



**Australian Government**  
**Indigenous Land Corporation**

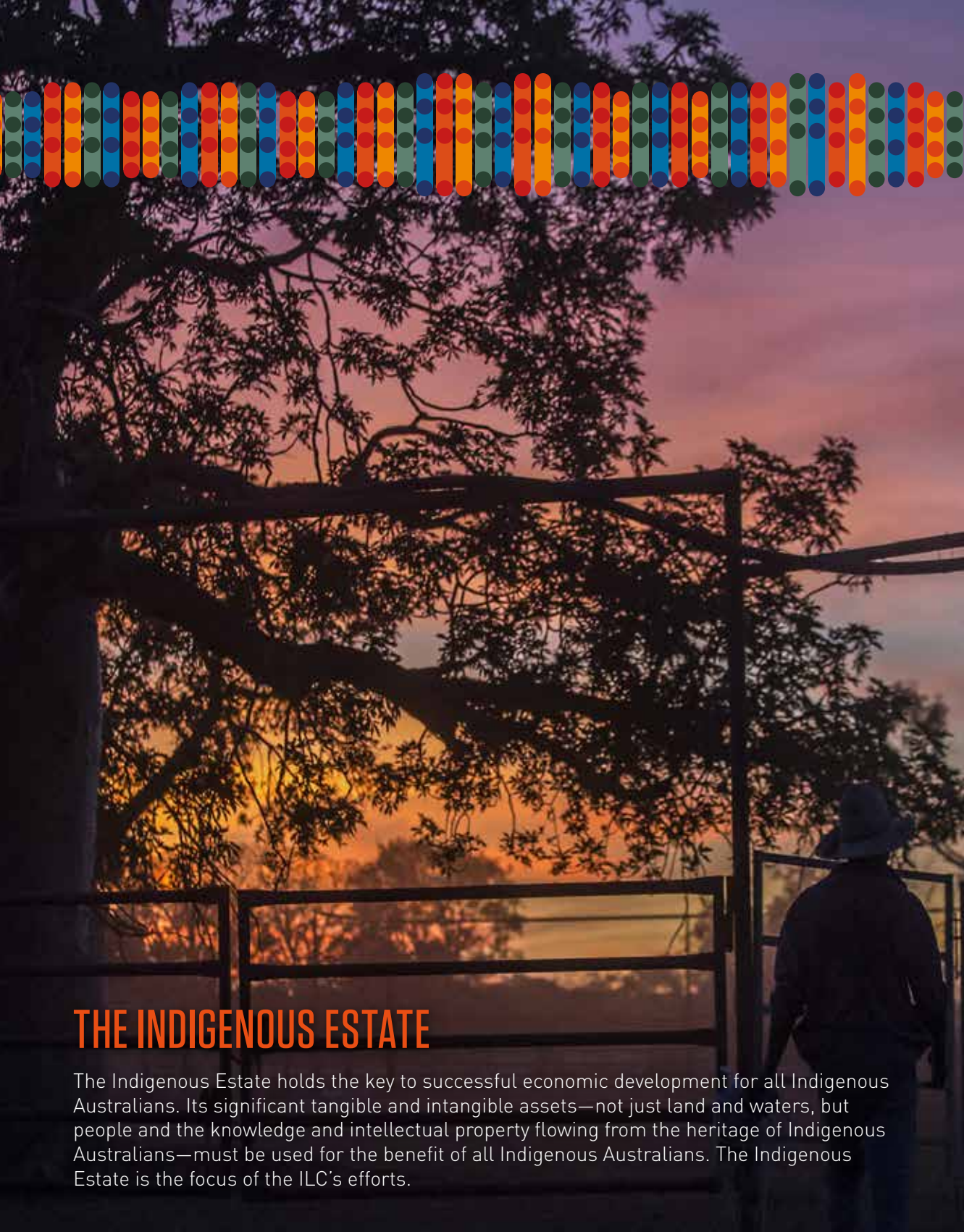


**The ILC GROUP**

**REGIONAL INDIGENOUS  
LAND STRATEGY (RILS)**

**NORTHERN  
AUSTRALIA**





## THE INDIGENOUS ESTATE

The Indigenous Estate holds the key to successful economic development for all Indigenous Australians. Its significant tangible and intangible assets—not just land and waters, but people and the knowledge and intellectual property flowing from the heritage of Indigenous Australians—must be used for the benefit of all Indigenous Australians. The Indigenous Estate is the focus of the ILC’s efforts.

Boab tree at Myroodah Station, WA  
Front cover image: Gunbalanya River, NT



# The ILC GROUP

### Message from the ILC Chairperson

Welcome to the Regional Indigenous Land Strategy (RILS) for the Northern Australia region—the first time the ILC has, through the RILS, recognised the particular environmental, social and economic features of this vast region.

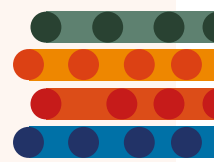
This RILS represents an additional, more focused layer to the ILC Group’s strategic direction as laid out in the National Indigenous Land Strategy (NILS) for the period 2018 to 2022. These are the first national and regional land strategies that I and the current ILC Board have had the honour of presenting to you, our stakeholders and partners in growing the Indigenous Estate.

