**Indigenous** Focus Day 2019

first nations MEDIA AUSTRALIA

Shaping Our DIGITAL FUTURES

Apurte Akaltye-antheme learning together

27 June ALICE SPRINGS

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ACCAN
Australian Communications
Consumer Action Network

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# MC, Welcome to Country and Minister Welcome


*MC and Facilitator*
*Christine Ross*


*Welcome to Country*
Kumalie Riley


*Video Welcome*
Minister Lauren Moss
NT Minister for Corporate and
Information Services

# Snapshot of the Day

- 90 participants
- 14 presentations
- 4 workshop sessions on:
  - Local Strategies
  - Regional/State Solutions
  - National Solutions
  - Action Plan
- Technology Showcase

# Some key themes

- Remote Indigenous people and communities remain the most digitally excluded group in Australia, but limited data

- Indigenous Digital inclusion is key to Closing the Gap on inequity

- 4 key obstacles to digital inclusion:
  - **Availability/access** to infrastructure and facilities;
  - **Affordability,** including to access online government services, banking, education etc;
  - **Awareness**- digital literacy skills and tools to address cyber-safety, security, racism;
  - **Appropriateness-** of training, online content, language support.

- NBN Skymuster and Mobile Black Spots program have improved access, but more is needed to address other obstacles

- The Australian Government's proposed Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan needs to be a funded program, needs co-design/delivery

# *Welcome Address*
## Victor Weetra, FNMA Board



- Digital inclusion is a human right (UN 2016)
- Previous IFDs have proposed Indigenous digital inclusion be a Closing the Gap target and outlined a 6 point digital inclusion plan
- Where there is good connectivity our people are eager to take up such access
- The digital gap is growing; as services go online many of our people do not have access
- We need to think big for our digital future

# *Keynote Address*
## Senator Malarndirri McCarthy



- Remote communities need digital access, to connect with family, access services, tell our stories

- We need cyber-safety awareness to protect our children from online abuse and inappropriate use

- First Nations Media plays an important role in telling our stories, educating, empowering, addressing injustice, countering discrimination and negative messages

- Our stories matter. We can lead the tone of debate in this country

## *Setting the Scene*
### Daniel Featherstone, FNMA

- Remote access has improved through NBN Skymuster, Mobile Black Spots program and other initiatives; more needed to close the digital gap

- 2017- Proposed Indigenous digital inclusion as a Closing the Gap target - IRCA &17 signatory orgs urged COAG, outlined a 6-part program

- 2018- Regional Telecommunications Review- FNMA & B4BA submissions

- 2019- Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan - Australian Government commitment to a Plan but no program/budget

- 2019- Closing the Gap Refresh- Coalition of Peaks working with COAG; FNMA proposed Communications /Digital Inclusion as a CTG target

- 2019- New Zealand Digital Inclusion Action Plan with a Maori focus a template for Australia

# *Indigenous Digital Inclusion*
Andrea Kelly | Assistant Secretary,
Dept of Prime Minister & Cabinet



- The Government has committed $220m over 3 years to a Regional Connectivity program ($60m) and continuing Mobile Black Spots program ($160m)

- DPMC/NIAA Broadcasting & Communications Program is working on the Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan

- We want to listen to what is needed in remote Australia and co-design the model, not duplicate existing work

- Office of e-Safety have developed a culturally appropriate digital literacy app

- DPMC maintaining 245 remote community phones with WiFi

# *Digital Story Telling from NE Arnhemland*

Sebastian Wanambi, Tolbert Dharramanba, Ross Dhapuwuruy & Oscar Dhurrikayu
ARDS | inDigiMOB





- inDigiMOB project is training and supporting Yolngu art workers, rangers and community member to record stories, culture and languge using digital story telling, e-books and audio recording

- These men work as arts workers and digital mentors in their communities through inDigiMOB, supported by Ben Ward from ARDS

- Sebastian (from Milingimbi) does video editing and records songs and stories for broadcast on Yolngu radio.

