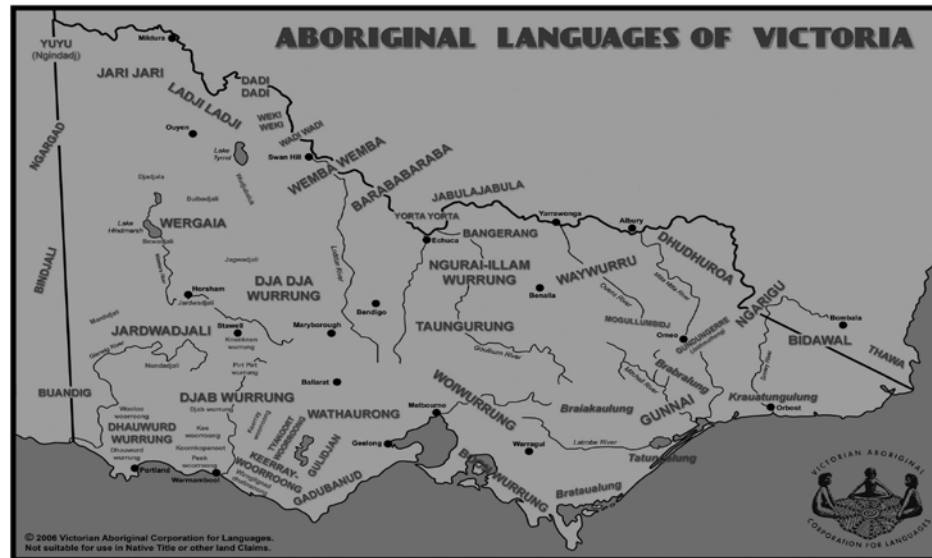


Engaging three Traditional Owner groups in research on the health benefits of Country



Jonathan Kingsley

Research Fellow

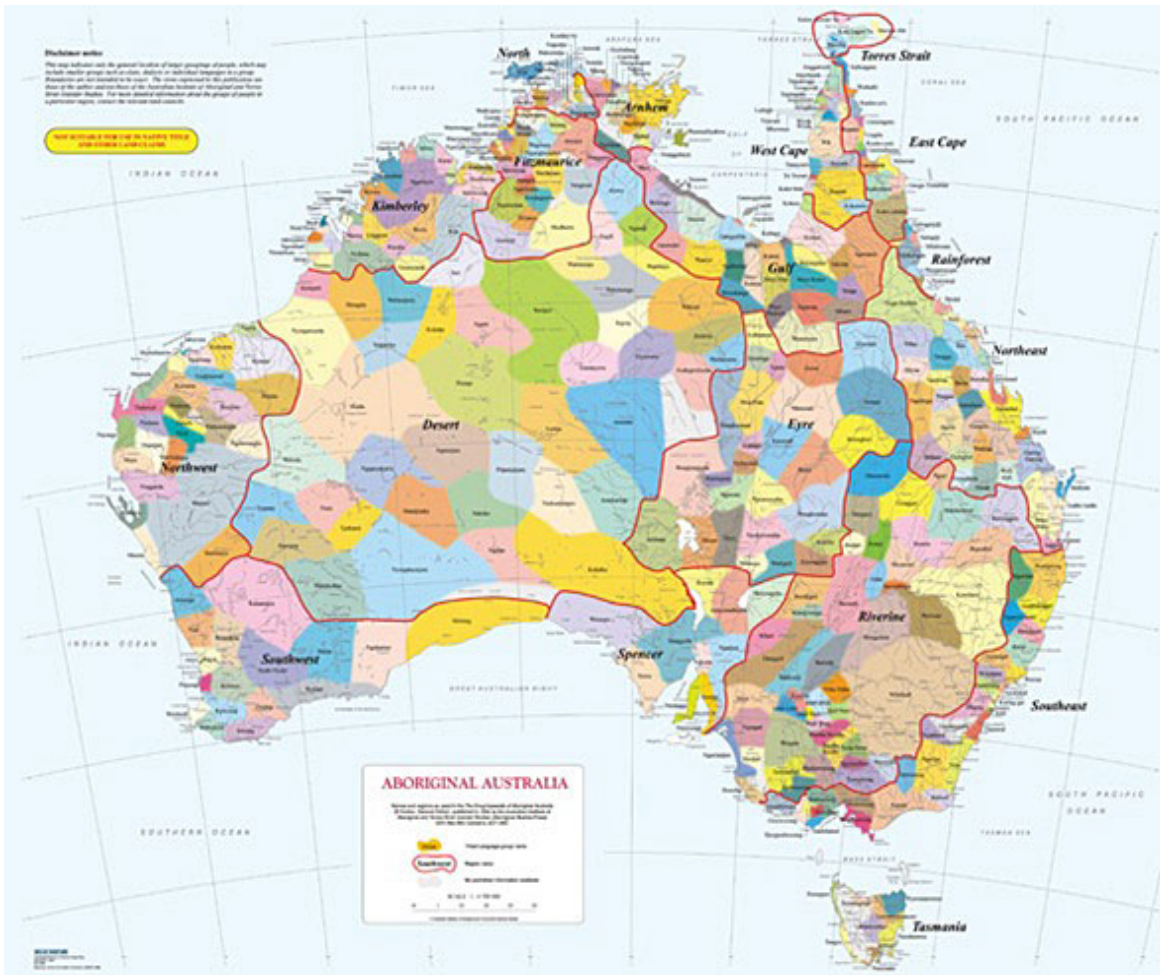
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Acknowledgement



