Assessing the role of ES in Indigenous well-being: a mix of Capability and MA approaches

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Introduction:

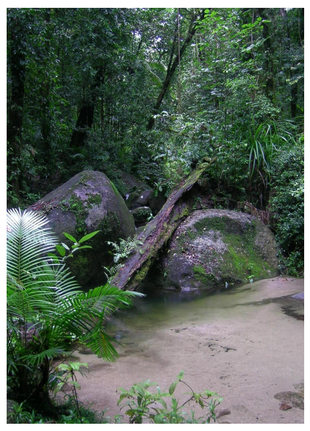
ES and Indigenous well-being is well linked based upon three large scale studies in N and SW Qld

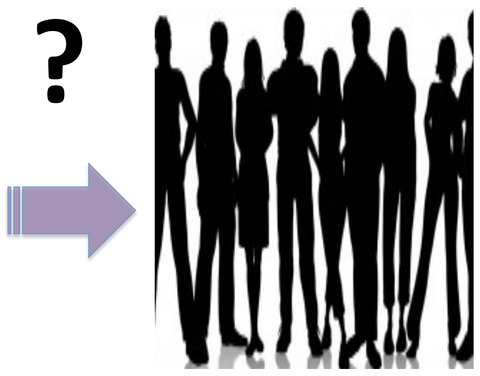
Problem:

Indigenous people' values particularly for natural systems, are not appropriately accounted in the current well-being measures due to a poor well-being framework.

Research questions:

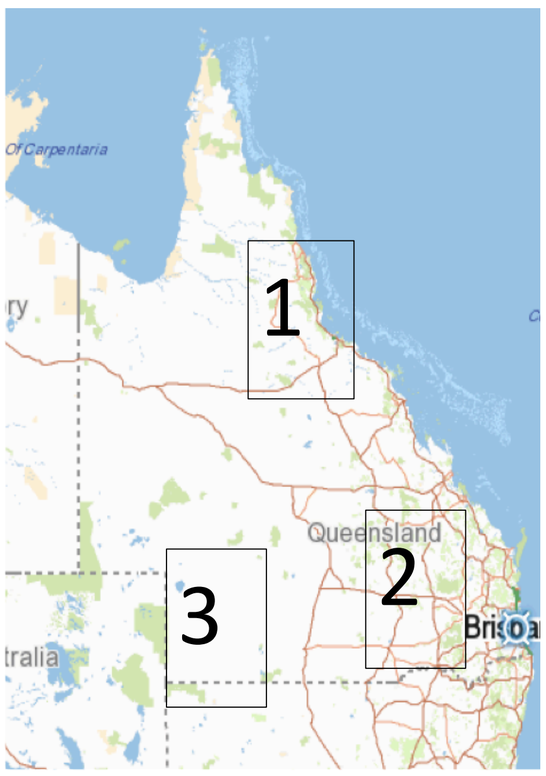
- **What are the attributes (in relation to natural systems) that are useful in assessing Indigenous well-being?**
- **How to integrate these measures into an inclusive well-being framework?**





Methodology: 3 case studies from N and SW Qld conducting focus group meetings with Indigenous participants

1. Mullunburra-Yidinji people near Cairns
2. Wakka, Jarowair and others in the Bunya Mountains area
3. Kamilaroi, Mandandanji, Giabul, Gunaggari and others in the SW Qld

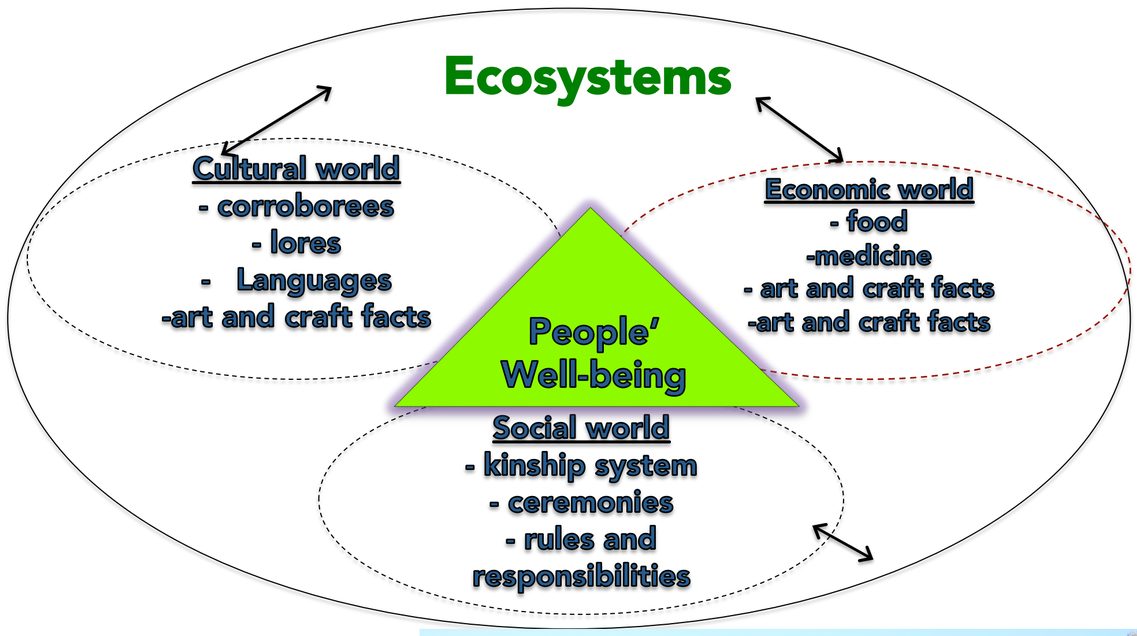


Results: Indigenous values and capabilities

The Bunya Mountains provide opportunities for people to be able to:	The QMDC region provides opportunities for people to be able to:	The Mullunburra-Yidinji Clan area provides opportunities for people to be able to:
❖ Practice and to pass on Traditional Knowledge ❖ Socialize for activities ❖ Opportunities for art and craft work ❖ Conduct cultural rituals as sacred and burial sites provide opportunity for people to be able to learn and practice their knowledge	❖ Practice and to pass on Traditional Knowledge ❖ Monitor and manage water courses ❖ Gain knowledge of climatic variability ❖ Gain knowledge of the cultural rituals and lores	❖ Practice and to pass on Traditional Knowledge ❖ Pass on cultural values and kinship system ❖ Lead a creative life for activities such as painting, hunting, food gathering etc.

Country/ Homeland links	Materials/items (ES)	People's Capability
Art & craft	Boomerang, shields, spear, ochre, paint, etc.	Knowledge and ability to use different plant/stone/earth materials, and to develop ideas for painting
Songlines	Represent the invisible pathways on land, and the footprints of ancestors that describe the rules.	Knowledge of 'songlines' enables people to take care of their country in a customary way. It enables people to pass-on their rituals and culture

A conceptual model of Indigenous well-being and Ecosystems



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