“Indigenous Economic Development & Agriculture”

What does it mean? What does it invoke?

Healthy Farming-Stronger Communities

Historic Role in Agriculture and other Land Based Activities
- Traditional 40,000 yrs to 180 yrs ago
- Contemporary 180 yrs to 20 yrs ago
- Current to most recent. How much?
- NEW AND DIFFERENT INVOLVEMENT NOW HAPPENING
Based on Karl-Ung-Kep: Indigenous Wealth Ways in the Wheatbelt Region

Holistic Assessment based on Orchid Model & 5 Key Aspects

Cooperatively identified 5 Action Areas
- Arts
- Tourism
- Rural Trades
- Indigenous Fashion & Design

Land Based Activities
including Agriculture, natural resource management, farm forestry, conservation etc.
HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT
“The Orchid Model”

Five Significant Aspects of Indigenous Economic Development

Cultural/Environmental
Male Ways

Indigenous Economic Development

Female Ways

Social/Emotional

Vocational

KARL-UNG-KEP: Indigenous Wealth Ways for the Wheatbelt Region of Western Australia (*fire with water*)
Why is WDC engaged this way?

- main agricultural region

- has economic, environmental, social improvement mandate for whole Region

- large %age of Aboriginal people have ‘left for the coast’

- regional Aboriginal people are subject to same issues as remote and urban communities

- basic belief in Aboriginal relationship with land; ‘wellbeing’ in *budjar*

- this in turn positively affects the whole community, therefore

- wants to encourage return to region for opportunities.
How can/are Aboriginal people be involved in agricultural industry?

Options for involvement through:
- direct employment and service contracting
- farming of own land
- land purchase through Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC), or banks
- inheritance
- share farming
- cooperatives
- Trusts lands’ eg National Heritage Trust
What are some of the issues for people to deal with?

Risk Management: Even for the best farmers it’s a risky business with traditionally low returns on investment (approx 1.5%?)

- What to grow? Crops such as grains, fruits, nuts, trees

- Trees are an example: tagasaste?, oil mallees?, sandalwood?, sheoaks?, brushwood?, paulownias?.

The ‘advice’ tends to change according to the flavour of the month and peoples experience. Need consistency and reliability.

- How to grow and what is needed to do this?
What are some of the issues for people to deal with?

Risk Management: Even for the best farmers it’s a risky business with traditionally low returns on investment (approx 1.5%?)

- How to maximise potential from small farms? Diversity in ventures?

- Overcoming the “Might Is Right” mentality

- Overcoming the “One Size Fits All” mentality

- Complementary, other industries/enterprises opportunities? How to identify best avenue?

- Training, experience and qualifications required?

- Family pressures and politics
Circles of Influence & Interaction

Contributors

International
National
State
Regional
Local
Group
Person
“Kara-Mia” Model
& the Eight ‘Legs’ or Concepts/Properties of the Spider and Web

SENsitivity

STRENGTH

POWER

TRUST

DISCERNMENT

PATIENCE

PURPOSE

PERSERVERANCE

POWER
Opportunities for Engagement/Involvement. How can you/l I be a part of this developing process? What assets?

- Advocacy, advice and facilitation
- funds/capital acquisition
- equipment/machinery
- marketing
- mentoring
- profit & risk sharing
- research and development
- land acquisition and land sharing

As the song says: “Who’re ya gunna call?”
KEP “CREATION-FLOW” MODEL

Clouds of Ideas

Energy/Information Input from “Con-tributaries”

Springs of Inspiration