

Far West Aboriginal Enterprise Network



Desert Knowledge CRC
Core Project 3
Plants for People SA



The S.A. project in transition

- from investigation of *viable and sustainable remote communities* within DKCRC Theme 3, former Leader of Plants for People SA: Professor Brian Cheers
- ... to investigation of *small businesses in rural communities*, CP3, Leader: Dr Fay Rola-Rubzen of Curtin University in W.A.
- Far West Aboriginal Enterprise Network joint leadership of: Joan Gibbs and Syd Sparrow, University of South Australia
- Aboriginal research assistant is resident within the communities, Debra Fernando (pivotal to the success thus far)



The Steering Committee

- oversees the project
- is entirely Aboriginal people resident in the Far West of South Australia.



The Far West, S.A.

- Ceduna is 800+ kilometres west of Adelaide
- The largest regional town, with a District population of around 4,000 people
- The Aboriginal population makes up about 25% of the regional population
- The Far West has 3 major Aboriginal communities within its area, Ceduna, Yalata and Koonibba
- A number of the Aboriginal residents of the area speak English as second language



Far West Coast Aboriginal Enterprise Network -

Dinahline, Koonibba, Scotdesco, Bullinda, Yarilena, Yalata, Koongawa Dundee



- Hosted initially by the TWT CDEP
- Now with *Weena Mooga Gu Gudba* – Aboriginal Women's Centre
- Membership: seven Aboriginal businesses
- Individual and community memberships
- Aboriginal homelands
- Aboriginal Lands Trust lands



Communities



- Koonibba Aboriginal Community
- 35 km west of Ceduna, Eyre Highway
- 130 people (the largest)
- 5000 hectares
- half is under share farming
- New market gardens
- Native bush foods, remedies
- Bush nursery for sales

Ceduna Aboriginal Community

- Ceduna area school – trails
- Women's group
- Family groups
- Arts collectives
- Ceduna town camp
- Ceduna elders committee



The Homelands

Dinahline Community

- 10 km west of Ceduna
- 28 people
- Bush food production
- Selling to Outback Pride



Scotdesco Community

- 100 km west of Ceduna
- 40 residents
- CDEP youth farming bush food, cultural tours & medicines
- Needs water & power



The Individuals

- Massage therapy with plants
- Elders in all communities
- Youth groups in horticulture training
- Tourism graduates
- Resort development
- Internet café
- Artists



Local industries

Tourism

- Farming
- Grazing
- Fishing
- Park management
- Mining

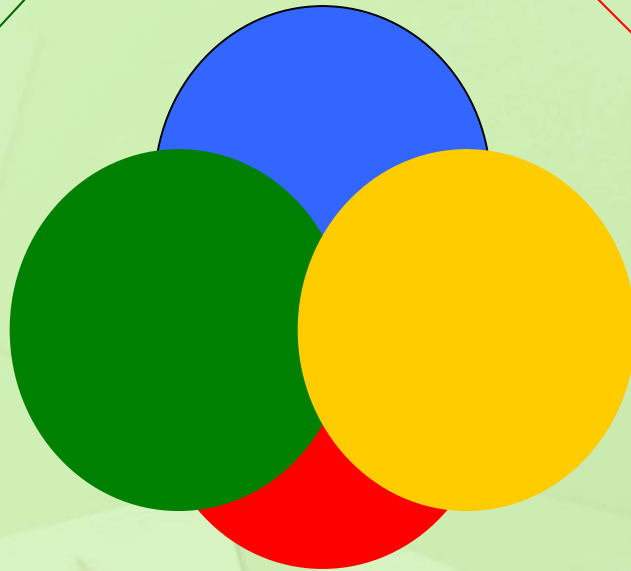


PLANTS 4 PEOPLE S.A.

FAR WEST COAST ABORIGINAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK



Koonibba



Scotdesco



Dinahline

Ceduna - The Network



Workshops ----- Outcomes

- Business planning
- TAFE horticulture
- Cultural exchange
- Investment strategy
- Improvement in self esteem
- Improvement in self confidence
- IP plant knowledge
- Production horticulture
- Mentorship's
- Healthy land, healthy people
- Openness to change unhealthy lifestyles
- Willingness to look for tools to improve self being

Collaborators & funding bodies

- Ceduna Aboriginal Elders Committee
- Ceduna town camp
- Local schools, Department of Education & Childrens Services
- First Australians Business (FAB)
- Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)
- Aboriginal Lands Trust (ALT)
- Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC)
- Outback Pride/Reedy Creek Nursery