



Knowing rights, knowing country using Indigenous research methodologies

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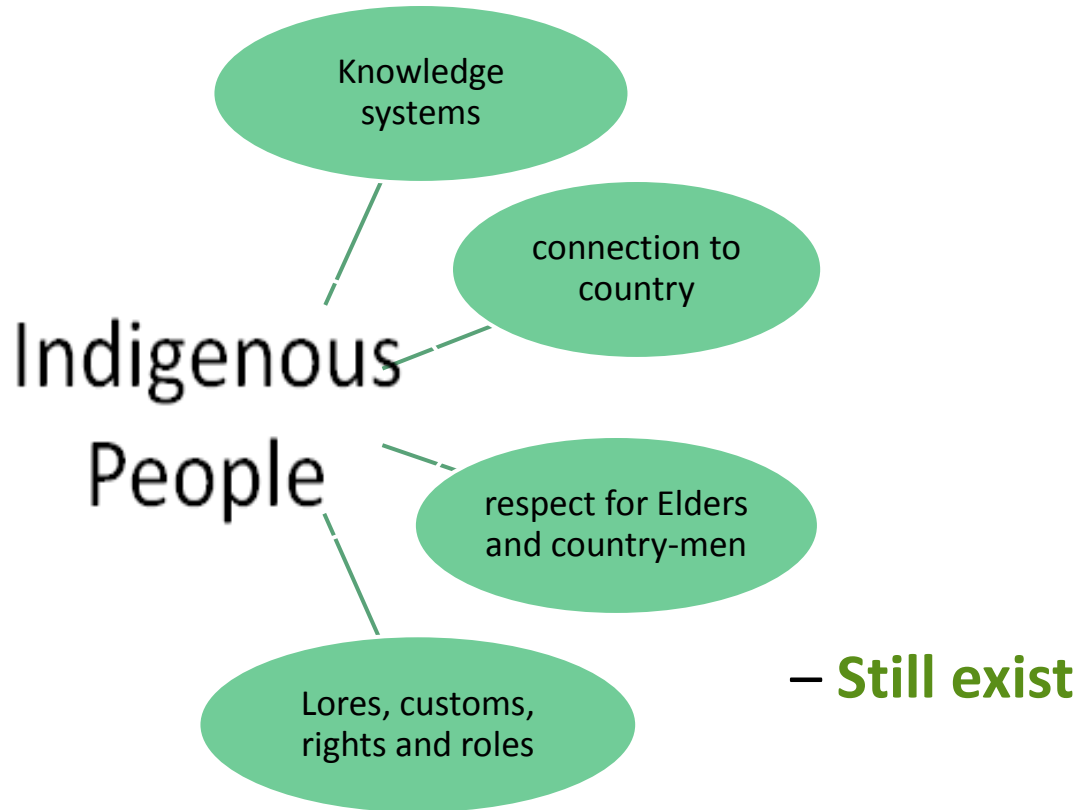
Presentation Outline

- What we do know
- Research context
- What we need more of
- Linking Research and Country
- Indigenous Research Approach
- Summary – The Journey so far – Reflections



What we do know

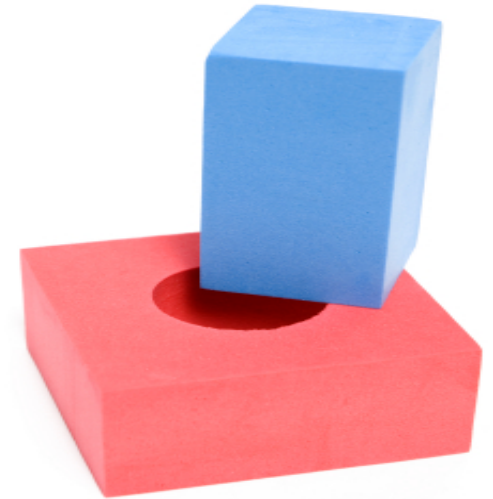
- Research – happens on country and with Indigenous People



