorporation of Traditional Fishing Knowledge and Traditional Fisheries Management input to processes
10. Leads to an increased value for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (economic, social, cultural, trade, health, environmental)
11. Leads to benefit sharing

Figure 1: Eleven Key RD&E Principles for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Developed at the Cairns Forum 2011

Over the last 18 months, amongst other roles, the IRG has developed two key draft papers for consideration; 'Eleven Key RD&E Principles, Context and RD&E Outputs' (Principles document) and 'Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Priorities for Fishing and Aquaculture' (RD&E Priorities document).

FRDC has resourced the IRG for a further three years through a revised project (2012/405) 'Facilitation of the FRDC Indigenous Research Coordination Program to progress RD&E outcomes (Phase 2)'. A key condition of ongoing support was for the IRG (with the assistance of FRDC and DAFF) to honour the commitment to bring as many Cairns Forum 2011 participants together, along with a wider range of indigenous participants, to assess the work undertaken by the IRG to date, provide appropriate feedback, and to help determine directions for the IRG and indigenous focused RD&E for the next three years.

The forum was held in Cairns on the 7th and 8th of November 2012 and was attended by around 45 participants.

3 Forum Participants

Invited participants were drawn from those who attended the Cairns Forum 2011 and other key indigenous groups/persons who couldn't attend that forum. . Invitations (emails, letters, phone calls and face to face) seeking expressions of interest to attend were distributed. As a result of this process, 25 indigenous participants from all States, the Northern Territory (NT) and the Torres Strait sought to attend the forum (see Table 1 for participants). These participants were provided with travel and accommodation financial assistances.

In addition, self funded key people who could assist in the adoption or extension of the forum outcomes were invited from all Australian fishery agencies, key RD&E providers/networks and potential funders. As a result around 20 participants, from this demographic, sought to attend the forum (see Table 1). It should be noted that due to significant funding adjustments within many agencies several potential participants who expressed a desire to attend indicated they didn't have the resources at this time. Instead they requested to be involved in any follow up from the forum and to be sent any material.

This gave a total of around 45 participants, which aligned with the logistics and funding limits determined as optimal for the forum. Unfortunately in the day(s) just prior to the forum, indigenous representatives from the NT (2), Victoria (1) and Queensland (1) had to withdraw for professional or personal reason. One representative from RecFish Research and the Northern Prawn Fishery and one from FRDC also had to withdraw in the days leading up to the Forum due to professional commitments.

In comparison to the Cairns Forum 2011, which was the first of its kind and as such there was some apprehension around the rationale and process involved, the success of the 2011 forum lead to much greater interest in the Cairns Forum 2012.

Final participants who registered for the Forum are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Final Participants List for the Cairns Forum 2012

Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Participant		Non Indigenous Participant	
Alan Haseldine	SA	Alifereti Tawake	QLD
Andrew Appo	QLD	Chris Calogeras	QLD
Andrew Tipungwuti ¹	NT	Crispian Ashby ¹	ACT
Bo Carne	NT	Dave Donald	QLD
Bryan Denny	TAS	Ewan Colquhoun	QLD
Clarry Rogers	NT	Hayley Egan	NSW
Colin Hunter ¹	VIC	Jason Downes	SA
Daniel Takai	TSI	Jill Briggs	VIC
Danny Chapman	NSW	Jo Coco	PNG
Denise Lovett	VIC	Jo Ruscoe	ACT
Dennis Ahkee	QLD	Kate Brooks	VIC
Gavin Mosby	TSI	Mark Ashley	NT
Geoff Clark	VIC	Matt Barwick ¹	QLD
Gilbert Hanson ¹	NT	Mika Malkki	NSW
Jamie Damaso	NT	Peter Dietman	SA
Jason Wilson	NSW	Randall Owens	QLD

Kevin Giles	WA	Ruth Wallace	NT
Klynton Wanganeen	SA	Tristan Simpson	NT
Loralee Wright	SA		
Matt Osborne	SA		
Michael Gilby	VIC		
Nesman Bara ²	NT		
Petris Torres	WA		
Stan Lui	TSI		
Stephan Schnierer	NSW		
Terry Yumbulul	NT		
Tony Kyle ¹	QLD		
<i>1. apologies received for withdrawal for professional or personal reason</i> <i>2. non attendance</i>			

4 Agenda and Forum Processes

As per the Cairns Forum 2011, it was critical that the forum was undertaken in such a way as to enhance indigenous participation prior to, during, and after the workshop. As such, all key roles and decisions were undertaken by members of the IRG.

4.1 Agenda

The forum was run over one and a half days to allow sufficient time for matters to be adequately discussed and consensus based outcomes and recommendations to be developed. This also provided an opportunity for participants to discuss any outstanding or unresolved issues in the evening, before resuming on the second day

The forum was structured so that on the first day, from 09:00 am – 1:00 pm, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants would work through the outputs developed by the IRG, assess if they addressed the charter put to the IRG at the Cairns Forum 2011, and decide if there were any issues that had been missed. The aim was to seek indigenous endorsement of the Principles document and the RD&E Priorities document.

As the IRG members felt that they had achieved the intentions that the group was established to undertake, all positions on the IRG were made vacant and membership nominations for the following three years under FRDC Project 2010/405 were sought from the indigenous forum participants.

To provide context prior to the nomination process, meeting sessions were conducted to introduce participants to the workloads IRG members agree to perform and also to provide background to the responsibilities of the IRG leading up to the extensive process that had been undertaken by all members to develop the outputs provided to the Cairns Forum 2012.

The IRG, in conjunction with the FRDC, developed a draft agenda for the Forum. It was acknowledged that there would need to be flexibility in the agenda and timing to allow appropriate time for discussions to take place on each issue, and also to be responsive and adaptive to the participants' needs, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants.

The draft agenda provided to forum participants is shown at Appendix I. Participants were made aware of the flexible nature of this agenda and it was made clear that it was considered a better option and would provide more sustainable outcomes if items were addressed to the satisfaction of participants, rather than just be completed to meet deadlines.

On day one, the agenda items were followed and all were covered. As planned, at the completion of Day 1, the Chair (Stan Lui), the IRG members, FRDC and EO support assessed the proposed agenda for Day 2. It was agreed to revise Day 2 to specifically remove the session covering 'Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in the Broader RD&E Process'. The agenda was revised for a number of reasons; firstly it allowed more time to assess the key RD&E priorities developed by the IRG, and to clarify roles and responsibilities for the newly appointed IRG, and secondly there were only two fishery agency representatives in attendance (SA and NSW) and it was felt this could be better addressed through other RD&E processes.

The revised Final Agenda for both days is shown at Table 2.