- Tolbert, Ross and Oscar (Ramingining) are making videos about artists, doing a language recording project and creating podcasts

# Black Tank Outstation Mobile Phone Hotspot
Pamela Lynch, Veronica Lynch | Digital Access Mentors
Apmwerre Outstation | inDigiMOB



- Veronica and Pamela's homeland is Black Black Tank Outstation, 3 hours NE of Alice Springs

- A Centre for Appropriate Technology Mobile Hotspot was installed in 2018, which enabled basic mobile use

- Shared public phone is known as 'the office'

- Communications access should be a human right; Good to have basic access but still difficult

# *Phones, Internet and You*
## Una Lawrence |
## Australian Communications Consumer Action Network



- ACCAN has been involved with IFD since 2013

- Government response to RTR- agreed to:
  - $160M on 2 rounds of mobile blackspot program;
  - $60M on regional connectivity program;
  - $4m (over 2yrs) to develop digital technical hubs

- NBN affordability is an issue - 5.4M premises are connected to NBN; over 4M more have availability but have not connected

# The App: Ara Winki 1
**Gina Nyarapai Lyons** | Ara Irititja
**Warren Smith** | InyerPocket

- Gina and Warren demonstrated the Ara Winki app and video
- App has five sections – Bush Foods, Art and Craft, Land Rights, Land Care and Learning
- Anangu can add new content to the app
- App is language rich and visual, each image has language recording and transcription
- Enables public access to some Ara Irititja database content
- Can work offline on mobile, ipads etc

## *Google Fight Club*
**Leigh Harris** | Ingeous Design Studios





- Significant issue in communities due to prevalence of violent content and inappropriate online sharing

- Social media platforms (such as Google's YouTube) should ban uploading and sharing of unsanctioned fight videos from their platforms

- Proposed the establishment of a First Nations Technology Council Australia to coordinate First Nations digital industry, codes and programs

- We need to be in control of our digital networks in our communities

# *Indigemoji Project*
Graham Wilfred Jnr | Indigemoji



- This project led to over 50 Indigenous specific emojis being developed by young people on Arrernte country

- App for mobile or iPads in development

- Graham was the lead artist and graphic designer

- Previously Google rejected adding the Aboriginal flag as an emoji as they said not a lot of people would use it

# *Thriving in a Digital World*
## Mark Sulikowski | Telstra



- Telstra working to reduce improper selling practices

- Working to improve access, affordability and ability

- Digital Inclusion Index shows access gaps narrowing every year

- $8bn investment in infrastructure over past 5 years, including in APY lands and NT communities

- Improved Telstra mobile plans and phones for remote/regional connectivity

- Proud of projects and collaborations - Deadly Digital Communities, inDigiMOB, IDX etc

## Shaping Our Digital Future
Pamela Lynch | inDigiMOB Tangentyere
Darelle McCormack | inDigiMOB Tangentyere



- inDigiMOB is helping people learn, access services, record family history and record their stories

- Darelle McCormack, Trucking Yards town camp - just started with inDigiMOB, made a few short videos

- Pamela Lynch, Larapinta Valley town camp - Commutes into town to work as digital mentor, help people learn

- Showed a number of short videos of different projects around town camps

# *Deadly Digital Communities*
**Louise Hunter** | State Library of QLD



- DDC is Partnership with Telstra and Queensland Regional Councils to address digital inclusion gap

- Running in 6 communities, 4 more planned

- Local champions in each community become digital leaders/mentors to fellow community members

- Training tailored to community interests

- Challenges including connectivity, cultural considerations, demonstrating impact

- To date: 314 sessions, 494 participants, 213 sessions by local org

## ICTV – InLanguage
Graham Wilfred Jnr, Rita Cattoni & Vito Lucarelli
Indigenous Community Television

- ICTV inLanguage is an interactive media resource on ICTV Play streaming service

- inLanguage enables searching/ source of content via a language map interface

- Helps to share more language content and preserve and strengthen Indigenous languages

- ICTV Play got 32,117 views in one week

- A standalone TV portal is being developed for remote communities

## IDX Flint Program
### Grant Cameron | National Centre for Indigenous Excellence



- Indigenous Digital Excellence (IDX) started 5 years ago by NCIE and Telstra Foundation to unlock digital opportunities for First Peoples

- IDX Flint a program for schools/young people in remote & regional communities to spark interest, ideas and talent using:
  - robotics and 3D printing;
  - drones to capture images of country;
  - coding and developing apps.