- Identity as a ‘People’ – **strong**

What we also know

- Indigenous Governance arrangements – **exist**
 - Indigenous ‘traditional’ governance
 - Indigenous ‘organisational’ governance
- Caring for our country – **exist**
 - Sustainable Environmental Management
 - Protected Area Management
- Self-determination – **for ourselves**
- Empowerment – **of ourselves**



What we know ... in the Research Context

- *Interrelationship between Indigenous Governance and Indigenous knowledge is growing in recognition*
- Globally and Nationally
 - recognition is growing – Indigenous Peoples are Empowered
- Indigenous Governance
- Role of identity
- Role of culture
- Role of Caring for Country
- Deep impact from Colonisation
- **Decolonising the research**

The Gap

- The conditions under which Indigenous governance supports knowledge
- Indigenous research methodological enquiry into this topic



What we need more of In Research

- Applying our own ways . . .



- Decolonising the Research Space
- Build our own deeper understandings
 - When and why to engage with others
- Set the agenda and priorities
 - Central role
 - Be in the drivers seat !

Not in the passenger seat



Linking Research to Country

- The need to ‘think’ decolonisation !
- Rights and Role to Country
- Rights and Role to Knowledge
- Another Tool for the tool box –
 - Indigenous Research Methodologies

- Emerging ... From Indigenous People / Researchers – all over the world
 - Langton, Rigney, Martins, Nakata, Moreton-Robinson + others
 - international researchers – Linda Tuhiwai Smith, Margaret Kovach, Shawn Wilson



Research Project Summary

- Project –

Under what conditions is Indigenous knowledge recognised and supported by Indigenous governance in Protected Areas in Australia and Sweden?

- Wet Tropics World Heritage Area – IPAs
- Laponia World Heritage Area – north Sweden