Table 2: Revised Final Cairns Forum 2012 Agenda

Day 1 Morning Session – Indigenous Participants Review and Direction Setting

TIME	ITEM
8.30	Welcome, Housekeeping and Forum Overview
9.00	Introduction of Participants
9.30	Sharing Indigenous Reference Groups Outputs – Phase 1
10.30	<i>Morning Tea</i>
10.50	Sharing Indigenous Reference Groups Outputs – Phase 2
11.50	Direction Setting For Indigenous Reference Group
12.50	Morning Wrap Up
1.00	<i>Lunch</i>

Day 1 Afternoon Session – Broader Forum

TIME	ITEM
2.00	Formal Welcome to Country Housekeeping and Forum Overview
2.15	Broader Forum Opening – Sponsor (FRDC)
2.30	Cultural Perspectives
2.50	Identification of Key Indigenous Reference Groups Outputs and Aspiration
3.30	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
3.55	Forum Feedback or Comment on Indigenous Reference Groups Work To Date
4.50	Day 1 Wrap Up
5.00	<i>Day 1 Close</i>
6.30	Pre Dinner Refreshments – Jardine Room
7.00	Dinner – Jardine Room

Day 2 - Broader Forum

TIME	ITEM
8.30	Welcome - Day 1 Summary and Day 2 Outline
8.40	Introduction of Participants
9.10	Discussion – Looking at Key Elements and Adoption Pathways for RD&E Priorities
10.00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
10.20	SA Project Profile
10.30	FRDC Indigenous Scholarship

TIME	ITEM
11.40	Conversation – IRG Areas of Work and What Forum participants can Offer to Assist
12.00	Lunch
1.00	Roles and Directions for the IRG
1.30	Nomination of Membership of IRG
2.25	Where to From Here
3.00	Closing Statements
3.30	Forum Close – Inaugural Meeting of Revised IRG to Follow

4.2 Forum processes

A key aspect of the forum was that it was to be undertaken in such a way as to enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation prior to, during, and after the forum and to ensure that cultural needs and protocols were followed. This included having an inclusive process and running sessions in such a way that allowed sufficient time for matters to be adequately discussed and consensus based outcomes and recommendations developed.

Stan Lui, of the IRG, Chaired the two days (Figure 2) and was assisted by all of the IRG members; Bo Carne, Stephan Schnierer, Denise Lovett and Dennis Ah-Kee to develop the program, identify key aims, and to facilitate sessions. The only exception to this was when the IRG and forum participants requested that Jo Ruscoe facilitate the nomination process for the IRG membership.



Figure 2: Stan Lui, Chair, opening the Cairns Forum 2012 and outlining the forum process and proposed outcomes

A key point was to advise participants of what the forum was seeking to achieve (i.e. test/amend/endorse the work of the IRG, determine ongoing membership of the IRG and identify key roles/actions) and importantly, what the forum was not (i.e. not a policy or political group).

Each session was run with a view to achieving a specified outcome, or action, that would lead to a deliverable that would enhance the work of the IRG and/or delivery of RD&E priorities for indigenous Australians in the fishing and seafood industry. To ensure that this had the greatest chance of taking place, the IRG developed working sheets, as a guide that outlined each item, facilitator or person responsible for delivery, key issues to address under each item, the aim of each session, and the timing for each item.

Key aspects of the process were to ensure all forum participants understood who was in the room and what role they played, what each session related to, what the purpose of the session was (i.e. information, discussion, decision making, etc), what process was to be used during the session to achieve an outcome and what would be done with the outcome. This was cleared with participants prior to, during and after each session, to ensure that there was adequate engagement and understanding of the process.

A number of sessions were extended to allow additional discussions and this meant that some of the 2nd day sessions were addressed on day 1, or were no longer considered a priority for resolution at this forum. This meant that day 2 didn't have formal facilitator worksheets but instead, at the end of day 1 and prior to day 2, IRG members workshopped each new session to ensure that similar rigor and commitment to the process as day 1 was achieved.

5 Outcomes

As well as the valuable networking opportunities that the forum provided, three key outcomes were sought;

1. provide participants an overview of the activities of the IRG to date
2. provide an opportunity for participants to assess the outputs developed by the IRG (the Principles and RD&E Priorities documents) and to provide feedback
3. nominate new members for the vacated IRG positions, and identify key tasks for the IRG over the next three years.

These outcomes are discussed below in more detail.

5.1 Overview of the activities of the IRG

Participants were provided with an overview of the IRG, how it came into being, how it was resourced, the key tasks undertaken over the last 18 months, and the current status of the group. These included;

- development of a Terms of Reference (ToR), which outlined the roles and responsibilities of the IRG under the previous funding arrangements
- undertaking four face to face meetings, three teleconferences and innumerable email and telephone conversations between the IRG members and support to meet the requirements of the ToR
- development of the Principles document
- development of the RD&E Priorities document
- participation by IRG members in a range of forums/meetings/workshops, including the National Priorities Forum (NPF), Fisheries Research Advisory Board (FRAB) meetings, FRDC

Board meetings, Research Providers Network (RPN), Social Science Coordination Program (SSCP), Aquatic Animal Health Sub Program (AAHSP)

- assessment and advice to FRDC on Tactical Research Fund (TRF) and Open Round funding applications
- interaction with potential RD&E project developers to assist in developing applications for FRDC that better meet the needs of indigenous Australians
- assessment and advice on FRDC/DAFF indigenous scholarships
- reviewing and commenting on all final FRDC reports that require indigenous input
- input to a revised FRDC application process that better recognises indigenous involvement in the fishing and seafood industry RD&E, including additions to the formal funding process and the FRDC website (www.frdc.com.au)
- distribution of draft Principles and RD&E Priorities documents to all participants from Cairns Forum 2011, fishery agencies, key RD&E providers, FRDC Sub program and coordination programs, potential funders, and other interested/relevant parties to test the content and context of the documents (NB – no negative responses were received and responses were generally supportive)
- resourcing and facilitating the Cairns Forum 2012
- obtaining funding for the IRG to operate for a further 3 years.

It was acknowledged that the majority of these activities are not targeted at a community level, but a key aim of the IRG in its first 18 months of operation was to engender greater understanding, engagement and adoption in respect to indigenous focused RD&E within the key funding, management and research organisations and groups. That is, to make people think about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders during the development, assessment, funding, undertaking and reporting on RD&E. This has been achieved to some extent but there is still significant work required to 'mainstream' indigenous RD&E into the current process in all jurisdictions. Networking with communities and the general public still needs attention.

Participants congratulated the IRG members and the FRDC for the activities undertaken during phase one.

5.2 Assessment and review of IRG outputs

The IRG developed two key draft documents that were used to guide indigenous focused RD&E in the interim, until they were endorsed (or otherwise) by the Cairns Forum 2012. These documents were the Principles and the RD&E Priorities documents.

Participants were lead through the two documents in two separate sessions and feedback was sought. Participants were reminded that all outputs were based on the key issues identified at the

Cairns Forum 2011 which formed the 11 Principles (Figure 1). The IRG members were conscious of the need for all outputs to be directly traceable back to those key issues.

To assist participants to visualise the journey from the key issues identified through to the development of the 11 Principles at the Cairns Forum 2011, to the Principles document and finally the RD&E Priorities document, along with a timeline and content display and discussion on the whiteboard (see Figure 3), a montage was spread along a wall of the venue showing the original documents from Cairns 2011 and the process that led to the outputs being considered at the Cairns Forum 2012 (see Figure 4).