Country

- ❑ Country is a place that gives and receives life
- ❑ Aboriginal people talk about Country in the same way that they would talk about a person: they speak to Country, sing to Country, visit Country, worry about Country, feel sorry for Country, and long for Country because of its link to Ancestry
- ❑ Aboriginal people can feel a sense of responsibility for someone else's Country because of their deep relationship with their own lands through caring for Country

Caring for Country a key to promoting health and wellbeing

“If the land is healthy... it makes the people healthy”

“If I smell pretty land my heart feels better – my head feels better... in cultural Australia we didn’t always take food or medicine orally some of it was sitting in amongst the plants... your in a spiritual place – calm and centered”

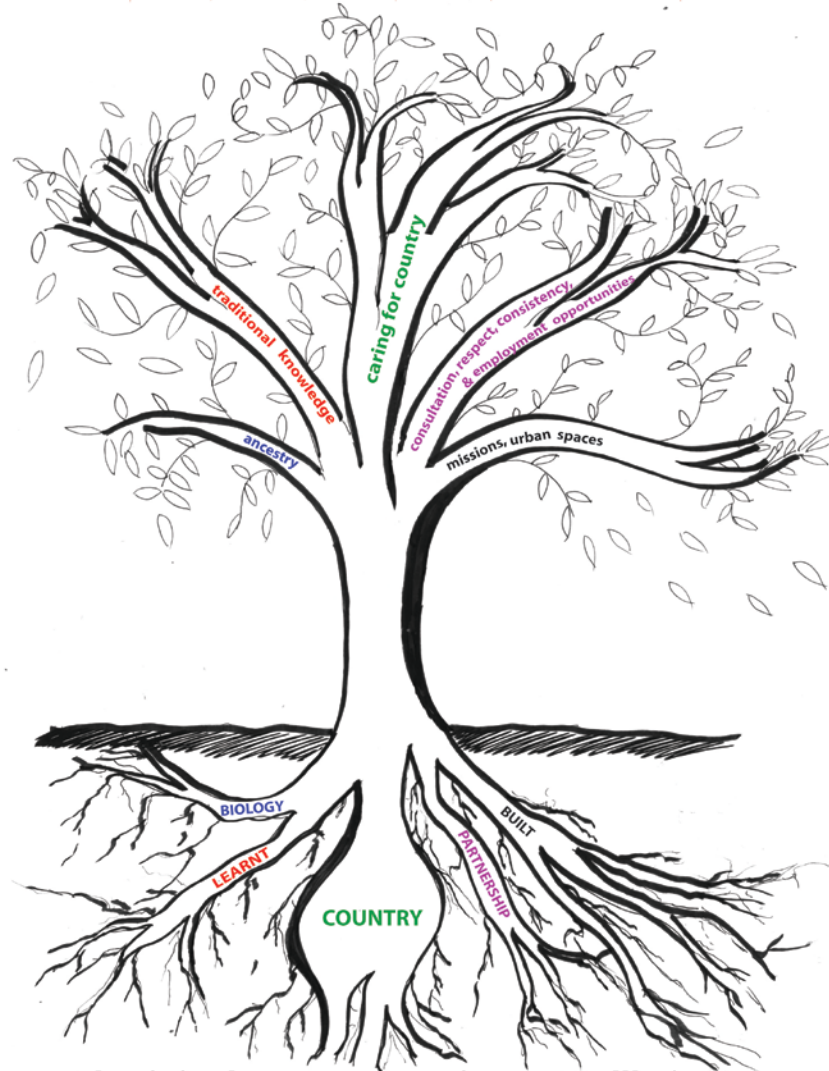


Factors impacting caring for Country

Barriers	Facilitators
Political	Community consultation
Access, development, recognition of land, native title, destruction of nature	Respect
Health/ cultural loss	Training
Racism/ lack of recognition of culture	Consistency between all stakeholder involved
Socio-economic	Resources
Colonisation	Provision of employment opportunities

Western/Downward Forces

Politics
Health issues
Loss of Traditional Cultural knowledge
Racism
Native Title
Colonisation
Destruction & recognition of Country



Aboriginal Forces Impacting on Wellbeing

Incorporating this knowledge globally

- ❑ Shaping public health: integrating ecosystems, diversity and Indigenous knowledge through the Oceania EcoHealth Chapter (Publication/s)
- ❑ Incorporation of the best of Indigenous and Western ecological knowledge
- ❑ No romanticism, No tokenism
- ❑ Engagement tools



Future engagement with Aboriginal Victorian Traditional Custodians

- ❑ Seed funding for consultation to develop statewide project
- ❑ Park ranger projects
- ❑ Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services



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