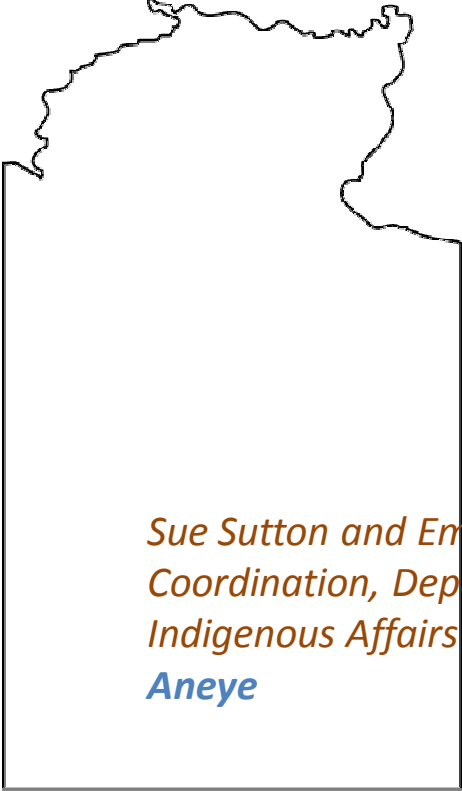


# The process for the whole of government : evaluation of the Northern Territory Emergency Response

– aka –

‘The Intervention’



*Sue Sutton and Emma Vanian, Office of Indigenous Policy  
Coordination, Department of Families Housing Community Services and  
Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA). **Ampe Anwernekenheke: Rlterrke Akwete  
Aneye***

This presentation will look at the 'whole of government' evaluation focusing in particular on community case studies.

It is hoped that this discussion can inform the evaluation process and encourage local people to be involved in the evaluation.

## Background

1 July 2007: **Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER)**

Commenced roll out of a number of 'measures' eg. income management, alcohol restrictions, child health checks, additional police

1 July 2009: **Closing the Gap in the Northern Territory National Partnership Agreement (CtG NT)**

- 3 years additional funding, some new measures
- aims to strengthen and consolidate existing investment made under the NTER through to 2012

1 July 2010: **Reinstatement of the Racial Discrimination Act**

## Objectives of the Intervention

- Improved safety and wellbeing of Indigenous children;
- Increased school engagement and performance; and
- Sustainable communities to support children, including education and employment pathways.

## OUTCOMES

NTER + Other influences + Time =



## Slide 5

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**FCSaIA1**

**shift the circle words around**

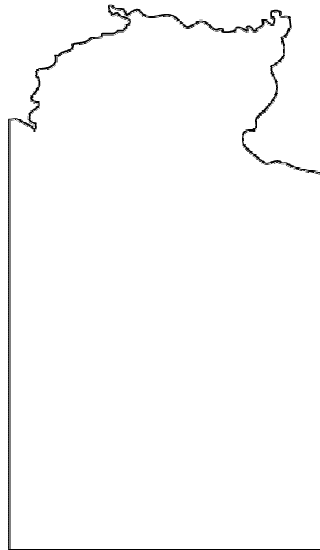
Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, 23/07/2010

## Whole of Government Evaluation

Investigate outcomes to establish if objectives have been met

### Measures

- Income management
- Alcohol restrictions
- Playgroups
- Parenting programs
- Additional teachers
- Additional police
- Child health services
- Community stores
- Night Patrols
- Legal services
- ....many more



## Whole of Government Evaluation

Investigate outcomes to establish if objectives have been met

### Measure

- Income management
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- Commonwealth Government
- Northern Territory Government
- Shire Councils
- Non government Organisations