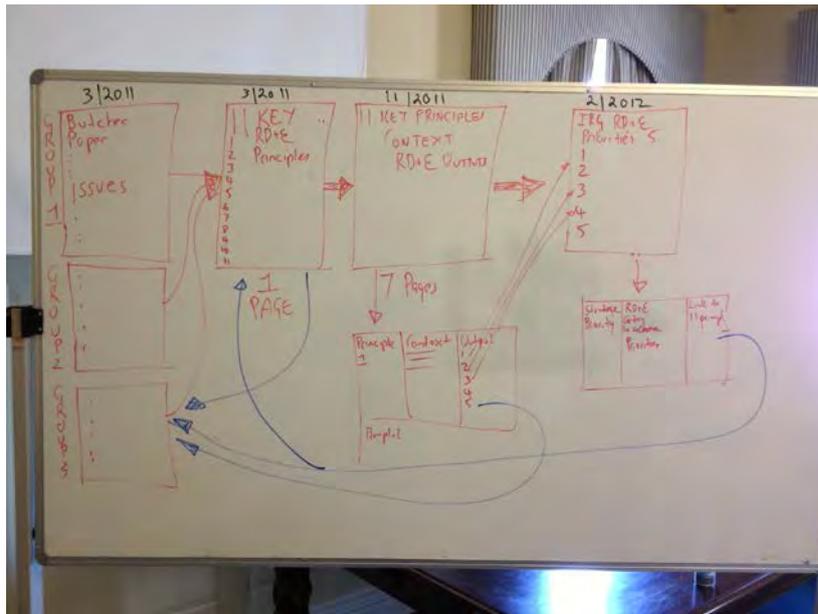


Figure 3: Timeline and process to the development from Cairns Forum 2011 to Cairns Forum 2012

5.2.1 Endorsement of Principles Document

This session provided an opportunity for participants to assess the content of the Principles document and provide feedback. Each Principle was displayed using Powerpoint (see Figure 5 for example), and the facilitator addressed each Principle and provided information. Participants' feedback was sought, but as this document had been widely read and distributed over the past 12 months there were no outstanding issues, additions or changes required to this document.

The indigenous participants at forum endorsed the Principles document as a sound guiding document that outlined the principles that should be addressed as part of any indigenous aligned RD&E undertaken in the fishing and seafood industry. A copy of the endorsed document is provided at Appendix II.

5.2.2 Endorsement of the RD&E Priorities Document

This session provided an opportunity for participants to assess the content of the RD&E Priorities document and to provide feedback.

At the commencement of the session, similar to the previous session, each RD&E Priority was displayed using Powerpoint whilst the facilitator provided information and addressed each principle in detail. This was interactive and comments were sought from participants.

The following process was used to provide an opportunity for participants to have further consideration of the RD&E Priorities document, to discuss in smaller groups or to allow participants to focus on their key priorities.

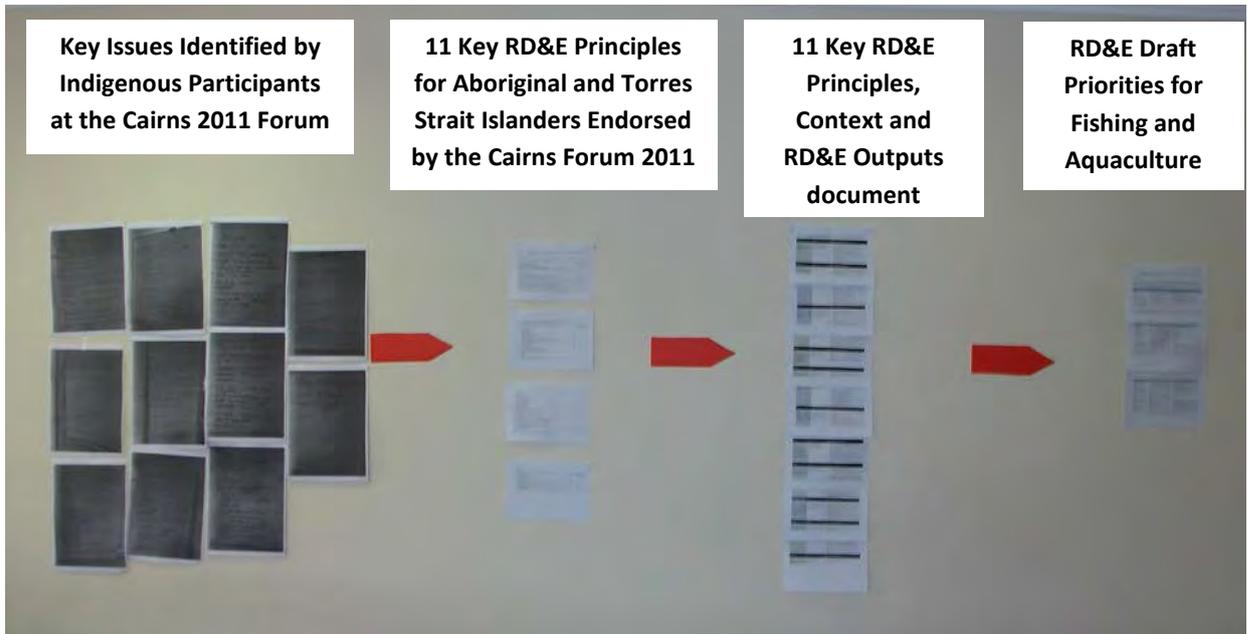


Figure 4: Montage showing copies of the original documents from Cairns 2011 and the process that lead to the outputs being considered at Cairns Forum 2012

Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
Principle 1 RD&E that seeks to - Enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Recognition	For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's cultural fisheries to be implicitly recognised as a definitive sector within each level of the fishing and seafood industry.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify and define what is customary fishing within their sector 2) Protect customary fishing rights 3) Achieve legislative recognition from government and management of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander connection to land, waterways, sea country and species 4) Support the development and adoption of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander regional and national fishing strategies 5) Incorporate Traditional Fishing Knowledge (TFK) and Traditional Fisheries Management (TFM) into legislation, that leads to improved self governance 6) Build capacity of indigenous and non indigenous participants in the decision making process 7) Recognise appropriate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allocation of the resource, and ongoing access to traditional land, waterways, sea country and species.

Figure 5: Sample PowerPoint of Principle provided for participants discussion at Cairns Forum 2012.

Each of the RD&E priorities were posted around the venue with a piece of butchers paper attached (see example at Figure 6 and copy of each sheet at Appendix III) so that participants could move around the room, read and discuss the priorities, and add any further comments they felt would

enhance the priorities outcomes. To provide further support a member of the IRG was stationed at each post to provide any background information or assistance with any written work required.

This process worked well and a number of comments were made in respect to each priority. A copy of each butchers paper is shown at Appendix III.

These comments are to be included as an appendix to the Key Issues raised at the Cairns Forum 2011. After the Cairns Forum 2012 the IRG members assessed the comments to determine if there was a need to amend the RD&E Priorities document to incorporate this additional feedback.

