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Workshop 3.3 : “Effective and equitable governance of the seascape”

17th Nov. 2014; 8.30 - 12:15 m

Dhimurru

Enhancing Diversity and Quality of Governance

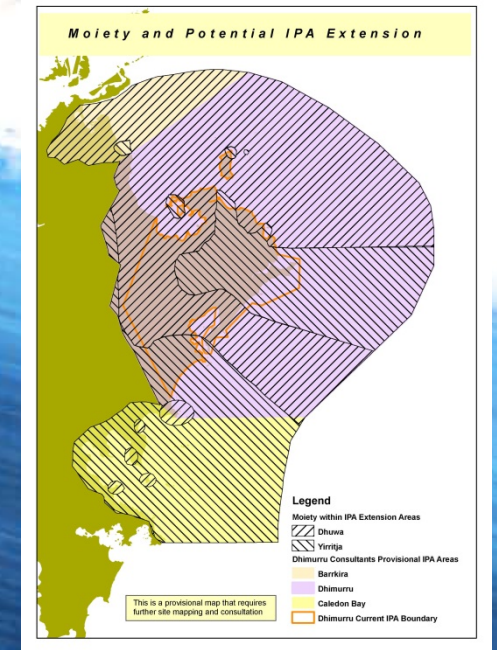
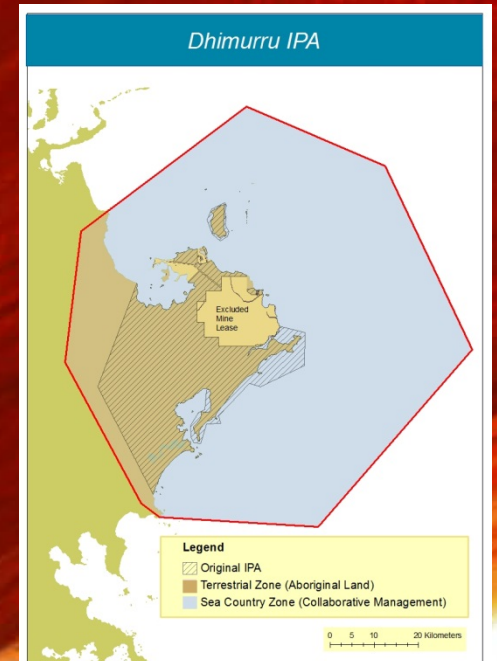
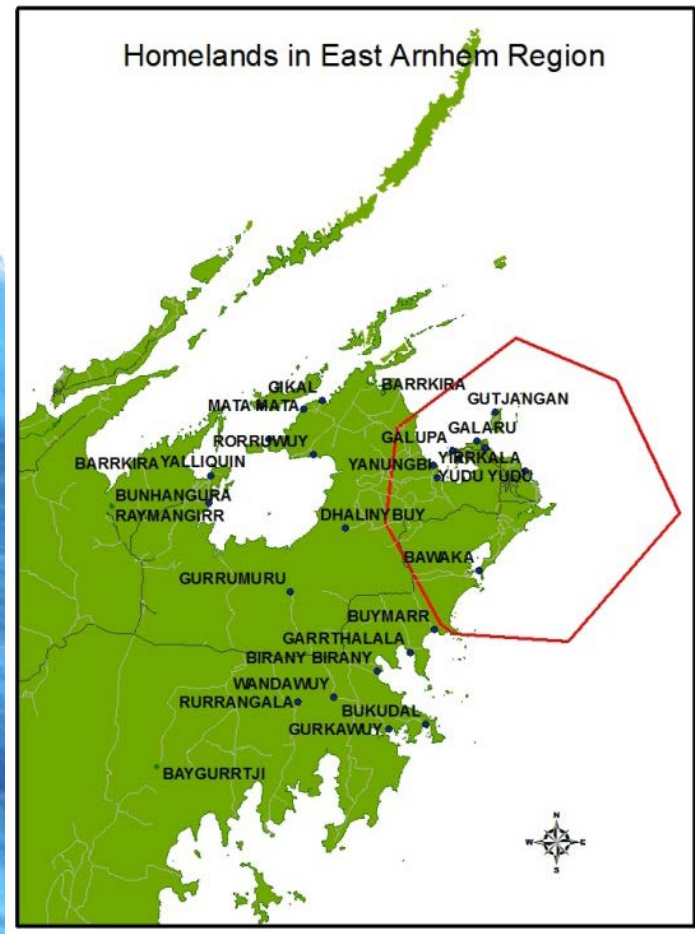
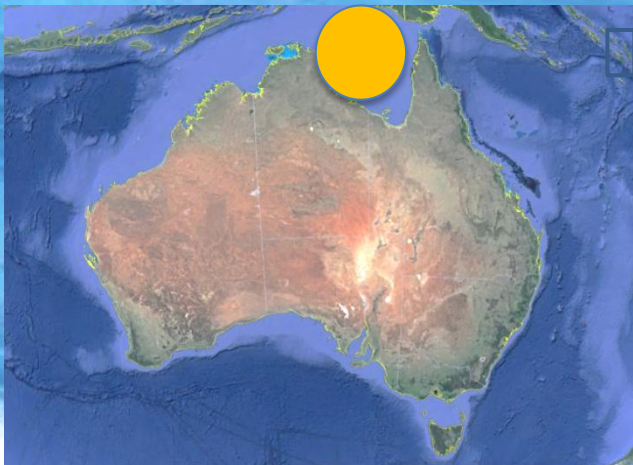
Djami Marika & Steve Roeger



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Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Area

- Total of 550,000ha of land and sea
- Boundary extends 40km seaward
- Encompasses 15 Yolngu clan estates



Collaborating in Sea Country Management

Dhimurru established 1992 as an Aboriginal Corporation under Commonwealth CATSI legislation

Vehicle to address traditional owners urgent concerns regarding uncontrolled access to their country

Largely terrestrial IPA declared 2000

Extensive Marine component declared in 2013





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The key question

What are the critical governance dimensions that enable

coherence, connectivity and collaboration

in and beyond marine protected areas?



Clear vision for effective collaboration

Dhimurru’s vision is guided by the wisdom of our elders who founded Dhimurru. They have inspired us in our work. They exhorted us to look after the land for those who will follow, to protect and maintain it. In 1990 on behalf of the elders Roy Dadaynja Marika said, “Be firm and strong for the land, and the strength of your solidarity will sustain you in your cause. Our country (land and sea) will exist forever. It must be protected so that it will remain the same, so that it can be seen in the same way that the elders saw it in the past. Our vision and hope is that Yolngu will continue to use our country for all the generations to come.”



Principles underpinning effective collaborations

- Yolngu control and empowerment
- Respect for Yolngu values
- Sustainable use
- Conservation and Enhancement of cultural and natural values
- Both ways – best available knowledge to inform Yolngu decision making
- Holistic management
- Protection and nurturing of sites of significance
- Maintain, foster, and continue Yolngu traditions and the Yolngu way of life
- Respect and communication



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Key recommendations

- Establish a clear vision and a unified approach
- Be clear about who you are and what you want to achieve
- Collaboration can only proceed where all parties respect each others values
- Small steps are sometimes big steps
- Establishing an effective presence is a beginning

Ngilimurru bukmak djaka wangawu

All of us together looking after country