## Whole of Government Evaluation

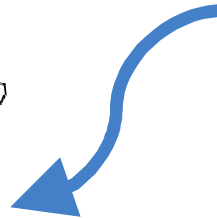
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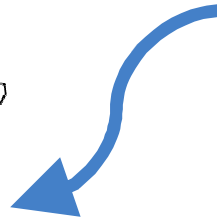
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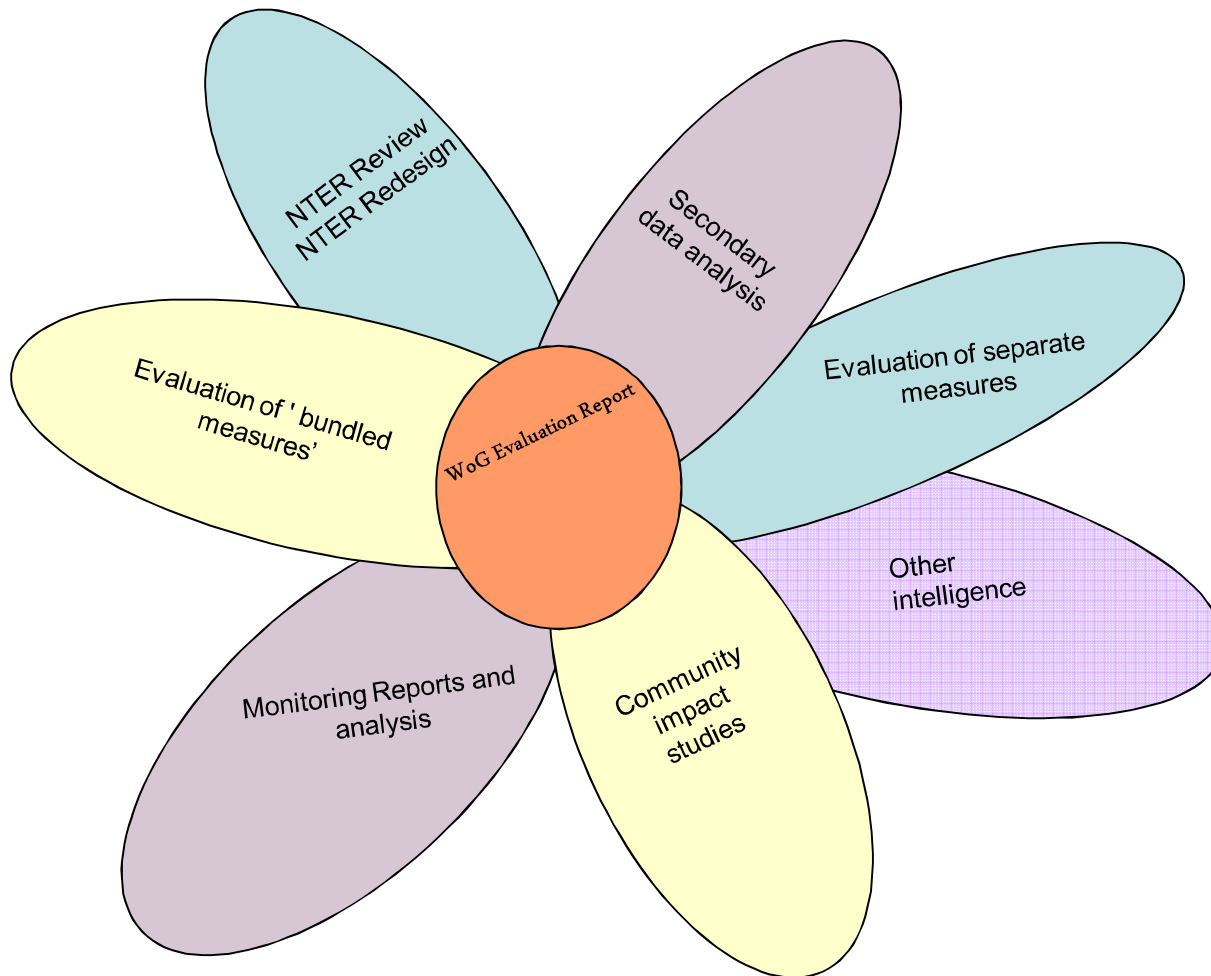
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# How ?



