



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS FORESTRY STRATEGY

A SNAPSHOT
GROWING PARTNERSHIPS



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

**COVER IMAGE:**

A nine panel mural by artists Lyndy Delian and Jennifer Martiniello represents Indigenous relationships to land/country, including traditional and contemporary land management concepts and practices.

BIOGRAPHIES:

Lyndy Delian is an Aboriginal woman, originally from Victoria, who now resides in the ACT. She is an accomplished visual artist, writer and musician and has seven children. Her art works are held in the collections of the National Museum of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, the Canberra Institute of Technology, and in numerous private collections. She has been profiled in a book 'Black Lives, Rainbow Visions: Indigenous Sitings in the Creative Arts' (1999), and has exhibited widely. She currently teaches in the Indigenous Art and Fashion Course at the Canberra Institute of Technology, and is a founding member of the ACT Indigenous Textile Artists Group.

Jennifer Martiniello is an award winning writer, visual artist and academic of Arrernte, Chinese and Anglo-Celtic descent. She has published four books and won a variety of awards, including the Canberra Critics Circle Award 2000 for Literature. Her visual art is held in numerous private collections and she has exhibited widely. Jennifer has taught Contemporary Indigenous Social Issues (University of Canberra), Cultural Studies, Indigenous Art History and Creative Writing (Canberra Institute of Technology) and conducted numerous regional workshops. She is currently a member of the ACT Indigenous Textile Artists Group, and sits on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board of the Australia Council for the Arts.



FORESTRY – A ROLE FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Australia's forest and wood products industries are important for the national economy, particularly in rural and regional areas [see box].

This industry can provide significant economic and social opportunities for Indigenous Australians. Recent consultations with Indigenous communities, and the forestry industry, identified many ways they can become more involved in a range of activities, from timber growing, harvesting and processing to growing bush tucker.

However, at present, there are very few Indigenous communities involved in the Australian forest and wood products industry.

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has developed the National Indigenous Forestry Strategy (NIFS) to encourage Indigenous Australians to become more involved in forestry activities by forming business partnerships with the forestry industry.

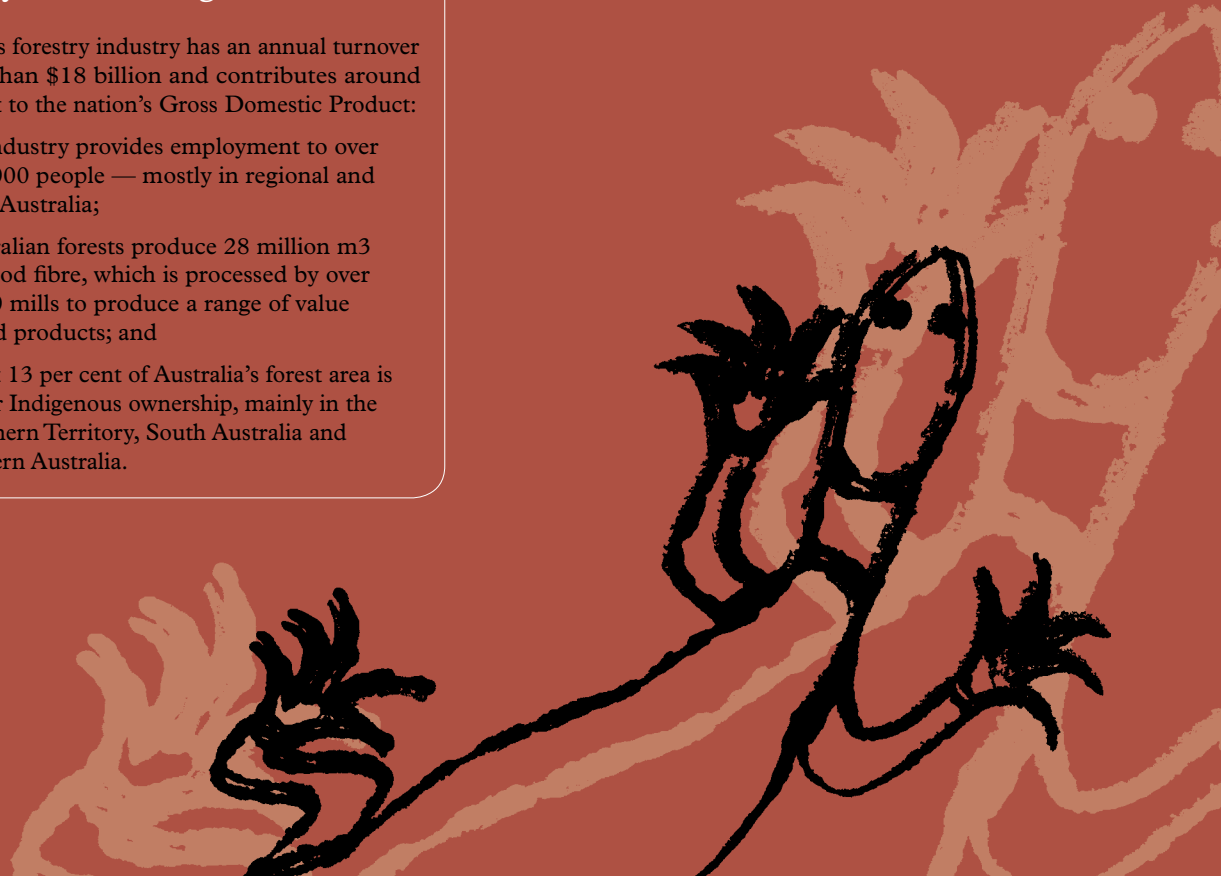
The NIFS will help Indigenous communities become more economically independent, and will also benefit the forestry sector. Business ventures could range from developing new forest plantations for timber, to eco-tourism, wood crafts and bee keeping.

