

NATIONAL LANDCARE PROGRAMME STAKEHOLDER SURVEY



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES

FINAL SURVEY REPORT

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Abbreviations and acronyms

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
IPA	Indigenous Protected Areas
MERI	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement
MERIT	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement Tool
NLP	National Landcare Programme
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
Tas	Tasmania
Vic	Victoria
WA	Western Australia
WoC	Working on Country

Executive summary

Background

The Australian Government invests in activities to achieve outcomes relating to environmental protection, natural resources management (NRM) and sustainable agriculture. The National Landcare Programme (NLP) is a key part of the Australian Government's commitment to natural resource management. The program supports local and long-term environmental, sustainable agriculture and Indigenous outcomes.

On 2 March 2016, the Australian Government undertook to review the NLP, to examine the appropriateness and effectiveness of the programme. The review is being conducted jointly by the Departments of the Environment and Energy and Agriculture and Water Resources, in consultation with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. The review will be completed by the end of this year.

To inform the review of the NLP, the Department of the Environment contracted ARTD Consultants in June 2016 to conduct a survey of NRM stakeholders to gain the views of those stakeholders on the program, its delivery and operation, and on program outcomes that are not available via other data sources.

The NLP stakeholder survey

The NLP stakeholder survey elicited the experiences and attitudes of stakeholders across the following themes:

- Alignment of programs to local, regional and national NRM priorities
- Stakeholder engagement in program activities
- Current program outcomes and beneficiaries, including landscape and practice change results
- Current NRM program processes for applications, contracting, delivery, monitoring and reporting, including about the monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) framework
- Future program objectives and priorities for funded projects, and improvements to program planning, delivery and MERI.

The NLP stakeholder survey was designed to gather feedback from a broad range of stakeholders across five main stakeholder groups:

1. NRM regional organisations (56 regional organisations directly funded by the NLP)
2. NRM local groups (funded by the 56 regional organisations)
3. Direct NLP grant recipients
4. Industry groups
5. State or local government.

The results of the 2016 NLP stakeholder survey are presented in this report.

The online survey was implemented between Thursday 15 September and Friday 14 October and collected a total of 916 responses, showing a very high level of engagement from the sector.

Half of the responses were received from NRM local groups (31%) and NRM regional organisations (21%), but all stakeholder groups were well represented: 12 per cent were direct NLP grant recipients, another 12 per cent were industry groups, 10 per cent state or local governments and 14 per cent belonged to the 'other' stakeholder group. Out of the direct NLP grant recipients, 69 per cent of them also identified as NRM local groups, thus further increasing feedback provided from the perspective of NRM local groups. Only four per cent of the respondents were from an Indigenous organisation.

In terms of involvement in the NLP, respondents were mostly involved (i.e. participated in, applied for funding or received funding) in the regional stream (41%), Landcare networks (38%), 20 Million Trees (37%), Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants (37%) and 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants (36%). Out of NRM local group respondents, more than half (58%) applied for NLP funding through an NRM regional organisation, and the majority of them (86%) also received funding through an NRM regional organisation.

Key findings

Stakeholders are aware of the NLP objectives and feel that they are aligned with the Australian Government priorities as well as their own

The vast majority of respondents are aware of the NLP objectives (91% agree or tend to agree).

Most stakeholders from NRM regional organisations confirmed that their NLP funded projects aligned with their Regional NRM Plan (95% agree or tend to agree); and close to three quarters of them felt that it allowed enough autonomy in setting regional and local priorities (72% agree or tend to agree).

Most stakeholders from NRM local groups, direct NLP grant recipients and other stakeholders also felt that NLP objectives align with their own NRM priorities (respectively 87%, 90% and 86% agree or tend to agree). Of those NRM local groups who did receive funding, 82% said that the funding met their groups' needs and priorities.

Industry stakeholders felt that NLP funding helps the industry improve sustainability (84% agree or tend to agree); and in turn that improving sustainability helps the industry improve profitability (94%) and access to markets (91%).

When presented with the list of NLP priorities, most respondents across all groups felt that their own NRM priorities were very or somewhat related to each of these NLP priorities (over

two thirds of all respondents felt that each one was very or somewhat related). There were however two priorities with which respondents' NRM priorities related to a lesser extent:

- Build Indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity: only 69 per cent of all respondents felt that their NRM priorities related to this NLP priority, with the lowest proportion among industry groups (53%).
- Protecting or conserving Matters of National Environmental Significance including management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands, national heritage etc.: 79 per cent of all respondents identified that their NRM priorities related to this NLP priority, with the lowest proportion among industry groups (68%).

Most stakeholders' NRM priorities have not changed recently: 86 per cent of all respondents reported their priorities have either not changed at all or not changed very much over the past two years.

NRM regional organisations provided opportunities for community stakeholders to participate and incorporated community priorities in regional NRM planning

Over two thirds of respondents from NRM regional organisations reported having provided a lot or a moderate number of opportunities for community participation, with more opportunities for delivering NLP funded projects (69% provided a lot of opportunities) compared to planning (39%) and priority setting (33%). Stakeholder groups most likely to be involved in planning were: state or local government (81%), Indigenous groups (72%) and Landcare groups (71%); and those most likely to be involved in delivery were Landcare groups (89%), land managers/ owners (89%), Indigenous groups (83%), state or local government (77%), local community members (76%), farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups (74%) and non-government organisations (74%).

Almost all NRM regional organisation respondents reported that they were able to incorporate community priorities in regional planning (97%) through community consultations that involved existing committees, focus groups, forums and surveys.

Stakeholders were satisfied with the level of community engagement

Over half of the respondents from NRM local groups, industry and state or local government indicated that they were somewhat or very engaged in the delivery of projects (61%, 52% and 65% respectively). The majority of state or local government stakeholders were also engaged in planning (60% very or somewhat engaged) and developing the regional NRM plan (58%). A lower proportion of these stakeholder groups reported being engaged in priority setting of NLP funds delivered by regions (39% for NRM local groups, 27% for industry groups and 43% for state or local government).

However, the majority of these stakeholders were satisfied with the level of engagement for each of these four aspects (over 60% very or somewhat satisfied for each group), meaning

that stakeholders were also satisfied with being less involved in priority setting. The majority of stakeholders from each of these groups felt that their suggestions were considered and potentially taken on board.

Of those stakeholders from NRM local groups, industry and state or local government who were engaged in projects with NRM regional organisations through NLP funding, most (over 80%) identified that the projects focused on protection and restoration of ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity; or building community awareness of biodiversity values, skills, participation and knowledge. Less than half reported that the projects undertaken related to building Indigenous knowledge and participation, promoting conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; and reducing the loss of natural habitats, degradation and fragmentation.

Most NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipient respondents felt that NLP is well implemented

Stakeholders from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients provided feedback about NLP application, funding and reporting processes.

The majority of NRM regional organisations stakeholders and direct NLP grant recipient respondents felt that

- requirements were well communicated to their organisations (87% across both groups for the application requirements and 87% again for the funding requirements)
- NLP processes were simple, in particular completing the funding application (61% across both groups) and finalising the contract (67% across both groups).

However, the views on monitoring and reporting requirements are substantially different between the two stakeholder groups, perhaps reflecting their differing requirements: 64 per cent of NRM regional organisations stakeholders found monitoring and reporting requirements not very simple or not simple at all compared to just 36 per cent of the direct NLP grant recipients.

With regard to the implementation of the NLP, stakeholders from both groups felt that the NLP encourages cooperation between government and stakeholders (90% of NRM regional organisation respondents and 88% of direct NLP grant recipient respondents); and that the current funding mechanisms are the best way to deliver NLP objectives (respectively, 83% and 73%).

The proportion of respondents seeking advice or feedback from the Department on various aspects of their projects was much higher among NRM regional organisations stakeholders compared to direct NLP grant recipients – the majority of whom did not seek any advice. Most respondents (over 90%) from both groups who sought advice found it to be helpful.

NRM regional organisations committed greater resources to filling in the application form and completing the MERI plan than direct NLP grant recipients

A higher proportion of NRM regional organisations stakeholders submitted both an application form and a MERI plan than did direct NLP grant recipients (respectively 82% and 52%).

NRM regional organisations stakeholders spent more time filling in the application form and completing the MERI plan compared to direct NLP grant recipients. The majority of respondents from NRM regional organisations reported spending more than 20 hours filling in the application form (16% between 20 and 40 hours, and 63% more than 40 hours); and most of them reported spending more than two weeks developing the MERI plan (47% between 2 and 4 weeks, and 31% more than 4 weeks). This compares with the majority of direct NLP grant recipients spending less than 20 hours filling in the application form (73%) and less than 2 weeks developing the MERI plan (81%).

Most respondents of both stakeholder groups responded positively to the usefulness of MERI (79% agree or tend to agree) and their understanding of what needed to be included in the plan (82%). They had less consistent views on MERI being a useful communication tool (53% agree or tend to agree), capturing practice change well (53%) and capturing agricultural outcomes well (54%). Stakeholders were also split in regards to the amount of time spent on the MERI plan compared to the benefits generated.

Finally, most stakeholders showed a preference for the application form followed by the MERI plan (compared to using both as the funding application or MERI plan only), with greater support among direct NLP grant recipients (75%) compared to NRM regional organisations stakeholders (58%).

The vast majority of NRM stakeholders felt that the NLP had positive direct and indirect impacts

A large majority of respondents across all groups felt NLP has resulted in improved landscape management (86% agree or tend to agree); increased adoption of sustainable management practices (86%); and enhanced social and institutional capacity for sustainable management practices (82%).

Most respondents across all groups also felt that the NLP has indirectly benefited capacity building (92%), environmental health (90%), community engagement (89%) and sustainable agriculture (87%).

Stakeholders identified the following groups as the main beneficiaries of NLP projects: land managers/ owners (73% of all stakeholders identified significant or moderate benefits for this group), farming, forestry, fishing and aquaculture industry groups (61%) and local community groups (60%).

More than half of the respondents who received NLP funding reported that none of their projects would have gone ahead without the NLP funding.

Stakeholders are very supportive of the NLP, in particular its community engagement focus, multiyear timeframe and the NLP brand

When asked about the one thing they would not change in the NLP, stakeholders identified a range of strengths. The most frequently mentioned was the regional delivery model (mostly mentioned by stakeholders from NRM regional organisations, with some mentions by NRM local groups). Engagement with and involvement of the local community was the second most frequent aspect stakeholders wanted to retain. Other key strengths of the programme included the multiyear timeframe offering some certainty, the continuation of funding and the NLP brand.

Stakeholders identified some areas for improvement around NLP processes and had some diverging views about the programme delivery approach

Stakeholders also had the opportunity to identify areas for improvement around key aspects of the programme design and delivery.

Stakeholders from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients suggested that the application and MERI process should be made simpler and more streamlined. Stakeholders asked for more lead time for the application process and suggested forms be improved. With regard to MERI, some stakeholders reported that they would benefit from more information about requirements.

All stakeholder groups provided feedback about the program delivery approach, NLP objectives and priorities. Stakeholders had a range of views about the program delivery approach. The most frequent feedback overall was to continue and expand funding over time (including some ongoing or follow-up funding). Some stakeholders, in particular NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients, felt that no change was required to the delivery approach or that the regional delivery model should be further strengthened. Other stakeholders, in particular from NRM local groups, were critical about the regional delivery model; and some others identified that the small grants could be improved. Finally, some stakeholders, in particular from NRM local groups and industry advocated for ongoing funding for Landcare programs and networks.

With regard to NLP objectives and priorities, the majority of stakeholders providing qualitative feedback felt that these were working fine. When they identified areas for improvement, stakeholders suggested better alignment with local, regional or subregional priorities; more community participation; and more focus on sustainable agriculture.

Other areas for improvements identified by stakeholders included providing more funding; reducing reporting; ensuring more regional or local influence in decision-making; and expanding the timeframe towards long term support.

1. Survey approach, methodology and distribution strategy

1.1 Background

Under the Natural Heritage Trust Act of Australia 1997, the Australian Government is investing in activities to achieve outcomes in matters relating to environmental protection, natural resources management and sustainable agriculture. The two programs associated with this funding are the National Landcare Programme (NLP) and its predecessor, Caring for our Country Phase Two (C4oC2). The majority of funding through the National Landcare Programme is committed until 2017-18, with funding and the approach beyond that time period to be determined by Government.

1.2 Objectives

The survey gathered feedback from NRM stakeholders on the NLP to inform future design and delivery of the programme. Results from the survey will inform the review of the NLP conducted by the Department, along with other work streams (budget analysis, internal analysis and review of delivery arrangements).

The survey elicited the experiences and attitudes of stakeholders across the following themes:

- Alignment of programs to local, regional and national NRM priorities
- Stakeholder engagement in program activities
- Current program outcomes and beneficiaries, including landscape and practice change results
- Current NRM program processes for applications, contracting, delivery, monitoring and reporting, including the monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) framework
- Future program objectives and priorities for funded projects, and improvements to program planning, delivery and MERI.

Other areas of interest identified during the inception meeting included:

- Administrative and funding arrangements (how does it work in practice, how engaged are local organisations in the planning, how well communicated are NLP requirements down to local organisations)
- Additional benefits to local communities: social well-being, health, community engagement, etc.
- Leveraging, co-investments from partnerships with businesses, Indigenous groups, local communities, private conservation groups, etc.

1.3 The survey

1.3.1 Design

Stakeholder groups

The NLP stakeholder survey was designed to gather feedback from a broad range of stakeholders across 5 main stakeholder groups:

1. NRM regional organisations (56 regional organisations directly funded by the NLP)
2. NRM local groups (funded by the 56 regional organisations)
3. Direct NLP grant recipients
4. Industry groups
5. State or local government.

In the first question of the survey, respondents were asked to identify the stakeholder groups they most closely associate with. For those respondents who did not fit the description of the 5 stakeholder groups, they had the option to select an 'Other group' response option that would generate a default list of questions.

Survey structure

The survey questions respondents were asked depended on the stakeholder group selected in the first question.

Survey questions were organised across six sections:

1. Your details
2. National Landcare Programme objectives and priorities
3. National Landcare Programme processes
4. Community engagement
5. Project outcomes and beneficiaries
6. Future of the National Landcare Programme

1.3.2 Distribution

The survey was delivered online via the Department of Environment and Energy survey tool CitizenSpace. The tool allows consistency across all online surveys developed by the Department and ensures accessibility; however it also has some limitations in terms of survey layout (due to accessibility requirements), survey design (in particular for elaborate skip logics) and data extraction.