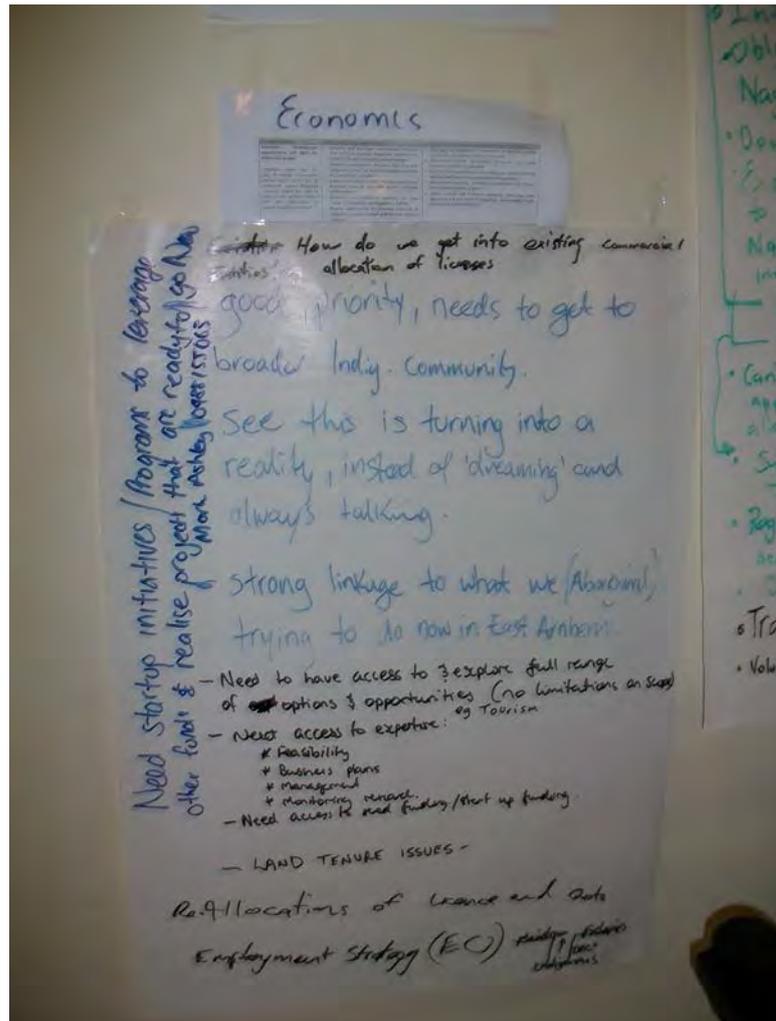


Figure 6: RD&E priority posted around the room with a piece of butcher's paper attached to allow comments.

Regardless of any minor amendments that may have come from the Cairns Forum 2012 process, the indigenous participants at the forum endorsed the RD&E Priorities document as a sound guiding document that outlined indigenous RD&E needs in the fishing and seafood industry.

Comments provided generally fell into three key areas;

- reconfirmed the priorities presented

- added finer, or more specific, detail to some priorities
- sought to address broader policy issues outside the scope of RD&E.

Based on the feedback received there did not appear to be any additional RD&E needs identified at the Cairns Forum 2012 except for one comment that was adopted related to referring to ‘cultural assets’ as well as the associated ‘rights’. A copy of the endorsed RD&E Priorities document is provided at Appendix IV.

5.2.3 Nomination of IRG members and identification of key tasks

Forum participants were provided with a copy of the ToR for the IRG, and IRG members outlined the roles and commitment required to adequately undertake the necessary tasks. In addition, some key commitments from an FRDC perspective were provided to the group.

Kevin Giles recently resigned from the IRG and therefore he would not be renominating. Kevin was thanked for his input to the development of the IRG outputs. All other members indicated that if nominated they would recommit to the IRG for up to another three years.

Jo Ruscoe from FRDC was requested to facilitate the nomination process so that all of the indigenous participants could be involved.

Nominations were called for from the room and 10 were received;

Bo Carne	NT
Bryan Denny	TAS
Denise Lovett	VIC
Dennis Ah-Kee	QLD
Loralee Wright	SA
Petris Torres	WA
Stan Lui	TSI
Stephan Schnierer	NSW
Jason Wilson	NSW
Michael Gilby	VIC.

The group was informed by Chris Calogeras, in his role as EO to the IRG, that under the current project there was only resourcing available for up to seven members, but he could seek further resourcing from FRDC to cover the additional costs. This would then allow funding to cover travel and accommodation for a person from each state, the NT and Torres Strait.

After discussion it was unanimously agreed that Jason and Michael should be identified as Associate Members and the other persons be formally nominated to FRDC as IRG Members.

Discussions were also had as to whether North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance Ltd (NAILSMA) could take on an Associate Role – this was deferred until the IRG meet to discuss.

Major tasks identified in addition to those outlined in the ToR IRG related to;

- seeking greater engagement at a community level
- ensuring more projects had indigenous participation (including as PI or CI)
- turning the words into actions
- bringing the forum participants back together in one to two years time.

6 Meeting Close and Future Actions

Prior to the completion of the forum participants were provided with an overview of actions that would follow. These included;

- Distribution of participant's contacts to other participants (unless this was not agreed to by any member)
- Distribution of a Forum summary for participants' feedback
- Forwarding the nominations to the FRDC for formal acknowledgment of membership
- Forwarding details of the FRDC/DAFF indigenous scholarship and the National Seafood Industry Leadership Program (NSILP) details to participants
- Update as necessary and widely distribute the Principal and RD&E Priorities documents
- Develop a workplan for the IRG
- Liaise with NAILSMA on ongoing engagement opportunities
- Follow up contact with participants as the IRG outputs and outcomes become available.

The forum sponsors FRDC and DAFF were acknowledged for their ongoing support.

All participants were thanked for their input and the Cairns Forum 2012 closed at around 3.30pm on the 9th November 2012.

Appendix I: Draft Agenda Provided Prior to the Cairns Forum 2012

DRAFT Agenda – 2nd FRDC Indigenous RD&E Forum

Venue: Cairns Colonial Resort, Cairns - **Somerset Room**
Wed 7/11/12 8.30 am to 5.00 pm
Thur 8/11/12 8.30 am to 3.30 pm

Day 1 Morning Session – Indigenous Participants Review and Direction Setting

TIME	ITEM
8.30	Welcome, Housekeeping and Forum Overview
9.00	Introduction of Participants
9.30	Sharing Indigenous Reference Groups Outputs – Phase 1
10.30	<i>Morning Tea</i>
10.50	Sharing Indigenous Reference Groups Outputs – Phase 2
11.50	Direction Setting For Indigenous Reference Group
12.50	Morning Wrap Up
1.00	<i>Lunch</i>

Day 1 Afternoon Session – Broader Forum

TIME	ITEM
2.00	Welcome, Housekeeping and Forum Overview
2.15	Broader Forum Opening – Sponsor (FRDC)
2.30	Cultural Perspectives
2.50	Identification of Key Indigenous Reference Groups Outputs and Aspiration
3.30	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
3.55	Forum Feedback or Comment on Indigenous Reference Groups Work To Date
4.50	Day 1 Wrap Up
5.00	<i>Day 1 Close</i>
6.30	Pre Dinner Refreshments – Jardine Room
7.00	Dinner – Jardine Room

Day 2 - Broader Forum

TIME	ITEM
8.30	Welcome - Day 1 Summary and Day 2 Outline
8.40	Addressing Key Elements From Broader Forum Outputs to Date
9.10	Improving Adoption Pathways for Indigenous RD&E Priorities - Session 1
10.00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
10.20	Guest Speaker
10.30	Improving Adoption Pathways for RD&E Priorities - Session 2

TIME	ITEM
11.00	Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in the Broader RD&E Process – Session 1
11.55	Wrap Up
12.00	<i>Lunch</i>
1.00	Guest Speaker
1.10	Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in the Broader RD&E Process – Session 2
1.30	IRG Membership, Future Roles and Directions
2.15	<i>Working Afternoon Tea</i>
2.25	Where to From Here
3.00	Closing Statements
3.30	<i>Forum Close</i>

Appendix II: Eleven Key RD&E Principles, Context and RD&E Outputs Endorsed at the Cairns Forum 2012

Eleven Key RD&E Principles, Context and RD&E Outputs Endorsed at the Cairns Forum 2012

Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 1</p> <p>RD&E that seeks to - Enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Recognition</p>	<p>For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's cultural fisheries to be implicitly recognised as a definitive sector within each level of the fishing and seafood industry.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify and define what is customary fishing within their sector 2) Protect customary fishing rights 3) Achieve legislative recognition from government and management of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander connection to land, waterways, sea country and species 4) Support the development and adoption of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander regional and national fishing strategies 5) Incorporate Traditional Fishing Knowledge (TFK) and Traditional Fisheries Management (TFM) into legislation that leads to improved self governance 6) Build capacity of indigenous and non indigenous participants in the decision making process 7) Recognise appropriate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander allocation of the resource and ongoing access to traditional land, waterways, sea country and species.
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 2</p> <p>RD&E that seeks to - Resolves Issues Around Access</p>	<p>Develop, maintain and improve access to aquatic resources and important areas for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Have equitable access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to fish stocks and fisheries and identify options for equitable distribution 2) Identify impacts on native title rights arising from management decisions, including the establishment of Marine Parks, fishing limits and allocation of fishing rights to other sectors 3) Maintain and improve access to aquatic and land areas, including Commonwealth or State/Territory protected areas such as marine and terrestrial reserves and parks 4) Maintain cultural practice and knowledge to improve access, knowledge and use of legislative processes/obligations to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander input is improved and recognised

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5) Access and inclusion to the decision making processes 6) Develop frameworks for consultation regarding decisions that could impact on access and improve engagement capacity 7) Identify the social and economic benefit derived for Torres Strait and Aboriginal people from access and use of fish stocks 8) Assess cultural and socio-economic impacts for Torres Strait and Aboriginal people arising from resource utilisation by other sectors 9) Develop management measures that improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander access to the resource and fisheries for commercial purposes.
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 3</p> <p>RD&E that seeks to - Improves Governance and Provide Pathways to Better Representation and Management Models</p>	<p>To develop processes that best align with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's needs, including self management or co-management which incorporates Traditional Fisheries Management (TFM) arrangements and techniques.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify the best structure to provide a focal voice and 'push' for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fishing representation 2) Through appropriate consultation address the inconsistencies across jurisdictions regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fishing rights and access, 3) Develop bottom up and community focused planning and fishery governance models 4) Develop mechanisms to incorporate TFM as a standard governance model 5) Improve real Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander involvement in the decision-making processes 6) Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation and build capacity (including resourcing) for indigenous people to have a broader representative role in fisheries management 7) Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement and buy-in into the management process, including greater involvement in appropriate committees across sectors and agencies 8) Improve the recognition of traditional law and develop compliance options that give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the right and capacity to undertake cultural fishing compliance 9) Identify social and economic benefits from improved governance and management models.

Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 4</p> <p>RD&E that seeks to - Provide Resourcing Options in a User Friendly and Culturally Appropriate Manner to Encourage Greater Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Involvement</p>	<p>To identify opportunities to reduce costs and the complexity of resourcing and funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reduce the complexity surrounding the funding process and subsequent reporting, including when multiple funding resources and support are involved 2) Improve linkages across potential projects that have similar objectives or outcomes 3) Improve capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to take a greater and wider role in development, management and reporting of RD&E projects.
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 5</p> <p>RD&E that - Leads to Improved Capacity That Empowers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</p>	<p>To lead to increased commercial opportunities and management roles for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people arising from resource use and access.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights as part of resource use 2) Develop and start new commercial initiatives that maintain ongoing interests and concerns in the fishing and seafood industry 3) Link Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community small business aspirations 4) Identify investment opportunities, including benefit sharing resource agreements e.g. Indigenous Land Use Agreements 5) Empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through development of social capital 6) Improve commercial performance through culturally appropriate and innovative business management solutions 7) Develop community capacity and involvement, including an understanding of mainstream sciences and management processes 8) Formally upskill Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to increase employment and engagement opportunities 9) Develop long-term employment strategies, including within agencies and for regional

		<p>communities</p> <p>10) Develop indigenous solutions to indigenous opportunities.</p>
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 6</p> <p>RD&E that - Leads to Agencies Developing Capacity to Recognise and Utilise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Expertise, Processes and Knowledge</p>	<p>To ensure Government, as part of its responsibility to consult and engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on resource use, undertakes such discussions in a supported and culturally appropriate way.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop strategies that lead to higher levels of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment in key agencies – across all industry sectors and occupations 2) Incorporate traditional fishing knowledge and traditional fishing management practices with the mainstream 3) Develop two-way discussion and consultation processes that align with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural needs and norms 4) Put in place policies and regulations that are cognisant of the cultural needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients 5) Ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are involved in and have representation on all appropriate committees, and are resourced appropriately 6) Build relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients 7) Assist in building Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander capacity.
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 7</p> <p>RD&E that - Leads to Recognition of Customary Rights and Knowledge, Including Processes to Incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Fishing Knowledge (TFK) and Traditional Fisheries</p>	<p>To acknowledge and value the benefits of Traditional Fishing Knowledge and Traditional Fisheries Management in the broader fisheries management processes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Formalise recognition of TFK (and Ecological) and TFM in fisheries legislation, including defining cultural rights and access 2) Assess the value of TFK and TFM, including its broader resource management contributions 3) Develop community based fishing activities and capacity building that leads to full engagement 4) Document Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander TFK and TFM practices and identification of Intellectual Property that may arise 5) Strengthen community capacity to implement appropriate and acceptable compliance that leads to improved cultural governance 6) Use TFK and TFM to create solutions to industry issues