- In community for a week, train the trainer model

# *My Language My Voice*
## Tai Williams, Amathea Mamarika, Adriana Mamarika & Katelyn Bara
Anindilyakwa | inDigiMOB



- Anindilyakwa Land Council's local staff across Groote Eylandt using digital tools for language preservation and education outcomes

- Showcased new animation project Language Matters (Anindilyakwa) – Counting in Numbers Project

- Digital technologies and drones are becoming cheaper and more user-friendly, improving what we can do

- Easier to make films- everyone has phones and can download and use an editing program

# Breakout 1- Local strategies

*Availability:*
- Local Digital Plans to determine community needs and interests
- Set up WiFi and community access facilities to expand community access

*Affordability:*
- Unmetered use of key online services ('whitelist' sites)
- Better pre-paid mobile plans and handsets for remote conditions
- Use IP telephony (WiFi Calling) & apps (eg WhatsApp) to reduce call costs

*Awareness:*
- More digital skills and cyber-safety training in schools and youth programs
- Digital mentors jobs for peer learning and support

*Appropriateness:*
- Local content sharing via WiFi, inc. archives
- Training and resources meet local cultural protocols (gender-based, kinship rules etc)

# Breakout 2- Regional/ state-wide Solutions

*Availability:*
- Targeted Mobile Blackspot Program, including small cells and hotspots
- Expand terrestrial services in cyclone affected areas
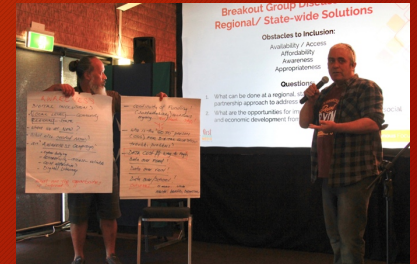- Need for improved emergency/SOS communications in remote areas

*Affordability:*
- Regional coordination to share costs/support using IP networks
- Promote use of existing local infrastructure (broadcast towers/ hubs)

*Awareness:*
- More State/Territory Govt investment in digital inclusion programs
- More support for First Nations content and services online

*Appropriateness:*
- More language-based resources and help-desk services, audiovisual/ icon-based interaction (less text)
- Codes needed for cultural respect, intellectual & cultural property rights

# Breakout 3- National Solutions

- Funded Indigenous Digital Inclusion Program needed to avoid divide growing (based on 6- part program on next slide)

- Establish First Nations Technology Council to develop First Nations digital industry, codes/resources for cyber-safety/security, coordinate programs

- Rollout of NBN Public Interest Premises (PIP) and WiFi as a safety net program, with increased speed/download, unmetered access to key services

- Targeted Mobile Blackspot Program for remote (limited market) sites

- MyGov needs overhaul to be user-friendly and accessible to remote people

- Public phones still needed under USG where no other phone services exist

- Longitudinal data needed, linked to Sustainable Development Goals; feed into Digital Inclusion Index

- Outback phone package with robust, easy use device and appropriate plans

# Action Plan: Digital Inclusion Program

**A six part digital inclusion program is needed:**

1. **Data collection** to measure access, availability, affordability and digital literacy.
2. **Improve availability-** Prioritised roll-out of broadband and mobile coverage to communities with limited access.
3. **Last-mile access-** Public Internet access through community-wide WiFi; community access computers.
4. **Affordable access-** Unmetered access to all key online services; affordable pre-paid mobile options.
5. **Digital Literacy**- Culturally and language appropriate skills program in remote communities, locally tailored to needs.
6. **Digital Mentors program** to provide local jobs and a peer-supported learning model.

# Govt IDI Plan – Key principles

Key Principles for developing an Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan should include:

- Co-creation and co-delivery
- Trust/ local engagement
- Place-based approach
- Build on what is working
- Continuity /recurrent programs
- Build capability
- Relevance/ motivation

- Job creation/ economic development
- Inclusiveness/ equity
- Involvement in decision making
- Partnership approach
- Culturally appropriate delivery
- ICIP rights/ data sovereignty

# Thank You



Thank you to all who attended and shared their experience and knowledge