The survey was disseminated via a generic link through

- email to key contacts through the Department of Environment and Energy, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- the National Landcare Programme website
- the Department of Environment and Energy's Facebook page
- the National Landcare Conference on 21-23 September in Melbourne
- the National Landcare Programme Twitter account
- the Department of Environment Facebook account
- the National Regional Landcare Facilitator Network.

Survey contacts were also invited to forward the survey link to other interested stakeholders.

The initial email list had 1,110 contacts – excluding duplicates and contacts without email addresses. Out of those, 122 email addresses bounced or were no longer active, 19 contacts had left the office with some being replaced (16 added contacts) and 5 contacts opted out, making a valid total of 980 contact email addresses.

The survey was open for over 4 weeks, from Thursday 15 September to Friday 14 October 2016. Three reminders were sent to the key contacts with email addresses on Thursday 29 September, Thursday 6 October and Thursday 13 October.

1.3.3 Analysis and reporting

Survey results were extracted from CitizenSpace on Tuesday 18 October after the survey had been closed.

The overall approach for the analysis and reporting is to present responses to questions across all respondent groups as the overall feedback, then by stakeholder group to identify any meaningful differences.

Results are presented question by question following a similar structure to the survey, starting with questions asked to all respondents then questions asked only to specific stakeholder groups, e.g. NRM local groups.

The Departments will also be provided with a clean dataset, allowing for further exploration of the data, such as looking at responses from respondents involved in specific direct grant programmes. These types of analyses may be of interest for the management of these individual programmes, but go beyond the overall feedback sought for the National Landcare Programme as a whole.

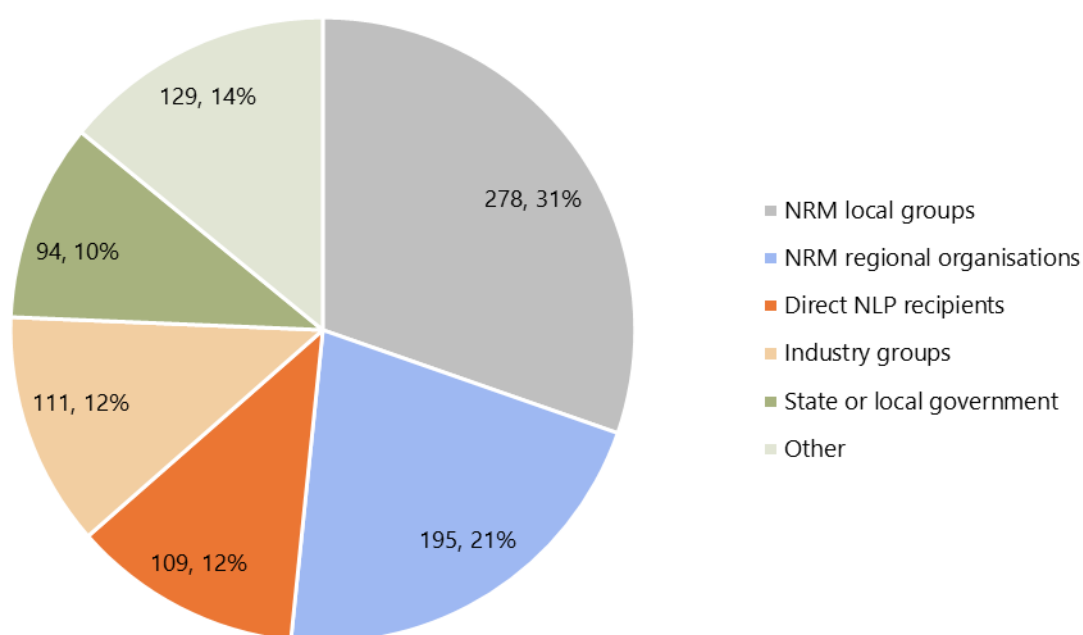
2. Respondents

2.1 Who the respondents are

2.1.1 NRM local groups and NRM regional organisations made up half of the responses, but all stakeholder groups were well represented

A total of 916 stakeholders responded to the survey. Stakeholders from NRM local groups and NRM regional organisations together made up half of the responses (respectively 31% and 21% of responses). However, all the other groups were well represented: direct NLP grant recipients made 12 per cent of the responses, Industry groups 12 per cent, state or local government 10 per cent and the 'other' group 14 per cent.

Figure 1. Respondents by stakeholder group



Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 1 'Which of the following stakeholder groups do you belong to?'

Notes: Other stakeholder groups include: individuals (n=32), businesses including agricultural interests (n=27), wildlife/ animal care groups (n=19), Landcare groups (n=17) and Other environment community groups (n=16).

Respondents who identified themselves as Direct NLP grantees (109, 12% of all responses) had the opportunity to identify any other stakeholder group they belonged to. Most of them

indicated they belonged to an NRM local group (69%), followed by Industry groups (27%) and NRM regional organisations (3%) (Table 1).

Table 1. Other stakeholder group (Direct NLP grant recipients)

	Number	Percent
NRM regional organisations	3	3%
NRM local groups	61	69%
Industry groups	24	27%
Total	88	100%
Missing	21	

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 2 'Which other stakeholder group do you belong to?', n=88

Among the respondents who identified themselves primarily as NRM local groups, 70 per cent of them associated mostly with Landcare and other 'care' groups such as Bushcare, Rivercare or Coastcare (Table 2).

Table 2. Association with NRM groups (NRM local groups)

	Number	Percent
Landcare groups and other 'care' groups	195	70%
'Friends of' groups and other community environment groups	31	11%
Individual land managers working in the landcare/ NRM sector	34	12%
Research entity (includes schools/ university)	3	1%
Other	14	5%
Total	277	100%
Missing	1	

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 7 'Which of the following NRM groups are you associated with?', n=277

2.1.2 Only four per cent of respondents were from Indigenous organisations

Across all stakeholder groups, 39 respondents were from Indigenous organisations, making up four per cent of all responses. The highest proportion was among other stakeholders (12%).

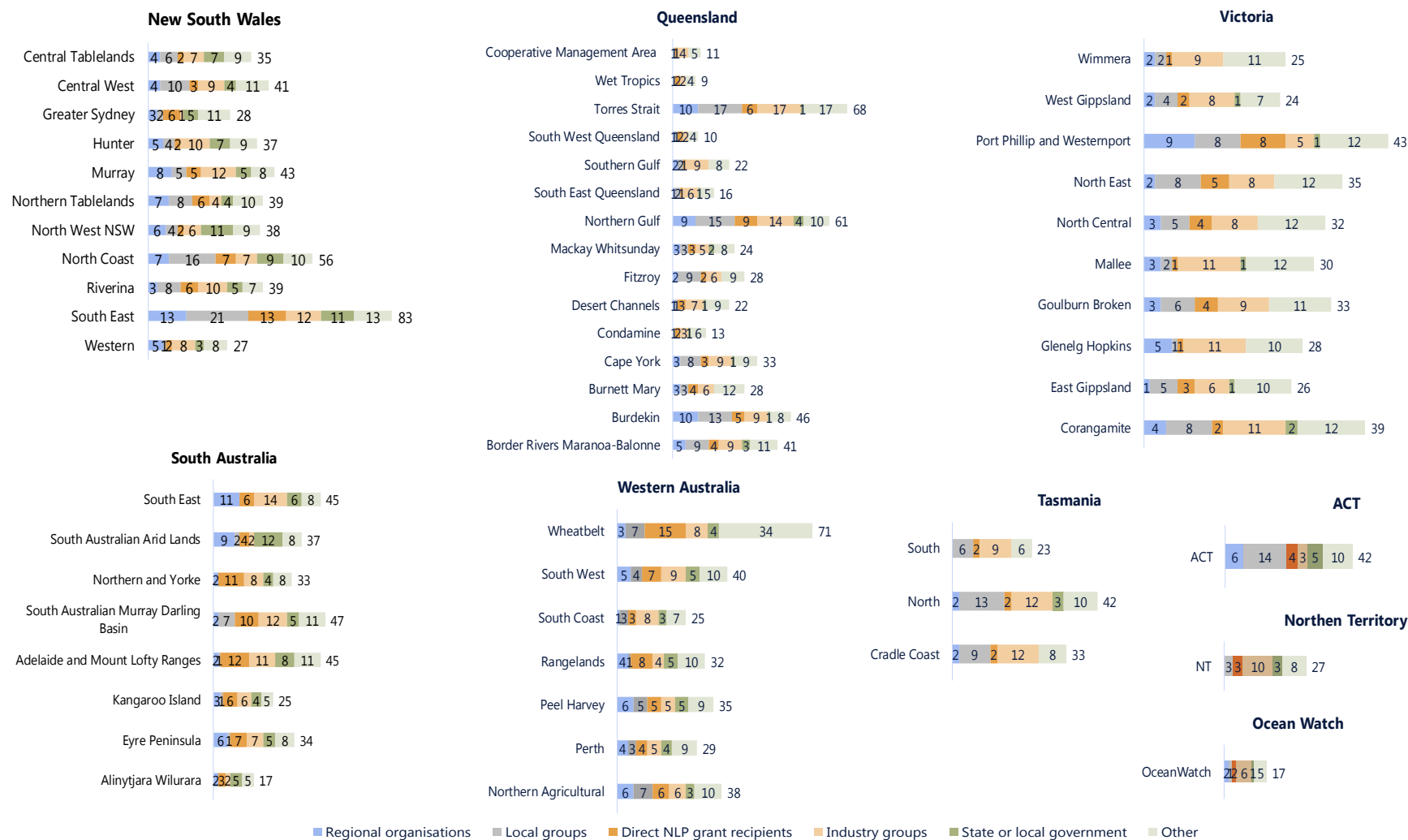
Table 3. Identification as Indigenous organisation (all respondents)

	Number	Percent	Total (n)	Missing (n)
NRM regional organisations	5	2%	194	1
NRM local groups	4	1%	277	1
Direct NLP recipients	8	7%	107	2
Industry groups	2	1%	111	0
State or local government	5	5%	94	0
Other	15	12%	128	1
Total	39	4%	911	5

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 1 'Does your organisation identify as an Indigenous organisation?', n=911

2.1.3 Responses were received from all NRM regions

In terms of geographic coverage, responses were received from stakeholders operating in all States and Territories (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Distribution of respondents by jurisdictions

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 9 'What is/ are the main NRM region/regions you operate within?', n=916 (multiple responses were permitted for this question)

2.2 How the respondents relate to the National Landcare Programme

2.2.1 The majority of respondents were involved in the Regional stream

In terms of involvement in the NLP, the programmes that stakeholders were mostly involved with (participated in, applied for funding but didn't receive it or received funding) were:

- Regional stream: 41 per cent of all participants – with a much higher proportion, as expected, among NRM regional organisations (81%)
- Landcare networks (38%)
- 20 Million Trees (37%)
- Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants (37%)
- 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants (36%)
- Clean Up and Keep Australia Beautiful (15%).

Respondents from Indigenous organisations had a much higher involvement in a different range of programmes than all respondents, with the majority involved in Indigenous targeted grants, although mainstream programmes were well represented:

- Indigenous Protected Area (48%)
- Working on Country Rangers supplementation (29%)
- Clean Up and Keep Australia Beautiful (29%)
- Regional Stream (26%)
- 20 Million Trees (23%)
- 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants (20%).

Table 4. Involvement in NLP sub-programmes (all respondents)

Involvement in NLP sub-programmes (Participated in, applied for funding but didn't receive it and received funding)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Regional Stream	152	81%	82	35%	20	22%	17	18%	25	31%	28	25%	324	41%	9	26%
Cumberland Conservation Corridor	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	3	3%	7	1%	0	0%
Kimberly Cane Toad Clean Up	4	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%	6	1%	0	0%
Coastal River Recovery Initiatives	7	6%	2	1%	0	0%	1	1%	2	3%	3	3%	15	2%	0	0%
Dandenong Ranges Programme	6	5%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	9	1%	0	0%
Whales and Dolphin protection	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	2	2%	6	1%	0	0%
Clean Up and Keep Australia Beautiful grants	17	13%	35	18%	11	13%	7	8%	12	16%	19	18%	101	15%	8	29%
20 Million Trees	91	57%	76	35%	45	47%	12	13%	23	28%	31	28%	278	37%	7	23%
25th Anniversary Landcare Grants	56	41%	102	46%	58	59%	10	11%	9	12%	26	25%	261	36%	6	20%

Table 4. Involvement in NLP sub-programmes (all respondents)

Involvement in NLP sub-programmes (Participated in, applied for funding but didn't receive it and received funding)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Sustainable Agriculture	66	46%	80	37%	40	44%	44	44%	16	22%	24	22%	270	37%	3	11%
Small Grants																
Indigenous Protected Area	25	19%	2	1%	5	6%	1	1%	6	9%	14	13%	53	8%	16	48%
World Heritage Grants	9	7%	3	2%	1	1%	1	1%	7	9%	2	2%	23	3%	1	4%
Reef Programme	24	9%	17	4%	7	4%	12	7%	3	2%	5	2%	68	5%	1	2%
Working on Country Rangers supplementation	16	12%	1	1%	2	2%	1	1%	3	4%	12	11%	35	5%	9	29%
Target Area Grants	40	29%	10	5%	2	2%	3	3%	11	15%	10	10%	76	11%	3	11%
Environmental Stewardship Programme	23	17%	12	6%	2	2%	6	7%	3	4%	10	9%	56	8%	2	7%
Innovation Grants	29	21%	12	6%	11	13%	22	25%	5	7%	12	11%	91	13%	0	0%
Landcare Networks	63	45%	102	45%	38	41%	24	26%	23	30%	29	27%	279	38%	5	17%
Wildlife Health Australia	2	1%	4	1%	1	1%	1	1%	5	3%	16	8%	29	2%	0	0%

Table 4. Involvement in NLP sub-programmes (all respondents)

Involvement in NLP sub-programmes (Participated in, applied for funding but didn't receive it and received funding)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Biosecurity Incursion Management	6	5%	13	7%	5	6%	5	6%	10	14%	12	11%	51	8%	1	3%
Total	195		278		109		111		94		129		916		39	

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 10 'What is your level of awareness of/ involvement in National Landcare Programme sub-programmes?', n=916

Note: Total by stakeholder group doesn't add up to 100% as multiple responses were permitted for this question

2.2.2 A high proportion of applicants received NLP funding and it mostly met the needs and priorities of their group

Most (58%) NRM local group respondents applied for NLP funding through a NRM regional organisation, and 84 per cent of those who applied received funding. For those who didn't receive funding, the main reason was because their application was not successful (68%), due to not enough funding available or that the project was not in line with regional priorities as specified in open comments. Of those NRM local groups who did receive funding, the vast majority (82%) felt that the funding received met their groups' needs and priorities.