Management (TFM)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7) Incorporate TFK and TFM with the mainstream decision making processes 8) Improve levels of environmental awareness and the understanding of the impacts of a broad range of fishing and non fishing activities on the ecosystem.
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Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
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<p>Principle 8</p> <p>RD&E that seeks to - Improves Knowledge and Awareness of Impacts on the Environment and Traditional Harvest</p>	<p>To assess and mitigate the fishing and non fishing impacts on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural catch and practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify, gather baseline information and quantify ecosystem impacts of non-indigenous fishing and non fishing activities, including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. discharge and impacts on the environment b. on target, bycatch and totemic species , including marine mammals, such as dugong and whales, and reptiles such as turtles and crocodiles 2) Monitor the impact of non-indigenous fishing and non fishing activities 3) Maintain biocultural diversity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders 4) Identify impacts of bag, possession and size limits on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and practice.
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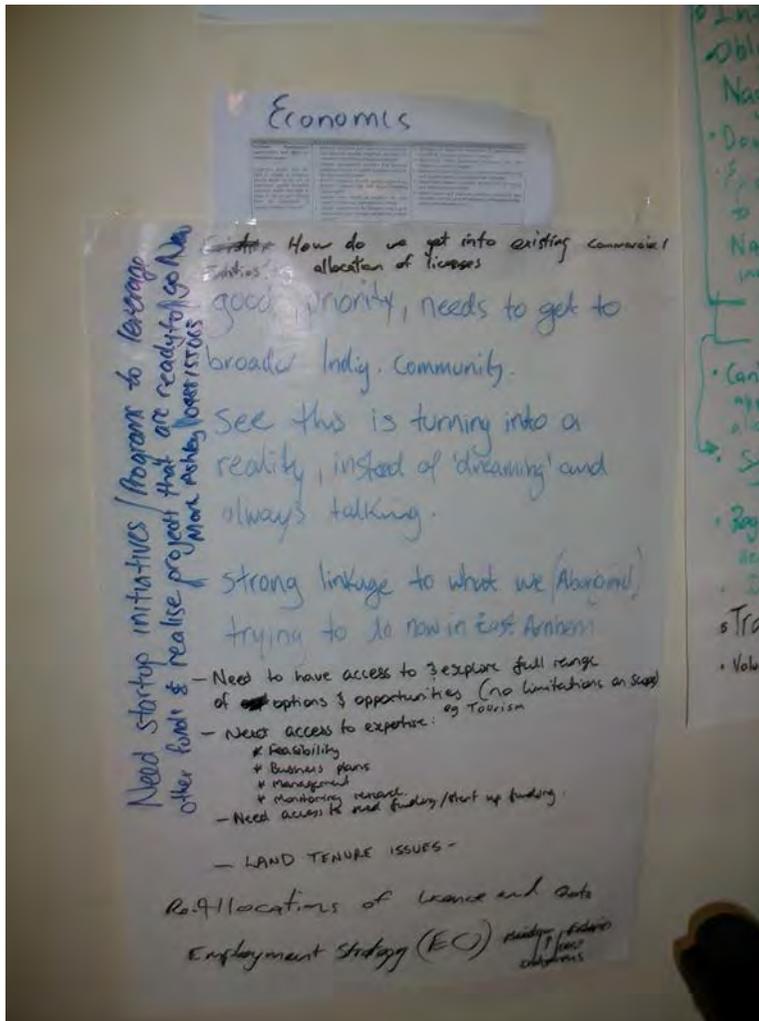
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
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<p>Principle 9</p> <p>RD&E that seeks to - Provide management arrangements that lead to improved access, protection and incorporation of Traditional Fishing Knowledge (TFK) and Traditional Fisheries Management (TFM) input to processes</p>	<p>To allow Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to have mandated access and management arrangements that aligns with, and incorporate, TFK and TFM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Acknowledge TFK and TFM and where appropriate incorporate into mainstream processes, including broader management arrangements, regional approaches, compliance, self management and protection of rights 2) Develop two way communication processes to optimise outcomes, build relationship across sectors and ensure greater involvement and engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in management roles and committees 3) Better define access and rights to fish (indigenous and non indigenous) 4) Develop models to encourage and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people involvement in the broader fishing and seafood industry which allows for capacity growth 5) Identify innovative means to resource and improve engagement processes and capacity at all levels
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Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 10</p> <p>RD&E that - Leads To an Increased Value for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (Economic, Social, Cultural, Trade, Health, Environmental)</p>	<p>To improve the overall wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders through involvement in the fishing and seafood industry.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Facilitate research into traditional foods and food security 2) Look at new models to ascertain the value of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fishing, including; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. identifying social return on investment b. understanding the economic value of involvement in fishing is broader than direct return(e.g. social, cultural, health, management) c. developing mechanisms to determine agreed valuation methods d. determining the historical value of indigenous catch (lost opportunity and actual catch) 3) Identify how improved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural practices can lead to increased community and individual wellbeing 4) Identify infrastructure required to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in the fishing and seafood industry 5) Identify investment opportunities, including overseas' investment and branding 6) Consider opportunities for benefit sharing from resource use and access 7) Protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's rights as part of resource use 8) Gain long-term employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders - especially in regional and remote communities.
Principle	Context	RD&E outputs that will assist end-users to
<p>Principle 11</p> <p>RD&E that - Leads To Benefit Sharing</p>	<p>For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to derive benefits from the use of fish stocks and fishing rights</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify different ways to extract benefits from resource use for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2) Increase employment and economic opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

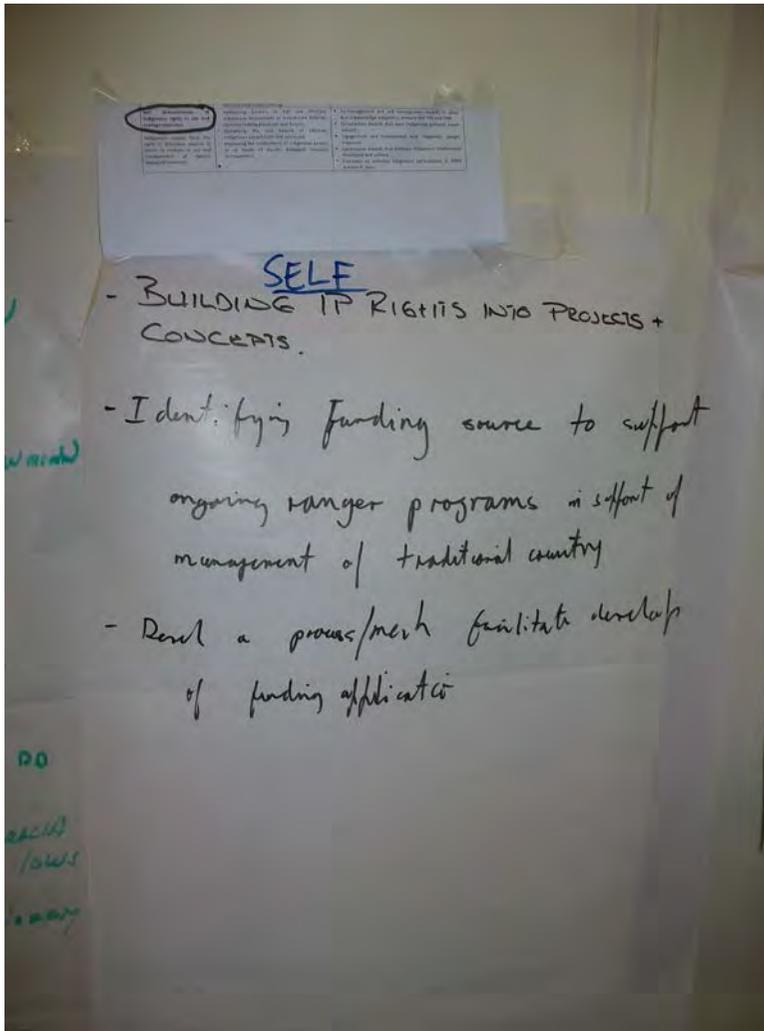
Appendix III: Comments Provided at the Cairns Forum 2012 on Butchers Paper Relating to the RD&E Priorities