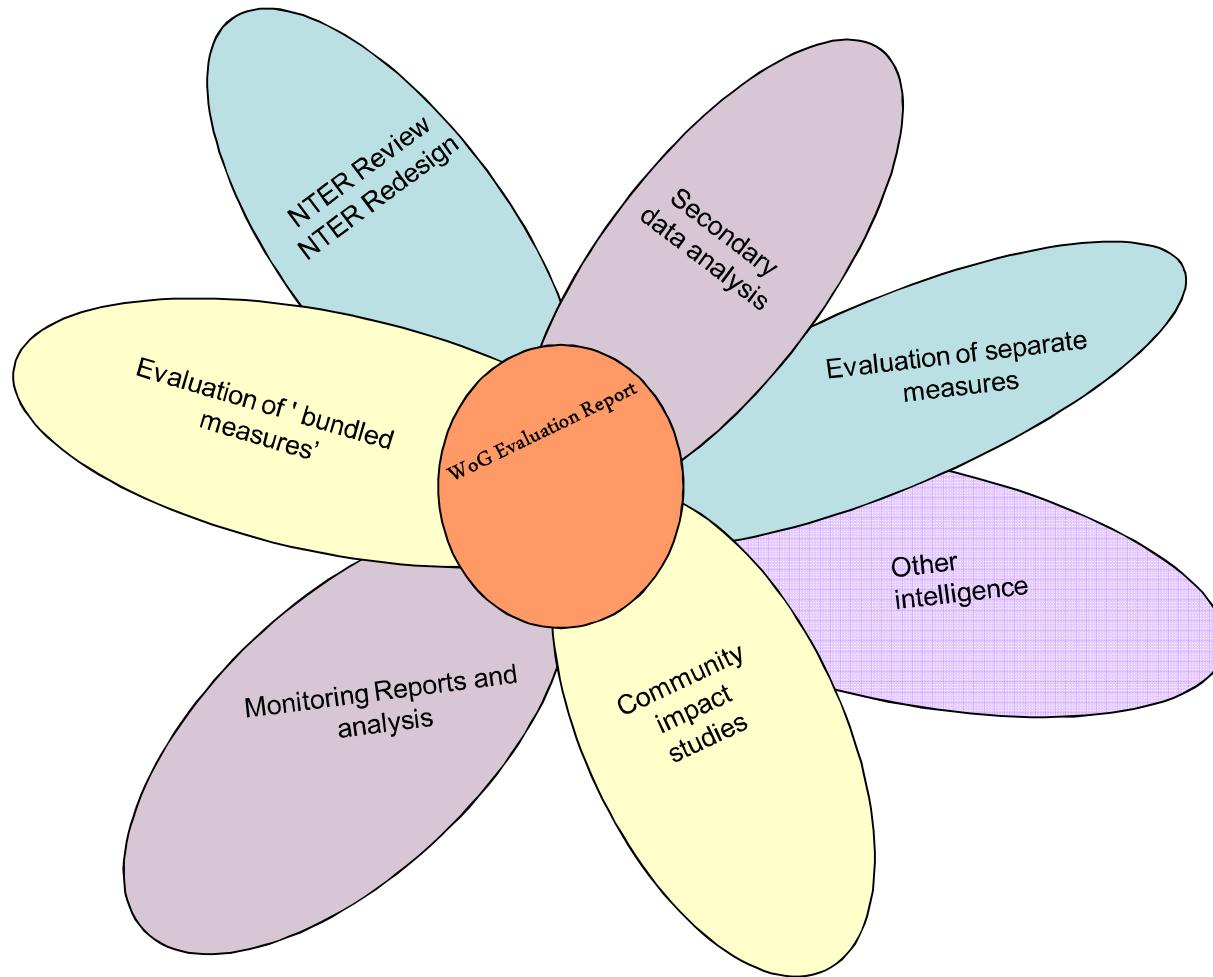
**Slide 10**