The NIFS success depends on Indigenous communities, the forestry industry, all levels of government and rural and regional communities showing understanding and working together.

Forestry Facts and Figures

Australia's forestry industry has an annual turnover of more than \$18 billion and contributes around 1 per cent to the nation's Gross Domestic Product:

- the industry provides employment to over 130,000 people — mostly in regional and rural Australia;
- Australian forests produce 28 million m³ of wood fibre, which is processed by over 1,100 mills to produce a range of value added products; and
- about 13 per cent of Australia's forest area is under Indigenous ownership, mainly in the Northern Territory, South Australia and Western Australia.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

For Indigenous communities:

- increased economic and social independence;
- more jobs in the forest and forest products industry; and
- more say in managing resources and developing policy.

For the forest and wood products industry:

- opportunities to develop business partnerships with Indigenous Australians;
- a more diverse workforce; greater awareness of Indigenous culture and rewarding social partnerships; and
- an expanded and diversified resources base.

For the wider community:

- sustainable forest and plantation management; and
- active participation of Indigenous communities in new economic and social partnerships.

WHAT PRINCIPLES WILL GUIDE THE NATIONAL INDIGENOUS FORESTRY STRATEGY?

The principles below will guide projects developed as a result of the Strategy.

- 1 The NIFS should complement the sustainable development of Indigenous landscapes and communities.
- 2 Resource sustainability is of top importance.
- 3 Indigenous peoples have continuing rights and responsibilities for traditional lands and waters.
- 4 The role Indigenous peoples play in managing and conserving forested lands and related natural resources must be recognised.
- 5 Cultural heritage and values must be respected.
- 6 Activities must be consistent and accountable within an overall, integrated approach to forest and plantation management.
- 7 Activities must be practical and take into account legal and regulatory processes, and political and social structures.





PATHWAYS TO KEY ACTIONS

The Strategy suggests six key interrelated pathways to encourage a balanced approach to development opportunities for Indigenous Australians in the forest and wood products industry.

1. Leadership, coordination and communications

The Australian Government will facilitate, coordinate and encourage processes and mechanisms at the regional and local levels, to ensure activities and projects take place under the NIFS.

‘Ownership’ amongst all participating stakeholders will be vital to implement the joint forestry activities envisaged in the NIFS. It will be important to acknowledge the diversity of cultures and perspectives of all involved stakeholders, and responsibilities and opportunities will need to be clearly communicated.

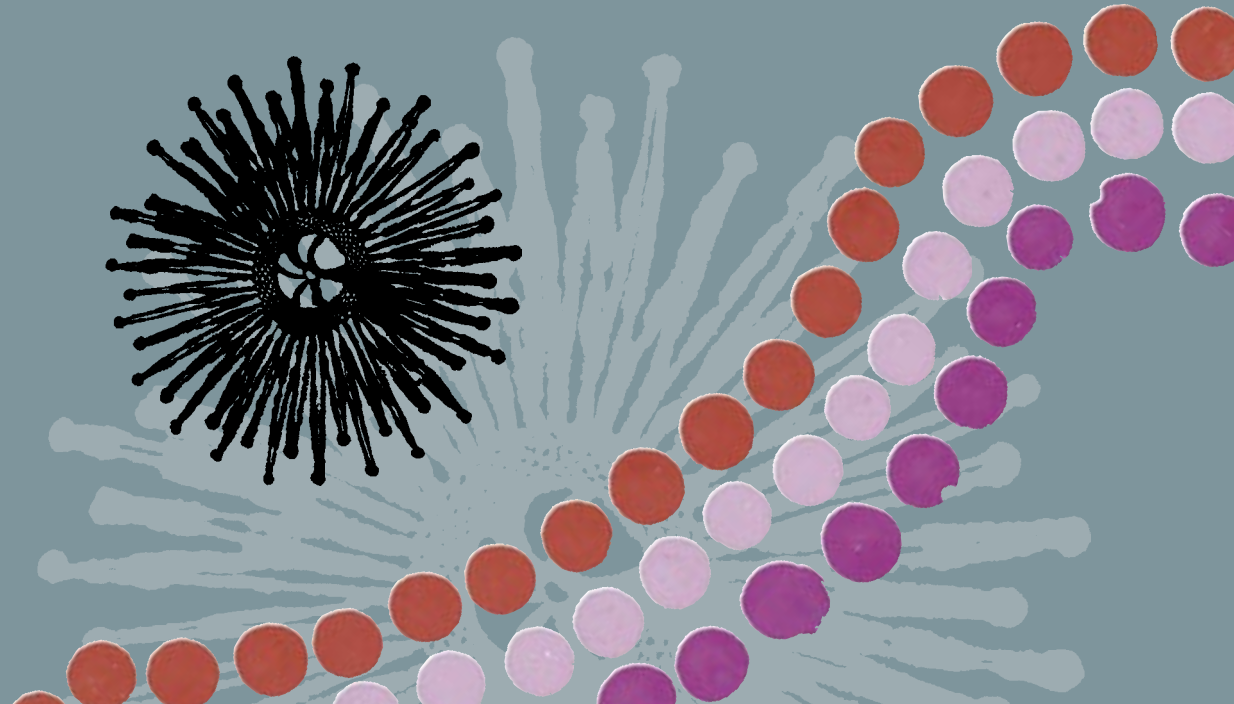
Action 1

Establish an NIFS Steering Committee of key stakeholders, who would be responsible for overall NIFS implementation. The Steering Committee should:

- oversee the work of the Indigenous Forestry Unit (IFU) (see Action 2); and
- work towards an alignment of federal and state/territory policies on forest management issues and access to forested lands as they affect Indigenous people.