- Research Approach –

- Indigenous research – Decolonisation – based on Worldviews / Epistemologies

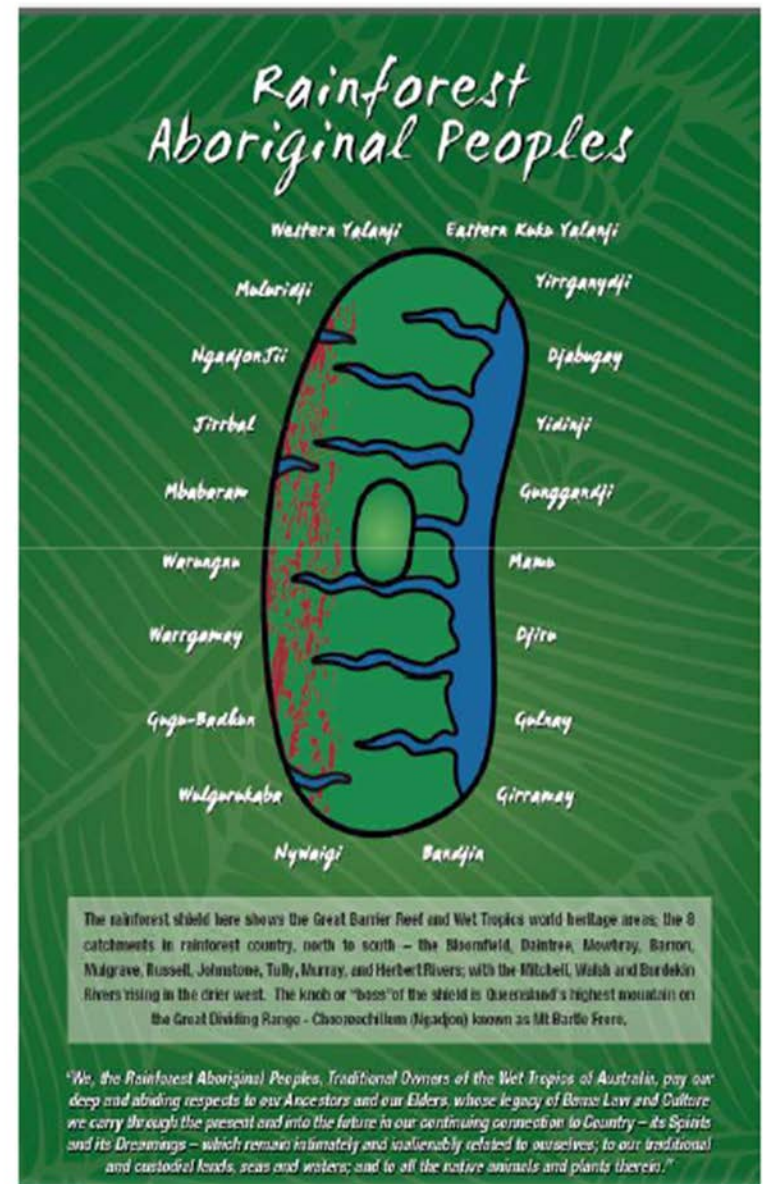
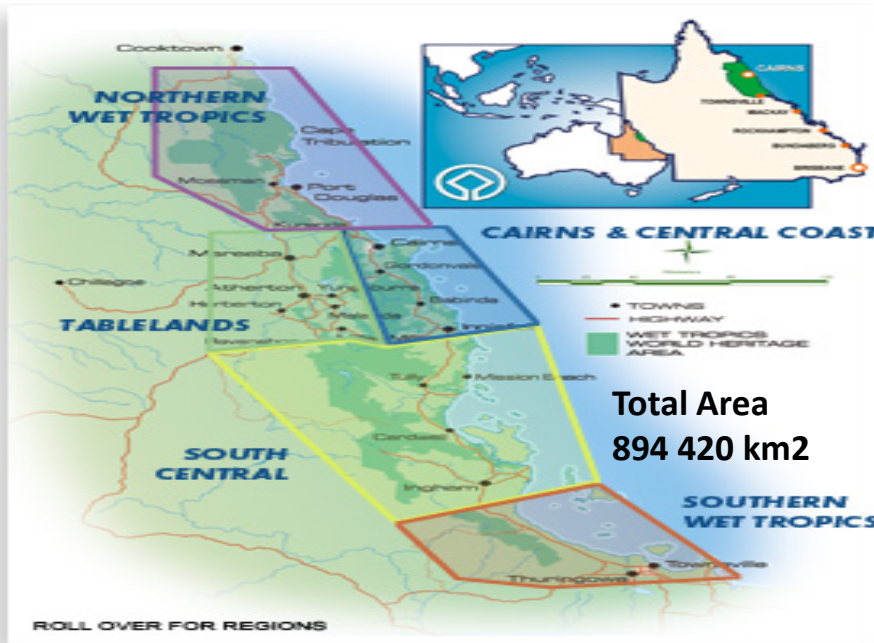
- Early Reflections –

- Community Governance – strong community unity
- Role and use of Traditional Knowledge – Indigenous control
- Engagement in Management – Indigenous direction



Location of the Study

- Australia
 - Wet Tropics World Heritage Area
 - Rainforest Aboriginal People
 - Multi-level – self governance identities
 - 3 Indigenous Protected Areas
 - National parks – ~ 85 % of WHA

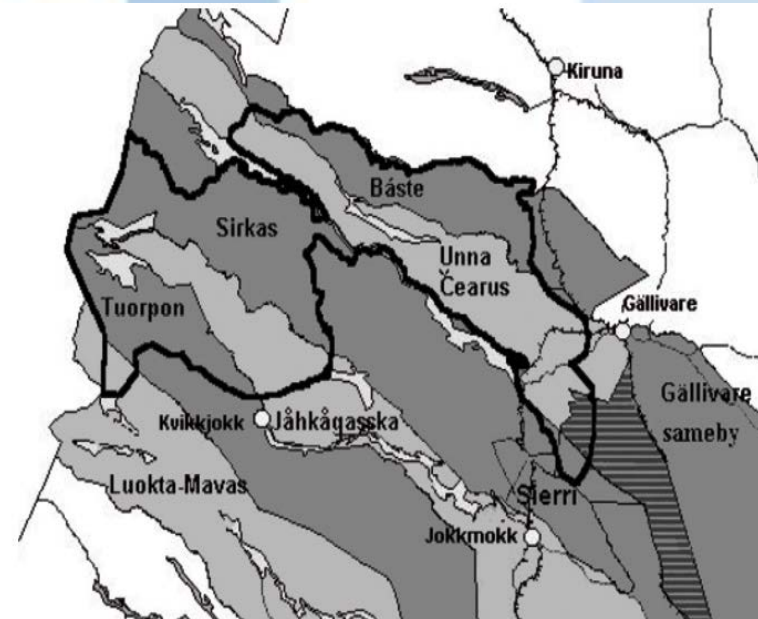


Thanks to Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples Alliance (RAPA)