2.2.3 Most NLP funded projects benefitted from other income streams and involved partnering with other stakeholders

Overall, 72 per cent of the respondents reported that their NLP funded projects benefitted from income streams other than the NLP. This proportion was much higher among NRM regional organisations stakeholders (83% for all or some funded projects) compared to NRM local groups (69%) and direct NLP grant recipients (59%).

Table 5. Income streams other than the NLP (NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who received funding and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Yes, all of our NLP funded projects	Yes, some of our funded projects	No	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	23%	60%	18%	194	100%	1
NRM local groups (received funding)	16%	53%	31%	131	100%	1
Direct NLP recipients	17%	42%	41%	109	100%	0
Total	19%	53%	27%	434	100%	2
Indigenous organisations	27%	33%	40%	15	100%	2

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 11 'Did your National Landcare Programme funded projects benefit from income streams other than the National Landcare Programme?', n=434

Other income streams were mostly from state government and land managers/ owners.

Table 6. Other income streams NLP funded projects benefit from (NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who received funding and direct NLP grantees)

	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups (received funding)		Direct NLP grant recipients		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Other Australian Government programmes or agencies	82	51%	32	35%	20	31%	134	43%
State government	142	89%	52	57%	30	47%	224	71%
Local government	82	51%	42	46%	16	25%	140	44%
Land managers/ owners	127	79%	57	63%	35	55%	219	70%
Philanthropic/ community	61	38%	39	43%	19	30%	119	38%
University or research organisation	58	36%	15	16%	9	14%	82	26%
Private/ own funding	41	27%	47	52%	41	64%	129	41%
Other	18	11%	14	15%	5	8%	37	12%
Total	160		91		64		315	

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 12 'Which of the following income streams did your National Landcare Programme funded projects benefit from?', n=315.

Notes: Total by stakeholder group doesn't add up to 100% as multiple responses were permitted for this question. Other income streams include corporate funding (n=10), industry groups (n=7), levies (=5), Landcare groups (=5), small businesses (=3) and private funding (=2).

Stakeholders who received funding from the NLP (NRM regional organisations, direct NLP grant recipients and NRM local groups receiving funding) indicated that they partnered with other stakeholders to deliver their NLP funded projects. Most respondents partnered with land managers/ owners (83%), Landcare groups (72%), local community members (71%) and state or local government (71%).

Table 7. Partnering (co-investing) with other stakeholders in delivery of NLP funded projects (NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who received funding and direct NLP grantees)

Partners	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups (Received funding)		Direct NLP recipients		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
State or local government	168	90%	72	59%	48	48%	288	71%	8	57%
Landcare groups	164	88%	85	70%	46	46%	295	72%	5	36%
Bushcare groups	71	38%	21	17%	17	17%	109	27%	2	14%
Coastcare, Rivercare groups	78	42%	15	12%	10	10%	103	25%	1	7%
Land managers/ owners	177	95%	97	80%	62	63%	336	83%	8	57%
Local community members	146	78%	89	73%	54	55%	289	71%	7	50%
Regional populations	89	48%	25	20%	25	25%	139	34%	3	21%
Businesses	89	48%	25	20%	30	30%	144	35%	3	21%
Indigenous groups	143	77%	33	27%	23	23%	199	49%	9	64%
Non-governmental organisations	141	76%	37	30%	38	38%	216	53%	6	43%
Farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups	140	75%	32	26%	27	27%	199	49%	6	43%
Research organisation/ university	135	73%	37	30%	26	26%	198	49%	3	21%
Other	9	5%	10	8%	10	10%	29	7%	2	14%
Total	186	100%	122	100%	99	100%	407	100%	15	100%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 13 'Did you partner (i.e. co-invest) with any of the following stakeholders to deliver your National Landcare Programme funded projects?', n=336

Notes: Total by stakeholder group doesn't add up to 100% as multiple responses were permitted for this question. Other partner stakeholders include: Landcare groups (n=5), NRM regional organisations (n=3), education institutions (n=3), private companies (n=3), animal care (n=3) and tourism organisations (n=3).

3. NLP objectives and priorities

3.1 NLP objectives

Stakeholders are aware of the NLP objectives and feel that they are aligned with the Australian Government priorities as well as their own

The vast majority of all stakeholders are aware of the NLP objectives (91% agree or tend to agree across all stakeholder groups) (Table 8).

Almost all stakeholders from NRM regional organisations confirmed that their NLP funded projects aligned with their Regional NRM Plan (95% agree or tend to agree); and close to three quarters of them felt that it allowed enough autonomy in setting regional and local priorities (72% agree or tend to agree).

Most NRM regional organisations stakeholders and direct grantees also felt that NLP funding meets the environmental (92% agree or tend to agree) and agricultural priorities (92%) of the Australian Government.

Industry stakeholders felt that NLP funding helps the industry improve sustainability (84% agree or tend to agree); and that improving sustainability helps the industry improve profitability (94%) and access to markets (91%).

Most stakeholders from NRM local groups, direct NLP grant recipients and other stakeholders also felt that NLP objectives align with their own NRM priorities (respectively 87%, 90% and 86% agree or tend to agree).

Indigenous organisations were less likely than all groups to be aware of the of the NLP objectives (81%).

Table 8. NLP objectives and priorities

Objectives and priorities (agree and tend to agree)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
I am aware of NLP objectives	189	99%	219	87%	104	98%	90	88%	76	84%	103	86%	781	91%	30	81%
Our NLP funded projects align with our Regional NRM plan	183	95%	NA		NA		NA		NA		NA		183	95%	3	75%
NLP funding meets the environmental priorities of the Australian Government	179	93%	NA		85	90%	NA		NA		NA		264	92%	12	92%
NLP funding meets the agricultural priorities of the Australian Government	173	94%	NA		65	84%	NA		NA		NA		238	92%	12	100%
NLP allowed for enough autonomy in setting regional and local priorities	135	72%	NA		NA		NA		NA		NA		135	72%	3	75%
NLP funding helps our industry improve sustainability	NA		NA		NA		88	84%	80	93%	NA		168	82%	5	100%

Objectives and priorities (agree and tend to agree)	NRM regional organisations	NRM local groups	Direct NLP recipients	Industry groups	State or local government	Other	Total	Indigenous organisations
Improving sustainability helps our industry improve profitability	NA	NA	NA	100 94%	73 87%	NA	173 85%	5 100%
Improving sustainability helps our industry improve access to markets	NA	NA	NA	97 91%	67 84%	NA	164 80%	5 100%
NLP objectives aligns with my group's NRM priorities	NA	204 87%	88 90%	NA	NA	85 86%	377 88%	21 84%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 15 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the National Landcare Programme (NLP) objectives and priorities?'

3.2 Stakeholder priorities

Most respondents' NRM priorities are related to NLP priorities and have not changed in the last two years

Stakeholders NRM priorities are very or somewhat related to most NLP priorities (over two thirds for each NLP priority). However, there were two priorities with which respondents NRM priorities related to a lesser extent (Table 9):

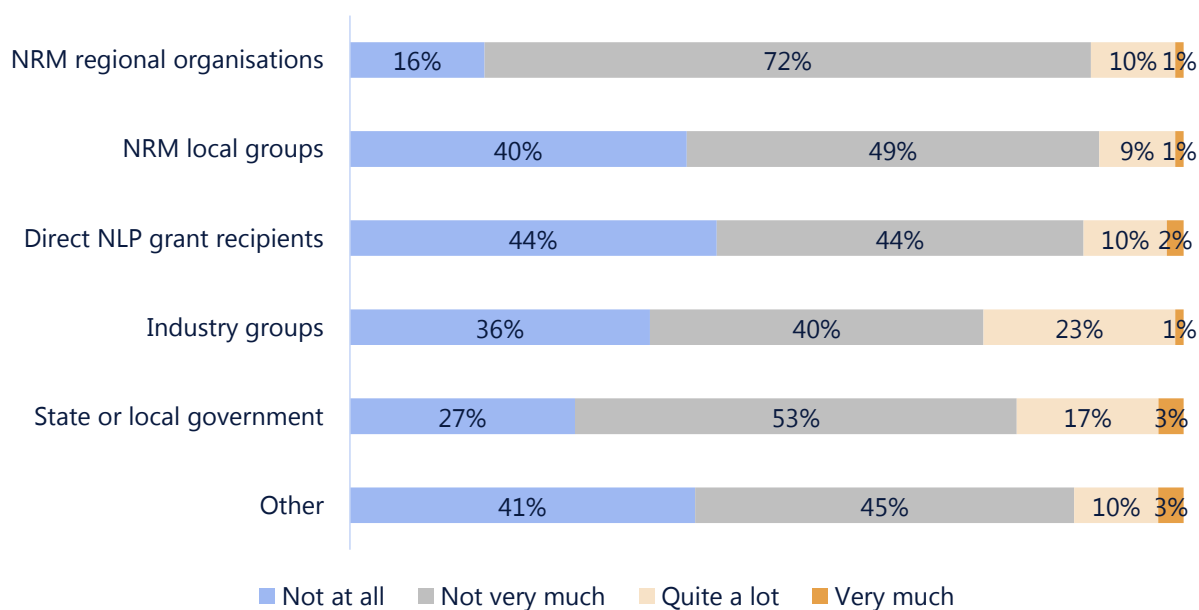
- Build Indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity: 69 per cent of all respondents felt that their NRM priorities related to this NLP priority, with the lowest proportion among industry groups (53%). However, all Indigenous organisations reported their NRM priorities related to this NLP priority.
- Protecting or conserving Matters of National Environmental Significance including management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands, national heritage etc.: 79 per cent of all respondents identified that their NRM priorities related to this NLP priority, with the lowest proportion among industry groups (68%).

NRM local groups, direct NLP grant recipients and other stakeholders identified their top 3 priorities. The main priorities identified were, by order of frequency across all respondents:

- Landscape restoration and conservation
- Water management and maintenance, waterways management
- Education and capacity building
- Weed and/or pest control – this was more frequently mentioned among direct NLP grant recipients
- Biodiversity – this was the most frequently mentioned priority among NRM local groups
- Sustainable agriculture.

Direct NLP grant recipients also mentioned community engagement and facilitating cooperation as key priorities.

Overall, 86% of all respondents felt that their priorities had not changed over the past 2 years (Figure 3). When respondents identified some changes, those were due to changes in focus (in particular more focus on weed or pest control, on climate change, on sustainable agriculture or on increasing community awareness) or due to reduced funding.

Figure 3. Change in NRM priorities over the past 2 years (all respondents)

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 18 'To what extent have your own NRM priorities changed over the past 2 years?', n=912

Table 9. NLP priorities relating to respondents' NRM priorities (all respondents)

NLP priorities relating to respondents' NRM priorities (Very related and Somewhat related)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Protection and restoration of ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity	193	100%	270	99%	106	98%	101	94%	84	96%	117	96%	871	98%	35	97%
Appropriate management of invasive species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or native species	191	99%	263	98%	98	93%	98	90%	83	91%	116	93%	849	95%	33	94%
Sustainable management of agriculture and aquaculture to conserve and protect biological diversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon stored in soil	182	94%	213	81%	87	81%	103	95%	70	78%	104	85%	759	86%	28	76%
Build community awareness of biodiversity values, skills, participation and knowledge	191	99%	259	97%	95	89%	98	90%	84	94%	106	85%	833	93%	33	94%

NLP priorities relating to respondents' NRM priorities (Very related and Somewhat related)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Build Indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	187	97%	147	60%	63	61%	53	53%	65	74%	74	64%	589	69%	35	100%
Promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	187	98%	245	92%	98	94%	91	85%	82	89%	110	90%	813	92%	34	97%
Reduce the loss of natural habitats, degradation and fragmentation	183	95%	256	96%	103	94%	95	89%	83	93%	115	93%	835	94%	33	94%
Protecting or conserving Matters of National Environmental Significance including management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands, national heritage etc.	171	90%	188	72%	73	71%	70	68%	77	87%	95	79%	674	79%	31	88%
Reduce the number of nationally threatened species and improve their conservation status	180	93%	228	86%	88	83%	74	69%	77	85%	111	89%	758	86%	32	92%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 17 'Below are listed the national and international priorities that the National Landcare Programme supports. How strongly do your own NRM priorities relate to these National Landcare Programme priorities?'

3.3 Suggested changes to NLP objectives and priorities

All stakeholder groups were asked about what to change in relation to NLP objectives and priorities. Out of the 916 survey respondents, 486 provided comments to this question (53% overall response rate), with slight differences between stakeholder groups (Table 10).

Table 10. Response rate to the question about what to change – NLP objectives and priorities (all stakeholder groups)

	Eligible respondents	Respondents	Response rate
NRM regional organisations	195	102	52%
NRM local groups	278	157	56%
Direct NLP grant recipients	109	51	47%
Industry groups	111	58	52%
State or local government	94	44	47%
Other	129	74	57%
Total	916	486	53%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 47d 'If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be? – National Landcare Programme objectives and priorities', n=486

The most prominent theme overall, and from every group apart from industry groups, was that the existing priorities worked well and did not need change. From participants who suggested improvements, the key themes by order of frequency across all respondents were:

- More focus on regional/ sub-regional/ local priorities or needs
- Increase community consultation and participation
- Remove certain programs, in particular the Green Army and 20 Million Trees programs
- More focus on sustainable agriculture.

Every stakeholder group prioritised focusing on local and regional needs. Many respondents expressed their belief that community focus had been lost by the NRM model, and was needed in order to engage community members to protect the environment, effectively deal with environmental issues, and give precedence to relevant regional issues.