Economic development opportunities and rights for indigenous people



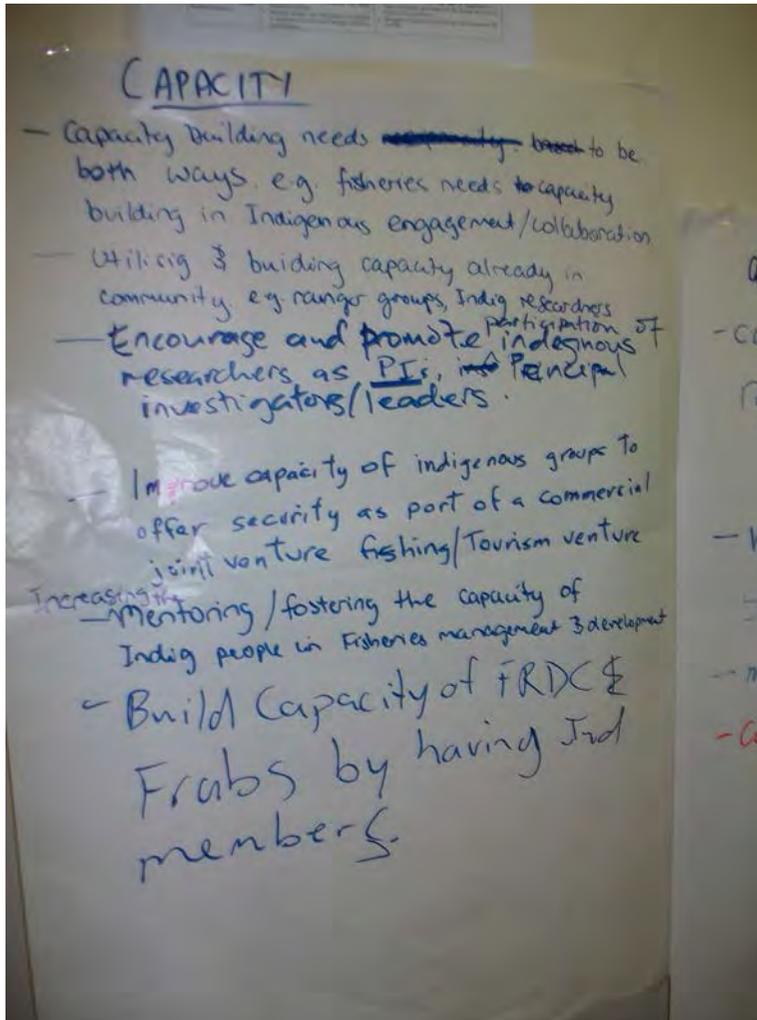
- How do we get into existing commercial entities , e.g. allocation of licences
- Good priority , needs to get to broader indig community
- See this turning into a reality, instead of dreaming and always talking
- Strong linkage to what we (Aboriginal) trying to do now in east Arnhem
- Need to have access to explore full range of options and opportunities (no limitations on scope)
- Need access to expertise – feasibility, Business plans, management, monitoring research
- Need access to real funding/start up funding
- Land tenure issues
- Reallocation of licences and quota
- Employment strategy
- Need start up initiatives/programs to leverage other funds and realise projects that are ready to go now (Mark Ashley 0888155063)

Self determination of indigenous rights to use and manage resources



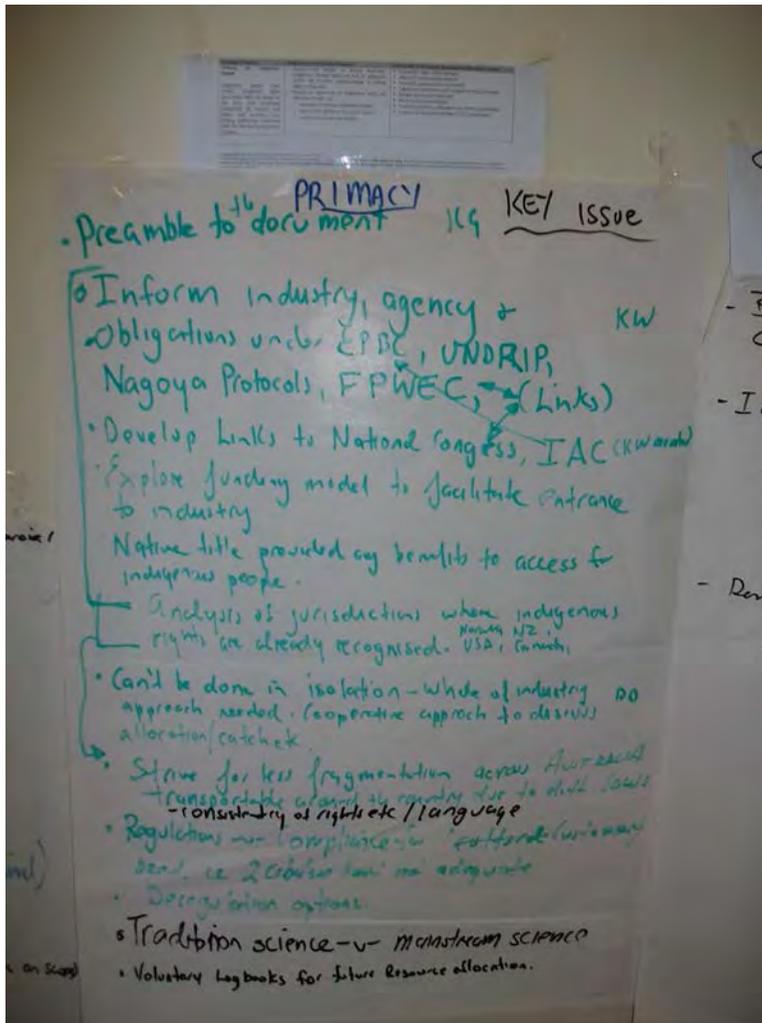
- Building IP rights into projects and concepts
- Identify funding source to support ongoing ranger programs and support of management of traditional country
- Develop a process/method to facilitate development of funding applications

Capacity building opportunities for indigenous people are enhanced



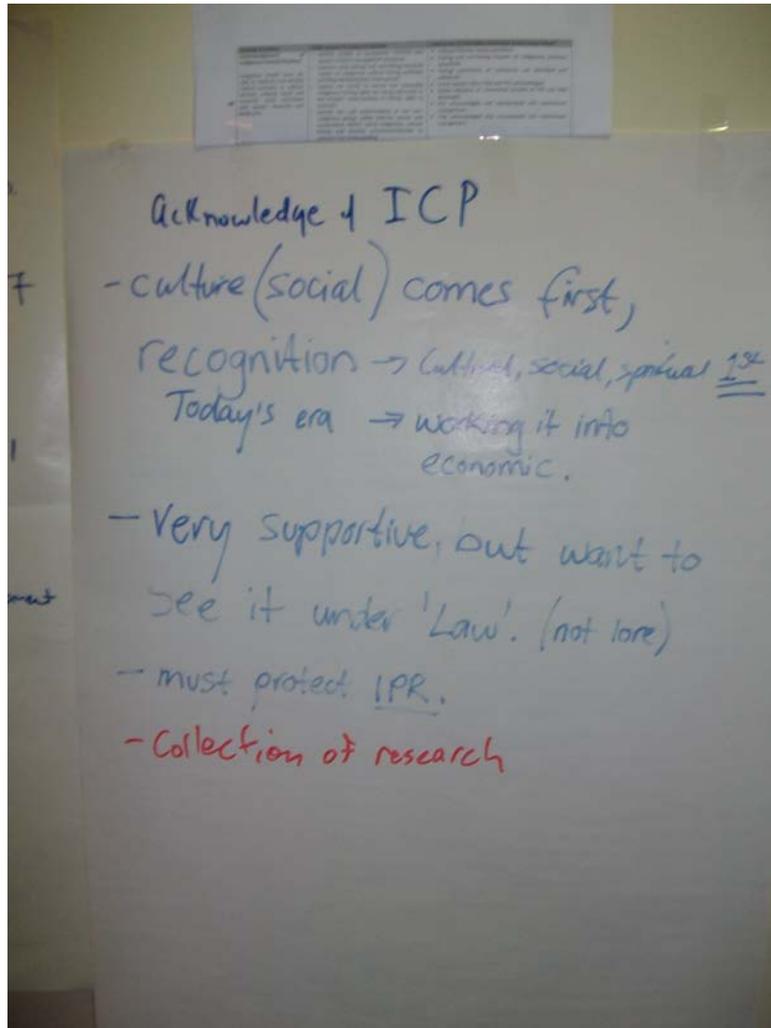
- Capacity building needs to be both ways. E.g. fisheries need capacity building in indigenous engagement/collaboration
- Utilising & building capacity already in community e.g. ranger groups, indig researchers
- Encourage and promote participation of indigenous researchers as PI's (Principal Investigators) and leaders
- Improve capacity of indigenous groups to offer security as part of commercial joint venture fishing /tourism venture
- Increasing the mentoring / fostering the capacity of indig people in fishers management and development
- Build capacity of FRDC and FRABS by having ind members

