

## SA Government Case Study One: Designing an Atlas of the Ngarrindjeri Nation

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### Background

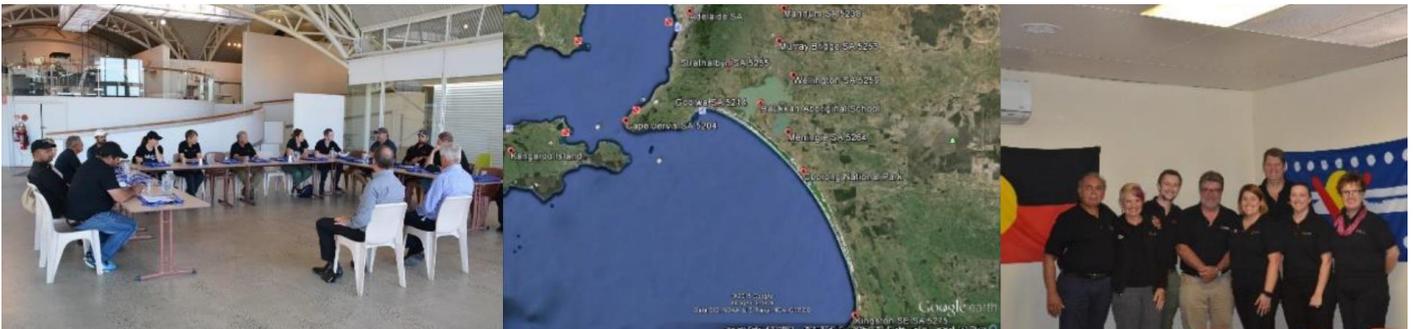
The Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority (NRA) is the peak Indigenous organisation in the Lower River Murray, Lakes and Coorong region of South Australia. The NRA represents more than 12 community organisations from a broad range of sectors, including community services, land care, traditional governance, eco-tourism and cultural education. Each community organisation had cultivated its own systems and assets, leading to unnecessary complexity and creating barriers to collaboration.

Sandra Russel joined seven other Jawun secondees (from the Department of Defence, BankSA, the Australian Tax Office, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank, the RAA) to create an aerial mapping tool or 'Atlas of the Ngarrindjeri Nation'. The Atlas would assist the NRA to better manage their country by combining government data sets (such as property values, water licenses, aquaculture permits, planning zones and mining applications) with their own community-driven data.

### Approach

As a first step, the secondee group established key relationships with senior Indigenous leaders to compile data on:

- Digital media, publications and events
- Physical assets and real estate
- Employee and employer obligations
- Corporate governance, audit advice and intellectual property
- Government funding in the region
- Financial information
- Organisational change management and WH&S review; and
- Information management.



### Outcomes

The Atlas was created in late 2015 and gives the NRA, for the first time, a central digital repository of its assets and systems. The Atlas has already improved collaborative asset management practices. It has also assisted member organisations to move from being passive economic participants, often missing out on growth opportunities, to active contributors working towards sustainable development in the region. For example:

- The Narrung Ferry has long been identified as a potential employment opportunity. Details surrounding the government tender to run the ferry service have been uploaded to the Atlas and preliminary scoping work has commenced.
- The collection of HR and WH&S policies across NRA member organisations has begun to standardise HR and WH&S policies to improve productivity and organisational mobility for staff and managers.
- Work has commenced on a central digital archive to consolidate provider costs and provide consistent information has

### Next Steps

The NRA aims to dive deeper into the secondees' recommendations generated by the information collected and displayed on the Atlas to achieve economies of scale, systems and assets consolidation, and review policies across member organisations.



For further information on Jawun Secondment opportunities in SA Government go to the [OPJ Jawun Website](https://www.opj.gov.au), phone 08 8303 2248, or e-mail [DPCOPSLeadership@sa.gov.au](mailto:DPCOPSLeadership@sa.gov.au)