The focus on community and local planning appears to have been lost by using the NRM model. Whilst regional planning is important it shouldn't come at the expense of community led initiatives. [Industry group stakeholder]

These are not relevant to local communities [NRM local group stakeholder]

Another frequent theme related to the previous one was to increase community participation. This was mentioned in particular by NRM local groups and industry groups' respondents.

Increased involvement by the community and industry groups in priority and goal setting
[Industry group stakeholder]

Other areas for improvements mentioned included making NLP objectives more flexible (NRM regional organisations), changing the wording of some specific current Strategic objectives (NRM regional organisations), more focus on biodiversity (NRM local groups), more focus on raising awareness and climate change (state or local government) and more focus on Indigenous communities or programs (other).

4. Community engagement

4.1 Community participation

All questions in this section were asked to NRM regional organisations stakeholders only.

NRM regional organisations provided opportunities for community stakeholders to participate and incorporated community priorities in regional NRM planning

Over two thirds of the NRM regional organisation stakeholders indicated that they provided a lot or a moderate number of opportunities for community participation, with more opportunities for delivering of NLP funded projects (69% provided a lot of opportunities) compared to planning (39%) and priority setting (33%) (Table 11).

Table 11. Opportunities for community participation (NRM regional organisations)

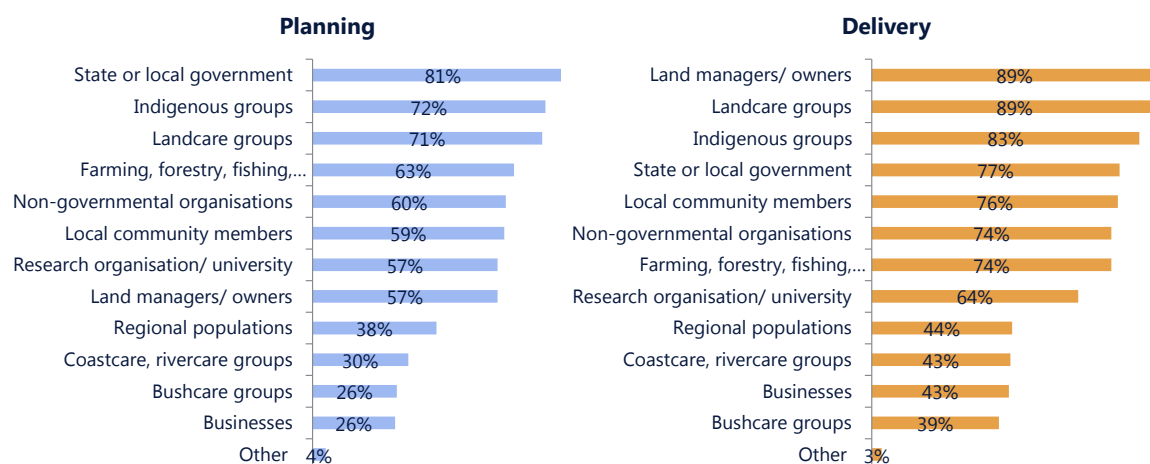
	A lot	Moderate number	Only a few	None	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
Priority setting of NLP funded projects in your area	33%	43%	17%	6%	192	100%	3
Planning of NLP funded projects delivered by your NRM regional organisation	39%	40%	17%	4%	191	100%	4
Delivering of NLP funded projects by your NRM regional organisation	69%	23%	7%	1%	192	100%	3

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 20 'To what extent did you provide opportunities for your community to participate in the following?'.

The vast majority of NRM regional organisation respondents reported that they were able to incorporate community priorities in regional planning (97%). This was done mainly through community consultations that involved focus groups, forums, surveys, or through existing committees.

Stakeholder groups most likely to be involved in planning were: state or local government (81%), Indigenous groups (72%), Landcare groups (71%); and those most likely to be involved in delivery were land managers/ owners (89%), Landcare groups (89%), Indigenous groups (83%), state or local government (77%), local community members (76%), non-governmental organisations (74%), and farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups (74%) (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Community participation (NRM regional organisations only)



Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 21 'To what extent did the following community members/ groups participate in the planning and/or delivery of regional NRM projects funded by the National Landcare Programme?', n=195 (multiple responses were permitted for this questions)

Notes: Other groups included: conservation bodies (n=4), industry groups (n=3), NRM related groups (n=2) and community groups (n=2).

4.2 Stakeholder participation

All questions in this section were asked of NRM local groups, industry, and state or local government.

Stakeholders were satisfied with the level of community engagement

Stakeholders were asked about their level of engagement in several NLP processes, and then about their level of satisfaction with regard to this level of engagement (Figure 5). A majority of stakeholders across all groups reported being very or somewhat engaged in priority setting (61% of NRM local groups, 52% of industry groups and 65% of state or local government). The majority of state or local government stakeholders were also engaged in the planning (60% very or somewhat engaged) and developing the regional NRM plan (58%). Conversely, a minority of stakeholders reported being engaged in priority setting of NLP funds delivered by regions (39% for NRM local groups, 27% for industry groups and 43% for state or local government).

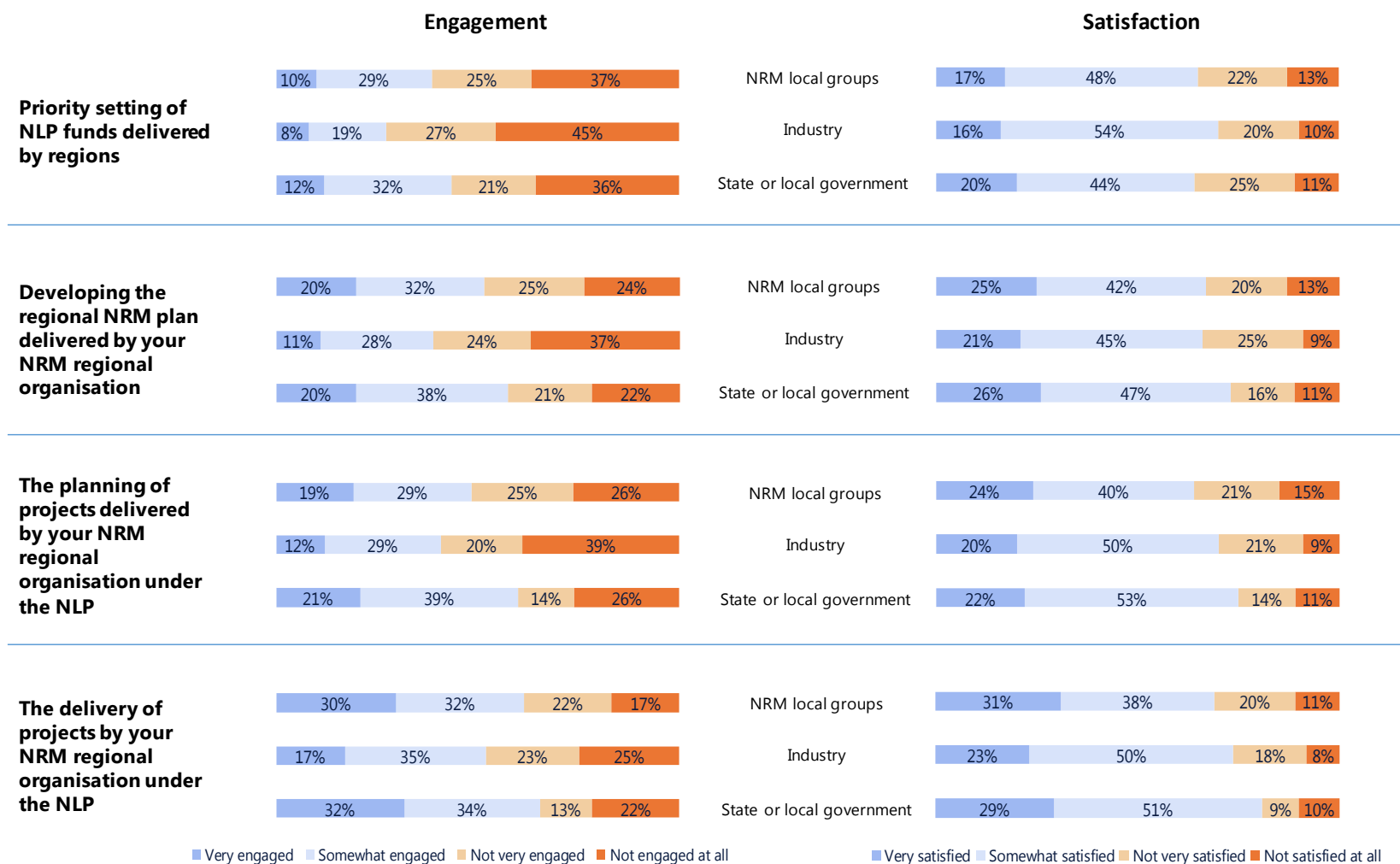
Despite some differences in the level of engagement across the different NLP processes and between stakeholder groups, a majority of respondents from each of the groups felt satisfied with this level of engagement. This means that stakeholders are satisfied with a lower level of engagement with regard to priority setting.

The majority of stakeholders from each of these groups felt that their suggestions were considered and potentially taken on board. The proportion was higher among state or local governments (73%) compared to NRM local groups (65%) and industry groups (57%).

Table 12. Suggestions considered/ taken on board (NRM local groups, industry, state or local government)

	Very much	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM local groups	17%	48%	23%	12%	265	100%	13
Industry groups	14%	43%	29%	13%	104	100%	7
State or local government	20%	53%	13%	15%	87	100%	7
Total	17%	48%	22%	13%	456	100%	27
Indigenous organisation	20%	60%	-	20%	10	100%	1

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 26 'Do you feel your suggestions were considered/ taken on board?', n=456

Figure 5. Community engagement: level of engagement and of satisfaction (NRM local groups, industry, state or local government)

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 25 'For each of the following aspects, please indicate your level of engagement and your satisfaction with this level of engagement.'

Of those stakeholders from NRM local groups, industry, and state or local government who were engaged in projects with NRM regional organisations through NLP funding, most (over 80%) identified that the projects focused on

- building community awareness of biodiversity values, skills, participation and knowledge (85% across all three stakeholder groups)
- protection and restoration of ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity (83%)

Less than half reported that the projects undertaken related to:

- building Indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (42%)
- reducing the loss of natural habitats, degradation and fragmentation (48%) (Table 13).

Results for Indigenous organisations are shown in Table 12, and vary somewhat from those of all respondents. However, the number of respondents is small, so care should be taken in using these results.

Table 13. Priorities and threats addressed by projects undertaken by local regional bodies (NRM local groups, industry, state or local government)

Priorities and threats	NRM local groups		Industry groups		State or local government		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Protection and restoration of ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity	127	46%	29	66%	38	83%	194	53%	4	67%
Appropriate management of invasive species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or native species	113	41%	25	57%	37	80%	175	48%	3	50%
Sustainable management of agriculture and aquaculture to conserve and protect biological diversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon stored in soil	93	34%	34	77%	32	70%	159	44%	4	67%
Build community awareness of biodiversity values, skills, participation and knowledge	123	45%	35	80%	41	89%	199	55%	3	50%
Build Indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	61	22%	13	30%	24	52%	98	27%	3	50%
Reduce the loss of natural habitats, degradation and fragmentation	73	27%	15	34%	24	52%	112	31%	1	17%
Protecting or conserving Matters of National Environmental Significance including management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands, national heritage	87	32%	14	32%	30	65%	131	36%	2	33%
Reduce the number of nationally threatened species and improve their conservation status	107	39%	26	59%	35	76%	168	46%	4	67%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 28 'What priorities and threats did the projects undertaken by your local regional bodies address?'

5. NLP processes

All questions in this chapter were asked to two stakeholder groups: NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients.

5.1 Appropriateness of NLP funding mechanism

Most respondents of both groups felt that the current NLP funding mechanisms (e.g. small grants, regional delivery etc.) are the best way (efficient and effective) to deliver NLP objectives (83% of respondents from NRM regional organisations agree or tend to agree, and 73% of direct NLP grant recipient respondents). Both groups were also positive about the NLP encouraging cooperation between government and stakeholders (90% and 88% respectively) (Table 14).

Table 14. NLP implementation (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

NLP implementation (agree and tend to agree)	NRM regional organisations		Direct NLP grant recipients		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
The current funding mechanisms are the best way to deliver NLP objectives	163	90%	86	88%	249	89%
NLP encourages cooperation between government and stakeholders	149	83%	77	73%	226	79%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 31 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about National Landcare Programme implementation?'

5.2 Communication and advice provided

Most stakeholders (over 80%) from NRM regional organisations and direct grantees found that both the NLP application and funding requirements were well communicated. The proportion is slightly higher among NRM regional organisations stakeholders compared to direct NLP grant recipients. Most of them also indicated that information on key NLP implementation decisions is publicly available (Table 15).