As you will see throughout the strategies, the ILC is focused on becoming a trusted partner in developing the Indigenous Estate to achieve economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The ILC Board, staff and subsidiary companies are determined to apply the resources available to us to help transform Indigenous-held land and waters and our unique cultural assets into a source of prosperity for this and future generations.

Central to our strategies has been identifying the best ways to invest and partner with you, to make our collective resources go further. On behalf of the ILC Board, I thank those who participated in consultation sessions on these important documents. Your views have informed our way forward.

Please take the time to read through this regional strategy and the national strategy it accompanies. Also check the ILC website and follow us on social media. Most importantly, contact your local ILC office with any ideas you have for projects that fit with this strategy or would benefit from ILC partnership.

Mr Eddie Fry, Chairperson



# INTRODUCTION

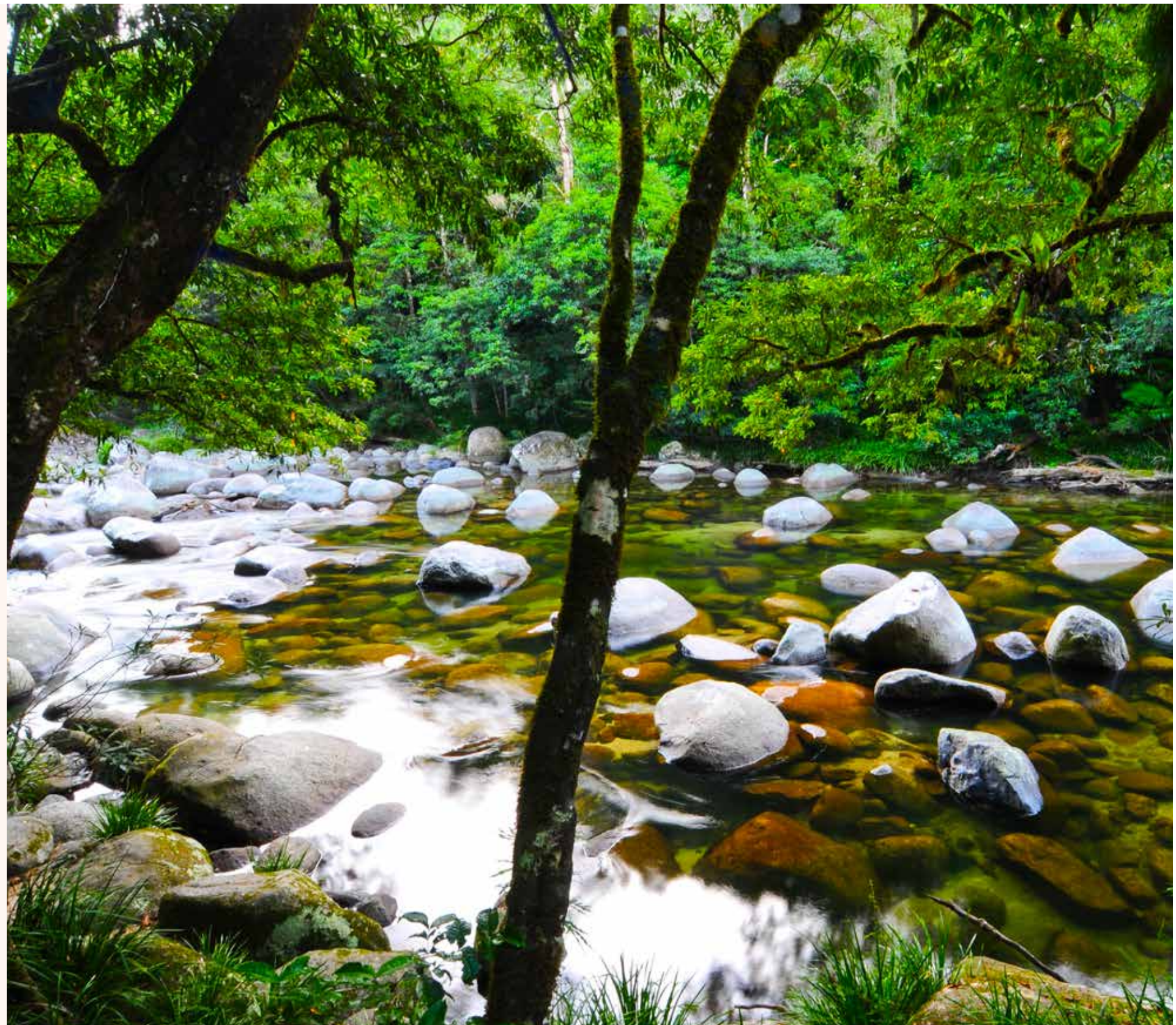
## About the ILC

The ILC is an Australian Government agency established under the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* (the ATSI Act) to assist Indigenous Australians to achieve economic, environmental, social or cultural benefits through land-related projects.