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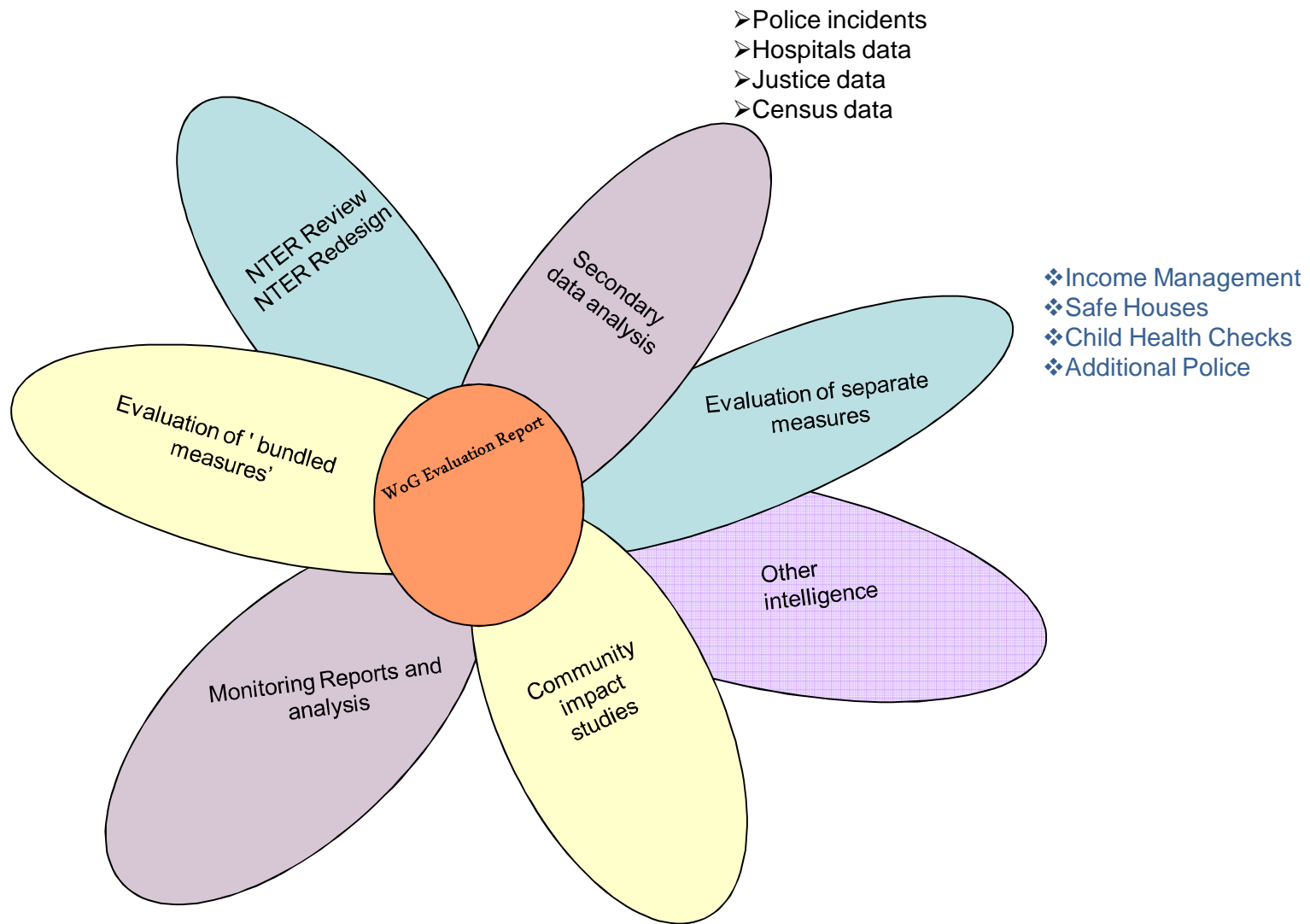
**FCSaIA2**