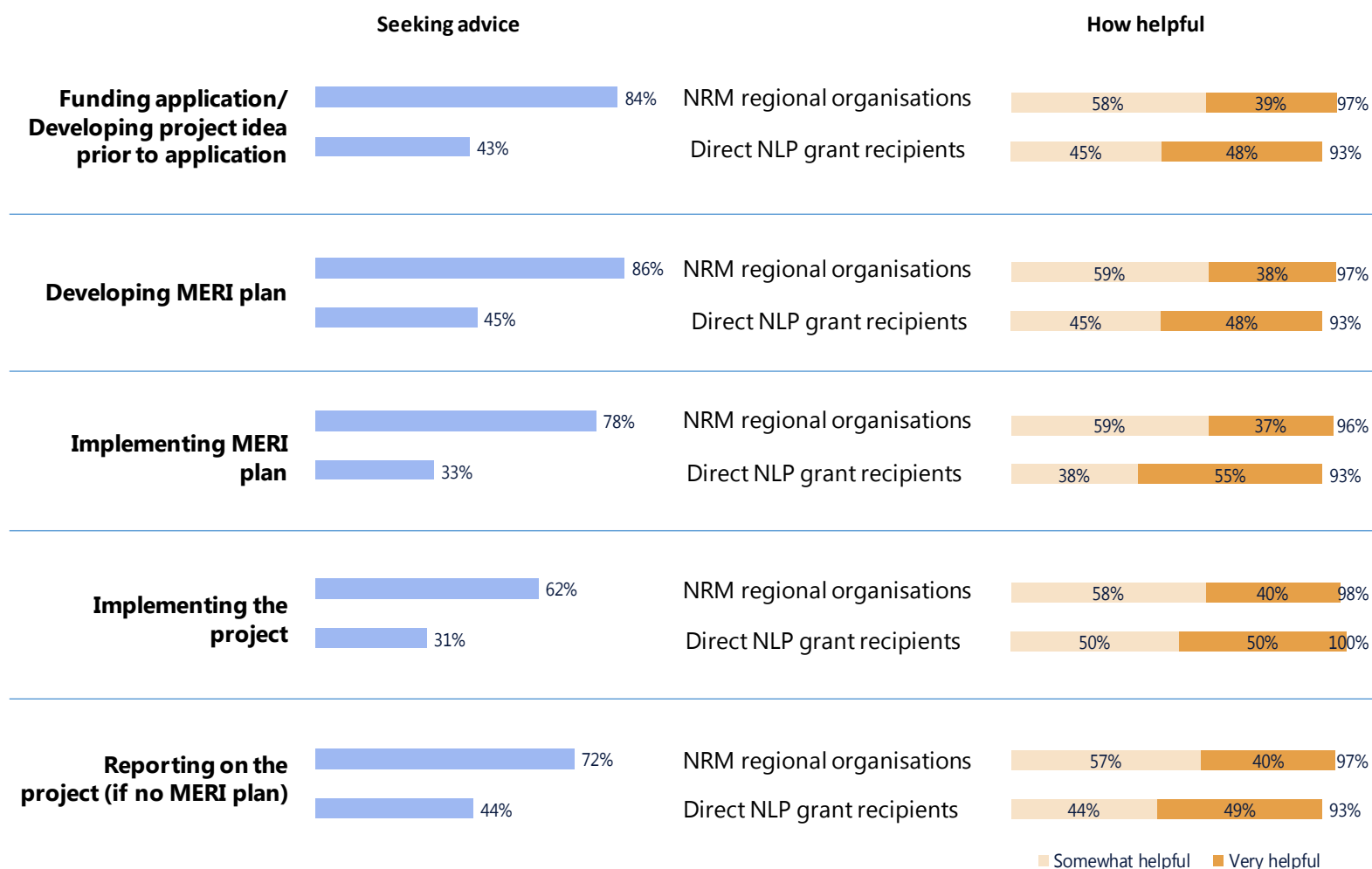
Table 15. Communication about NLP processes (NRM regional organisations and direct grantees)

Communication about NLP requirements (agree and tend to agree)	NRM regional organisations		Direct NLP grant recipients		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
NLP application requirements have been well communicated to our organisation	154	89%	91	84%	245	87%
NLP funding requirements have been well communicated to our organisation	150	88%	94	87%	244	87%
Information on key NLP implementation decisions is publicly available	127	76%	75	82%	202	78%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 29 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about how well communicated and designed the following National Landcare Programme aspects are?' and Question 31 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about National Landcare Programme implementation?'.

A number of stakeholders from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients reported seeking advice from the Department of the Environment and Energy, or the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. The highest proportion was in relation to developing the MERI plan, with a much higher proportion for NRM regional organisation respondents (88%) compared to direct NLP grant recipients (46%). When they sought advice from any of the Departments, the vast majority of respondents from both groups found the advice provided helpful (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Stakeholders seeking advice and helpfulness of information provided (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

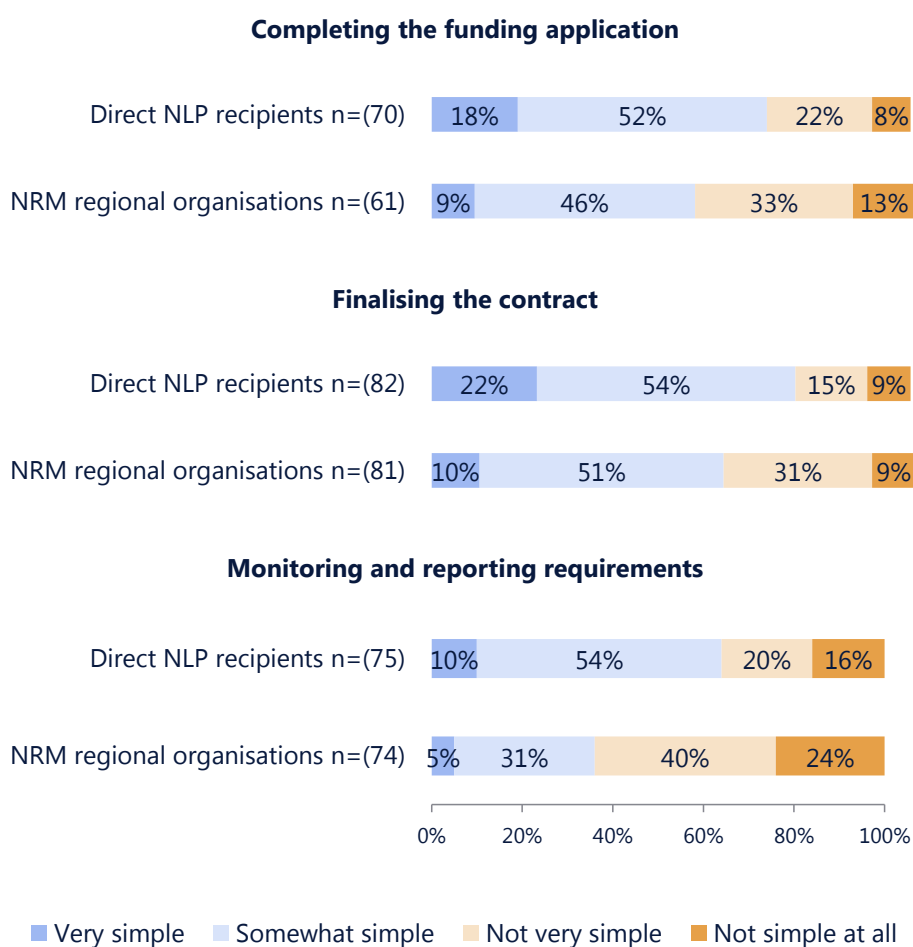


Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 42 'Did you seek advice or feedback from the Australian Department of the Environment and Energy, or the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on the following?' and Question 43 'How helpful was the information you received?'

5.3 Simplicity of processes

The majority of respondents from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients found completing the funding application and finalising the contract simple or somewhat simple. However, while 64 per cent of direct NLP grant recipients also found the monitoring and reporting requirements simple, this was the case for only 36 per cent of NRM regional organisation respondents (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Simplicity of NLP processes (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)



Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 30 'Please indicate how simple you have found the following National Landcare Programme processes.'

5.4 Application and MERI processes

Across both groups, 70 per cent of the respondents submitted an application form and MERI plan as their funding application, with some substantial differences between the groups. While respondents from NRM regional organisations mostly reported submitting both

documents (82%), direct NLP grant recipients were almost evenly split between submitting an application form only (47%) and both an application and a MERI plan (51%).

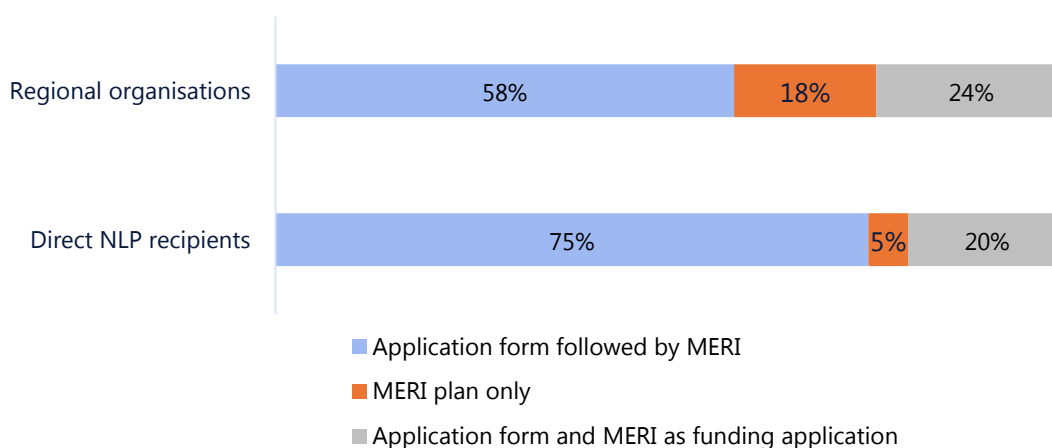
Table 16. Documents submitted as part of NLP funding application (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

Document submitted	Application form only	MERI plan only	Application form and MERI plan	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	7%	12%	82%	163	100%	32
Direct NLP grant recipients	47%	2%	51%	102	100%	7
Total	22%	8%	70%	265	100%	39

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 32 'Which of the following documents did you submit as part of your National Landcare Programme funding application?', n=265

When asked about their preference for funding application requirements, 65 per cent of the respondents across both groups would prefer to submit an application form followed by the development of a MERI plan once the funding is approved (Figure 8). This proportion is much higher among direct NLP grant recipients (75%) compared to NRM regional organisations (58%).

Figure 8. Preferred NLP funding application requirement (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)



Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 41 'Which of the following would you prefer as a National Landcare Programme funding application requirement?', n=266

Stakeholders from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients who submitted a MERI plan were also asked to comment on traditional application forms compared to MERI plans as an application (the previous closed question was asked to all direct grantees and NRM regional organisations stakeholders whether they had submitted a MERI plan or not). A total of 158 stakeholders commented on that aspect, 112 from NRM regional organisations and 46 direct NLP grant recipients.

When comparing the strengths and weaknesses of the MERI plan and traditional application forms, participants valued how MERI ensured project delivery aligned with project objectives, gave stronger evidence for achieving targets than traditional forms, and helped staff to think through critical areas such as outcomes and partners ahead of time. Many found the MERI plan to be time consuming and complex, although participants had mixed views on whether or not this was appropriate for the first time using a new format.

Some respondents mentioned that the length of the MERI plan meant that it would be most effective after traditional applications had been accepted, so as to not waste the time and resources necessary to prepare the plan.

I think they are both necessary for competitive projects because of the time/ resources involved in developing a MERI Plan which is very detailed and complex - this is a lot of work to do for a competitive application which may not succeed. However, for regional delivery 'base' funding, it makes sense to just go straight to the MERI Plan and avoid duplication involved with the application form. As the MERI Plan is a living document this (presumably) would also enable greater flexibility to adapt project delivery without the need for a formal variation from specifics contained in the funding deed which reflects very early thinking in a projects lifecycle - this is an important advantage. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

A number of respondents were critical towards MERI (too complex, onerous, time consuming). This is further discussed in section 5.4.2 based on comments about what stakeholders identified to change in relation to the MERI requirements.

5.4.1 Application form

Resources spent

The majority of the respondents who submitted an application form indicated that less than 5 people were involved in filling in the application form (67%) and spent greater than 20 hours (57%). This proportion, however, is substantially different in the two groups, which is probably due to differences in the requirements: 79 per cent of NRM regional organisations stakeholders spent greater than 20 hours filling in the application form compared to just 27 per cent of the direct NLP grant recipients (Table 17 and Table 18).

Table 17. Number of people involved in filling in the application form (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Less than 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	Greater than 20	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	45%	42%	6%	7%	1%	121	100%	23
Direct NLP grant recipients	94%	6%				97	100%	3
Total	67%	26%	3%	4%	0%	218	100%	26

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 33 'Approximately how many people were involved in filling in the application form?', n=218

Table 18. Total time all people spent filling in the application form (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Less than 5 hours	5-10 hours	10-20 hours	20-40 hours	Greater than 40 hours	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	5%	5%	11%	16%	63%	131	100%	13
Direct NLP grant recipients	15%	29%	29%	14%	13%	100	100%	0
Total	9%	15%	19%	15%	42%	231	100%	13

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 34 'What is your estimate of the total time all people spent filling in the application form?', n=231

Suggested changes to the application process

Respondents from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients were asked about the one thing they would change in the NLP application process. Out of the 304 eligible respondents to this question, 184 commented (61% overall response rate), with direct NLP grant recipients being more likely to comment (Table 19).

Table 19. Response rate to the question about what to change – Application process (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Eligible respondents	Respondents	Response rate
NRM regional organisations	195	114	58%
Direct NLP grant recipients	109	70	64%
Total	304	184	61%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 47a 'If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be? – Application process', n=184

A number of respondents to this question identified that no change was required to the application process; this was particularly the case among direct NLP grant recipients.

For those who suggested improvements, the key themes were, by order of frequency across both stakeholder groups:

- A simpler, more streamlined process
- More time to complete applications – this was more frequently mentioned by NRM regional organisations stakeholders
- Improve application forms – this was more frequently mentioned by Direct NLP grant recipients
- More opportunities to invest in regional priorities – this was only suggested by NRM regional organisations stakeholders.

Both groups mentioned streamlining the application process as the main area for improvement. Participants suggested removing duplications, reducing the number of questions, improving the user-friendliness of the form, and using less jargon and formal language. Direct NLP grant recipients highlighted this in particular, and recommended improving the mapping tool, and using smart forms and standard templates to simplify the process.

The Application process should be much simpler. The personal responsibility is enormous and the technical and financial responsibilities are huge and put great pressure on participants. The amount of work required to justify every step of the grant is simply not worth it, when all you are doing is giving freely of your time and energy to make the environment better. [Direct NLP grant recipient]

Some stakeholders, from NRM regional organisations in particular, identified the need for more time, both to prepare applications, and to allow for consultation with groups in the community. NRM regional organisation respondents also highlighted the ability for regional organisations to set priorities, and aligning applications with regional plans as important

improvements. As one stakeholder summarised it, more time should be allowed for community consultation:

More time to consult with the community and all relevant stakeholders. I think it should be a requirement that the application include meaningful participation of stakeholders and sufficient time periods be given to allow for this. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

Participants who desired more time for applications also requested more guidance and information ahead of the application due date, to clarify the process and reduce time wasted trying to understand new tasks such as developing a program logic.

The application process was very stressful and draining on productivity. Guidance documents must be made available to applicants well in advance of the deadline for submission, and realistic time frames must be allowed (6 - 8 weeks) to complete the application process. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

The application process for our NRM body was more of a negotiation with regional investor representatives and there was a limited amount of control over the final program makeup. I would prefer to see clear guidelines issued on program objectives and expectations, and criteria for assessment, and then the NRM body designing a suite of projects to fit these. There was too much personal and subjective influence by investor reps. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

5.4.2 MERI plan

Resources spent

The majority of the respondents who completed the MERI plan indicated that less than 5 people were involved in completing it. However, this proportion was much higher among direct NLP grant recipients compared to NRM regional organisations stakeholders who mostly had up to 10 people involved in completing the MERI plan (Table 20).

