The Use of Indigenous Knowledge in Climate Change

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Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity in India and
Australia Forum
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- Autonomous, impartial and independent

Indigenous Peoples & Climate Change

- Internationally UNFCCC and nationally climate change policy has been slow to recognise the important role
 - COP 13 in 2007
 - Domestically post 2000
- Main areas
 - Understanding and measuring climate change
 - Adaptation strategies
 - Mitigation strategies







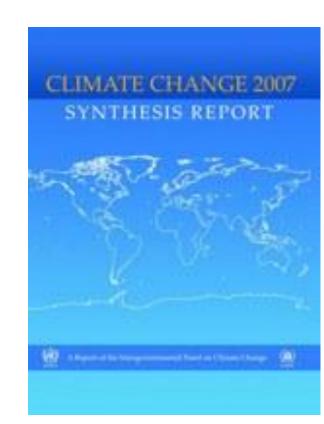
- Peak international scientific body on climate change
- Published four comprehensive Assessment Reports (ARs) - 1990, 1995, 2001 and 2007
- Fifth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2014
- Report generally regarded as authoritative





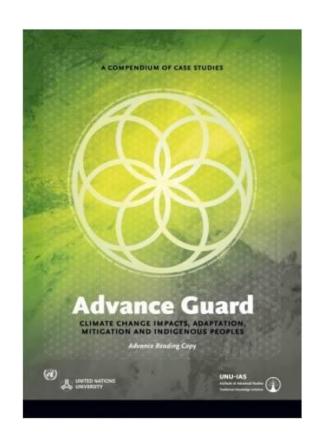


- AR4 noted that Indigenous knowledge is "an invaluable basis for developing adaptation and natural resource management strategies in response to environmental and other forms of change."
 - Inaccessible to the IPCC process mostly due to language barriers and the requirement that it be published in scientific journals



Climate Change

- A review of 1000+ projects, case studies and research relating to climate change and indigenous peoples
- Describes 400 of the best
- An analysis of the changes, local observations and impacts being felt by communities
- Outlines various adaptation and mitigation strategies that are being implemented



Adaptation

Mexico City July 2011

- TK as a foundation for decision-making
 - TK, TK and science, observations from IPs
- Resilience and Vulnerabilities
 - IP & Vulnerability, enhancing diversity, relationship with place, governance,
- Indigenous Livelihoods
 - Pastoralism, small islands, agriculture
- Adaptation planning and policy
 - Adaptive capacity, knowledge co-production, ICTs, data management
- Americas
- Polar regions
- Small island states



Mitigation



Cairns, March 2012

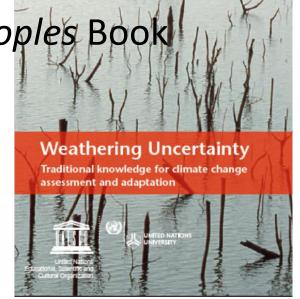
- Agriculture and Land Use Systems
- Livelihoods/culture
- REDD+ Mitigation
- Renewable Energies and Energy Supply
- Forestry
- Carbon Abatement
- Governance
- Mitigation for Sustainable Development

Observations

- Commonality of the challenges
 - Securing property rights
 - Raising awareness
 - Obtain informed decisions from communities –
 FPIC
 - Participating in state and national policy processes
- Australian indigenous people leading the way
- Opportunities to exchange knowledge and experiences