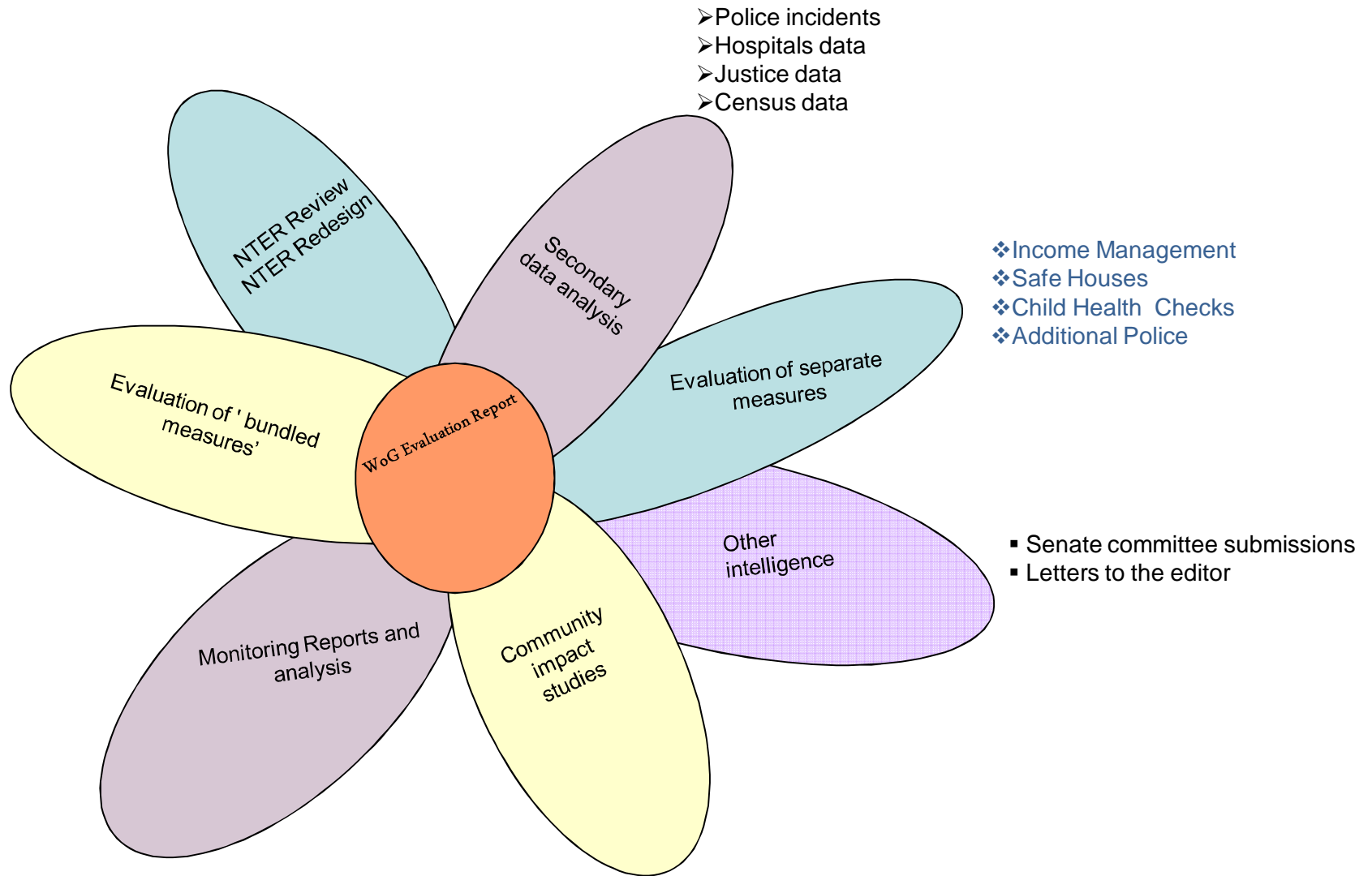
fade on How or keep with following slides

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, 23/07/2010



- ❖ Income Management
- ❖ Safe Houses
- ❖ Child Health Checks
- ❖ Additional Police





Alcohol restrictions  
+  
Income management  
+  
Community stores



NTER Review  
NTER Redesign

Secondary  
data analysis

- Police incidents
- Hospitals data
- Justice data
- Census data

Evaluation of 'bundled  
measures'

WoG Evaluation Report

Evaluation of separate  
measures

- ❖ Income Management
- ❖ Safe Houses
- ❖ Child Health Checks
- ❖ Additional Police

Monitoring Reports and  
analysis

Community  
impact  
studies

Other  
intelligence

- Senate committee submissions
- Letters to the editor



Alcohol restrictions  
+  
Income management  
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Community stores