**The ILC has two functions, as set out in the ATSI Act:**

- to assist Indigenous Australians to acquire land
- to assist in the management of Indigenous-held land, however that land was acquired.

**This makes the ILC an important institution in helping to define, enhance, and grow the Indigenous Estate.**



Mossman Gorge, Qld



Roebuck Plains Station, WA

## WHAT WE DO

- **ILC Functions**  
Land Acquisition and Land Management

## HOW WE DO IT

- **Subsidiary Operations**
  - National Centre of Indigenous Excellence
  - Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia
  - Australian Indigenous Agribusiness
- **ILC Program Mechanism**  
**Our Land Our Future**
  - Dedicated Industry Strategies
  - Investment Principles
  - Priority Areas

## WHAT WE ACHIEVE

- **Benefits**  
Assist Indigenous People to Achieve Economic, Environmental, Social and Cultural Benefits

# 2018–2022 RILS

## About the National Indigenous Land Strategy and Regional Indigenous Land Strategies

The **National Indigenous Land Strategy** (NILS), a requirement under the ATSI Act, is the ILC's key policy document. The directions laid out in the NILS inform other key documents, including our annual Corporate Plan. The latest NILS was tabled in Parliament in February 2018 and is available at [www.ilc.gov.au/NILS](http://www.ilc.gov.au/NILS)

Also required by the ATSI Act are **Regional Indigenous Land Strategies** (RILS), which provide regions within Australia with an additional, layered framework for the interpretation and implementation of the NILS.

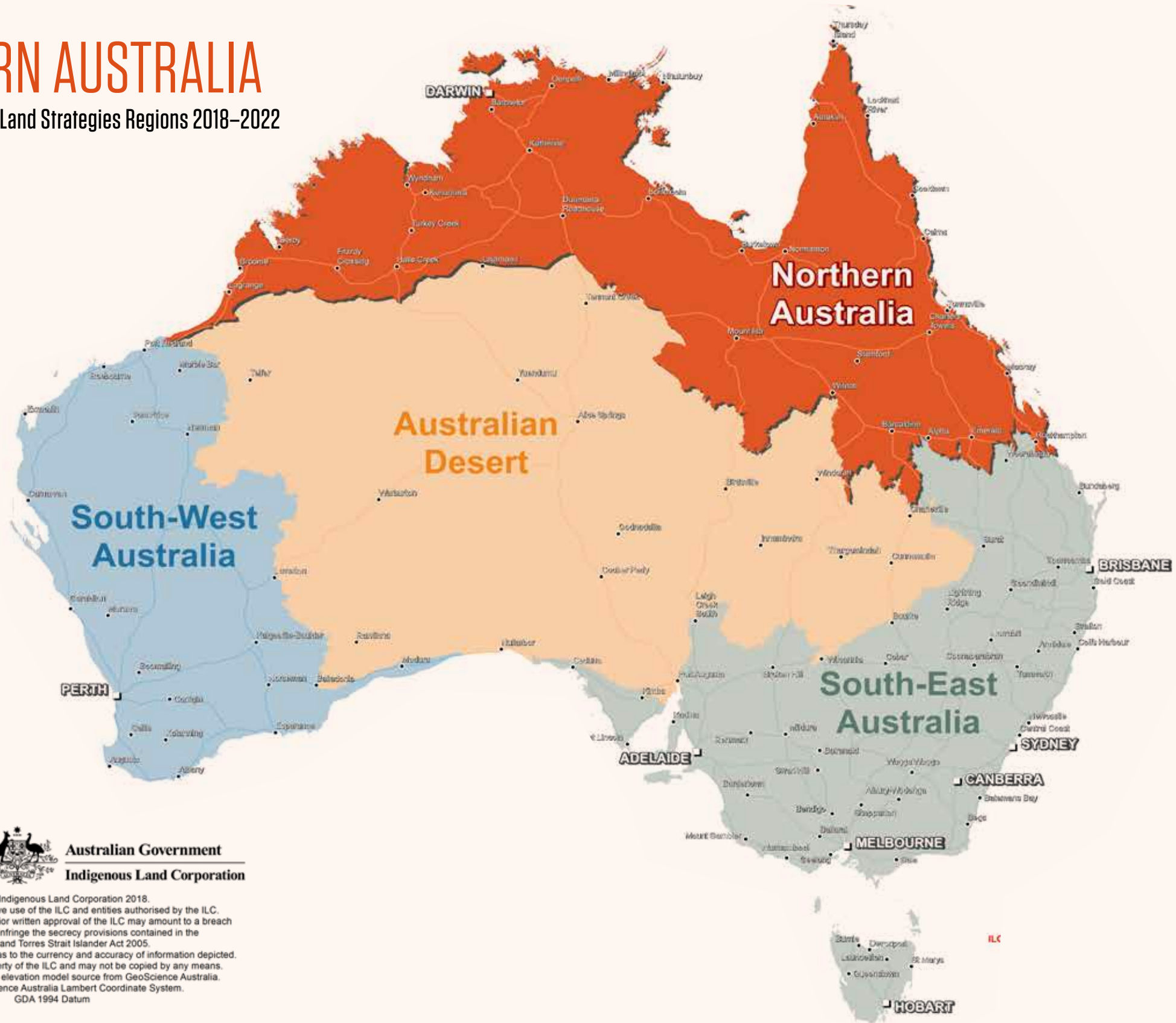
The RILS regions have been restructured for the current NILS period, 2018 to 2022. Previously ILC regions were the six states and the Northern Territory. Now they reflect eco-regions—highlighting important environmental, demographic and economic differences across the continent and the ways these are reflected in the different situations of Indigenous people. In making this change, the ILC Board recognises the opportunities presented through bringing together discrete, but aligned, land parcels within the Indigenous Estate to allow the development of joined-up projects and economies of scale.