Action 2

Establish and adequately resource a specialist IFU to coordinate the implementation of the NIFS over an initial period of three years. Develop a service charter for the Unit that identifies its objectives, primary functions, procedures and responsibilities.



2. Regional communities — awareness, involvement, planning and ownership

To be successful, the NIFS will need to generate awareness and foster inclusion and assistance by developing commitment and ownership at the regional and project level. In doing this, ‘regional’ needs to reflect Indigenous culture and their understanding of country, as well as administrative boundaries defined by state or local governments.

Local communities must be engaged if Indigenous communities and the commercial forestry industry are to work together successfully. Regional communities will therefore need to become involved in, and take ownership of, the opportunities.

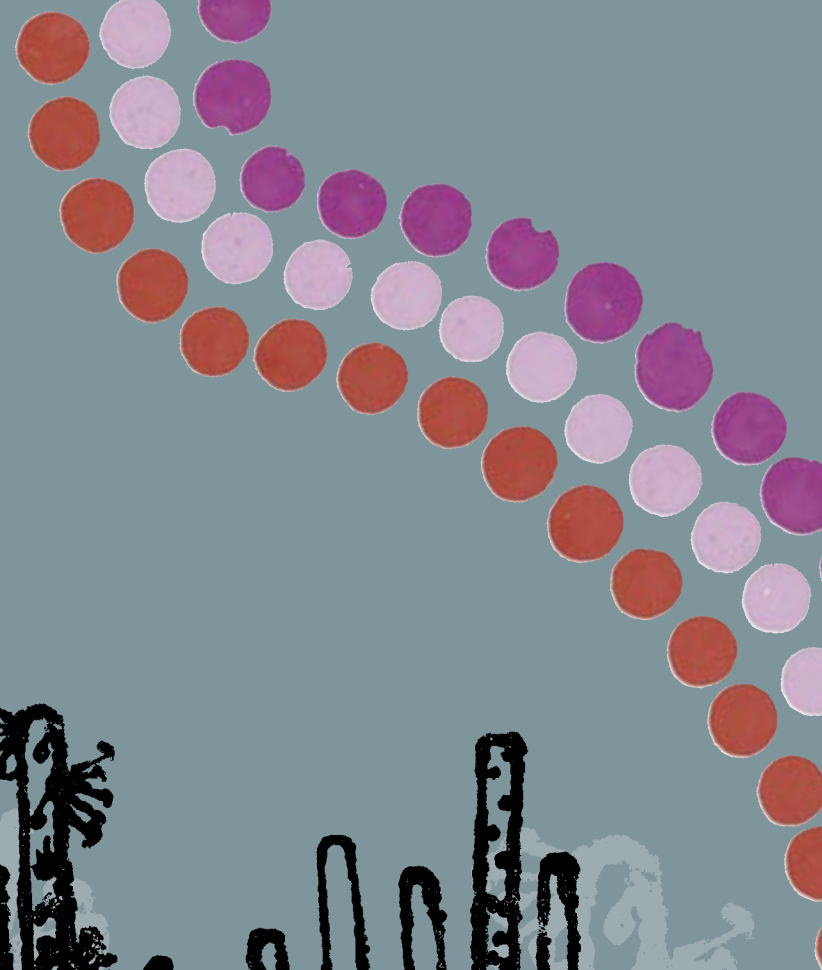
Indigenous Coordination Centres can be used to establish regional planning forums and networks, enabling Indigenous communities, the forestry industry and governments to meet and discuss key issues, as well as to progress NIFS projects.

Action 3

Establish a framework to encourage/establish regional planning forums and networks to bring together Indigenous communities, the forestry industry and all levels of governments with a role in achieving the NIFS outcomes.

Action 4

The IFU to coordinate regional mapping to define areas of interest where potential exists to increase Indigenous involvement in the forestry industry. The mapping should principally identify broad forest areas that could provide opportunities for Indigenous communities in wood and non-wood projects and activities.



3. Capacity building — improving the knowledge and skills base

Appropriate knowledge and skills will help Indigenous people participate in forestry industry operations and management.

Research will be undertaken to clearly identify the skills needed by Indigenous people so they can participate in the forestry and wood products industry. They will receive targeted training and undergo skill development packages through regional vocational training programs.

These initiatives will require a strong commitment and support from government departments, industry and communities, so that the best use is made of state and federal training resources.

Action 5

The IFU to coordinate an assessment of existing industry training programs and packages for their capacity, delivery and effectiveness in preparing Indigenous Australians for entry into, and ongoing skills development within, the forest industry (wood and non-wood) workforce and related businesses.

Where it identifies specific gaps or shortcomings, develop options and implement remedial action, which could include developing new nationally accredited courses, where appropriate.

Action 6

The IFU, with existing federal, state and regional research institutions, identify key research issues and develop an Indigenous forestry research program on forest-based opportunities relevant to the NIFS.

Target research and development organisations to include the NIFS research priorities in their programs. Harness research and development funding and activities to help achieve the NIFS outcomes.