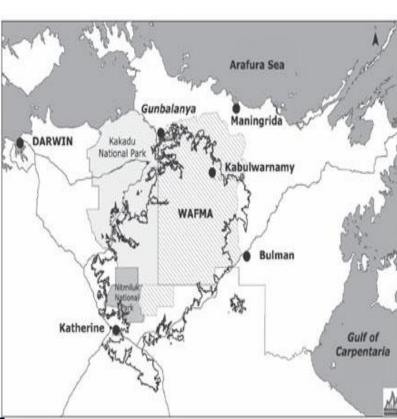
Outputs

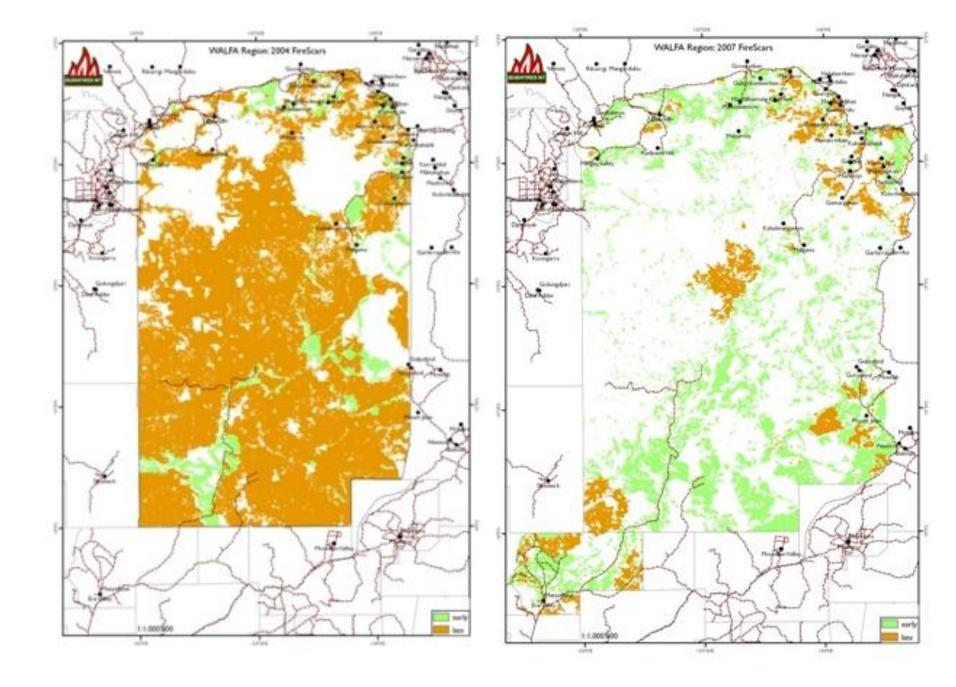
- Workshop Reports
- Technical Report
- Participating in the IPCC production process
- Special journal issue Climate and Development
- Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples Book
- Database
- Community materials
- Videos



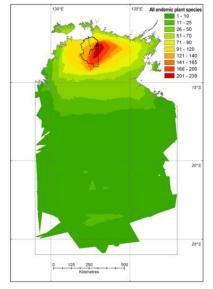
- West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Project
- Parties
 - Darwin Liquefied Natural Gas ('DLNG')
 - Northern Territory Government
 - Northern Land Council ('NLC')
 - TOs
- 24 August 2006
- NTG contract the NLC and TOs to implement the fire management strategy
- DLNG will provide about \$1 million per year for 17 years

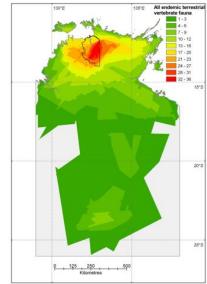


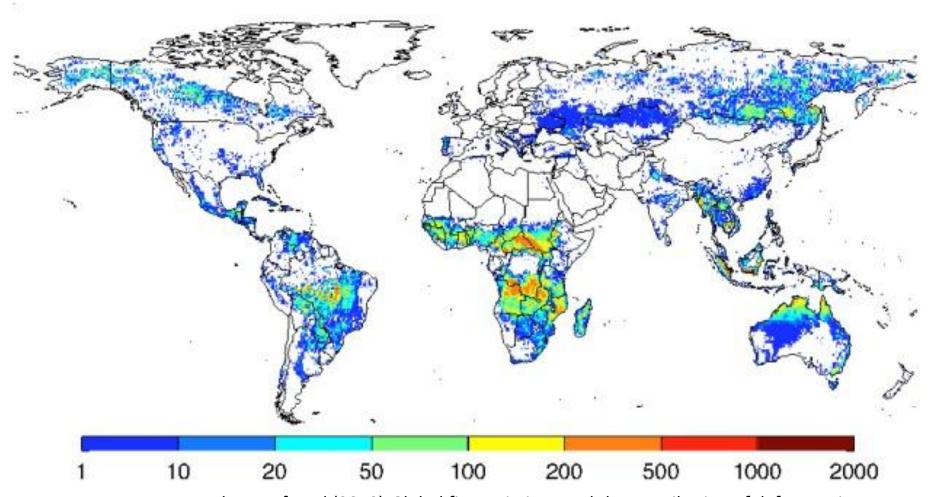




- Reduce carbon emissions by 140,000 tonnes per year
- Revive cultural heritage and landscape of global importance
- Maintain biodiversity
- Benefits for the community
 - Employment for the rangers
 - Transfer of TK between generations
 - Re-establish contact with traditional lands
 - Building English skills and crosscultural confidence essential to economic activities such as tourist enterprises
 - Improved health incomes

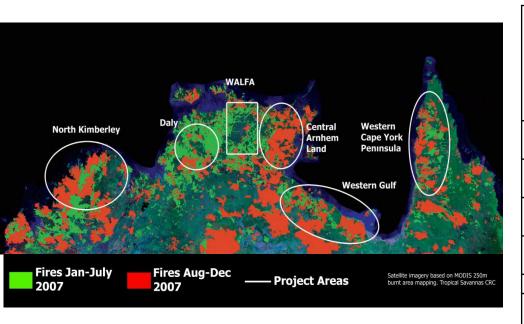






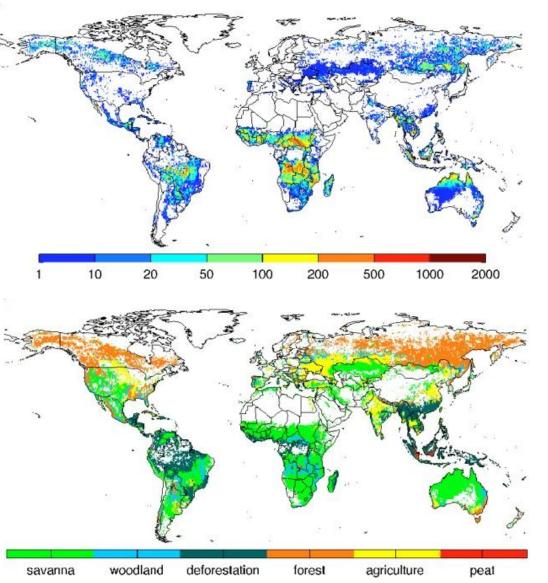
van der Werf et al (2010) Global fire emissions and the contribution of deforestation, savanna, forest, agricultural and peat fires (1997-2009) Atmos. Chem. Phys., 10, 11707-11735