Three quarters of the respondents reported that it could take up to 4 weeks to develop the MERI plan (Table 21), and 54 per cent indicated that it required an additional 20 hours to finalise this plan (Table 22). Most NRM regional organisations stakeholders spent more time developing the MERI plan (68% spending more than 2 weeks) and finalising it (65% spending over 20 hours) compared to direct NLP grant recipients (81% spending up to 2 weeks developing it, and 55% spending up to 10 hours).

Table 20. Number of people involved in completing the MERI plan (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Less than 5	5-10	10-20	Greater than 20	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	38%	46%	15%	1%	130	100%	22
Direct NLP grant recipients	90%	8%	2%		52	100%	2
Total	53%	35%	11%	1%	182	100%	24

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 35 'Approximately how many people were involved in completing the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan?', n=182

Table 21. Total time spent developing the MERI plan (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

Time spent developing MERI	Less than 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-4 weeks	More than 4 weeks	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	3%	19%	47%	31%	138	100%	14
Direct NLP grant recipients	43%	38%	9%	9%	53	100%	1
Total	14%	24%	37%	25%	191	100%	15

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 36 'What is your estimate of the total time all people spent initially in developing the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan until the first submission to the Department?', n=191

Table 22. Total time spent finalising the MERI plan (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Less than 5 hours	5-10 hours	10-20 hours	20-40 hours	Greater than 40 hours	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	%	%	n	%	n
NRM regional organisations	4%	11%	20%	23%	42%	138	100%	14
Direct NLP grant recipients	30%	25%	23%	11%	11%	53	100%	1
Total	11%	15%	21%	20%	34%	191	100%	15

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 37 'What is your estimate of the total time all people spent finalising the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan (once submitted to the Department)?', n=191

Feedback about the MERI plan

When asked to provide feedback about the MERI plan (Table 23), a majority of respondents

- Understood what they needed to include in the MERI plan (82% agree or tend to agree)
- Found MERI a useful planning tool and refer to their plans to ensure the project is on track (75%).

A lower proportion of respondents refer to their MERI plan to identify issues in the project and inform future design and delivery of their projects. This proportion is much higher among NRM regional organisations stakeholders (81%) compared to direct NLP grant recipients (58%).

Fewer stakeholders reported MERI being a useful communication tool (53% agree or tend to agree), capturing practice change well (53%) and capturing agricultural outcomes well (54%).

Table 23. MERI plan feedback (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

MERI statement (agree and tend to agree)	NRM regional organisations		Direct NLP grant recipients		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
I understood what I needed to include in the MERI plan	107	82%	40	80%	147	82%
MERI is a useful planning tool	114	81%	36	75%	150	79%
I refer to my MERI plan to ensure the project is on track	109	81%	29	58%	138	75%
I refer to my MERI plan to identify issues in the project	85	65%	22	45%	107	60%
I refer to my MERI plan to inform future design and delivery of my project	103	77%	22	45%	125	68%
MERI is a useful communication tool for my organisation to share information on project delivery with the community	72	52%	26	55%	98	53%
MERI captures practice change well	69	53%	25	53%	94	53%
MERI captures environmental outcomes well	80	59%	31	62%	111	60%
MERI captures agricultural outcomes well	70	55%	19	50%	89	54%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 39 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan?'

Stakeholders were also split in regards to the amount of time spent on the MERI plan compared to the benefits generated (Table 24). Overall, 47% of the respondents felt they spent the right amount of time and budget in developing and implementing MERI compared to benefits generated, while 49% felt they spent too much time. The proportion of respondents who felt they spent the right amount of time and budget was slightly higher among direct NLP grant recipients compared to NRM regional organisations stakeholders.

Table 24. Time and cost of developing and implementing the MERI plan compared to benefits generated (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Right amount of time and budget	Spent too much time and budget	Spent too little time and budget	Total		Missing
	%	%	%	n	%	
NRM regional organisations	46%	49%	6%	138	100%	14
Direct NLP grant recipients	49%	49%	2%	53	100%	1
Total	47%	49%	5%	191	100%	15
Indigenous organisations	67%	17%	17%	6	100%	1

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 40 'How do you feel about the time and cost of developing and implementing the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan compared to the benefits generated for the funded project and your organisation?', n=191

Suggested changes to the MERI plan

Stakeholders from NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients also had the opportunity to identify one thing to change the MERI requirements. Out of the 304 respondents eligible to respond to this question, 201 commented (66% overall response rate), with little difference in the response rate between the two groups (Table 25).

Table 25. Response rate to the question about what to change – MERI requirements (NRM regional organisations and direct NLP grant recipients)

	Eligible respondents	Respondents	Response rate
NRM regional organisations	195	130	67%
Direct NLP grant recipients	109	71	65%
Total	304	201	66%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 47b 'If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be? – MERI requirements', n=201

The main comments provided, across both groups were, by order of frequency:

- MERI is too onerous, and resource intensive
- MERI should be simpler and streamlined – this was more frequently mentioned by direct NLP grant recipients
- More information and explanation around requirements is needed – this was more frequently mentioned by direct grant recipients
- MERI should collect only the information that is useful.

Participants identified MERI forms as burdensome, time consuming, complex, and repetitive, and recommended simplifying them, particularly for volunteers and lay people tasked with filling out the forms. Stakeholders were also critical about changes to the requirements along the way. The changes in forms and requirements were seen as disruptive and damaging to useful data collection.

Just make it simple. The benefits and outcomes are often cumulative and hard to judge from the one event. [Direct NLP grant recipient]

Stop changing the goalposts all the time. Develop a system, listen to feedback, improve it and then don't change it. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

Simpler MERI both in the planning and the filling out, some small groups have trouble with internet and this effects how they can upload to the MERI system. [Direct NLP grant recipient]

Direct grant recipients mentioned needing support and advice to complete the forms, particularly as expectations differed between people, and expectations seemed to change throughout the process.

NRM regional organisations stakeholders emphasised the difference between regions, which meant a standard MERI form asked for information that was not relevant or necessary, as it tried to fit a 'one size fits all' approach.

Recognition that systems vary across the nation. The model of trying to have one size fits all, while ideal for consolidating reporting, does not fit/ align with many project activities. Having more scope to build projects that fit into communities/ localities and develop relevant report & monitoring would give greater value to the project proponents. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

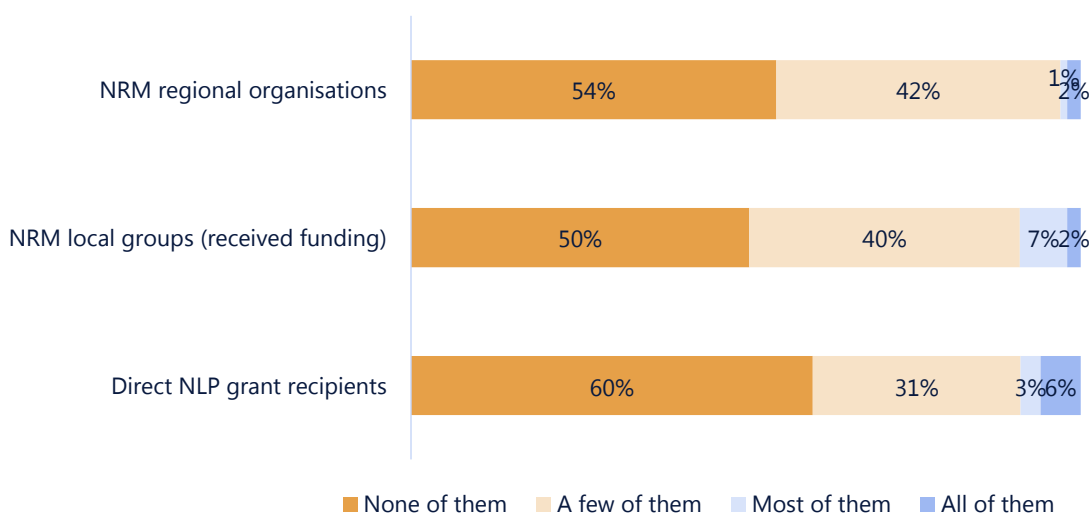
6. Project outcomes and beneficiaries

6.1 Outcomes

6.1.1 The importance of NLP funding for funded projects

The majority of all stakeholders who received direct funding (NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who received funding or direct NLP grant recipients) indicated that none of the NLP funded projects would have gone ahead if they had not received NLP funding. The proportion was higher among direct NLP grant recipients (60%) compared to NRM regional organisations stakeholders (54%) and NRM local groups who received funding (50%) (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Number of projects that would have gone ahead without NLP funding (NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who received funding or direct NLP grant recipients)



Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 14 'How many of the National Landcare Programme funded projects would have gone ahead if they had not received National Landcare Programme funding?', n=433

6.1.2 Direct impacts

All NRM stakeholders were asked about the broad impacts of the NLP (Table 26). While the majority of stakeholders agreed with all types of potential impacts listed, the most frequently identified across all stakeholder groups were:

- Improved landscape management (86% agree or tend to agree)
- Increased adoption of sustainable management practices (86%)
- Enhanced social and institutional capacity for sustainable management practices (82%).

Table 26. Impact of NLP (all respondents)

Impact of NLP: As a result of NLP funded projects... (agree and tend to agree)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP grant recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
... landscape management has improved	169	92%	203	81%	91	91%	85	88%	72	88%	85	79%	705	86%	26	84%
... there is enhanced social and institutional capacity for sustainable management practices	167	92%	180	73%	85	87%	85	83%	68	86%	82	75%	667	82%	26	84%
... the adoption of sustainable farming and fishing management practices has increased	166	95%	187	82%	70	90%	92	88%	57	85%	79	74%	651	86%	21	78%
... community involvement in natural resource management has increased	170	93%	184	71%	81	82%	75	81%	63	76%	85	74%	658	79%	27	79%
... there are better partnerships between individuals/ communities and NRM regional organisations	173	93%	183	72%	81	80%	73	74%	66	80%	76	72%	652	78%	28	78%
... the level of protection, rehabilitation, restoration of prioritised environmental assets, threatened species, ecological communities and/or migratory species has increased	165	92%	166	67%	86	87%	73	78%	58	73%	80	71%	628	77%	24	75%
... Indigenous participation in natural resource management has increased	166	92%	129	74%	47	66%	52	76%	49	71%	62	75%	505	78%	27	79%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 44 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the impact of the National Landcare Programme? As a result of National Landcare Programme funded projects ...'

6.1.3 Indirect impacts

Stakeholders were then asked about indirect impacts of the NLP. A high proportion of respondents (over 90%) said that the NLP has had a large positive impact or small positive impact on developing skills and knowledge in NRM and environmental health. A slightly lower proportion of respondents (between 70% and 80%) said NLP has had a positive impact on the economy, community engagement and sustainable agriculture. A lower proportion (between 50% and 69%) said there was a positive impact on jobs or public health.

Table 27. Indirect impact of NLP (all respondents)

Indirect impact of NLP (large positive impact and small positive impact)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP grant recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Economy	142	84%	155	72%	64	74%	64	72%	54	76%	62	67%	541	75%	22	71%
Jobs	136	82%	142	64%	60	71%	45	55%	50	66%	61	68%	494	69%	20	65%
Developing skills and knowledge in managing natural resources (capacity building)	183	97%	227	89%	97	95%	89	93%	73	90%	87	83%	756	92%	33	89%
Community engagement	183	97%	219	86%	95	92%	80	86%	76	90%	84	78%	737	89%	31	86%
Social wellbeing	133	83%	167	72%	71	79%	56	64%	56	73%	66	70%	549	74%	25	81%
Environmental health	172	98%	224	89%	96	94%	78	87%	77	91%	87	80%	734	90%	27	82%
Sustainable agriculture	175	96%	194	84%	76	88%	80	85%	62	82%	80	78%	667	87%	17	63%
Public health	80	60%	86	44%	42	60%	33	46%	26	40%	45	55%	312	50%	14	56%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 45 'On balance, what has been the impact of the National Landcare Programme in your region?'

6.2 Beneficiaries

When asked about which groups benefitted from the outputs and outcomes of NLP funded projects, stakeholders most frequently identified land managers/ owners (73% moderate and significant benefits), farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups (61%) and local community members (60%). Stakeholder groups reported to benefit the least from the NLP were businesses (36%), regional populations (47%), and research organisations/ universities (47%) (Table 28).

Table 28. Benefits to stakeholder groups

Benefits to stakeholder groups (significant benefits and moderate benefits)	NRM regional organisations		NRM local groups		Direct NLP grant recipients		Industry groups		State or local government		Other		Total		Indigenous organisations	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Land managers/ owners	160	86%	158	65%	85	83%	67	66%	62	70%	68	64%	600	73%	28	76%
Local community members	135	73%	132	54%	70	67%	54	56%	49	57%	57	54%	497	60%	20	56%
Regional populations	91	53%	100	44%	46	49%	44	46%	37	45%	45	46%	363	47%	17	53%
Businesses	65	39%	58	28%	41	45%	32	34%	30	38%	37	39%	263	36%	16	52%
Indigenous community groups	124	69%	66	42%	34	45%	32	53%	38	54%	38	49%	332	53%	19	56%
Non-Indigenous community groups	127	69%	98	45%	49	55%	31	38%	38	50%	43	49%	386	53%	16	57%
Farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups	119	71%	104	51%	53	65%	60	59%	46	67%	56	61%	438	61%	18	69%
Research organisation/ university	60	38%	80	48%	37	53%	47	59%	29	40%	46	53%	299	47%	18	62%
Other	6	75%	5	38%	4	44%	5	71%	2	33%	12	63%	34	55%	2	29%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 46 'How much do you estimate each of the following groups have benefited from the outputs and outcomes of National Landcare Programme funded projects?

Notes: Other groups included community groups (n=9), NRM regional organisations (n=6), Landcare groups (n=6), schools (n=6), wildlife organisations (n=5) and environmental management groups (n=5).

7. Future of the NLP

7.1 What stakeholders want to retain

All respondents were asked to identify one thing they would not change in the NLP and why. Out of the 916 respondents to the survey, 535 provided a response to this question (58% overall response rate), with a substantially higher response rate among NRM regional organisation respondents compared to other groups (Table 29).