4. Consistent government and forest industry direction

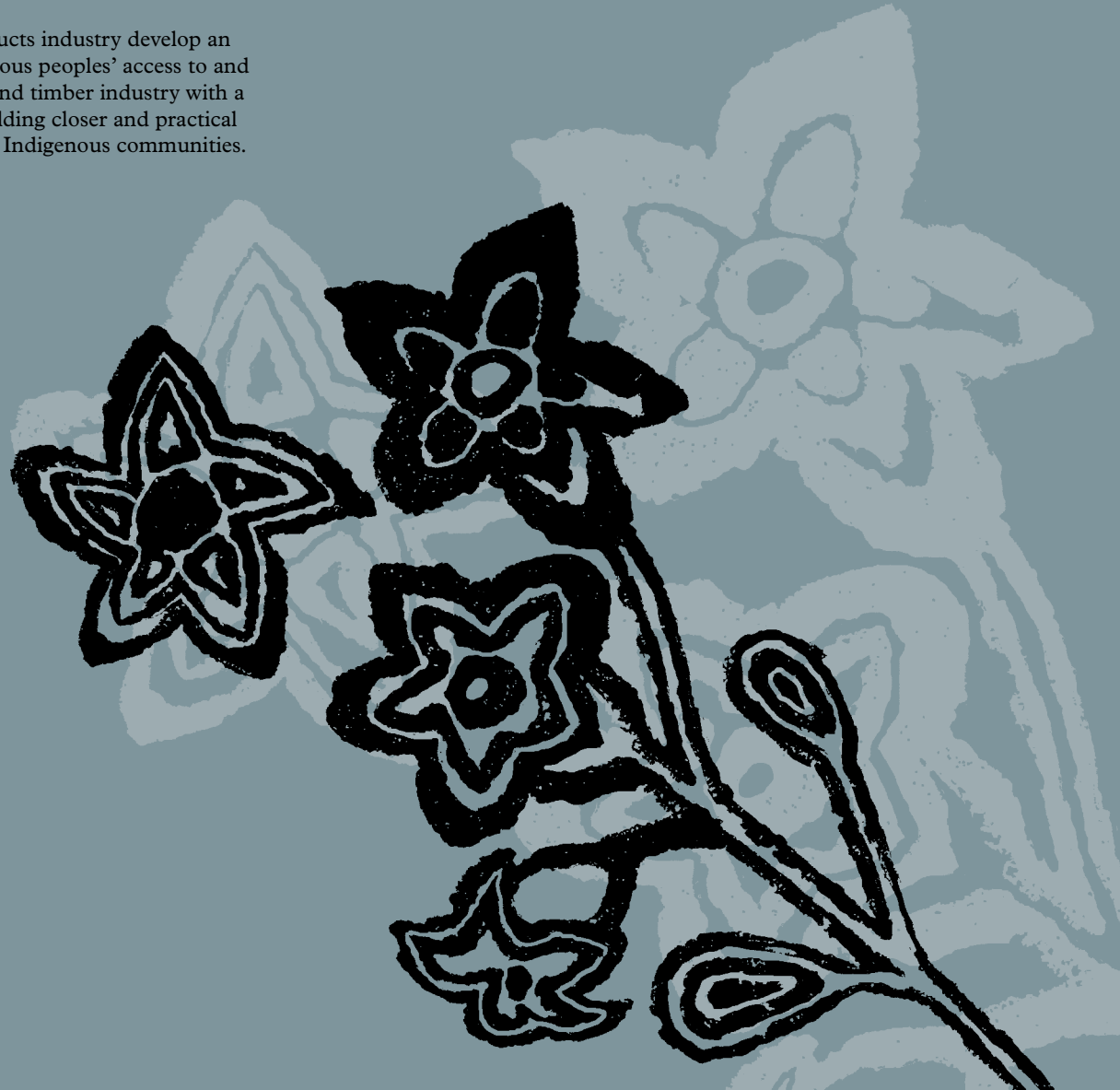
Implementing the NIFS will be complex. The Strategy's 'areas of interest', which range from growing trees for harvest to manufacturing, tourism and craft industries, include a diverse range of forest industry businesses and associations, of Indigenous Australian communities, and of the wider community cultures.

Potential NIFS business opportunities will also be spread over many geographical regions and federal/state/territory/local jurisdictions. Implementing the NIFS will therefore require consistent and appropriate bipartisan government policy and support at all government levels, as well as a coordinated approach by forest industries.

Consultations indicated a need for an industry policy on Indigenous peoples' involvement in the forest and timber industry. Indigenous communities would see such an industry policy as a strong commitment by mainstream industry to building closer working relationships with them.

Action 7

The forest and wood products industry develop an industry policy on Indigenous peoples' access to and involvement in the forest and timber industry with a strong commitment to building closer and practical working relationships with Indigenous communities.



5. Project development

Project development will be pursued in both the wood and non-wood sectors of the industry. Projects will range from those with predominantly timber production and economic objectives, to others that could include identifying and managing Indigenous cultural sites within forests. While some might provide business opportunities and training and career development, others could offer ways to conserve greater cultural identity and connectivity with the forest and land. Still other project areas, such as craft-related industries, non-wood forest products, e.g. bush tucker and bush medicines, and eco-tourism, could provide business and cultural potential and opportunities.

The Strategy also provides scope to enhance the capacity of Indigenous people to identify and promote wider understanding and application of traditional forest-related knowledge. This will give scope for industry to identify opportunities to include this knowledge in resource management practices.

Projects are likely to be diverse, geographically widespread and need building from the 'bottom up'. It will also be important to identify and draw on options for assistance, including existing government programs and resources tailored for project development. The long term environmental, social and economic impacts should be considered in assessing all project proposals.