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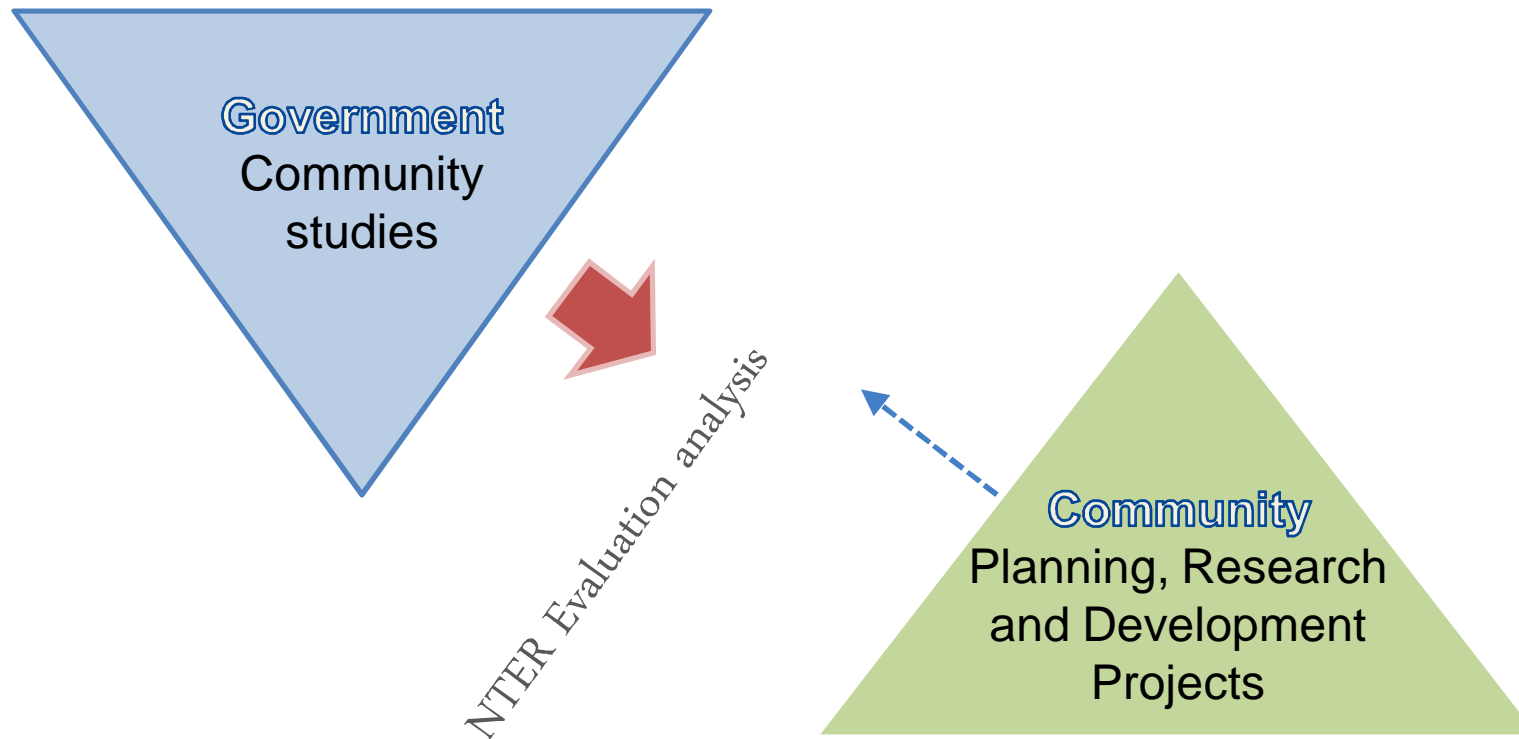
Monitoring Reports and  
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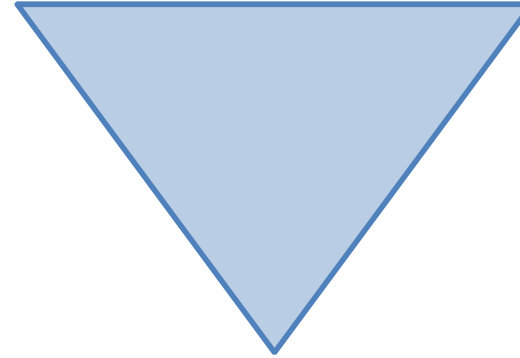
**Community  
impact  
studies**



## Community impact studies

Two different approaches





## **PRINCIPLES**

- 'person centred' approach - participatory style research
- light footprint
- long term assessment of change
- learning partnership
- systems focus

**Slide 17**

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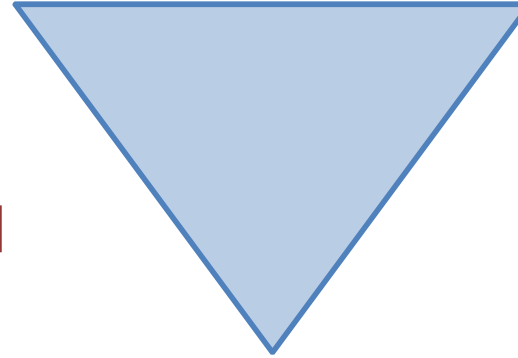
**FCSaIA3**