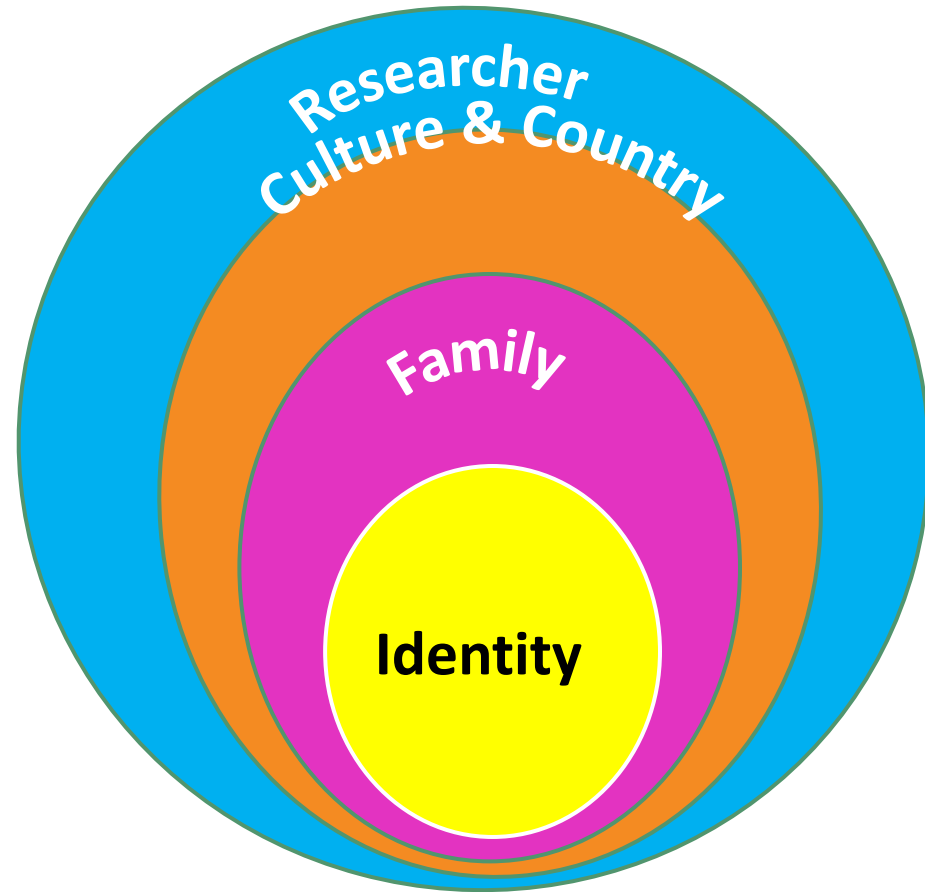
Location of the Study

- Sweden
 - Lapponia World Heritage Area
 - Emphasise on interactions between humankind and nature
 - Consists of 5 National Parks and 2 Nature Reserves
 - Indigenous Peoples – Sami – 6 groups
 - Various groupings associated with lands
 - Long history – in governance arrangements
 - Now – co-managed arrangements now exist – Sami jointly manage the WHA with the other governmental agencies

<http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:275592/FULLTEXT01.pdf>



An Indigenous Research Approach



The journey so far ...



Teaching next generations about country and use



Use of natural resources like Bush Tucker



Thanks to:

- Kuku Yalanji Elders and People
- Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples
- Sami Peoples
- CSIRO
- JCU
- My Family and friends



Thank you for listening ...
Any Questions ...

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