

Ngiyang Wayama





Ngiyang Wayama

Data Sovereignty Through Shared Measurement

Julia Curtis, Amy Parry, Dre Vorst-Parkes

The Central Coast off its own bat is writing its own rule book which is about Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance.

The Central Coast Model is a terrific example of what Data Sovereignty looks like on the ground.

Dre Vorst- Parkes – Ngiyang Wayama Data Network Member

Starting these conversations, allows us as community members to be involved in discussions in and about data.

It creates a culturally safe space and forum for our people who wouldn't necessarily have access to think and reflect on IDS&G and what it means for community.

There has been a collective consensus that we as a community are sick of the deficit narrative always set by government – I find this refreshing.

Amy Parry - Ngiyang Wayama Data Network Member

CONTEXT

The members of Ngiyang Wayama identified the development of a shared measurement system as a second priority for the network to progress in February 2021.

The development of a shared measurement system brings to life the self-determination aspects of Indigenous Data Sovereignty through the identification of measures that are cocreated by community and that describe the community in data owned by community.

The process is in early stages, but the network is demonstrating practical Indigenous Data Sovereignty and empowerment through using data as a collaboration point.



NEXT STEPS

The next steps for the process include the development of consultative mechanisms to identify areas which community wants identified as measures, design of measurement systems, data capture mechanisms and data visualisation mechanisms.

The development of the shared measurement process is still in early stages and is now moving from early pre planning to codesign.

This will be guided by a working group which will increase the direct input in preliminary design of the process prior to working closely with the community in the identification of the measures that matter to the community, and which will represent the community.

Technical support for the project has included ABS, Universities of Newcastle of Melbourne and will seek to draw in data custodians under OCHRE Accord and Empowered Communities.

Reflections on the process so far

We still have a long way to go and it's important to note, if it wasn't for Corrie Hodson and Barang being the driver of this work we would continue to see no change to the way we are represented and the deficit-based information and reporting for Central Coast mob.

LEARNINGS

Key learnings include the need to continue to build understanding of the potential for the impact of an effective shared measurement system as a way of activating Indigenous Data Sovereignty across the community and Region.

The members of Ngiyang Wayama identified the development of a shared measurement system as a second priority for the network to progress in February 2021.

The process has been a go slow to go fast process with consideration being given to system capacity to really implement the project and to unpick opportunities and barriers.

The full membership of Ngiyang Wayama are primary stakeholders in the development and implementation of the shared measurement system

The development of a shared measurement system brings to life the self-determination aspects of Indigenous Data Sovereignty through the identification of measures that are cocreated by community and that describe the community in data owned by community.

The process is in early stages but the network is demonstrating practical Indigenous Data Sovereignty and empowerment through using data as a collaboration point.

Ngiyang Wayama is increasing data literacy across the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations across the Central Coast. Part of the picture is teaching the language and thought processes of data and data governance. This means that we are able to influence processes through being able to tell our story.

Dre Vorst- Parkes



SUCCESS FACTORS

Consistent collaboration from the community in driving toward the objective of Indigenous Data Sovereignty.

One of the key outcomes in 2021 has been the establishment of a fully funded 21-week Data Analytics course for interested community members.

The concurrent skill building in the community through the data analytics training delivered by Aboriginal RTO Goanna Education and the learning in the development and piloting of the Upskill Community Data Training means that the powering up of the possibility of data is increasing across community members and organisations.

Direct impacts include secondment and participation of Ngiyang Wayama members in a range of initiatives that support outcomes for the Central Coast Community.

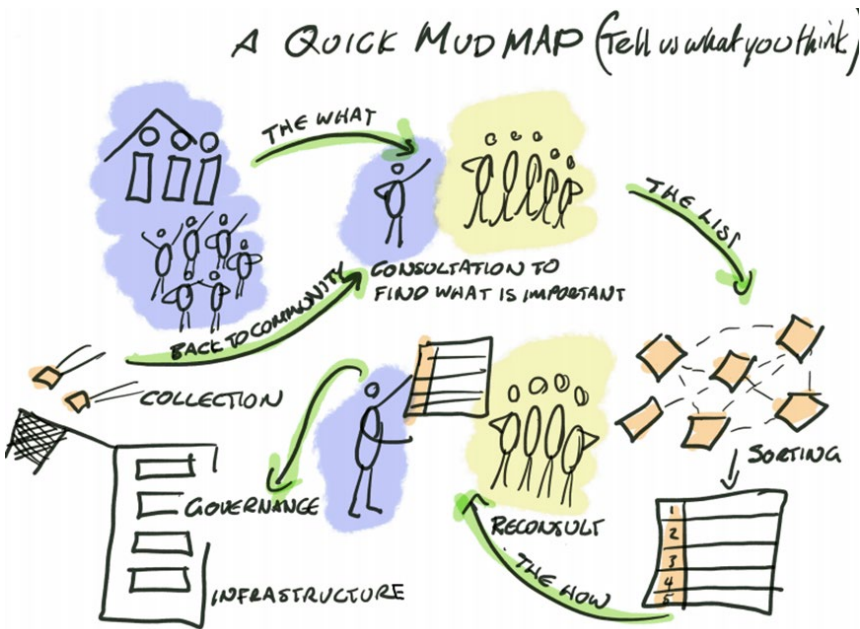
Training and development of members through the informal upskill pieces of work and the formal course offered through Goanna education.

Amy Parry

As a direct result of our network and discussions with colleagues I have been asked to be a part of the DCJ Ngaramanala Aboriginal Knowledge Program. This is something the department has a real interest in given the release of the NSW Government Data Strategy. So it continues to build my capacity in this space.

Amy Parry

Some of the barriers for the work is hesitancy in government agencies to release control of data, so there is an education process that is needed to build that partnership round the sharing of data and to build understanding of Data Sovereignty.
Dre Vorst- Parkes



Ngiyang Wayama is increasing data literacy across the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations across the Central Coast. Part of the picture is teaching the language and thought processes of data and data governance. This means that we are able to influence processes through being able to tell our story.

Dre Vorst-Parkes