Action 8

The IFU to assist identifying existing government, industry and Indigenous programs that can undertake, or further assist, the development of projects of benefit to Indigenous peoples in the wood and non-wood forest industry.

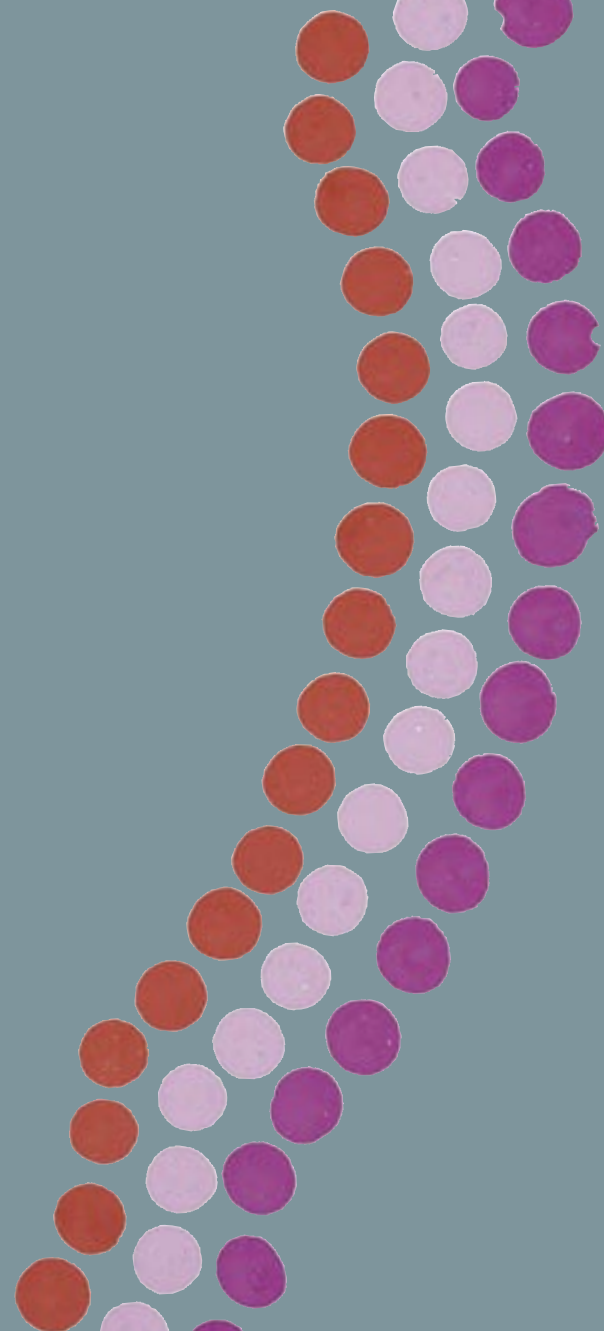
Action 9

Indigenous communities, especially those with title over land and forest resources, explore potential project development opportunities to create business development and employment opportunities for their peoples. Projects could include:

- small-scale timber production and processing;
- joint timber production and processing from native and/or plantation timber, in collaboration with mainstream industry; and
- non-wood forest projects, either with or without mainstream industry, which could include bush furniture and artifacts, eco-tourism, bush tucker and bush medicines.

Action 10

Clarify/define the scope of traditional forest-related knowledge and its relationship with the wood and non-wood forestry industry, and work with appropriate government, legal, Indigenous community, industry and business organisations to promote activities to advance this knowledge in the wood and non-wood forestry industry.



6. Recognition of social and cultural issues

During consultations, it became evident that non-Indigenous people often did not understand the cultural significance of forests generally to Indigenous peoples, or the importance of specific cultural sites in forests. Every attempt should be made to identify and catalogue cultural sites in forest and plantation areas.

Many mainstream forestry industry players have had little interaction or experience with Indigenous Australians. For the NIFS to achieve its potential, stakeholders will need to understand social and cultural sensitivities and differences, and integrate this into developing business opportunities.

Action 11

Ensure that culturally sensitive areas are identified, protected and managed within forested areas.

Action 12

Develop a cultural awareness training package for non-Indigenous business partners and other key stakeholders.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Action 13

Develop a NIFS monitoring and evaluation program to include:

- a database of key quantitative and qualitative variables to measure the progress of the NIFS;
- ongoing monitoring and periodic evaluation of individual projects and the overall program to measure and assess qualitative and quantitative changes in Indigenous involvement in the wood and non-wood product forestry industry; and
- an ongoing review of the Strategy, including the ability of its actions to deliver the intended outcomes.





WHAT'S HAPPENING ALREADY?

A number of projects already exist which involve Indigenous communities in the forestry industry. Some of these are described briefly. Further information on most of these projects can be found in the National Indigenous Forestry Strategy (NIFS), which can be accessed on the DAFF website at www.daff.gov.au/nifs

Keepa-Keepa, New South Wales

This project involves a co-management agreement for the Heaton State Forest between the Forests NSW and the elders, in which it will continue to be the land manager, while the elders provide input into land management.

Tiwi Forestry Project, Northern Territory

A partnership has been agreed between Sylvatech Limited, now part of Great Southern Plantations Ltd, and the Tiwi Land Council. This project has created a sustainable and profitable business partnership model based on the development of an integrated forest products industry on the Tiwi Islands.