Table 29. Response rate to the question about what not to change (all respondents)

	Eligible respondents	Respondents	Response rate
NRM regional organisations	195	131	67%
NRM local groups	278	172	62%
Direct NLP grant recipients	109	69	63%
Industry groups	111	50	45%
State or local government	94	38	40%
Other	129	75	58%
Total	916	535	58%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 49 'What is the one thing you would not change in the programme and why?', n=535

A number of respondents to this question identified things to change or areas for improvement, that were covered in other questions (see following section), thus those responses were excluded from this particular analysis.

The key themes identified around what not to change across all 535 respondents to this question, were, by order of frequency:

- The regional delivery model
- The length or timeframe of the program
- The community and local involvement aspect
- The funding
- The NLP brand (name and logo).

However, the frequency of themes varied greatly between stakeholder groups.

For the most frequent theme, the regional delivery model, half the mentions were made by respondents from NRM regional organisations who were supportive of the way the model was structured, the effectiveness of the NRM regional organisations and the Regional plans. Some NRM local groups and 'other' respondents were also in favour of the regional model, with particular emphasis on Regional Landcare Facilitators as beneficial. Very few industry groups mentioned the model as the thing they would not change. According to one stakeholder from an NRM regional organisation

Regional delivery structure. This structure allows strategic and targeted on ground delivery across areas despite other organisations capacity, politics in the area, population size or focus of other business and groups. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

A lot of stakeholders welcomed the multiyear timeframe of the NLP; this was equally frequently mentioned by the two main stakeholder groups, NRM regional organisations and NRM local groups, less frequently by other groups.

Multi-year funding is fantastic. The introduction of a 5-year NLP has been wonderful for the stability of staffing, long-term planning and delivery of well-planned outputs and outcomes. It also reduced the overhead burden by not requiring annual application-assessment processes. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

The community and local involvement aspects were mostly popular among state and local government, NRM local groups, Industry and Other groups.

Local engagement is vital - never centralise control when so many different areas of this country require different solutions to their local environment parameters. [Industry group stakeholder]

Retaining the funding of the NLP, in particular small grants, was a key theme among direct NLP grant recipients and NRM local groups.

Other key themes from individual stakeholder groups included MERI plans (NRM regional organisations), and the focus on sustainable agriculture (industry groups).

7.2 Areas for improvement identified by stakeholders

Stakeholders also had the opportunity to identify areas for improvement for specific aspects of the NLP. As in the previous analysis, any mention of positive aspects of the NLP were excluded from this particular analysis as this was covered in another question.

7.2.1 Program delivery approach

All stakeholder groups had also the opportunity to comment on the NLP program delivery approach (through small grants and regional delivery) and identify areas for improvement. This open-ended question is the one that received the most comments. Out of 916 survey

respondents, 651 commented on what to change (71% overall response rate), with a substantially higher response rate among NRM local groups (Table 30)

Table 30. Response rate to the question about what to change – Program delivery approach (all respondents)

	Eligible respondents	Respondents	Response rate
NRM regional organisations	195	123	63%
NRM local groups	278	234	84%
Direct NLP grant recipients	109	75	69%
Industry groups	111	73	66%
State or local government	94	53	56%
Other	129	93	72%
Total	916	651	71%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 47c 'If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be? – Program delivery approach (e.g. delivery through small grants, regional delivery)', n=651

A number of respondents identified no change or that the current program delivery approach was working fine; those responses were considered separately as aspects that were working well and were covered through another question. Stakeholders identifying no change or being positive about the current delivery approach were mostly from NRM regional organisations stakeholders and direct NLP grant recipients.

The key areas for improvement around the NLP delivery approach identified across all stakeholder groups were, by order of frequency:

- More funding
- Change the regional delivery model
- Change small grants delivery
- Expand the funding and program period
- Enhance and strengthen the regional delivery model.

More funding was a key priority for every stakeholder group except for NRM regional organisations. In particular, almost half of NRM local groups and direct NLP grant recipients mentioned increased funding as a priority. This included funding for small grants, for medium and large projects, for specific groups including on-ground groups, landholders, Landcare and local community, and funding for program management and administration. Examples of comments related to requests for more funding include:

NLP is very underfunded - there is much more demonstrated demand for funding for high quality projects that is unfunded and unsupported by existing institutions and organisations. [State or local government stakeholder]

I am aware of many high quality project proposals submitted by a range of NRM community groups and regional organisations which have been unsuccessful - reason given is always - "large demand not enough money"[State or local government]

Participants had varying and sometimes diverging views about the regional delivery model and small grants. While NRM local groups, state or local government and direct NLP recipient respondents were more likely to be critical of the regional delivery model, some stakeholders in particular from state or local government, direct NLP recipient and the other stakeholder groups identified issues with regard to the small grants. A number of stakeholders advocated for strengthening the regional delivery model, in particular respondents from NRM regional organisations.

The biggest issue respondents had with the Regional NRM model was funding being held or diverted through regional NRM groups, and used for administration as it travelled through multiple levels before reaching the community, significantly depleting local resources and outcomes, or not devolving enough to the community. These respondents, mostly from NRM local groups and direct NLP grant recipients, advocated for a separate funding stream for individuals and communities, in order that they could directly receive the necessary money. Other issues with the regional delivery model included the lack of clear NRM strategy, distance between regional organisations and local members, regional rigidity and a broad-brush approach, which did not take into account sub-regions and communities, and the competition between regional NRM and local groups for delivery.

The biggest issues respondents highlighted with small grants were their inefficiency in achieving long-term, large scale environmental outcomes – mostly mentioned by direct grant recipients and state or local government respondents – and the poor cohesion and oversight that small grant recipients had in comparison to regional NRM bodies – mostly mentioned by 'Other' respondents.

Regional delivery should be enhanced, with greater ability of regions to determine the best investment package for their region within broad themes. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

Regional delivery should be preferred delivery mechanism as it delivers larger, more effective and efficient landscape scale change. [NRM regional organisation stakeholder]

Current regional model is inefficient, expensive and has lost its way; it no longer functions to do the job it was set up to do. [State or local government stakeholder]

Reconsider limited benefits provided through small grants, given the need for landscape scale responses that require triennial (or longer) funding of organisations with capability to

deliver on-ground strategic solutions and demonstrated ability to work in partnership with stakeholders (land owners, local government, Aboriginal rangers etc.). [Other stakeholder]

Previous funding programs which had opportunity to apply for larger grants directly delivered more coordinated cooperative projects than the individual landholder engagement we have seen through regional NRM organisation. [Direct NLP grant recipient]

7.2.2 Other aspects

Finally, all stakeholder groups had the opportunity to comment on any other aspect of the NLP that they would like to change – beyond NLP objectives and priorities, application and MERI processes, and program delivery. A total of 206 respondents responded, mostly from NRM local groups (Table 31).

Table 31. Response rate to the question about what to change – Other aspects (all respondents)

	Eligible respondents	Respondents	Response rate
NRM regional organisations	195	48	25%
NRM local groups	278	78	28%
Direct NLP grant recipients	109	22	20%
Industry groups	111	17	15%
State or local government	94	9	10%
Other	129	32	25%
Total	916	206	22%

Source: NLP stakeholder survey. Question 47e 'If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be? – Other', n=206

The main suggestions were, by order of frequency across all respondents:

- More funding – prioritised by every group but state or local government
- Improve reporting issues – this was more frequently mentioned among NRM regional organisations
- More regional or local influence – this was more frequently mentioned among NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups, and Other
- Expand program timeframe – this was more frequently mentioned among 'Other' groups
- More certainty and predictability with funding.

Responses to this question varied widely, with stakeholders also highlighting changes to MERI and more flexibility in use of grant money (NRM regional organisations), Indigenous or IPA programs (state or local government), and support and education (Industry groups).

Regional body needs to be less insular. [NRM local group stakeholder]

Reduce the large work load on individuals and groups to obtain and maintain funding by increasing certainty of funds and providing long-term support. Longer-term support does not imply a free ride, as organisations and individuals must still be fully accountable, but there is a lot of time spent 'feeding the beast' of processes, which could be redirected to on-ground support and creative thinking. [Direct NLP grant recipient]

Young farmers are interested in productivity and they should be encouraged as I find most young land managers are interested in the environment. [NRM local group stakeholder]

Appendix 1. NLP stakeholder survey questionnaire

Overview

The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources invite you to provide feedback on the National Landcare Programme to help inform future program design. As you know, the Australian Government is investing \$1 billion from its 2014 - 2018 budgets in the National Landcare Programme to drive sustainable agriculture and support the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of Australia's natural environment. Our investment in the National Landcare Programme also contributes to a range of Australian Government priorities, including community engagement.

The survey is being conducted to gather your views on the National Landcare Programme – including National Landcare Programme priorities and the flow on benefits to your community. Further information regarding the ongoing review that the survey will inform can be found at nrm.gov.au.

The survey should take no longer than 20 minutes to complete and your response will be confidential. The government has engaged an independent consultancy firm, ARTD Consultants, to undertake this survey.

The present document is the paper/ electronic version of the survey available online at: <https://environment.au.citizenspace.com/biodiversity-conservation/nlp-stakeholder-survey>

Please provide your response by **14 October 2016**.

For more information on the National Landcare Programme see <http://www.nrm.gov.au/national-landcare-programme>.

Survey introduction

Welcome to the National Landcare Programme NRM Stakeholder online survey

This survey is your opportunity to contribute to the review of the National Landcare Programme.

Your responses are greatly appreciated and will be used in conjunction with other data to inform the National Landcare Programme review.

You will have the opportunity to register to receive results from the survey and/or outcomes of the National Landcare Programme review at the end of the survey. The overall review of the program will be completed by early 2017.

The very first question of the survey asks you which stakeholder group you belong to or mostly associate with. Depending on your response, you will have to answer a different set of questions as specified in the square brackets [] before each question.

If you have any questions about the form you can contact Erum Rasheed, ph 02 9373 9918, NLP@artd.com.au.

Thank you for your contribution.

A1.1. Your details

1. [All respondents] Which of the following stakeholder groups do you belong to?

Tick one option only. If you associate with more than one of the groups listed, select the one that is most strongly associated with (and most strongly influences your views on) the National Landcare Programme.

Your response to this question will determine which questions you will have to answer in the rest of the survey. Please refer to the square brackets [] before each question to determine if you are eligible to answer this question, and only answer questions for your stakeholder group.

	Stakeholder group	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Resource Management (NRM) regional organisations	You are employed by one of the 56 NRM regional organisations funded through the National Landcare Programme.
<input type="checkbox"/>	NRM local groups	<p>You are a member of a local NRM group or organisation. These groups or organisations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landcare groups and other 'care' groups such as bushcare, coastcare, rivercare etc. ▪ 'friends of' groups and other community environment groups ▪ Individual land managers working in the landcare/ NRM sector

<input type="checkbox"/>	Direct National Landcare Programme grant recipients	You are an individual or a member of a group or organisation—other than NRM regional organisations—directly funded through National Landcare Programme grants, including 25 th Anniversary Landcare Grants, Innovation Grants and Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants 2015-16.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry groups	You represent or are a member of a farming, forestry, fishing or aquaculture industry group with an interest in natural resource management or sustainable agriculture issues.
<input type="checkbox"/>	State or local government	You are employed by state government environment and agriculture departments.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please specify: _____	You do not fit the description of any of the groups above

2. [Direct grantees only] Which other stakeholder group do you belong to?

Tick one option only.

	Stakeholder group	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Resource Management (NRM) regional organisations	You are employed by one of the 56 NRM regional organisations funded through the National Landcare Programme.
<input type="checkbox"/>	NRM local groups	<p>You are a member of a local NRM group or organisation. These groups or organisations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landcare groups and other 'care' groups such as bushcare, coastcare, rivercare etc ▪ 'friends of' groups and other community environment groups ▪ Individual land managers working in the landcare/ NRM sector
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry groups	You represent or are a member of a farming, forestry, fishing or aquaculture industry group with an interest in natural resource management or sustainable agriculture issues.

3. [NRM local groups only] Did you apply **for** National Landcare Programme funding through a NRM regional organisation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No (Go to Q7)

4. [NRM local groups only; if Q3=Yes] Did you **receive** National Landcare Programme funding through a NRM regional organisation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (Go to Q6)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No (Go to Q5)

5. [NRM local groups only; if Q4=No] What was the main reason for not receiving the funding?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Not successful	Please specify the main reason for not being successful _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other reason	Please specify _____

6. [NRM local groups only; if Q4=Yes] Did the funding received meet the needs and priorities of your group?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, please specify the main reason why not _____

7. [NRM local groups] Which of the following NRM groups are you associated with?

If you associate with more than one of the groups listed, select the one that is most strongly associated with (and most strongly influences your views on) the National Landcare Programme.

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Landcare groups and other 'care' groups such as bushcare, rivercare, coastcare
<input type="checkbox"/>	'Friends of' groups and other community environment groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual land managers working in the landcare/ NRM sector
<input type="checkbox"/>	Research entity (includes schools/ university)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please specify: _____

8. [All respondents] Does your organisation identify as an Indigenous organisation?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

9. [All respondents] What is/are the main NRM region/regions you operate within?

Tick all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	New South Wales	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Tablelands <input type="checkbox"/> Central West <input type="checkbox"/> Greater Sydney <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter <input type="checkbox"/> Murray <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Tablelands <input type="checkbox"/> North West NSW <input type="checkbox"/> North Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Riverina <input type="checkbox"/> South East <input type="checkbox"/> Western
<input type="checkbox"/>	South Australia	<input type="checkbox"/> Alinytjara Wilurara <input type="checkbox"/> Eyre Peninsula <input type="checkbox"/> Kangaroo Island <input type="checkbox"/> Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges <input type="checkbox"/> South Australian Murray Darling Basin <input type="checkbox"/> Northern and Yorke <input type="checkbox"/> South Australian Arid Lands <input type="checkbox"/> South East
<input type="checkbox"/>	Victoria	<input type="checkbox"/> Corangamite

<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> East Gippsland <input type="checkbox"/> Glenelg Hopkins <input type="checkbox"/> Goulburn Broken <input type="checkbox"/> Mallee <input type="checkbox"/> North Central <input type="checkbox"/> North East <input type="checkbox"/> Port Phillip and Westernport <input type="checkbox"/> West Gippsland <input type="checkbox"/> Wimmera
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Australia	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Perth <input type="checkbox"/> Peel Harvey <input type="checkbox"/> Rangelands <input type="checkbox"/> South Coast <input type="checkbox"/> South West <input type="checkbox"/> Wheatbelt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tasmania	<input type="checkbox"/> Cradle Coast <input type="checkbox"/> North <input type="checkbox"/> South
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern territory	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Queensland	<input type="checkbox"/> Border Rivers Maranoa-Balonne <input type="checkbox"/> Burdekin <input type="checkbox"/> Burnett Mary <input type="checkbox"/> Cape York <input type="checkbox"/> Condamine <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Management Area (Cape York and Northern Gulf) <input type="checkbox"/> Desert Channels <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy <input type="checkbox"/> Mackay Whitsunday <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Gulf <input type="checkbox"/> South East Queensland <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Gulf <input type="checkbox"/> South West Queensland <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait <input type="checkbox"/> Wet Tropics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Australian Capital Territory	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ocean Watch	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	

10. [All respondents] What is your level of awareness of/ involvement in National Landcare Programme sub-programs?

<i>Tick one option only for each of the following programmes.</i>	Not aware of	Aware of, but no direct involvement	Participated in, but didn't apply for funding	Applied for funding, but didn't receive it	Received funding
Regional stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local programs					
Cumberland Conservation Corridor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kimberly Cane Toad Clean Up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal River Recovery Initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dandenong Ranges Programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whales and Dolphin protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean up and Keep Australia Beautiful grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Stream					
20 Million Trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25 th Anniversary Landcare Grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable Agriculture Small Grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous Protected Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
World Heritage Grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reef Programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working on Country Rangers supplementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Target Area Grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Stewardship Programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Innovation Grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Tick one option only for each of the following programmes.</i>	Not aware of	Aware of, but no direct involvement	Participated in, but didn't apply for funding	Applied for funding, but didn't receive it	Received funding
Landcare networks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife Health Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biosecurity Incursion Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. [NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who answered Yes to Q4 i.e. received funding, and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees] Did your National Landcare Programme funded projects benefit from income streams other than the National Landcare Programme?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, all of our National Landcare Programme funded projects (Go to Q12)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, some of our funded projects (Go to Q12)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No (Go to Q13)

12. [NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who answered Yes to Q4 i.e. received funding, and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees] Which of the following income streams did your National Landcare Programme funded projects benefit from?

Tick all that apply

	Yes	No
Other Australian Government programs or agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land managers/ owners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Philanthropic/ community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
University or research organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private/ own funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. [NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who answered Yes to Q4 i.e. received funding, and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees] Did you partner (i.e. co-invest) with any of the following stakeholders to deliver your National Landcare Programme funded projects?

Tick all that apply

	Yes	No
State or local government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landcare groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bushcare groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastcare, rivercare groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land managers/ owners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local community members	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-governmental organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research organisation/ university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. [NRM regional organisations, NRM local groups who answered Yes to Q4 i.e. received funding, and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees] How many of the National Landcare Programme funded projects would have gone ahead if they had not received National Landcare Programme funding?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	All of them
<input type="checkbox"/>	Most of them
<input type="checkbox"/>	A few of them

<input type="checkbox"/>	None of them
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A1.2.National Landcare Programme objectives and priorities

15. [All respondents] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the National Landcare Programme (NLP) objectives and priorities?

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
I am aware of National Landcare Programme objectives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[NRM regional organisations only]

Our National Landcare Programme funded projects align with our Regional NRM plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Landcare Programme funding meets the environmental priorities of the Australian Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Landcare Programme funding meets the agricultural priorities of the Australian Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Landcare Programme allowed for enough autonomy in setting regional and local priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[Industry groups and state or local government]

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
National Landcare Programme funding helps our industry improve sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
Improving sustainability helps our industry improve profitability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving sustainability helps our industry improve access to markets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[Direct grantees only]

National Landcare Programme funding meets the environmental priorities of the Australian Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Landcare Programme funding meets the agricultural priorities of the Australian Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[Direct grantees, NRM local groups, Other]

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
National Landcare Programme objectives aligns with my group's NRM priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16. [Direct grantees, NRM local groups, Other] Please list your group's top 3 priorities:

17. [All respondents] Below are listed the national and international priorities that the National Landcare Programme supports. How strongly do your own NRM priorities relate to these National Landcare Programme priorities?

<i>Tick one option only for each priority</i>	Very related	Somewhat related	Not very related	Not related at all	Don't know/NA
Protection and restoration of ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appropriate management of invasive species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable management of agriculture and aquaculture to conserve and protect biological diversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon stored in soil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build community awareness of biodiversity values, skills, participation and knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build Indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce the loss of natural habitats, degradation and fragmentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Tick one option only for each priority</i>	Very related	Somewhat related	Not very related	Not related at all	Don't know/NA
Protecting or conserving Matters of National Environmental Significance including management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands, national heritage etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce the number of nationally threatened species and improve their conservation status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. [All respondents] To what extent have your own NRM priorities changed over the past 2 years?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Not at all (Go to next section)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not very much
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quite a lot
<input type="checkbox"/>	Very much

19. [All respondents] How have your priorities changed?

A1.3. Community engagement

20. [NRM regional organisations only] To what extent did you provide opportunities for your community to participate in the following?

<i>Tick one option only for each question</i>	A lot of opportunities	Moderate number of opportunities	Only a few opportunities	No opportunities
Priority setting of National Landcare Programme funded projects in your area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning of National Landcare Programme funded projects delivered by your NRM regional organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivering of National Landcare Programme funded projects by your NRM regional organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. [NRM regional organisations] To what extent did the following community members/ groups participate in the planning and/ or delivery of regional NRM projects funded by the National Landcare Programme?

<i>Tick all that apply for each group. Please tick no involvement if the group had no involvement in these processes.</i>	Planning	Delivery	No involvement
State or local government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landcare groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bushcare groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastcare, rivercare groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land managers/ owners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local community members	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Tick all that apply for each group. Please tick no involvement if the group had no involvement in these processes.</i>	Planning	Delivery	No involvement
Regional populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-governmental organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research organisation/ university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

22. [NRM regional organisations only] Were you able to incorporate community priorities into your regional NRM planning?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (Go to Q23)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No (Go to Q24)

23. [NRM regional organisations only; Yes to Q22]How?

24. [NRM regional organisations only; No to Q22] Why not?

25. [NRM local groups, industry and state or local government] For each of the following aspects, please indicate your level of engagement and your satisfaction with this level of engagement.

<i>Tick one option only</i>	How engaged were you with this process?	How satisfied are you with this level of engagement?
Priority setting of National Landcare Programme funds delivered by regions	<input type="checkbox"/> Very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not engaged at all	<input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not satisfied at all
Developing the regional NRM plan delivered by your NRM regional organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not engaged at all	<input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not satisfied at all
The planning of projects delivered by your NRM regional organisation under the National Landcare Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not engaged at all	<input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not satisfied at all
The delivery of projects by your NRM regional organisation under the National Landcare Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not very engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Not engaged at all	<input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Not satisfied at all

26. [NRM local groups, industry and state or local government] Do you feel your suggestions were considered/ taken on board?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Very much
<input type="checkbox"/>	Somewhat
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not very

<input type="checkbox"/>	Not at all
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27. [NRM local groups, industry and state or local government] Have you been engaged in other projects with NRM regional organisations through National Landcare Programme funding?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (Go to Q28)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No (Go to next section)

28. [NRM local groups, industry and state or local government] What priorities and threats did the projects undertaken by your local regional bodies address?

<i>Tick one option only</i>	Yes	No	Don't know/ NA
Protection and restoration of ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appropriate management of invasive species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable management of agriculture and aquaculture to conserve and protect biological diversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon stored in soil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build community awareness of biodiversity values, skills, participation and knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build indigenous knowledge and participation, to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce the loss of natural habitats, degradation and fragmentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Tick one option only</i>	Yes	No	Don't know/ NA
Protecting or conserving Matters of National Environmental Significance including management of World Heritage Areas, Ramsar wetlands, national heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce the number of nationally threatened species and improve their conservation status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A1.4. National Landcare Programme processes

29. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about how well communicated and designed the following National Landcare Programme aspects are?

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
National Landcare Programme application requirements have been well communicated to our organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Landcare Programme funding requirements have been well communicated to our organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

30. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only] Please indicate how simple you have found the following National Landcare Programme processes.

<i>Tick one option only for each process</i>	Very simple	Somewhat simple	Not very simple	Not simple at all	Don't know/NA
Completing the funding application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Finalising the contract	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring and reporting requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

31. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about National Landcare Programme implementation?

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
Information on key National Landcare Programme implementation decisions is publicly available	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Landcare Programme encourages cooperation between government and stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The current funding mechanisms (e.g.: small grants, regional delivery, etc.) of the National Landcare Programme are the best way (efficient and effective) to deliver National Landcare Programme objectives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

32. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only] Which of the following documents did you submit as part of your National Landcare Programme funding application?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Application form ONLY (as separate to the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement plan) (Go to Q33)
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan ONLY (If Yes Go to Q35)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application form AND Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan (Go to Q33)

The application form

33. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'Application form' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] Approximately how many people were involved in filling in the application form?

34. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'Application form' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] What is your estimate of the total time all people spent filling in the **application form**?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than 5 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 – 10 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 – 20 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	20 – 40 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater than 40 hours

The Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan

The majority of successful applicants for National Landcare Programme funding were required to develop monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) plans to help specify the project activities and track progress. Please note that for all following questions MERI refers to this monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement plan and not the online reporting tool MERIT

35. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'MERI plan' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] Approximately how many people were involved in completing the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan?

36. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'MERI plan' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] What is your estimate of the total time all people spent initially in **developing** the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan until the first submission to the Department?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than 1 week
<input type="checkbox"/>	1-2 weeks
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 weeks
<input type="checkbox"/>	More than 4 weeks

37. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'MERI plan' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] What is your estimate of the total time all people spent **finalising** the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan (once submitted to the Department)?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than 5 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 – 10 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 – 20 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	20 – 40 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater than 40 hours

38. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; answer to Q32 - 'MERI plan' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] What are your views on traditional application forms compared to the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan as an application?

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39. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'MERI plan' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan?

<i>Tick one option only for each statement</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
I understood what I needed to include in the MERI plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MERI is a useful planning tool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I refer to my MERI plan to ensure the project is on track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I refer to my MERI plan to identify issues in the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I refer to my MERI plan to inform future design and delivery of my project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MERI is a useful communication tool for my organisation to share information on project delivery with the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MERI captures practice change well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MERI captures environmental outcomes well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MERI captures agricultural outcomes well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

40. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; and answer to Q32 - 'MERI plan' or 'Application form and MERI plan'] How do you feel about the time and cost of developing and implementing the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan compared to the benefits generated for the funded project and your organisation?

Tick one option only

<input type="checkbox"/>	We spent the <u>right amount</u> of time and budget compared to the benefits generated
<input type="checkbox"/>	We spent <u>too much</u> time and budget compared to the benefits generated
<input type="checkbox"/>	We spent <u>too little</u> time and budget compared to the benefits generated

End of the MERI plan section

41. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only] Which of the following would you prefer as a National Landcare Programme funding application requirement:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Application form followed by development of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan after funding is approved
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan only (no application form)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application form and Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan both submitted as funding application

42. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only] Did you seek advice or feedback from the Australian Department of the Environment and Energy, or the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on the following?

<i>Tick one option only for each aspect</i>	Yes	No
Funding application/ Developing project idea prior to application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reporting on the project (if no MERI plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

43. [NRM regional organisations and Direct National Landcare Programme grantees only; if Yes to any of Q42] How helpful was the information you received?

<i>Tick one option only for each process</i>	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not very helpful	Not helpful at all	Don't know/Not applicable
Funding application/ Developing project idea prior to application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementing the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reporting on the project (if no MERI plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A1.5. Project outcomes and beneficiaries

44. [All respondents] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the impact of the National Landcare Programme? As a result of National Landcare Programme funded projects ...

<i>Tick one option only for each statement.</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
... landscape management has improved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... there is enhanced social and institutional capacity for sustainable management practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Tick one option only for each statement.</i>	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know/NA
... the adoption of sustainable farming and fishing management practices has increased	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... community involvement in natural resource management has increased	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... there are better partnerships between individuals/ communities and NRM regional organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... the level of protection, rehabilitation, restoration of prioritised environmental assets, threatened species, ecological communities and/or migratory species has increased	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... Indigenous participation in natural resource management has increased	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

45. [All respondents] On balance, what has been the impact of the National Landcare Programme in your region?

<i>Tick one option only for each statement.</i>	Large positive impact	Small positive impact	No impact	Small negative impact	Large negative impact	Don't know/NA
Economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing skills and knowledge in managing natural	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

resources (capacity building)						
Community engagement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

46. [All respondents] How much do you estimate each of the following groups have benefited from the outputs and outcomes of National Landcare Programme funded projects?

<i>Tick one option only for each stakeholder group</i>	Significant benefits	Moderate benefits	Small benefits	No benefits	Don't know/ Not applicable
Land managers/ owners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local community members	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous community groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-Indigenous community groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farming, forestry, fishing, aquaculture industry groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research organisation/ university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify): _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A1.6. Future of National Landcare Programme

47. [NRM regional organisations and Direct grantees only] If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be?

Application process	
Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) requirements	
Program delivery approach (e.g. delivery through small grants, regional delivery)	
National Landcare Programme objectives and priorities	

Other	

48. [NRM local groups, industry, state or local government and Other] If there is one thing to change in each of the following areas of the National Landcare Programme, what would it be?

Program delivery approach (e.g. delivery through small grants, regional delivery)	
National Landcare Programme objectives and priorities	
Other	

49. [All respondents] What is the one thing you would not change in the programme and why?

A1.7. Thank you!

Thank you for taking our survey. Your response is very important to us.

Please indicate if you would like to be informed about:

The results of the survey	<input type="checkbox"/>
The outcome of the National Landcare Programme review	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please enter your email address if you would like to receive the results of the survey or outcome of the NLP review:



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