The following regions underpin the RILS from 2018:

- **Northern Australia** - includes northern Western Australia, the northern areas of the Northern Territory and North Queensland. The climate, environment and general economic-development opportunities in northern Australia differ significantly from the rest of Australia. For example, savanna burning for emissions reduction is viable in this broad region and not in others.
- **Desert Australia** - includes the desert regions of Western Australia, northern South Australia, the Northern Territory, south-west Queensland and north-west New South Wales. As with the Northern Australia region, Australia's arid regions are unique and projects benefit from economies of scale. There is value in considering the opportunities arising in these areas in their own right.
- **South-West Australia** - includes the southern coastal areas of Western Australia west from the south Australian border across to Perth and north to Port Hedland.
- **South-East Australia** - includes southern South Australia, all of Victoria and Tasmania, most of New South Wales and south-east Queensland.

# NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Regional Indigenous Land Strategies Regions 2018–2022



15-May-2018  
ILC Map No. 2822-na



**Australian Government**  
**Indigenous Land Corporation**

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Port Smith, WA



Roebuck Plains station, WA



Boab Tree

# THE NORTHERN AUSTRALIA REGION

## Landscape

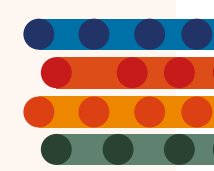
The Northern Australia region covers an area of approximately 1.9 million square kilometres. It stretches across three states and territories, from the Kimberley region, WA, across to the Top End of the Northern Territory, then across the Gulf of Carpentaria to Queensland, from Rockhampton on the Tropic of Capricorn and north to the Torres Strait.

The Northern Australia region has a diverse range of landscapes with most less than 500 metres above sea level, with local relief generally less than 100 metres. Soil types vary considerably.

The region's biodiversity assets include the tropical rainforests, wetlands and arid rangelands of the Northern Territory, the steep mountain ranges of the Ord and Fitzroy River catchments of the Kimberley, and in the east, relatively intact savanna woodland and important rainforest areas as well as the Mitchell, Gilbert, Norman and Staaten River catchments on Cape York, all of which flow into the Gulf of Carpentaria. Most of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage area lies within this region. Other significant vegetation communities are coastal mangrove forests, swamp forests, floodplain grasslands and heathlands. Extensive areas of Cape York, Arnhem Land, NT, and the Kimberley are part of Australia's National Reserve System.

Vegetation within this region mainly consists of savanna woodland but also includes important rainforest areas in the western fall of the Great Dividing Range and associated tablelands and major grasslands (Gulf Plains and Mitchell Grass Downs). Located in the drier part of the tropics on Queensland's east coast, the Burdekin region encompasses a diversity of landscapes including wet tropical rainforests (Eungella and the Paluma Range), drier sub-catchment areas (Belyando and Burdekin Rivers) and the very wet coastal plains of the lower Burdekin River. The delta of the Burdekin River supplies irrigation, mainly for sugar cane farming. Further south, the Central Queensland coast and hinterland is prime beef country.

The savannas range from open forest in the coastal and sub-coastal regions to woodlands in the semi-arid regions to open woodlands with scattered low trees in the more arid interior. Treeless grasslands occur on heavier soils and where drainage is impeded. Most ecosystems in northern Australia are grassy landscapes. Notable exceptions are the rainforests (the Wet Tropics in north Queensland and the monsoon forests and vine thickets of Queensland, the Top End and the Kimberley), some of the wetland ecosystems closer to the coast, and the most rugged and rocky landscapes of the Kimberley and western Arnhem Land where the vegetation is sparse scrub or heath.





Fish River Station, NT

Spanning thousands of kilometres, the 'saltwater country' of northern Australia includes some of the most intact coastal and marine habitats in the world. This country is a stronghold for threatened turtles and dugongs and home to some of the world's most extensive mangrove forests, coral reefs and seagrass meadows, constituting one of the least human-impacted marine ecosystems in the world, combined with, across its more northerly reaches, a mostly intact traditional Indigenous knowledge base for land and sea management.