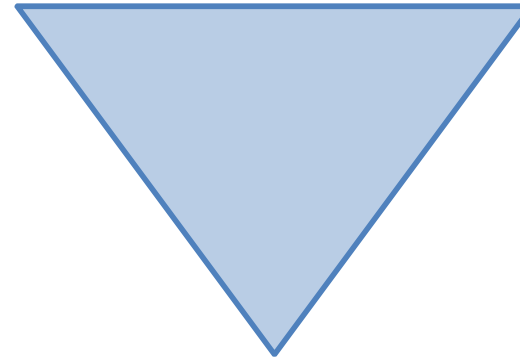
move this slide to 'X'

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, 23/07/2010

## Themes to be investigated

- Community safety
- Health and nutrition
- School readiness
- School outcomes
- Coordinated service delivery
- Resetting the relationship
- Foundations for investment





## Features

- Sample survey – 10 to 15 communities
- Focus on community safety and wellbeing
- Community survey – personal interviews
- Community based discussion – eg. most significant change technique
- Community analysis – back to the community

## Slide 19

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**FCSaIA4** Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, 23/07/2010

**FCSaIA5** move principle slide to here X  
Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, 23/07/2010

**Foster a cooperative approach with each community.**

**Consider capacity within the community to be involved as part of the survey team.**

**Confidential and ethical research.**



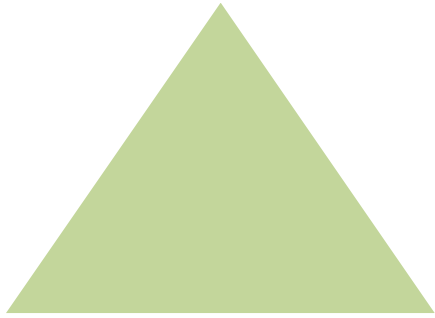


Community Planning, Research  
and  
Development Projects

**Resourcing and Supporting Local Community Priorities**



*... we have a sense of community and focus, we create trust and can help each other to achieve our goals.*



## CONTEXT

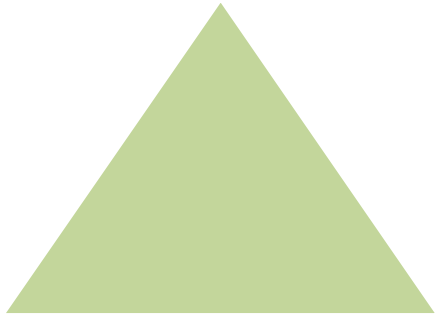
- Local based research provides a deeper understanding of the context where data is being collected.
- Involving local people strengthens feedback of results and future change back into communities.
- Developing a pool of skilled researchers can support ongoing evaluation and monitoring to answer inquiries into 'what works' and 'lessons learned'.



## Project aims

### In the **short term**:

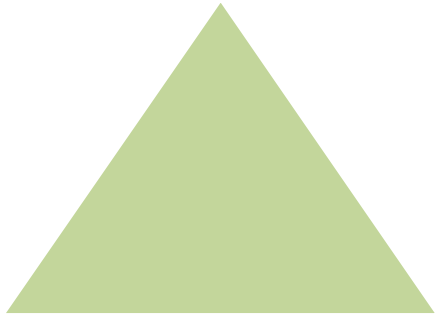
- train and mentor local Indigenous people in research skills
- develop and strengthen existing local research knowledge, skills and competencies.



## Project aims

### In the **longer term**:

- encourage communities to develop their own capacity to conduct research and evaluation
- promote greater involvement and control by local people in their own research delivery
- develop sustainable Indigenous research capacity on the ground.

