Remote Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure: Factors affecting successful regional governance


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Research Project

- **AHURI Project 80124**: Indigenous housing and governance: Lessons from case studies of remote communities in WA and NT
  - Research Question 1: Program Integration (policy)
    - How can human service program integration in relation to housing assistance be improved to achieve a whole of government approach?
  - Research Question 2: Community perceptions of programs & opportunities for community control
    - What are the perceived and actual differences in the nature of community control, ownership and management of housing and how these contribute to asset management in remote indigenous communities?
Presentation

- Levels of Research
- Methodology
  - Social Assessment
  - Institutional Maps
- Central Remote Model
- Preliminary Research Findings
Levels of Research

• Service Providers – State/Territory
  • AHIC / IHANT
  • ATSIC

• Service Providers – Regional
  • Regional Councils
  • Mamabulanjin
  • Tangentyere

• Communities
  • Lombadina
  • Djarindjin
  • Papunya
  • Laramba
Methodology 1

• Literature Review (ongoing)
  • review of current and proposed housing policy and programs in WA and NT;

• User Group/Steering Committee
  • ATSIC
  • FaCS
  • WA: DHW (AHID); DIA; DPC; DIA
  • NT: DCDSCA; IHANT
Methodology 2

Fieldwork

– ethical agreement
– community and regional perspectives on the current and proposed policy
– Social Assessment
– Institutional Maps

Evaluation
Methodology - Social Assessment

- Inductive
- Issues orientated
- Iterative Process
  - secondary data
  - identify issues
  - semi-structured interviews and focus groups
  - Analysis
- Additional tool – Institutional Mapping
Methodology - Institutional Maps

• Program integration - institutionally very complex
• Developed tool of Institutional Maps
  – Organisational charts
  – ‘Flow’ Charts – funding/information
  – Workshopped at different levels
Examples of Institutional Maps

Commonwealth Programs
Western Australia

1. State and Commonwealth Flow of Funds
2. Regional Organisational Diagram
3. Regional Funding Flow Diagram
4. Community Organisational Diagram
COMMONWEALTH HOUSING FUNDING

DFaCS
- SAAP
- CSHA

CHIP
- Home Ownership Program
- Housing for Health

ATSIC

FHBH2
- Crisis Accom
- Community Housing

Public Housing
- Aboriginal Housing Rental Program

Housing Program
- NAHS
- AACAP

STATE FUNDING

Northern Territory
- IHANT

Western Australia
- AHIC

ATSIC Regional Councils

MSP
- RAESP
- ACSIP

Regional Indigenous Organisations

Indigenous Communities and Individuals

KEY
- Commonwealth Funding
- State Funding
Commonwealth and State Flow of Funds

COMMONWEALTH HOUSING FUNDING

DHAC
DFaCS
ATSIC

OATSIH
CSHA
NAHS
CHIP
CDEP

FHBH2
ARHP
AACAP

CRCI

Indigenous Community Housing Organisations

STATE FUNDING

AHIC

Program Manager - AHIU
Capital Works and Maintenance
David Carpenter
Community Sustainability Program (governance and training)
Margy Dia
Policy and Planning
Felicity Horrocks
Finance

Kullarri Regional Council

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services
ATSIS
Regional Funding Flow Diagram
Central Remote Model - Pilot

- Central Remote Regional Council

Elements:
- Standardised housing plans
- Single Project Manager
  - Economies of scale
- Training and Employment Program
  - Lessons for regional governance
Training and Employment Program 1

Partners
• CRRC
• Enabled by IHANT and DCDSCA
  • Funding for construction of training houses
• Communities
  • Selection of trainees
  • Employment of trainees
Training and Employment Program 2

• Tangentyere Job Shop
  • Employs a Builder/Trainer for each community

• DEWR
  • Funding through STEP

• DEET
  • Additional literacy and numeracy training

• Centralian College
  • Registered Training Authority
  • Provides on and off the job training
Institutional map of Central Remote Employment and Training Project
Central Remote Model Success Factors

- Strong Indigenous Focus
  - Strong leadership from CRRC & Tangentyere
  - Involvement of communities
- Enabling approach from Government
- Problem-solving approach among partners and a desire to ‘make it work’.
Preliminary Research Findings

Research Question 1: Housing Program Integration

- Integration Mechanisms
  - State - Bilateral Agreements
  - Comprehensive Regional Agreements
  - Central Remote Model
Preliminary Research Findings

Research Question 1: Community perceptions

- Regional Program Management
- Community as client
- Community participation
- Economic employment opportunities in remote areas
- Institutional Environment non-enabling
- Need for a “Community Development” approach
Lessons for Sustainability

• Indigenous involvement and ownership – CRRC Model, Tangentyere
• Capacity-building through mentoring and partnerships
• Respond to community aspirations
• Maximize opportunities - Housing is one of the few economic opportunities in remote areas. Local people often have skills & need employment yet building, R&M often done by outsiders.