### Climate

The Northern Australia region lies in a tropical climatic zone, where temperatures are warm throughout the year and there are two distinct seasons: the 'wet' and the 'dry'.

The 'wet' season lasts from around November through to April. Almost all of the year's rain falls during this period and generally arrives in heavy bursts from thunderstorms, widespread monsoon depressions or from the passage of associated tropical cyclones. The dry season, from May through to October exhibits dry, cool weather with little rain, low humidity and wider-ranging temperatures.

Across the savannas the more stable dry season is characterised by prevailing dry south-east winds (moister on the east coast), cooler temperatures, greater temperature variation during the day, clear skies and low humidity. Light rains may fall, particularly in the south-east portions, during the early winter months but can occur in any month.

Occasionally cold air from the south penetrates well into the tropics and night-time temperatures may drop enough for frosts to form in some inland regions in the east and west. As the dry progresses through August and September the temperatures begin to rise as the sun moves more directly overhead and the south-easterly winds begin to subside.

The coastal areas of this region tend to have more predictable monsoon climate with a shorter, intense wet season. However, as you move further inland away from the coast the climate becomes generally less predictable and drier. The impacts of climate change are predicted to exacerbate these conditions.

The availability of water is a major driver of economic activity, particularly for key northern industries such as agriculture, aquaculture, mining, energy and tourism. While this region receives more than 60 per cent of national rainfall, falls are highly seasonal and capturing and using it is challenging.

### Issues

Among the land management issues in this region are: fire management (including loss of traditional Indigenous burning practices), invasive animal and plant species and the impact of grazing, including land clearing.

Presently there is a suite of weeds, ranging from grasses to shrubs to larger woody plants, invading large tracts of land that are nevertheless of marginal productivity. This constrains the financial and labour resources available for weed management. In this region there is therefore a strong emphasis on preventing the spread of established weeds. Invasive animals include cats, cane toads, buffalo and wild pigs—collectively these damage both natural environments and grazing land.

The period of this RILS offers a critical opportunity to make pro-active investment across the Northern coastal regions to ensure community resilience to the forecasted impacts of climate change.



Port Smith, WA



Bulimba homestead, Qld

Climate change is a significant issue across this region, with these effects (already evident or likely):

- increased average temperatures
- rising sea-levels, stronger tropical cyclones and increased intensity of oceanic storm surges
- saltwater intrusion into northern Australia's vast freshwater floodplains
- bleaching and death of coral reefs, damage to mangrove forests and seagrass
- more favourable conditions for mosquitoes and mosquito-borne disease such as dengue fever and Ross River virus
- disruption of the finely balanced relationships between flora and fauna in the region's ecosystems
- more extreme fire and flood events that may assist the spread of invasive species.

In addition to the environmental threats described above, other challenges directly affect Indigenous people's ability to gain benefit from their land holdings in this region. Property-rights infrastructure (cadastral surveys, town planning) and physical infrastructure (access roads, telecommunications, essential services) are necessary to achieving economic development on Indigenous land.

Investment at all levels of government is needed to address these widespread infrastructure deficits, in particular across remote and very remote Indigenous Australia.

### Infrastructure

The Northern Australia region generally has less infrastructure than the South-East and South-West regions. Major highways do traverse the region, including Highway 1 circumnavigating the continent. Rail lines operate in central Australia (Adelaide to Darwin) and east-coast Queensland (Brisbane to Cairns) and inland from Townsville to Mount Isa. A great deal of northern infrastructure is funded by and meets the needs of the resources industry. Elsewhere more infrastructure is needed to link the dispersed populations and remote business of the north, a factor acknowledged by the Australian Government (see 'Opportunities' on page 16).

Other challenges directly affect Indigenous people's ability to gain benefit from their land holdings in this region. Property-rights infrastructure (cadastral surveys, town planning) as well as physical infrastructure (all-weather access roads, telecommunications) are necessary to achieving economic development on Indigenous land. Investment at all levels of government is needed to establish systems to define and recognise property rights across remote and very remote Indigenous areas.

### Indigenous population

The Northern RILS region has an Indigenous population of approximately 122,000 – the second highest of the RILS regions. Most of the Indigenous population within this region live in regional, remote and very remote areas, with the capital city of the Northern Territory (Darwin) only home to just over 11,500 Indigenous people. Far North Queensland has an Indigenous population of around 38,000, North Queensland's Indigenous population is approximately 40,000 and the North Western area of Western Australia, which incorporates the Kimberly region has an Indigenous population of approximately 14,000.

The Northern Territory continues to have the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in rural areas at approximately 49 per cent. Since the 1996 Census, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in urban areas has increased from 73% to 79%. This was largely driven by the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in capital cities, which has increased from 30% in 1996 to 35% in 2016.

### Indigenous-held land

Northern Australia has proportionately more determined native title, more Indigenous land and more pastoral leases than southern Australia.

This land is held under a diverse range of tenure arrangements: freehold land, Crown land subject to pastoral lease (under different State/Territory legislation), National Reserve land where activity is restricted, and Indigenous land, also subject to various legislative regimes.

- Indigenous land interests in the Kimberley, WA, largely arise from significant native title determinations.
- In the Northern Territory large areas of land have been granted under inalienable freehold title to Aboriginal Land Trusts under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*; most of the pastoral districts of the Territory are subject to native title claims.
- In northern Queensland Indigenous people have some interests in land in the Torres Strait and on Cape York but Indigenous holdings elsewhere are limited—the Queensland area of this region has more conventional freehold title than other jurisdictions.

In all parts of this region there are extensive native title claims, both determined and registered. The Australian Government has mapped land tenure in northern Australia at [www.austrade.gov.au/land-tenure](http://www.austrade.gov.au/land-tenure) noting that, unlike the ILC, the Australian Government defines the northern Australia as all land above the Tropic of Capricorn.

### Case study: land acquisition

Acquisitions have included pastoral leases in the Kimberley, Northern Territory and Queensland. The ILC has developed and run beef enterprises on a number of these stations providing training and employment for Indigenous people. It has also leased land from Indigenous owners and brought it into production. The ILC developed the Roebuck Export Depot, adjacent to Roebuck Plains Station near Broome, WA; both properties are now divested to the Traditional Owner organisation. Home Valley Station in the Kimberley is the base for an ILC-developed tourism business. Near Cairns, Qld, the ILC purchased land and developed the Mossman Gorge Centre with the Kuku Yalanji Traditional Owners. The centre is a major employer of local Indigenous people. It receives around 350,000 tourists a year (and rising), highlighting Indigenous culture and connection to the spectacular rainforest environment.

A number of regional or urban-based properties providing for new or expanded service delivery have also been acquired across northern Australia, and the ILC has long-standing productive relationships with many regional Indigenous organisations.



# OPPORTUNITIES

There are many opportunities across the Northern Australia region. In general, however, the region is less developed than the South-West and South-East regions.

The Australian Government's *Our North, Our Future – White Paper on Developing Northern Australia* (June 2015) identifies a range of reforms and investments needed to stimulate development to take advantage of the region's proximity to Asia. The White Paper identified barriers to economic development including complex land-tenure arrangements, skills gaps and critical infrastructure and transport deficits arising from a low and dispersed population. The Government, through the Office of Northern

Australia, is funding projects to build a more diversified economy and 'unlock the north's full potential', to create an environment where the private sector can thrive across industries such as agriculture, tourism and resources.

An Indigenous Reference Group has been established comprising senior leaders from across Northern Australia, to ensure that development flowing from the White Paper benefits Indigenous people and businesses. The ministerial media release announcing the reference group's membership (December 2017) outlines its functions as: '... developing actions to advance the Indigenous business sector, grow the capability of Indigenous land owners to engage in development and support Indigenous innovation in northern Australia.'

## Agribusiness

In this region Indigenous Australians hold large areas of pastoral and potential pastoral/agricultural land, and have a rich historical connection to the cattle industry in particular. The ILC is looking to assist Indigenous land-holders to increase their influence and commercial strength across all sectors of northern agribusiness. This may involve diversification away from the traditional emphasis on the beef industry, or exploiting opportunities in agribusiness supply chains that add value to basic agricultural products. Land in the Northern Australia region is already used for cropping and horticulture (cotton, sugar cane, vegetables, fruit). The White Paper envisages an expansion of these sectors, and more extensive harnessing of water resources for irrigation.

Since 2012 the ILC has worked with community, government and philanthropic groups to increase Indigenous involvement in 'carbon farming', government-approved land management methodologies that reduce greenhouse-gas emissions or store carbon in vegetation or soils. Savanna fire management (SFM—early dry season controlled burning to help prevent uncontrolled late-season wildfires) is a carbon-farming methodology that applies only in this region and is increasingly practised on Indigenous-held land. These projects are eligible to earn Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) under the Australian Government's Emissions Reduction Fund. Through a partnership with INPEX, the ILC delivers an SFM program assisting Indigenous groups to plan and implement fire projects across the Northern Territory, supporting economic development opportunities through the application of traditional ecological knowledge.



Mossman Gorge Visitor Centre, Qld



Mossman Gorge tour, Qld



Billabong at Fish River, NT



Mossman Gorge tour, Qld

## Niche Indigenous products

Across Australia Indigenous people are the custodians of traditional cultural and environmental knowledge, and particularly so in this region where Indigenous knowledge systems survive. Indigenous land holders could develop enterprises based on growing or wild-harvesting native plants for food, pharmaceutical or cosmetic uses, or the harvesting of protein from native (e.g. kangaroo, emu, crocodile) or feral animals (e.g. buffalo). Investment is needed to research potential products, build markets for them, and establish Indigenous people's participation in niche-product supply chains.

## Tourism

The Northern region has many spectacular land and seascapes and rich Indigenous cultural connections. Both are a potential basis for tourism businesses—either larger scale resorts or smaller, locally-based ecotourism or cultural tourism ventures. With agribusiness, tourism is a recognised high-growth area in the Australian economy.

## Renewable energies

Australia needs to transform its energy sources to meet internationally agreed emissions-reduction targets (the UN Paris Agreement). If suitable, Indigenous-held

## Case study: land management

Among the five key industry sectors targeted by the ILC Board is niche products—or 'bush foods', specialised agribusiness where opportunities arise from Indigenous people's connection to an extensive land base and unique cultural and ecological knowledge.

There is increasing awareness of the commercial potential of Australian flora. A range of products are already on the market in this country and overseas. Many Indigenous land holders are interested in developing enterprises based on cultivating and/or wild-harvesting native plants or harvesting protein from native or feral animals. ILC land management projects have already ventured into these areas, but the ILC recognises that even greater effort is required to consolidate and market new industries based on these products.

A major ILC initiative is based on the potential of the Kakadu plum—called gubinge in Western Australia. Kakadu plum is a native fruit that grows almost exclusively on Indigenous-held land across northern Australia. The fruit has very high levels of vitamin C. It has uses in the emerging bushfood dining scene, in the functional food market (Kakadu plum has great preservative qualities) and in pharmaceutical and nutraceutical products.

The aim is to establish a Kakadu plum supply chain through development of markets and building the capability of Indigenous enterprises to supply these markets. This longer term collaborative project involves broad community engagement through a proposed 'Kakadu Plum Indigenous Network' and employment of a dedicated ILC Kakadu Plum Business Development Manager.

Among other things, the project is supporting Adelaide-based business, Something Wild (majority owned by the Motlop family and overseen by former AFL footballer and Larrakia man Daniel Motlop) to develop uses for the Kakadu plum in partnership with Palgun Wurnangat Aboriginal Corporation in Wadeye, NT, where plums are harvested.

Something Wild has been testing the efficacy of Kakadu plum as a preservative in meat, greens and dairy and as a flavour additive or enhancer for a variety of products including pickles and health foods. The aim is to develop products where Kakadu plum can be used in large amounts—so northern Indigenous communities can earn income from harvesting the plums and for the benefits go back to them culturally and financially.

land could be used to generate solar, wind or geothermal energy for on sale to energy retailers.

The roll out of renewable-energy technologies could also assist Indigenous communities in this region, including communities off the electricity grid, to ensure energy supply and cut costs.

## Water-based activities

The Australian Government's National Aquaculture Strategy (September 2017) aims to double the value of Australia's aquaculture industry over ten years, and recognises that Indigenous rights and interests must be considered in developing projects.

The ILC is currently working with the Australian Government to change its legislation to enable the corporation to invest beyond land to salt and fresh water. This investment may include support for Indigenous aquaculture businesses, the purchase of fishing licences, or assisting Indigenous groups to care for and reconnect with water country. Across this region Indigenous people already hold extensive

interests in sea-based country arising from common law judgments. These include the Blue Mud Bay High Court decision (July 2008) that gave Traditional Owners in the Northern Territory exclusive access rights to waters lying on their land (intertidal zones). The High Court held in *Akiba on behalf of the Torres Strait Regional Seas Claim Group v Commonwealth* (August 2013) that native title rights and interests could comprise a right to access resources and take for any purpose (both commercial and non-commercial) resources in the native title claim area. In the Torres Strait, resources from the sea are the primary, and often only, basis for economic development, and Traditional Owners there aspire to have all commercial fishing licences in Indigenous hands.

The 'Scaling Up' *Inquiry into Opportunities for Expanding Aquaculture in Northern Australia* (Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia, February 2016) pointed to an escalating world-wide demand for seafood-based protein; however, the Australian industry had developed mainly in the south of the continent.



Tiwi Nursery/land management Rangers

The inquiry reported that some 1.5 million hectares of land in northern Australia had been assessed as suitable for aquaculture.

### Conservation economy

Northern Australia is as much a conservation challenge as a development opportunity. Indigenous people live on country that may otherwise be unoccupied and many are involved in 'caring for country', where groups receive income from government and others for ecosystem services. Ranger-type work presents opportunities for expansion, with the increasing need to preserve biodiversity and rehabilitate environments.

In this region Indigenous rangers are widely employed in biosecurity surveillance and monitoring, helping to prevent threats (pests, weeds, diseases) to human and animal health and to Australia's natural and agricultural environments from penetrating across Australia's 'northern barrier' facing New Guinea and Asia. Around 70 skilled ranger groups play a vital biosecurity role, with many located along coastlines in very remote areas.



Karajarri Rangers, WA



Fitzroy River at Myroodah Station, WA

## RELATIONSHIPS & LINKS

### Relationships & links

The ILC always seeks to consult and partner with local and regional organisations in taking advantage of opportunities on Indigenous-held land. Collaboration is a core principle underpinning ILC projects.

Over the period of this RILS, the ILC will focus on three levels of alliance building: networks linking Indigenous land holders through their engagement with the Indigenous Estate; partnerships with the ILC on key projects and activities; and strategic alliances, formal arrangements involving the ILC, Indigenous land holders and industry and charitable groups.