Primacy for Indigenous People



- Key issue
- Preamble to document
- Inform industry, agency
- Obligations under EPBC, UNDRIP, Nagoya Protocols, FPWEC (KW)
- Develop links to National Congress, IAC (KW)
- Explore funding model to facilitate entrance to industry
- Native title provide any benefits to access for indigenous people
- Analysis of jurisdictions where indigenous rights are already recognised (Norway, USA, NZ, Canada)
- Can't be done in isolation – whole of industry approach needed. Cooperative approach to discuss allocation/catch (DD)
- Strive for less fragmentation across Australia transportable around the country due to the laws – need consistency of rights/language
- Regulation v compliance for customary need, i.e. 2 'times allowance' not adequate
- Deregulation options
- Tradition science v mainstream science
- Voluntary log books for future allocations

Acknowledgement of Indigenous Cultural Practices



- Cultural (social) comes first
- Recognition – cultural, social, spiritual 1st
- Today's era – working it into economic
- Very supportive but want to see it under 'law' not 'lore'
- Must protect IPR
- Collection of research

APPENDIX IV: Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Priorities for Fishing and Aquaculture Endorsed at the Cairns Forum 2012

Indigenous Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Priorities for Fishing and Aquaculture - endorsed at the Cairns Forum 2012 - November 2012

Purpose of Document

These RD&E Priorities were developed by the FRDC Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) as part of a strategic and planned approach to identifying key RD&E priorities for indigenous participation in fishing and aquaculture in Australia.

The RD&E Priorities were based on 11 Key Principles that were identified at the Cairns Forum 2011¹ held in March 2011. At the forum participants charged the IRG with taking the principles forward and indentifying key RD&E priorities.

In November 2012 a second forum was held in Cairns (Cairns Forum 2012²) and the following priorities were endorsed by participants as providing sound guidance on indigenous RD&E needs in the fishing and seafood industry.

Strategic Priorities	RD&E Actions To Achieve Priorities	Links to the 11 Principles Developed at the Cairns Forum 2011 ²
<p>Primacy for Indigenous People</p> <p><i>Indigenous people have certain recognised rights associated with and based on the prior and continuing occupation of country and water and activities (e.g. fishing, gathering) associated with the use and management of these.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the means to ensure Australian indigenous fishing cultural assets and associated rights are met, or addressed, within the broader understanding of fishing rights in Australia. • Process to determine an indigenous catch and allocation model, e.g.; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – examples of relevant allocation models – value of the allocation to various sectors – current status and case studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customary cultural assets and associated rights acknowledged ▪ Allocation protocols developed ▪ Economic opportunities developed ▪ Legislative consistency and recognition mainstreamed ▪ Ranger connection improved ▪ Social analysis undertaken ▪ Traditional Fisheries Management (TFM) incorporated ▪ Traditional Fishing Knowledge (TFK) incorporated

¹ Support provided under FRDC Project 2010/401 'Shaping Advice for Indigenous Fishing and Aquaculture RD&E within the National Strategy'

² Support provided under FRDC project 2012/405 'Facilitation of FRDC Indigenous Research Coordination Program to progress RD&E outcomes'

Strategic Priorities	RD&E Actions To Achieve Priorities	Links to the 11 Principles Developed at the Cairns Forum 2011 ²
<p>Acknowledgement of Indigenous Cultural Practices</p> <p><i>Indigenous people have the right to maintain and develop cultural practices to address spiritual, cultural, social and economic needs associated with aquatic resources and landscapes.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify models to incorporate TFK/TFM into aquatic resource management processes • Examine what fishing and non-fishing practices impact on indigenous cultural fishing practices, including identifying key iconic species • Explore the means to ensure that Australian Indigenous cultural assets and associated fishing rights are being addressed in the broader understanding of fishing rights in Australia • Identify the real understanding of the non-indigenous groups (other fisheries sectors and conservation NGO's) about indigenous cultural fishing and develop processes/materials to enhance that understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cultural fisheries values quantified ▪ Fishing and non-fishing impacts on indigenous practices quantified ▪ Fishing restrictions on customary use identified and addressed ▪ Iconic species role in TFM and TFK acknowledged ▪ Social indicators of commercial benefits of TFK and TFM developed. ▪ TFK acknowledged and incorporated into mainstream management ▪ TFM acknowledged and incorporated into mainstream management
<p>Self determination of indigenous rights to use and manage cultural assets and resources</p> <p><i>Indigenous people have the right to determine courses of action in relation to use and management of aquatic biological resources</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing barriers to full and effective indigenous involvement in mainstream fisheries decision making processes and forums • Identifying the cost benefit of effective indigenous consultation and extension • Improving the involvement of indigenous people in all levels of aquatic biological resource management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Co-management/self-management models in place acknowledging indigenous primacy and TFK/TFM ▪ Consultation models that meet indigenous peoples' needs utilised ▪ Engagement and involvement with indigenous people improved ▪ Governance models that enhance indigenous involvement developed and utilised ▪ Processes to enhance indigenous participation in RD&E process in place

Strategic Priorities	RD&E Actions To Achieve Priorities	Links to the 11 Principles Developed at the Cairns Forum 2011 ²
<p>Economic development opportunities arising from indigenous peoples cultural assets and associated rights</p> <p><i>Indigenous people have the right to engage in economic activity based on the use of traditional aquatic biological resources and/or the right to share in the benefits derived from the exploitation of aquatic biological resources</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and start new commercial initiatives that maintain ongoing indigenous interests and concerns in the fishing and seafood industry • Develop management measures that improves indigenous access to aquatic biological resources for commercial purposes • Explore innovative benefit sharing models from fisheries resource use and access (including employment) • Examine new models to ascertain the total 'value' of indigenous participation in fishing • Explore opportunities for branding (labelling) of indigenous caught seafood and fisheries product assessed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blockages to indigenous involvement in business around the fishing and seafood industry removed ▪ Commercial fishing governance structures that meet indigenous needs are adopted ▪ Commercial opportunities from indigenous branded fishing and seafood operations developed and supported ▪ Measurable economic outcomes derived from the fishing and seafood industry in place • Social sciences and economic modeling undertaken that ascertains the real value of indigenous participation in the fishing and seafood industry
<p>Capacity building opportunities for indigenous people are enhanced</p> <p><i>Indigenous people have the right to access capacity building activities to further their aspirations in the use and management of aquatic biological resources</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building capacity of mainstream sectors to effectively engage with indigenous fishing sector and communities • Building general understanding of fishing industry structures and processes • Improving capacity of (and opportunities for) indigenous people to engage in research, fisheries management, compliance and other commercial activity • Research outputs and information are available in appropriate formats and language (extension and adoption) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culturally appropriate extension practices are in place that provide indigenous people with a better understanding of the fishing and seafood industry ▪ Fishery management and research agencies have sufficient adequately qualified staff to engage appropriately with indigenous people ▪ Indigenous people have a high level of engagement in a range of activities associated with the fishing and seafood industry across all sectors • Management programs acknowledge and incorporate TFK and TFM