The Mirring Women's Group, New South Wales

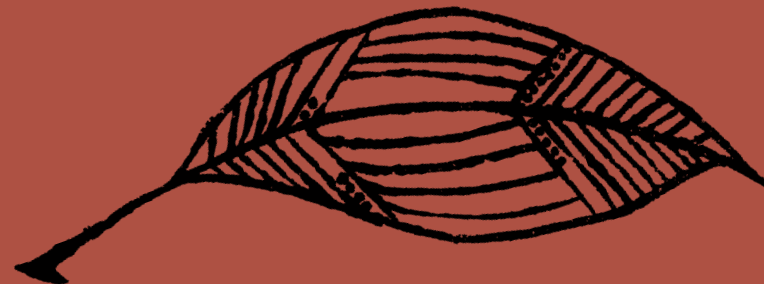
A management plan has been jointly developed between Forests NSW and the Mirring women elders for the Strickland State Forest and includes restoring the natural balance in local vegetation communities and ensuring important medicinal and bush tucker plants survive and propagate naturally.

Memorandum of Understanding between the Southern Anaiwan Elders and Forests NSW

This MOU is for the cooperative management of Aboriginal cultural heritage and Aboriginal interests in State Forests. The interests include places of cultural significance, maintenance of traditions, awareness of forest management and opportunities to enhance the economic situation for the Anaiwan Aboriginal community.

Napranum – forestry on the western Cape York Peninsula, Queensland

This involves the establishment of agro forestry plantation systems by the Indigenous community of Napranum with support from Comalco and the state government departments of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) and State Development and Innovation.



Ourimbah Protocol (11 July 2003), New South Wales

The Ourimbah Protocol involves a unique partnership between Forests NSW and central coast community groups and businesses, including Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council, the Combined Community Organisation (Gosford), Central Coast Landcare Network and the Sydney Rainforest. Ourimbah is the first collaborative forest management protocol to be made in NSW. Its aim is to improve the social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits arising from the management of the 65,000 hectares of State forests along the central coast.

<http://www.forest.nsw.gov.au/bush/sep03/stories/2.asp>

Beagle Bay, Western Australia

This project has involved a trial plantation of Indian Sandalwood, Indian Rosewood, Teak and Mahogany, on the Dampier Peninsular in northern Western Australia, on 25 hectares of land sub-leased from Beagle Bay Community Inc which holds a 99 year lease over Aboriginal Reserve land held by the Aboriginal Land Trust. Negotiations will commence this year with the Beagle Bay Community Inc. and the Aboriginal Land Trust to consider an expanded commercial operation of up to 1500 hectares. Further information on this project can be obtained from the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development, in the WA Department of Industry and Resources, ph: (08) 9222 5590.

Nunga Links Project, South Australia

The Nunga Links Forest Industry Indigenous Employment Strategy 2002–2007 is a major initiative in the southeast of South Australia. In this project, local timber industry companies have joined with the Australian Government (through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations), Indigenous leaders and other organisations in a commitment to improve the employment prospects of Indigenous peoples in the private forestry industry sector. More information on this can be found at

<http://www.forestry.sa.gov.au/MediaReleases/nungalinksrelease.htm>

Ma:Mu Indigenous Community, Queensland

The Ma:Mu Aboriginal Corporation in Innisfail has established a small bush tucker garden in the local botanical gardens to educate its young people and promote wider public awareness of traditional cultivation practices. This is a good example of an Indigenous community working with local organisations to improve awareness of traditional bush foods and, in turn, providing social and cultural benefits to the community.

Culturally significant sites, Tasmania

Forestry Tasmania employ Indigenous people to ‘walk over’ land prior to forestry operations to identify culturally significant sites, assist with cultural heritage protection and management of buffer zones.

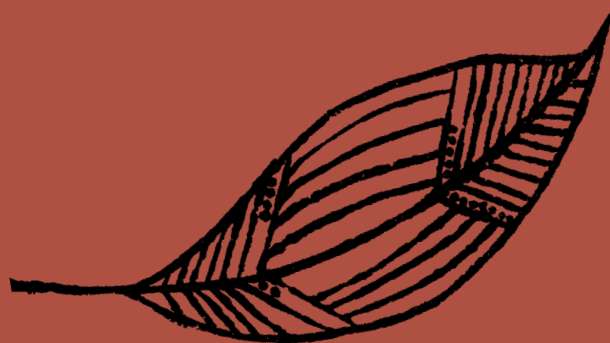
Strategy for Aboriginal Managed Lands in Victoria (SAMLIV)

The SAMLIV presents information on Aboriginal managed lands throughout Victoria, discusses a state-wide framework for Indigenous land and water management, and makes recommendations on sustainable resource management policies and programs, as they relate to Indigenous peoples of Victoria. In particular it contains information on land tenure and uses, environmental management issues, actions, priorities and aspirations of landholders. More information is available at

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~samliv/>

There is also a Strategy for Aboriginal Managed Lands in South Australia (SAMLISA)

<http://www.atns.net.au/biogs/A001186b.htm>





GETTING INVOLVED

What is the forestry industry?

People tend to think of forestry only as managing forests for producing logs and being involved in the associated wood-based manufacturing industries that depend on forests for their raw materials.

However, under the National Indigenous Forestry Strategy (NIFS) the ‘forestry industry’ is seen as including a much wider range of activities and enterprises. These can include:

Wood products

- seed collection and extraction of seed for native forest tree crops
- nursery operations
- plantation development and management
- native forest management
- timber harvesting and transport
- timber milling
- value adding and manufacturing
- specialty areas such as bush furniture

Non-wood products and activities

- eco-tourism
- cultural heritage management
- bush tucker and medicines
- harvesting from forests — bee keeping, bark collection, bush flowers, didgeridoos
- artefacts
- rehabilitation/environmental re-vegetation
- retail opportunities — art, food/local produce, native plants production
- educational/scientific tours

How can Indigenous communities be involved with the forestry industry?