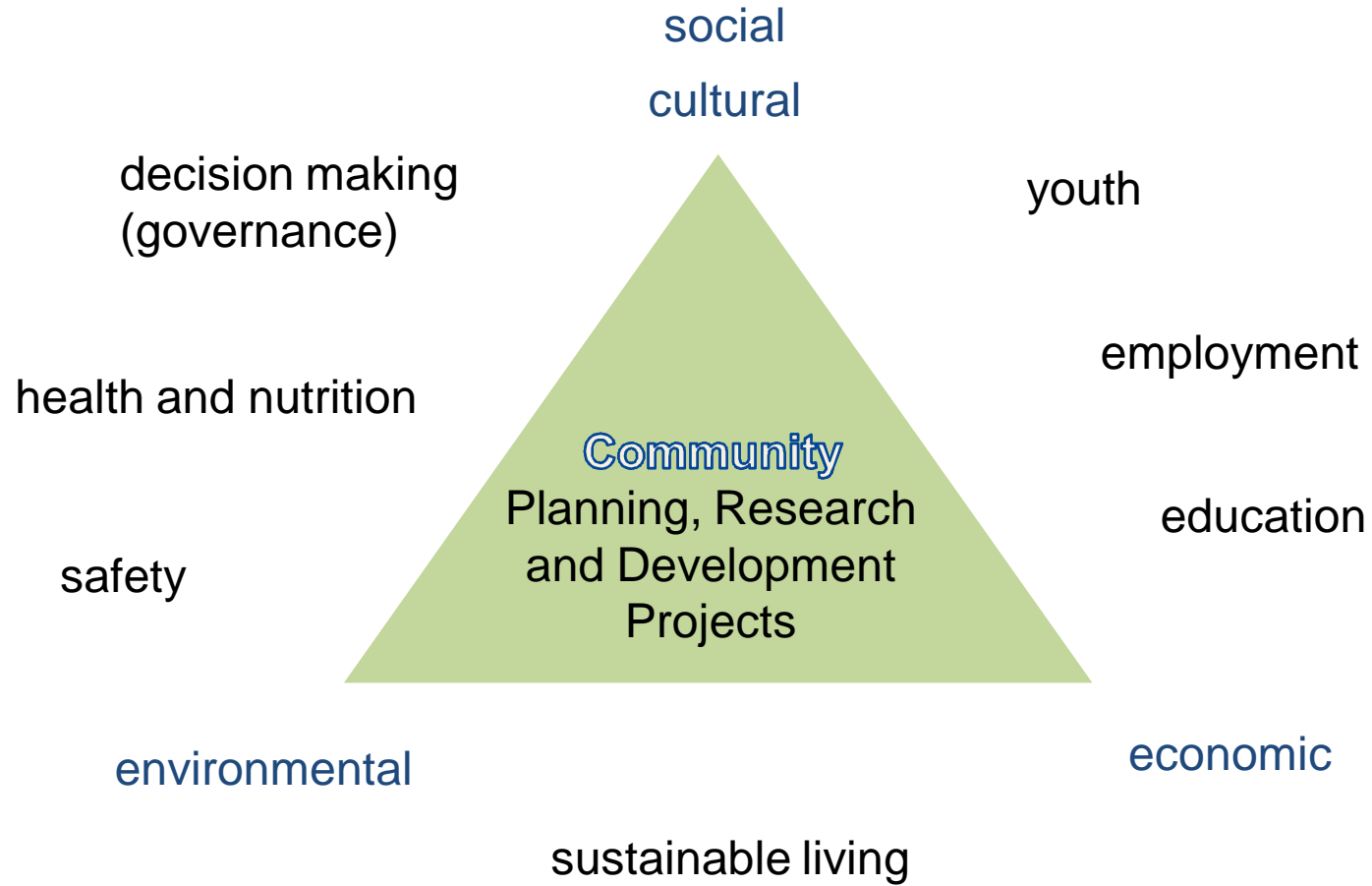


## Principles

Project proposals should:

- be developed by Indigenous people themselves (acknowledging that assistance may be required in some instances)
- operate under the broad principles of community development
- use participatory action research approaches
- integrate research training and mentoring into the research practice
- comply with relevant ethical research guidelines
- deliver quality research standards.

What sort of projects?



## **Guidelines and Expression of Interest**

Expressions of Interest are now being invited from Northern Territory (NT) and Remote Service Delivery (RSD) communities

[localresearchprojects@fahcsia.gov.au](mailto:localresearchprojects@fahcsia.gov.au)



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# Partnership

## A Journey not a Sprint



Funded by  
Australian Government Department of Families, Housing,  
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs