



Wet Tropics Rainforests Project 12.1:

**Indigenous co-management
and biodiversity protection**

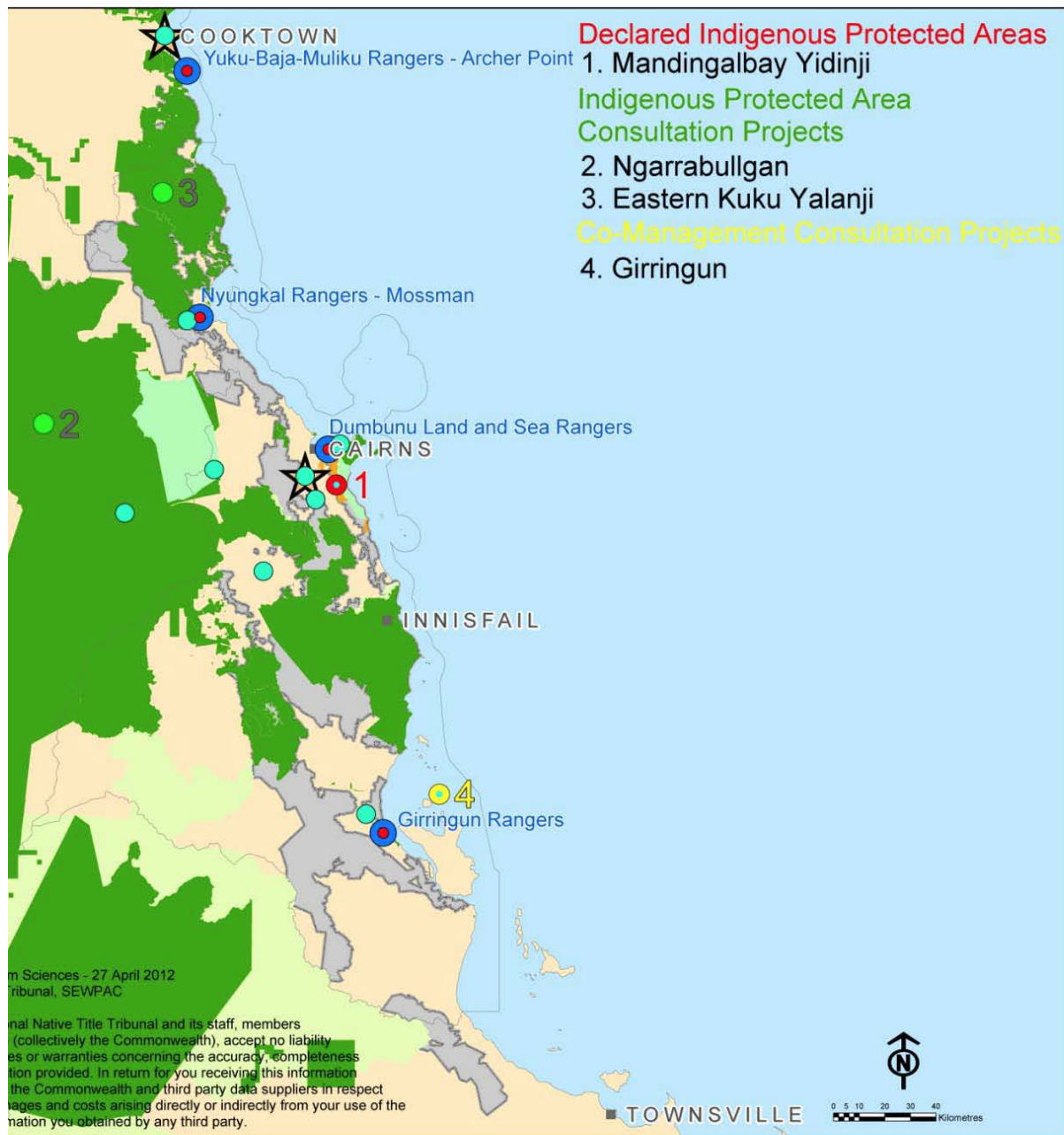
Implementing Indigenous Engagement Principles:

***working in co-research mode
to generate knowledge and achieve practical
sustainable outcome***



THE WORK

- Brings management institutions and Traditional Owners together as a collaborative co-research team
- Shares knowledges and explores different views of managing country
- Looks at how management arrangements can better recognise traditional knowledge, culture and practices, and progress stronger (co- / collaborative / joint) management of conservation areas
 - Understand institutions, opportunities and structural barriers
 - Identify and bridge gaps
 - Provide input into policy options and management practice.





RESULTS

Part One: Institutional analysis (Maclean et al. 2012)

- Institutions as the formal and informal arrangements, rules, regulations and social norms that shape behaviour
 - International, national, state, regional, local
 - Regulatory vs non-regulatory
- The extent to which each institution considers the rights, values and roles of Aboriginal people in environmental management
- ◆ *Identified significant barriers exist to equitable engagement*



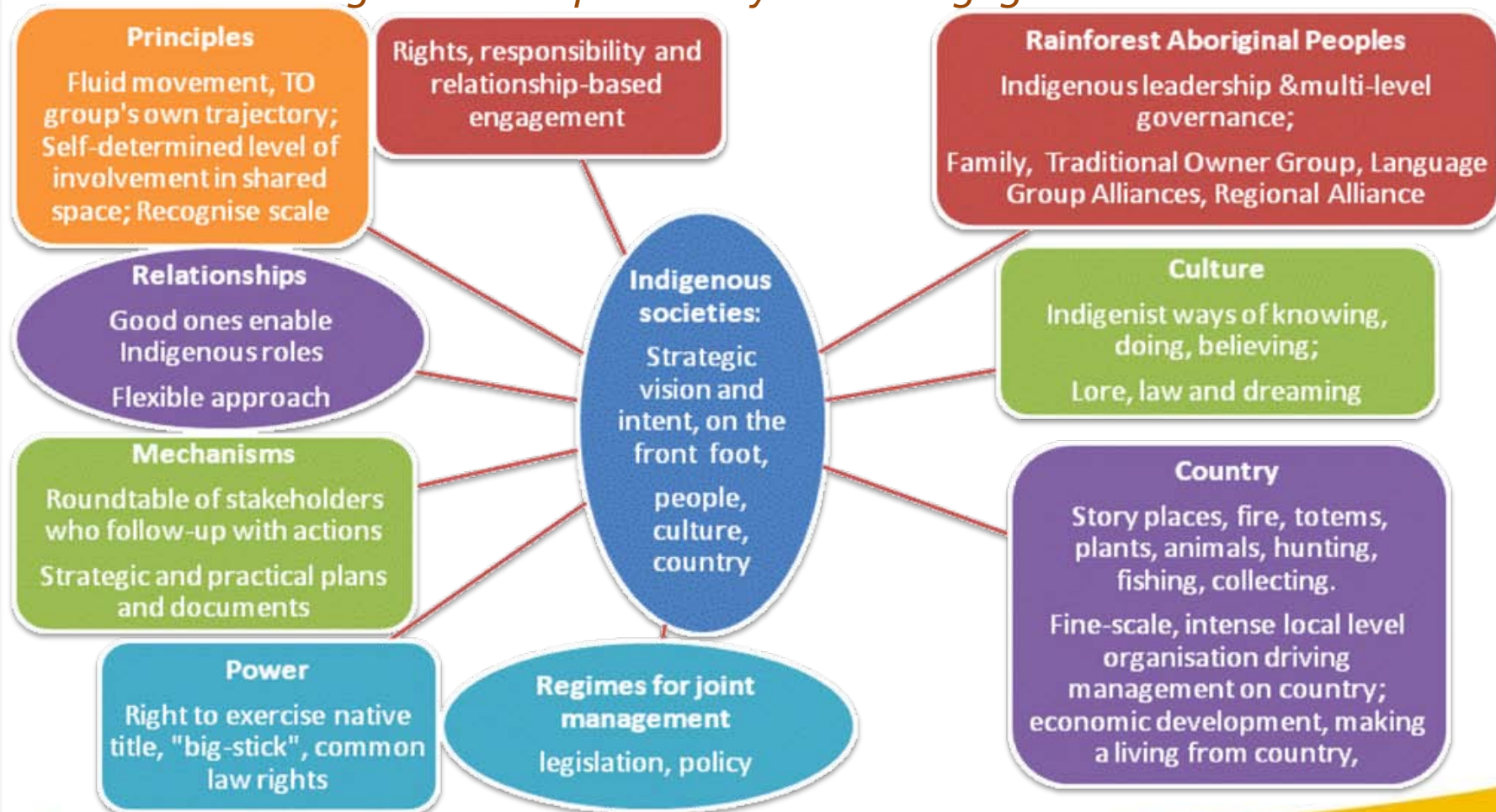
Level	Regulatory/ Non-regulatory	Organisations	Rights (native title)	Cultural Values	Roles in Biodiversity Management
Global	1 regulatory 5 non-regulatory	Four United Nations organisations	2 no, 4 yes	6 yes	1 no, 5 yes
National	3 regulatory, 1 non-regulatory	3 Australian Government organisations	4 yes	4 yes	2 yes, 2 no
State (Queensland)	11 regulatory 1 non-regulatory	Multiple State agencies	12 yes	8 yes, 3 no, 1 unclear	6 yes, 4 no, 2 unclear
Regional	5 regulatory 11 non-regulatory	Diverse government, non-government, Indigenous organisations	14 yes, 1 no, 1 unclear	14 yes, 2 no (both regulatory)	15 yes, 1 no (regulatory)
Local	2 regulatory, 3 non-regulatory	Diverse government, non-government, Indigenous organisations	5 yes	4 yes, 1 site-specific	4 yes, 1 site-specific



RESULTS

Part Two: Looked at Indigenous views of co-management

a process of Indigenous societies' strategic leadership and rights and responsibility-based engagement

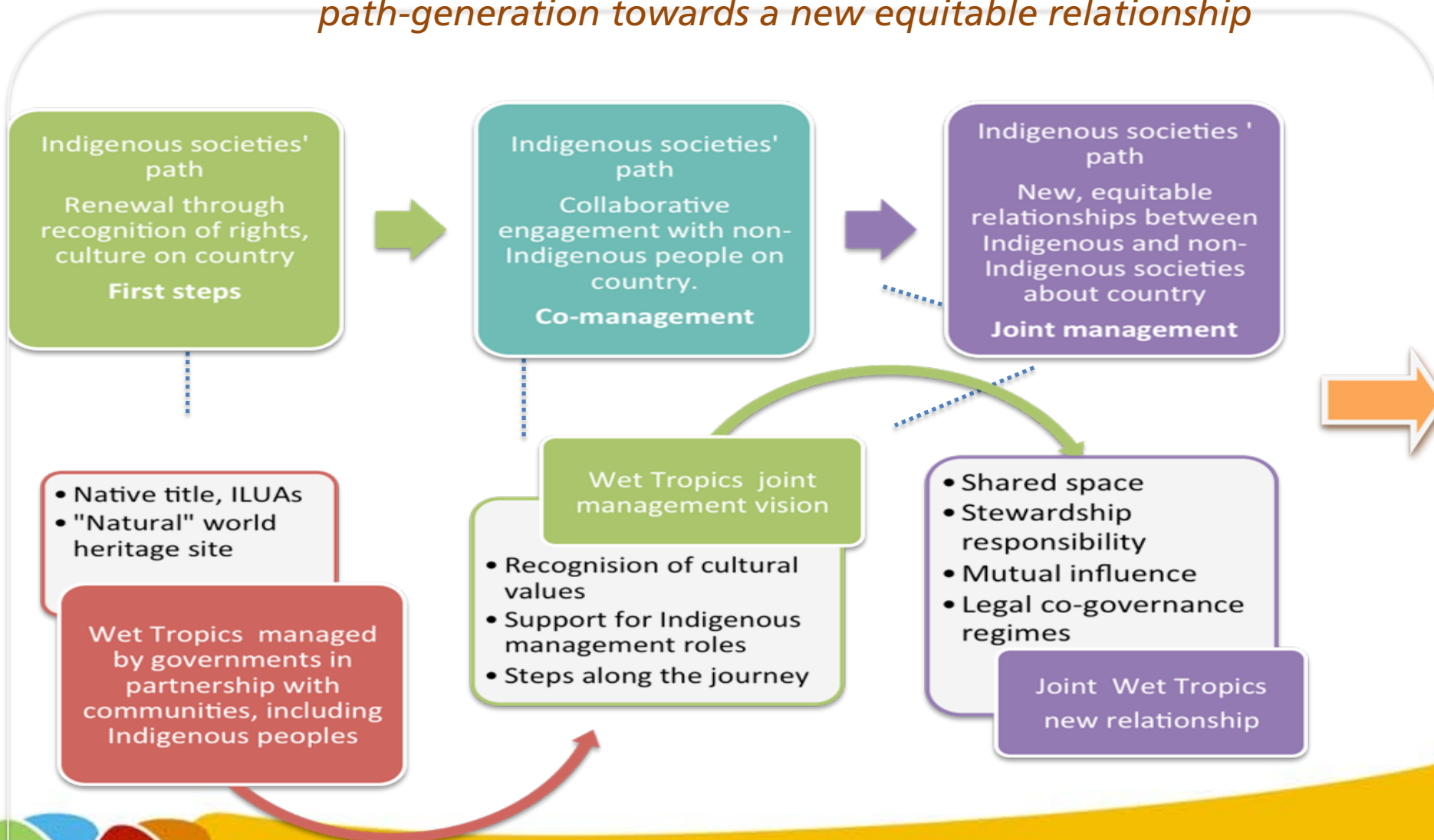




RESULTS

Part Three: Joint Workshop

Indigenous co-management as a process of emergent path-generation towards a new equitable relationship





APPLICATION OF WORK

Rainforest Aboriginal people, government agencies and community organisations in the Wet Tropics region using the outcomes of this research to strengthen their collaboration in ensuring effective sustainable management of these landscapes.....

The principles emerging from the research will likely to be relevant throughout Australia.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Participatory evaluation of current status of Indigenous engagement in the wet tropics against the frameworks
- Identifying gaps between aspirations and current levels of engagement and policy options to bridge these
- Policy and mechanisms for engaging Indigenous knowledge and values for effective joint management



National Environmental
Research Program

TROPICAL ECOSYSTEMS *hub*



Jabalbina



The Central Wet Tropics Institute for
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THANK YOU



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