Indigenous communities can become involved in the forest and forest products industry in a number of ways including:

- as an independent business enterprise;
- in business partnerships that combine Indigenous land ownership and employment with mainstream industry capital and business planning;
- in partnerships between plantation companies and Indigenous communities — managing tree crops to produce timber for pulp and paper production;
- in wage-based employment opportunities in natural forest management, timber transport and timber milling; and
- in managing forest resources including on culturally significant sites.



First steps

To become involved in activities like those described previously, a number of questions need to be asked.

Questions for Indigenous communities

- Is there community or individual interest in participating in the forest and forest products industry?
- What steps might need to be taken to find out? For example, hold a meeting, consult with community leaders, etc.
- What access or relationship is there to forests and forest resources?
- What aspects of forestry might it be most appropriate for the community to become involved with?
- What can be gained from getting involved in the short term and long term?
- What skills and knowledge are already in the community to enable participation?
- What additional skills and knowledge are needed? How could these be best obtained?
- What are others doing? Can we learn from them?
- Is more information needed before deciding?
- Who are the key people in the community who will explore the opportunities further? What are the key steps they will need to take?
- Who are the key people/organisations whom the community should contact to take ideas forward?

Questions for Industry:

- Are there opportunities to engage Indigenous communities in business partnerships?
- Is there a local workforce that can be trained for employment in the industry or employed in the industry?
- Is there an awareness and understanding of the culture and values of Indigenous people in the context of employment and negotiating with Indigenous peoples? Is there a need to increase awareness and understanding? If so what steps can be taken to gain this?
- Who are the key Indigenous stakeholders who should be consulted in the relevant region if it is decided to explore opportunities for partnerships?
- What are others doing?
- Can we learn from them?
- Do we need more information?

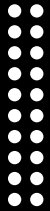
Governments at all levels will need to consider whether current policies and programs facilitate the objectives of the NIFS, or whether they need adjusting to do this. They should also examine what other agencies and governments are doing and explore options for coordination and cooperation, as well as looking at what support is required for projects and considering governments' role in bringing people together.

Want more information?

[http://www.daff.gov.au/National Indigenous Forestry Strategy](http://www.daff.gov.au/National%20Indigenous%20Forestry%20Strategy)

Email: forestry.contact@daff.gov.au

Phone: (02) 6272 4679



THE ARTWORK

Artists' story behind the nine panels:

Traditionally Indigenous Australians' relationships to land were, and are, deeply spiritual, as well as physical, psychological and communal. There is no concept for 'wilderness' as understood by non-Indigenous people (being pristine and untouched), because there is no part of this continent that has not provided physical, emotional and spiritual sustenance for its people. The land is conceived of as Mother and/or Father in Aboriginal cultures, and it is believed that one's spirit comes from the land, and will return to it. Land and country are intimately connected to Ancestors and forebears, such that individuals will refer to various tracts of traditional country too as their Grandmother's or Grandfather's country, or their Mother's or Father's country, as if that country and the person are each other. In the reciprocal kinship relationship that arises from this, one takes care of the land as one takes care of one's grandmothers/ mothers, grandfathers/fathers. In this way, traditional land management has been, and remains, intimately associated with spiritual and genealogical genesis and obligation. The reciprocal, nurturing relationship with land, sky, water, flora and fauna is one of deep respect in which human beings are an equal and inseparable element of one vast interconnected network, referred to in some Aboriginal cultures as being the 'skin of the land my mother.'

Overall Story Concept:

The nine panels together represent Indigenous relationships to land/country, including traditional and contemporary land management concepts and practices. Specific symbolic elements include:

The unifying grey areas which evoke forest and fire tracks, mountain range, common ground, links, paths, old growth forest, bark and water. That they extend beyond the frame represents the continuity of joint land management between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, future growth and generations, and the unlimited potential for shared obligation and care-taking our natural environment.

The poetry waterhole graphic, 'Women's Country', in the central panel represents the intimate, core role of mother/nurturer/land, and the simultaneous presence of Ancestors, present and future generations. The snakeskin patterns symbolise renewal, seasonal change and regeneration as in the snake's shedding of its old skin. There is also an embedded reference here to the Rainbow Serpent, traditionally Creator Spirit of the land and its natural features. It also represents bark and the diversity of patterning on the trunks of different species of native trees, and as in scribbly gum, the unseen presence of forest micro-life.

The background colours are:

3 panels in traditional yellow ochre colours symbolising earth, clay (bones) and fertility.
3 panels in blues symbolising water, sky and spirit.
3 panels in reds symbolising fire, blood and life.

The dots belong to Jennifer's traditional Arrernte country and are traditional Central Desert art elements. They are topographical representations of country and flora. The colours of the dots are variations of the 9 main theme colours, evoke the colours of native flora, and represent diversity and connection. Single colour rows of dots represent paths, walking to collect bush foods, and boundaries between countries, bush/plantation, etc.