The ILC will work with stakeholders to leverage knowledge of what works from previous and existing projects, tailored to local aspirations and expertise. Where possible, projects will be strengthened by input across multiple sectors—government, community, private and charitable.

### The native title representative bodies and service providers across this region are:

**Cape York Land Council, Qld**  
[www.cylc.org.au](http://www.cylc.org.au)

**Kimberley Land Council, WA**  
[www.klc.org.au](http://www.klc.org.au)

**Northern Land Council, NT**  
[www.nlc.org.au](http://www.nlc.org.au)

**North Queensland Land Council**  
[www.nqlc.com.au](http://www.nqlc.com.au)

**Queensland South Native Title Services**  
[www.qsnts.com.au](http://www.qsnts.com.au)

**Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA), Qld**  
[www.tsra.gov.au](http://www.tsra.gov.au)

The TSRA, governed by a representative board, manages the Australian Government's Indigenous programs throughout the Torres Strait.

### Other land-based entities are:

**Anindilyakwa Land Council, NT (Groote Eylandt)**

[www.anindilyakwa.com.au](http://www.anindilyakwa.com.au)

**Tiwi Land Council, NT (Tiwi Islands)**

[www.tiwilandcouncil.com](http://www.tiwilandcouncil.com)

This region has a relatively high Indigenous population and is home to many significant Indigenous organisations, delivering services in a range of areas (health, legal aid, economic development, advocacy, etc.) in addition to the land-related organisations above.

Much local government is also in Indigenous hands or Indigenous-specific. Areas encompassing Aboriginal communities across the Top End of the Northern Territory are serviced by a network of regional councils: West Daly, Victoria Daly, Tiwi Islands, West Arnhem, East Arnhem and Roper Gulf. Northern Queensland is home to many self-governing Indigenous communities (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander shire councils), including Aurukun, Doomadgee, Hope Vale, Lockhart River, Mornington Island, Palm Island, Woorabinda and Yarrabah and the islands of the Torres Strait.

### Other relevant entities:

**Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia, Townsville, Qld**

[www.crcna.com.au](http://www.crcna.com.au)

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Qld**

[www.gbrmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au)

**Office of Northern Australia, Darwin, NT**

[www.northernaustralia.gov.au](http://www.northernaustralia.gov.au)

**North Australia Research Unit, Darwin, NT**

[www.naru.anu.edu.au](http://www.naru.anu.edu.au)

**Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association**

[www.ntca.org.au](http://www.ntca.org.au)

### Other important Indigenous organisations (by no means an exhaustive list) are:

**North Australia Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA), an alliance of northern Indigenous organisations based in Darwin, NT**

[www.nailsma.org.au](http://www.nailsma.org.au)

**KRED, Broome, WA**

[www.kred.org.au](http://www.kred.org.au)

**Nyamba Buru Yawuru, Broome, WA**

[www.yawuru.com](http://www.yawuru.com)

**Wunan Foundation, east Kimberley, WA**

[www.wunan.org.au](http://www.wunan.org.au)

**Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory**

[www.amsant.org.au](http://www.amsant.org.au)

**Jawoyn Association, Katherine, NT**

[www.jawoyn.org.au](http://www.jawoyn.org.au)

**Larrakia Development Corporation, Darwin, NT**

[www.larrakia.com.au](http://www.larrakia.com.au)

**Thamurrurr Development Corporation, Wadeye, NT**

[www.thamurrurr.org.au](http://www.thamurrurr.org.au)

**Yothu Yindi Foundation, north-east Arnhem Land, NT**

[www.yyf.com.au](http://www.yyf.com.au)

**Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation, Cairns, Qld**

[www.balkanu.com.au](http://www.balkanu.com.au)

**Cape York Partnership, Cairns, Qld**

[www.capeyorkpartnership.org.au](http://www.capeyorkpartnership.org.au)

**Northern Gulf Indigenous Corporation, Qld**

[www.northerngulf.com.au](http://www.northerngulf.com.au)



Home Valley Station, WA

## APPENDIX: RELEVANT LEGISLATION

### Commonwealth

- Native Title Act 1993
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976

### Queensland

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Holding Act 2013
- Aboriginal Land Act 1991 and Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991
- Cape York Peninsula Heritage Act 2007
- Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995
- Land Act 1994
- Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978
- Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993
- Nature Conservation Act 1992
- Wild Rivers Act 2005

### Western Australia

- Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act 1972
- Aboriginal Communities Act 1979
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972
- Aboriginal Heritage (Marandoo) Act 1992
- Land Administration Act 1997
- Titles (Validation) and Native Title (Effect of Past Acts) Act 1995

### Northern Territory

- Aboriginal Land Act 1978
- Heritage Act 2011
- Mineral Titles Act 2010
- Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989
- Parks and Reserves (Framework for the Future) Act 2004 and Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2005
- Pastoral Land Act 1992
- Petroleum Act and Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act
- Validation (Native Title) Act 1994 and Validation of Titles and Actions Amendment Act 1998

# Contact us: Freecall 1800 818 490

## Head Office

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