The National Trust Contribution to Indigenous Partnerships

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- The National Trust of Australia (WA) (NTWA)
- Commenced in 1959
- Reconstituted under legislation in 1964
- To conserve and protect the State’s heritage
- 4,500 members and 300 volunteers
- Over 120 properties across WA, many locally managed
Why the Partnerships

• NTWA very committed to conservation of heritage (built, cultural and natural)
• Was approached by several Aboriginal groups for assistance with getting started

• Issues:
  ➢ Historic track record was difficult
  ➢ Potential was not recognised by others
  ➢ Raising grants and reporting was challenging
Developing Partnerships

✓ Identified what each wanted to achieve
✓ Identified roles for each group
✓ Established basis for operation
✓ Agreed on inputs and a “fall-out” position
✓ Lobbied and marketed the programs to see potential for success
Foundations – tax deductible conservation appeals

- Arborna – overarching, sandalwood, Circle of Wisdom Board
- Malimup – south west, green country, specific property
- Maali – Swan catchment – river focus
- Ngalia – Leonora/Leinsta – red country
- Gabbi Kylie – South Coast – blue country, most successful
- Manowan – Broome, pearl country
Sustainable Indigenous Projects

- Established connections
- Formed foundations both social and financial
- Provided basis for developing community based programs for funding (grants and donations)
- Interactive research and working expeditions with Traditional Owners (Elders and youth), professionals and students
Ngalia Foundation

- Met with family members
- Agreed on a schedule of projects
- NTWA prepared grant applications
- Family undertook field work
- Included an Anthropologist PhD Candidate to record and prepare reports
- Secured 2 Indigenous Heritage Project grants
- Added to and carried out conservation work to known Aboriginal sites.
Gabbi Kylie Foundation

- NTWA held regular meetings with Elder (Doc Reynolds) from Esperance
- Engaged Archaeologist David Guilfoyle to partner with the team – infield coordination, presenting and reporting
- NTWA submitted grant applications through IHP and held regular meetings with Federal officer in charge
Field Schools

• Video - promotional clip of first school 2009
• Outstanding success, participants discovered Aboriginal artefacts 4,500 yo, surveyed Recherche Archipelago islands, learnt techniques
• Most importantly, Elders and Aboriginal youth participated, student learned cross cultural awareness and all learned from experts.
Measures of Success

- Ngalia and Gabbi Kylie – successful grant applications with GK receiving 3-yr funding
- Reports were comprehensive and added to knowledge
- Students received recognition from uni.s
- Articles submitted to National Trust News (National and State)
- Aboriginal families enjoyed the interaction
- A model was developed and is transferrable.
Thank you

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