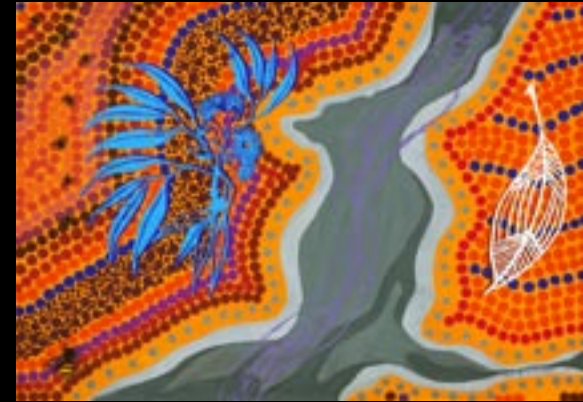
Panel 1: Bush Flower Dreaming 1

The turtle-flower, other blossoms and seed pods represent the rich diversity of native flora, and the harvesting of native flowers and seeds for traditional medicines and ceremony. It affirms the intimate connection between human beings and the natural world.



Panel 2: Seed Dreaming

This panel represents the collection of a wide variety of seeds from plantations and the bush for preservation, planting, traditional jewellery and foods.



Panel 3: Honey Dreaming

Bees nest in gum trees, and collect pollen and nectar from the natural environment for honey, which sustains traditional lifestyles, and helps to maintain the diversity of plant species within the environment. Bees also represent fertility and adaptability. This panel also refers to how traditional fire-stick farming to maintain healthy bush growth is now complemented by contemporary plantation methods.



THE PANELS



Panel 4: Us-Fella Tree Dreaming

Traditional and contemporary land management techniques take care of old growth forests, as well as other timber forests grown for harvest. In taking care of these forests we are contributing to the maintenance of waterways, fauna and other flora.



Panel 5: Walking Together – Two-Ways Dreaming

This panel symbolises the coming together of community and forestry, sharing knowledge, respecting both traditional (Indigenous) and contemporary (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) understandings and ways of knowing the natural environment, and each other's obligations and ways of taking care of country. The poetry graphic refers to the simultaneous presence and custodianship of all generations, past, present and future.

There is a story told by an Elder from the Roper River area which says that while we belong to the land and come from it, and while some Elders are the Law Keepers for the land, and others (custodians) are entrusted with the sacred duty of taking care of the land, it is the women who own the land. But not in the way non-Indigenous people understand 'own'. The women own the land as they own their bodies that they live from inside. In other words, it is the

woman's spirit, the mother and nurturer, that is the land. The poem inscribing the waterhole and women's country in this panel is as follows:

Women's Country

i am the flow of women's dreams
 i am the river of birth and death and story
 my grandmothers' grandmothers' story
 i am their incarnation upon the scripted hours
 between

cycles between countries i am
 the river's ripple upon the green verge
 that never ceases
 i am the stone in the bed of its desire
 from which the ripple is born

i am its echo
 from the great Larapinta
 that shivers upon the sand
 where my grandmothers' mothers
 spoke the generations of the journey

i am each footprint
 upon red gibber desert each breath
 my grandmothers' grandmothers
 breathed in the sacred spaces of the dance
 i am their country their

women's body
 the course of life between cycles
 i am the felt invisible
 track of days i am
 survival i am Dream



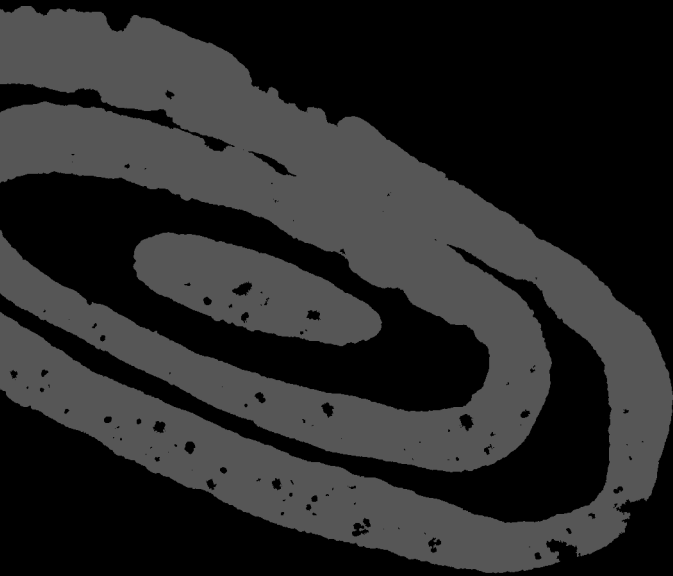
Panel 6: Eco-Dreaming

This panel represents native plant nurseries, the regeneration and rescue of endangered plant and tree species, and the sustainable enterprise that grows from that. Such enterprise contributes to the preservation of eco-systems, cultural maintenance and continuity, and contemporary economic pathways that respectfully build upon traditional knowledge of, and obligations to, country. A way of building on the inheritance from the Ancestors for future generations.



Panel 7: Bark Dreaming

The Bark represents ceremony, cultural and artistic activities, and the cyclic processes of growth and regeneration. Plantations also represent heritage and preservation. Each tree represents the presence of all generations of its species, past, present and future. Collectively, they represent the presence and well-being of heritage, community and sustainable futures. The circle also symbolizes the ever present cycles of completion, birth, death and rebirth.





Panel 8: Bush Flower Dreaming 2

The flowers, leaves and grasses in this panel evoke the continuing unique botanical heritage of this continent, their environmental adaption over millions of years, and the use of Australian flora in traditional and contemporary industries, such as basket weaving, ceremonial dress, floristry, naturopathy, art and craft.



Panel 9: Bush Tucker Dreaming

Traditionally, and in contemporary contexts, life and life styles are sustained through the harvesting of seeds, tree fruits, roots, bark, flowers and the micro-fauna of traditional and cultivated eco-systems. This is extended by the export of native tree and plant products ranging from essential oils and medicines, to bush foods.