- Estimated by CSIRO to have the potential to reduce emissions by 13 million tonnes per year
- Credits recognised in the Australian Carbon Farming Initiative and Clean Energy Legislation
- NAILSMA aims to produce 1m tonnes in the five regions
 - 200 new jobs



New	Area	Current	Possible Credit
Projects	(km2)	emission from	(ktCO ₂ -e pa)
		fires	through 25%
		(ktCO ₂ -e pa)	fire-
			management
			reduction
North	84,000	1,169	292
Kimberley			
Central	45,800	723	181
Arnhem			
Gulf of	70,900	667	167
Carpentaria			
Western	56,100	899	225
Cape York			
Daly/Wagait	43,700	592	85
Total	300,500	4,052	1,013

- CFI potentially allows for further created from:-
 - Extension of the savanna burning to lower rainfall regions
 - Develop methodology for bio-sequestration
 - Develop an agro-ecological methodology to combine better fire management and carbon incomes with pastoral production
 - Reduction of methane emissions from management of feral water buffalo
 - 5 million extra tonnes annually over the next 20 years
- Significant opportunities are beginning to occur with some regularity
 - Ichthys Project, the Northern Territory
 - Gorgon Project, Western Australia
 - South of Embley Project, Queensland
- Collectively these projects have committed more than \$200 million to offsets of various types.



Mean annual fire carbon emissions (gCm-2year-1), averaged over 1997-2009

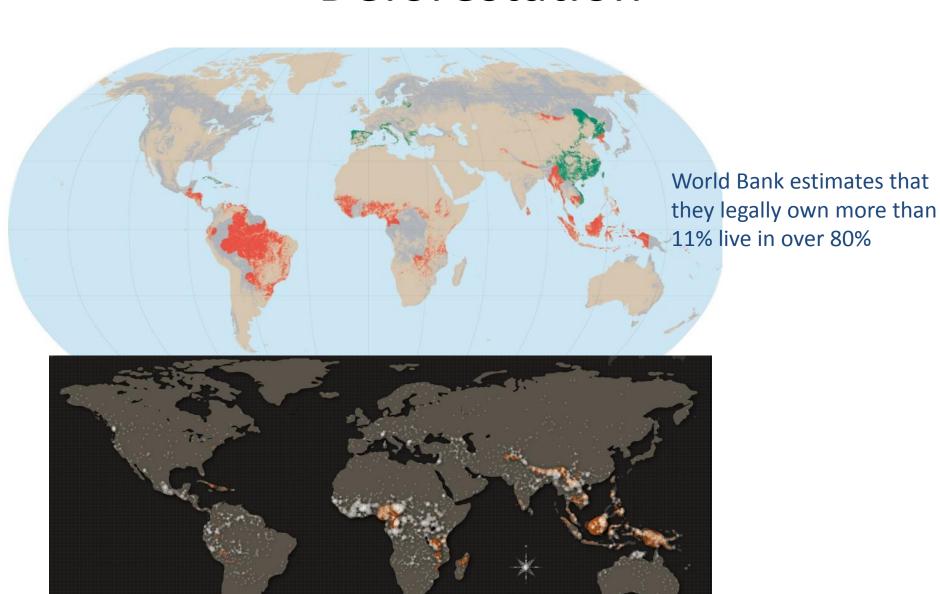


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REDD+

- Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries
- The IPCC (2007) noted that reducing deforestation is the mitigation option with the largest and most immediate carbon stock impact in the short term per hectare and per year globally
- Could contribute as much as 6Gt CO₂e or 1/3 of the needed abatement between now and 2020
- Cost €9 tCO₂e
 - More than energy efficiency but less than CCS on power plants (€40-55) or solar (€37)

Deforestation



REDD+ Projects

- Bilateral programmes, FCPF, UN-REDD, FIP, GEF, ITTO-REDDES, CBFF, Amazon Fund, Private sector, Philanthropy
 - Total available about \$5bn
 - climatefundsupdate.org
 - reddpluspartnership.org
- Indonesia and PNG are both heavily involved in developing REDD+ projects
 - enormous tropical forests that are eligible
 - "epicentre" for REDD-plus activities
 - participate in the major international aid schemes





Opportunities for Indigenous Peoples

- The WALFA experience has important lessons
 - linkages between western management methodologies and TK
 - social, cultural and governance benchmarks
- Developing an international platform for raising awareness and exchanging experience
- Verifying that these credits are robust from a social, cultural and community governance perspective will be significantly influenced by the WALFA experience