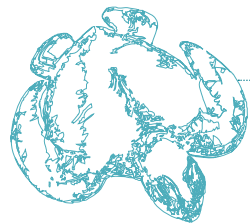


A large, light blue, stylized map of the Torres Strait region serves as the background for the cover. The map shows the islands and surrounding waters, with a prominent circular feature in the upper right and a large, irregular shape in the lower left. The text is overlaid on the left side of the map.

Torres Strait Regional Authority Annual Report 2009 - 2010





The TSRA will always make every effort to respect Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people's cultural sensitivities when featuring the images or names of people who have recently died.

However please be advised that this document may contain images of persons who have died after this Annual Report was tabled in Parliament in October 2010 and we offer our apologies for any distress caused if this occurs.

© Commonwealth of Australia

ISSN 1324 – 163X

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA). Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction rights should be directed to the TSRA, PO Box 261, Thursday Island, QLD 4875 or telephone (07) 4069 0700.

Letter of Transmittal



Australian Government

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY



The Hon. Jenny Macklin MP
Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

It is with pleasure that I present you with the Annual Report 2009 - 2010 of the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA).

This Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 144ZB of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* and Section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

This Annual Report contains the Report of Operations, Financial Statements, and the Auditor-General's Report on those Financial Statements in accordance with Section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, and the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2005 and the Finance Minister's Orders.

This Report of Operations is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors at the Board meeting held on 3 September 2010.

During the reporting period the TSRA Board and Administration successfully worked together towards closing the gap in Indigenous disadvantage for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait region, and look forward to building on our successes in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

John T. Kris
Chairperson
Torres Strait Regional Authority

6 September 2010

PO Box 261, THURSDAY ISLAND QLD 4875 Phone: (07) 40690700 Facsimile: (07) 40691879 Website: www.tsra.gov.au





Preface

Guide to reading TSRA's 2009 - 2010 Annual Report

This report provides details of the operations and performance of the Torres Strait Regional Authority for the reporting period of 1 July 2009 through to 30 June 2010.

It is a key accountability document to the Parliament of Australia and has been prepared in accordance with Section 144ZB of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* and Section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1977*.

Achievements and strategic summary

The Annual Report opens with a summary statement of the TSRA's achievements and strategic vision, found on the Highlights, Challenges and Opportunities page.

Strategic overview

The Chairperson's Report outlines activities and achievements by the elected Board Members (Directors) of the TSRA, and reflects on the successes of the reporting period.

The General Manager's Review outlines the performance and achievements of the TSRA's administrative arm and reports on key activities undertaken during the reporting period.

The TSRA Board section provides information about the TSRA's Board Members (Directors) including details about Board Meetings, Advisory Committees, additional Portfolio responsibilities, and individual biographies of each Board Member.

About the TSRA - Report of Operations

This chapter is broken into two sections: where we operate and how we operate.

Where we operate

This provides details about the TSRA's operating environment including the history of the region, and the regional map and statistics.

How we operate

The formation and all the enabling legislation and functions for the TSRA are found here. This section includes details about TSRA's corporate governance including corporate governance structure, boards and committees, identifying our stakeholders, enabling strategies and accountability processes. Human resources process and structures are also contained within this section.

Program reporting

This chapter is broken into three sections: how we deliver our programs, summary of performance and details about each program's performance.

How we deliver our programs

Because this is the first reporting year under the new program structure, this section provides a detailed overview about how and why the new program structure was developed.

Summary of performance

This section provides a summary about the achievements of the program goals and aims, and includes the TSRA's outcome statement and a table outlining expenditure of budget versus actual.

Details about our programs

Each of the seven programs is featured. This section focuses on individual programs and includes an overview, an expenditure table, a listing of program projects and achievements, a table outlining program progress towards reaching regional and Council of Australian Governments (COAG) targets, and a case study giving an example of a successful project. A regional map will be included with each case study showing where the activity for the case study was based.

Financial Statements

This section provides information about the TSRA's audited financial statements and the independent Audit Report.

Appendices

Within the Annual Report there are referrals to the Appendices. The appendices contain more detail on a range of information including Organisational Structure; Freedom of Information (FOI) contacts details; Details of Consultants; grants the TSRA has made during the year; advertising and market research details; a full staffing overview including Ministerial Appointments; and compliance with Australian Government Statutes and policies.

Compliance Index

TSRA as a Commonwealth Authority

TSRA as a Native Title Representative Body

These are located at the end of this document and enable readers to review TSRA's reporting against its specific legislative requirements as both a Commonwealth Authority and as a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB).

Additional information

To obtain more information please contact the Torres Strait Regional Authority,
PO Box 261, Thursday Island, Queensland 4875, on telephone (07) 4069 0700, toll free 1800 079 093,
facsimile (07) 4069 1879 or by email info@tsra.gov.au.





Contents

Letter of Transmittal.....	iii
Preface - Guide to reading TSRA's 2009 - 2010 Annual Report.....	iv
Our Vision.....	1
Highlights of 2009 - 2010.....	2
Opportunities and Challenges for 2010 - 2011.....	4

Section 1. Strategic Overview

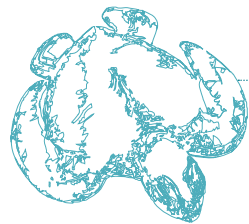
Chairperson's Report.....	8
General Manager's Review.....	13
TSRA Board of Directors.....	18

Section 2. About the TSRA: Report of Operations

Where We Operate	
Regional Overview.....	40
Map of Torres Strait Region.....	41
Data Used to Benchmark Progress Towards Closing the Gap.....	42
Regional Statistics.....	43
How We Operate	
Legislative Framework.....	46
Formation.....	46
Enabling Legislation.....	46
Functions.....	47
Powers.....	47
Minister for Indigenous Affairs.....	48
Judicial Decisions and Reviews.....	49
Corporate Governance and Accountability.....	50
Overview of Governance Structure.....	50
Diagram of TSRA Governance Framework.....	50
Boards and Committees.....	51
Enabling Functions.....	51
Information Management and Technology.....	51
Environmental Impact Management.....	51
Risk Management.....	51
Accountability.....	52
External Scrutiny.....	52
Freedom of Information Requests.....	52
Fraud Control.....	52
Internal Audit.....	52
Compliance Report.....	53
Indemnities and Insurance Premiums for Officers.....	53
Directors' Interests Policy.....	53

Human Resources	54
Overview.....	54
Commonwealth Disability Strategy.....	57
Section 3. Program Reporting	
How We Deliver Our Programs.....	60
Overview of TSRA's Program Structure.....	60
History.....	60
Why develop a new program and reporting structure.....	60
Diagram for Integrated Planning Framework.....	61
Implementation of the TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013.....	62
Structure of TSRA programs.....	62
Program Steering Committee.....	63
How We Performed.....	64
Planned Outcome Statement.....	65
Appropriation Program Expenditure 2009 - 2010 Budget as compared to Actual.....	65
Details About Our Programs.....	66
Culture, Art and Heritage.....	66
Economic Development.....	74
Environmental Management.....	80
Governance and Leadership.....	92
Healthy Communities.....	98
Native Title.....	106
Safe Communities.....	118
Section 4. Financial Statements.....	127
Section 5. Appendices	
Appendix 1: Organisational Structure.....	174
Appendix 2: Freedom of Information.....	176
Appendix 3: Advertising and Market Research.....	179
Appendix 4: Details of Grants.....	180
Appendix 5: Details of Consultants.....	184
Appendix 6: Compliance with Australian Government Statutes and policies.....	186
Appendix 7: Explanation of Program Budget Variance.....	187
Section 6.	
Glossary - Terms and Abbreviations.....	190
Index.....	192
Compliance Index	
TSRA - Commonwealth Authority.....	200
TSRA - Native Title Representative Body.....	209





Above: Warraber Island.

Our Vision

Empowering
our people,
in our decision,
in our culture,
for our future

Ngalpun yangu kaaba woeydhay, a ngalpun
muruygaw danalagan mabaygal kunakan
palayk, bathayngaka

Kala Lagau Ya

Buaigiz kelar obaiswerare, merbi mir apuge
mena obakedi, muige merbi areribi tonarge, ko
merbi keub kerkerem

Meriam Mir

Ngalpan moebaygal thoepoeriwoeyamoeyn,
ngalpan ya kuduthoeraynu, ngalpan igiliilmaypa,
sepa setha wara goeygil sey boey wagel

Kala Kawai Ya

The traditional people of the Torres Strait are of Melanesian origin and speak two distinct traditional languages. In the Eastern Islands the traditional language is Meriam Mir, whilst the Western and Central Island groups speak either Kala Lagau Ya or Kala Kawai Ya, which are dialects of the same language. Torres Strait Creole and English are also spoken.

Our vision is expressed in the languages of our region, recognising the importance and diversity of our culture and traditional languages.

Our vision signifies that the heart of our region is our people, with culture an important part of our lives both now and into the future. Empowering our people to contribute to, and make decisions regarding their future, ensures that our culture will remain strong and the future will be guided by the people who live in the region and understand and promote its unique characteristics.





Highlights of 2009 - 2010

We are committed - Revitalising our programs to deliver Regional priorities

- We successfully implemented our new program structure which is now proactively contributing towards measurable outcomes and benefits for communities in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area region.
- We have identified an additional program area to the original seven (Fisheries) and will implement this in 2010 - 2011.
- Our program and reporting model is being recognised as Best Practice and commended within Australia and internationally.

We are the TSRA - Engaging with our communities to build the future

- We coordinated and published in partnership with Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area communities and other key Queensland and Local Government agencies the visionary document called the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 (Regional Plan). This historic document is the first step towards a coordinated whole-of-government approach to help government agencies reach the goals as identified by our communities.
- Through our elected Board of Members and frequent community visits we have maintained close relationships with our communities resulting in the implementation of key programs and services such as various environmental management and employment initiatives including the Land and Sea Ranger program.
- We have successfully formed effective partnerships with other key agencies and subsequently facilitated the development of the draft Integrated Service Delivery Agreement which is the enabling document that will implement the whole-of-government approach to meeting the Regional Plan goal.

We are closing the gap - Improving the quality of life for our communities

- We successfully delivered essential environmental health infrastructure through the Major Infrastructure Program (MIP) for over twelve years, resulting in healthier communities with improved roads, drains, sewerage systems, reticulated water supplies and airstrips.
- We are recognising and implementing business strategies for economic development opportunities in the region such as the fisheries industry, tourism and implementing the revised Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) program which has increased the skills and employment capacity of people living in the region, resulting in a stronger economic base.

Raising our profile - Nationally and internationally promoting Torres Strait's critical issues

Climate change impacts

- Effective media promotion has increased national and international public awareness of climate change and rising sea levels.
- We hosted the Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water Senator the Hon. Penny Wong's visit to the region in May 2010 to launch the Torres Strait Climate Change Strategy and meet with impacted communities.
- The TSRA Chairperson Mr John T Kris presented an Intervention to the Ninth Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues highlighting the impact of rising sea levels.
- The TSRA Board Members made presentations about the real impact of the rising seas to various national and international conferences including the South Australian National Climate Change Summit, and the Turtle Symposium in Goa, India.

Developing successful partnerships

- We met with key decision makers in the Australian and Queensland Governments resulting in successful partnerships for joint initiatives such as the Major Infrastructure Program, climate change research, international border security and economic development initiatives.

Arts and culture

- The Gab Titui Cultural Centre successfully promoted a range of Torres Strait artists internationally (East West Centre in Honolulu, Hawaii), and nationally through exhibitions in the Queensland State Library and the National Museum of Australia.

Native title

- We actively promoted Native Title through the regional and national media.
- We provided support to Prescribed Bodies Corporate to manage existing Native Title.
- Our Native Title Office provided the closing documents and was awaiting Justice Finn's judgement for the landmark Regional Sea Claim.



Opportunities and Challenges for 2010 - 2011

Opportunities

Continuing to build on our programs and partnerships to improve service delivery and development in our communities

- Develop and refine TSRA's seven new programs and tracking benefits realisation reporting to ensure regional goals and COAG targets to "close the gap" are being met.
- Continue to effectively engage with communities in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area to maintain effectiveness of programs and identify areas for further improvement.
- Consolidate the whole-of-government approach to optimal service delivery with partner agencies throughout the region by building on last year's achievements and implementing the Integrated Service Delivery Agreement. This will also identify areas and opportunities that minimise service duplication across government.



Above: Sadies Beach, Thursday Island looking over to Prince of Wales Island.

Challenges

Ensuring our priorities stay top of mind

- Continue to raise both national and international awareness of our people, culture and region by securing commitment to action by stakeholders.
- Manage the delivery of both long term and short term outcomes and benefits to the region.
- Maintain a community centred approach to development.

Overcoming the remoteness of the Torres Strait region

- Ensure the challenges such as the cost of living and the international cross border burden are continually raised to both the Australian and Queensland Governments.

Building a sustainable economic development base for future generations

- Commit to progressing existing opportunities and identifying new areas where economic development can be implemented and sustained over generations.
- Ensure the protection and management of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Region's precious natural resources.
- Implement the CDEP program reforms.

We are committed to progressing existing opportunities and identifying new areas where economic development can be implemented and sustained over generations.





Section One:

Strategic

Overview





Chairperson's Report



I am very proud to present the Torres Strait Regional Authority's Annual Report 2009 - 2010 Report of Operations as per Section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

For sixteen years now the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) has been working with Torres Strait communities, Government and non-government partners to improve the quality of life and essential infrastructure for the region. Together we have realised significant achievements and I believe this is because of the commitment from all key stakeholders.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the TSRA Board Members, General Manager and the Administration for their dedication and effort over 2009 - 2010 in making progress on our priority issues and at the same time delivering important and tangible benefits and outcomes for the region.

Improving community engagement and understanding - TSRA Portfolio Members and TSRA Administration

Under TSRA's new program structure seven TSRA Board members took on additional Portfolio responsibilities. The Board Member's Portfolios are aligned with the new TSRA Programs and aim to provide the community interface between TSRA administration and community members.

The Portfolio Members (please refer to pages 18 - 36 for more detail) also represented the TSRA at regional, national and international conferences and forums in their areas, and through these activities contributed to raising public and government sector awareness of our region and the issues that impact on our daily lives.

Key issues facing the region were promoted such as climate change impacts, international cross border issues and economic development challenges and opportunities utilising resources available to the region.

Implementation of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029

In September 2009 I was proud to sign off on the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 in partnership with the other elected leaders of the region.

I would like to acknowledge the time, effort and dedication put in by Mayor Fred Gela of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, Mayor Pedro Stephen of the Torres Shire Council and Mayor Joseph Elu of the Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council to developing this Regional Plan that strategically focuses and links the aspirations and priorities of the Torres Strait to the COAG Building Blocks.

I would like to thank them for their continued commitment and enthusiasm to working in partnership with the TSRA to implement this historic and visionary document.

However this is only the beginning of a long journey to realise fully the goals and aims of this 20 year plan. We will be working in 2010 - 2011 to implement the Integrated Service Delivery Framework and through this will identify the synergies and overlaps across whole-of-government services.

Ninth Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

I was privileged to present two interventions at the Ninth Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues 19 - 30 April 2010, UN Headquarters, New York.

The interventions were about the Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim and Impacts of Climate Change on Torres Strait communities, and linked to the special theme of the Forum which was *Indigenous peoples: development with culture and identity; articles 3 and 32 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

The TSRA was included in the Australian delegation and it was a great opportunity to raise international awareness on issues impacting the Torres Strait.

Protected Zone Joint Authority and Fisheries

The Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) did not meet formally this year. The PZJA is chaired by the Hon. Tony Burke MP, Australian Government Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and consists of the Hon. Tim Mulherin MP, Queensland Government Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries, and myself. Nevertheless, significant achievements were made.



Above: Chairperson Mr John T Kris delivers the intervention on Climate Change Impacts to the United Nations Permanent Forum in April 2010.





Above: Ms Megan Davis and TSRA Chairperson Mr John T Kris at United Nations Permanent Forum April 2010. Ms Davis was elected as an expert member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and is the Director of the Indigenous Law Centre at the University of New South Wales.

The achievements in this important area included:

- The TSRA Board approval of a dedicated Fisheries Program commencing in July 2010, that will focus on improving the wealth of Torres Strait Islanders through fishing, increasing sustainable industries, improving access to capital and other financial opportunities, and ensuring the fishery is sustainably managed.
- Completion of two significant reports, *Review of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council's Freezer and Fishing Operation* (AEC Group 2010) and *draft Five Year Business Plan for Tropical Rock Lobster* (Marsden Jacobs Associates, 2010) that provide a framework to improve fisheries development and participation.
- Negotiation of opportunities for a further Tropical Rock Lobster licence buy-out in 2009 - 2010 to increase the Traditional Inhabitant Boat Licence (TIB) share of the Australian quota to 70% as a starting point.
- Research activities including bech-de-mer and tropical rock lobster reviews that concluded the fishery is in good health.
- Support of a significant investment in turtle and dugong research and monitoring including an assessment of the dugong sanctuary area, undertaken by Queensland Fisheries and Torres Strait rangers.
- A review of the Community Fisher Group (CFG) representation is underway to provide options for improvements to the current arrangements.

Ministerial visits, Senate Inquiries and Visiting Officials

Over the reporting period the TSRA hosted Australian and Queensland Government Ministerial delegations and meetings, as well as the House of Representatives Senate Inquiry into matters relating to the Torres Strait. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mr Mick Gooda of the Australian Human Rights Commission met with the TSRA in March 2010, and a delegation of government officials from Bangladesh also visited in January 2010 for the purpose of information sharing.

Ministerial visits to the region involving the TSRA included:

- May 2010: Australian Government Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water Senator the Hon. Penny Wong MP;
- March 2010 - House of Representatives Senate Inquiry into matters relating to the Torres Strait; and
- December 2009 - Queensland Premier the Hon. Anna Bligh MP, Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Minister the Hon. Desley Boyle MP, Minister for Community Services and Housing and Minister for Women the Hon. Karen Struthers MP and Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services Minister the Hon. Neil Roberts MP.

Additionally the TSRA met with various Queensland Government Ministers, including Minister the Hon. Desley Boyle MP. and Minister for Climate Change the Hon. Kate Jones MP. in February 2010.



Above: TSRA Chairperson Mr John T Kris (left) with Torres Shire Council Mayor Pedro Stephen (centre) and Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor Fred Gela in Cairns at the formal reception for former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in August 2009. Photo courtesy of Torres News.





Together we have realised significant achievements and I believe this is because of the commitment from all key stakeholders.

Throughout 2009 - 2010 the TSRA Board Portfolio Members and I have also had many discussions with various Government Ministers and senior officials as opportunities arose.

These meetings benefit the region through the TSRA developing stronger relationships with partner agencies and ensuring the region receives the necessary level of funding resources.

National Congress of Australia's First Peoples

The Interim National Executive of the Congress was announced on 2 May 2010 and I would like to congratulate the Co-Chairs Dr Kerry Arabena and Mr Sam Jefferies and part-time Members including Mr Ned David, Mr Klynton Wanganeen, Ms Josephine Bourne, Professor Peter Buckskin, Professor Colleen Hayward and Ms Daphne Yarram.

Membership of the Interim National Executive and the incorporation of the National Congress took place on 2 May 2010 and it is expected that the National Congress will be fully operational by January 2011.

In closing, on behalf of the TSRA Board I would like to welcome back the TSRA General Manager, Mr Wayne See Kee for his second term. Mr See Kee was re-appointed by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs the Hon. Jenny Macklin in June 2010. The Board and I are looking forward to working with Mr See Kee and his administration team to build on the successes we have already achieved together over the last five years.

My sincere thanks also go to TSRA's partner agencies together with Torres Strait Elders, Traditional Owners, Prescribed Bodies Corporate, Community Fisher Groups, community members and community organisations for their assistance with projects progressed during 2009 - 2010.

John T. Kris

Chairperson

General Manager's Review

Section One



I am pleased to report that 2009 - 2010 for the Torres Strait Regional Authority was another very successful year in realising and achieving goals for the region.

The administration team worked closely and effectively with the TSRA Board Members, Torres Strait communities and government agencies to deliver key programs and services that benefit Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the region.

The TSRA's seven new programs commenced on 1 July 2009, and after twelve months of transition and refinement I am pleased to report these are already demonstrating solid achievements against their benefits indicators which align to the COAG "Building Blocks" for Closing the Gap to overcome Indigenous disadvantage and the goals contained in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 (the Regional Plan).

Our achievements towards closing the gap for Indigenous disadvantage included:

- the successful implementation of the TSRA's new program structure, as well as the development and implementation of the TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013 (as required under Section 142D of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*);
- completion and launch of the Torres Strait community visionary document called the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029;
- working with regional partners towards implementing the Integrated Service Delivery Framework on behalf of all government agencies working in the Torres Strait;
- the Native Title Regional Sea Claim judgement announcement signalling completion of this long standing legal claim;
- stage one of the CDEP Reform for Torres Strait with implementation ready by the target date of 1 July 2010;
- high level strategic meetings between Australian and Queensland Government Ministers to maintain and improve partnerships for joint initiatives across the region; and
- promotion of key issues facing the Torres Strait such as climate change impacts and international cross border issues to national and international audiences through media and conferences and forums.

TSRA Development Plan 2009 - 2013 and implementation of new programs

Over twelve months of planning has resulted in the completion and implementation of the TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013 (the Development Plan). This document sets out the programs by which the TSRA will contribute to achieving the goals of the Regional Plan and is also aligned to the COAG "Building Blocks" for Closing the Gap.

One of the biggest challenges from an administration and reporting perspective was changing from an output reporting structure to an outcomes and benefits reporting arrangement.





Above: Mr Wayne See Kee with former TSRA Governance and Leadership Program Manager Mr Brendan O'Connor, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mr Mick Gooda of the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC), and AHRC Director, Social Justice Unit, Ms Katie Kiss.

We were also excited to be able to align each of the new TSRA programs to the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 goals, and now have clearly specified aims, outcomes and benefits, and performance measures that contribute to communities in a relevant and meaningful way (please see the Program Reporting chapter on pages 60 - 63 for more details).

Community meetings throughout the Torres Strait are expected to commence in July 2010 to explain the new TSRA program structure and formally introduce the recently published TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013 and Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029.

Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029

As mentioned in the Chairperson's Report the 20 Year visionary document called the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 (the Regional Plan) was formally presented and endorsed.

Administratively the TSRA is looking forward to working with our Board of Members to ensure the TSRA programs deliver the goals as expressed in the Regional Plan.

The Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP has reviewed the Regional Plan and expressed her support, and positive feedback has also been received from her Queensland Government counterpart the Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Partnerships the Hon. Desley Boyle MP.

Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim

At the time of writing this report Justice Finn had announced his intention to hand down his judgement for the Regional Sea Claim in the Federal Court in Cairns. This judgement represents the culmination of a nine year process, and the Regional Sea Claim Applicants are hoping that their "one society" based claim will be recognised.

Integrated Service Delivery Framework

The Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) Framework is the enabling mechanism for the whole-of-government approach to maximising synergies and decreasing duplication in the areas of service delivery for the Torres Strait region as expressed in the Regional Plan.

At the strategic level, we have continued to work with the TSRA Chairperson and key Queensland and Local Government agencies to develop the framework for ISD. Part of this process is to gain agreement from all involved parties to deliver against the goals as contained in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029. Work has commenced on the draft of the delivery framework and identified templates that will be used to guide the drafting of a regional agreement in 2010 - 2011.

Torres Strait CDEP Reform

The Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) Program Reform stage one implementation is scheduled to commence in the Torres Strait on 1 July 2010. Community information sessions were held to explain the changes and answer any concerns or questions prior to stage one of the CDEP Reform changes with Torres Strait community CDEP participants.



Above: Jensen Pearson (left) and Emanuel Harry (right) at the CDEP Reform meeting on Warraber Island in June 2010.





The achievements of 2009 - 2010 are a result of a team approach, hard work, commitment and a clear vision set by the TSRA Board on how we can contribute to making a difference.

The CDEP Reform will align Torres Strait CDEP with others on the Australian mainland and is expected to benefit participants through increased focus on training, up-skilling and actively working towards transitioning unemployed people into jobs that suit their skills and areas of interest.

Stage two of the Reforms is scheduled to roll-out from 1 July 2011, with community consultations for this stage commencing in April 2011.

Australian Public Service Reforms (Blueprint)

On 8 May 2010, the Australian Government released its position towards the "Ahead of the Game: Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration" (the Blueprint) and accepted all 28 recommendations presented by an Advisory Group chaired by Secretary for Prime Minister and Cabinet, Mr Terry Moran.

There will be nine reforms implemented across four key focus areas. These focus areas will be:

- Meeting the needs of citizens;
- Providing strong leadership and strategic direction;
- Building a strong and capable workforce; and
- Operating efficiently and at a consistently high standard.

The TSRA will proactively use these focus areas and proposed reform framework to guide the development of its workforce, program delivery and engagement model for Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area communities over the next 24 months.

Conclusion

In summary I would like to thank the TSRA Board and Administration for their continued enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment to meeting the objectives and goals of the organisation.

The achievements of 2009 - 2010 are a result of a team approach, hard work, commitment and a clear vision set by the TSRA Board on how we can contribute to making a difference.

I would like to also thank our partner agencies and the communities of the Torres Strait for working with us to achieve the regional goals.

I was very proud to accept my second term as General Manager in June 2010 and am looking forward to building and strengthening the future of the Torres Strait region as we move into 2010 - 2011.

Wayne See Kee



General Manager





TSRA Board of Directors

Overview

The TSRA Board of Directors consists of 20 Members who represent Torres Strait Islander communities in the region. Fifteen Members hold office following their election on 15 March 2008 under the *Local Government Act 1993 (Queensland)* as Councillors on the Torres Strait Island Regional Council. The two Members from Bamaga and Seisia communities from the Northern Peninsula Area hold office by virtue of their election to the Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council. The three other Members were elected in May 2008 in accordance with Division 5 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, for the Wards of Port Kennedy, Horn and Prince of Wales Islands, and Tamwoy, Rosehill, Aplin, Waiben and Quarantine (TRAWQ).

Particulars of the Directors of the TSRA (referred to in this Annual Report as *TSRA Board Members*)

Under Schedule 1, Part 2, Division 3, Clause 14 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations Orders) Act 2007 (CAC Act 2007)*, the TSRA is required to detail within its Report of Operations the following particulars with respect to the Directors of the Commonwealth Authority:

- a) each Director's name, qualifications, experience and special responsibilities and whether he or she is an executive Director or a non-executive Director.

Name, qualifications, experience and special responsibilities

By the nature of their appointments all TSRA Board Members (also known as Directors under the *CAC Act 2007*) are classified as non-executive Directors. The name, special responsibilities, experience and qualifications of each Board Member can be found in their individual profiles on pages 23 - 36.

TSRA Executive Committee

The TSRA Board has established an Executive Committee to assist the Chairperson to make recommendations to the Board to carry out its functions and its responsibilities in accordance with the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, and other relevant legislation.

The objectives of the TSRA Executive Committee are to:

- ensure the direction of policies and future development are in accordance with the Board's requirements as outlined in the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, and other relevant legislation;
- champion and advocate for better outcomes in the region;
- represent the views of the TSRA on internal and external committees within and outside of the Torres Strait region; and
- consult with Torres Strait communities and the wider community when required.

The TSRA Executive Committee is directly linked to the TSRA Board and directly responsible and accountable to the Board in carrying out its duties.

Those Members appointed with Portfolio responsibilities become Members of the TSRA Executive Committee for a period which aligns with the tenure of the TSRA Board or as determined by the TSRA Board.

Portfolio Positions

During the development of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 and the Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013, the TSRA Board undertook a review of the TSRA Executive Committee. At the TSRA Board Meeting on 16 June 2009 the Board endorsed the following Portfolio Members to form the current TSRA Executive Committee.

Mr John (Toshie) Kris	TSRA Portfolio Member for Governance and Leadership
Ms Napcia Bin Tahal	TSRA Portfolio Member for Economic Development
Mr Kenny Bedford	TSRA Portfolio Member for Fisheries
Mr Donald Banu	TSRA Portfolio Member for Native Title
Mr Keith Fell	TSRA Portfolio Member for Healthy Communities
Mr Walter Mackie	TSRA Portfolio Member for Environmental Management
Mr Phillemon Mosby	TSRA Portfolio Member for Culture, Art and Heritage
Ms Nancy Pearson	TSRA Portfolio Member for Safe Communities

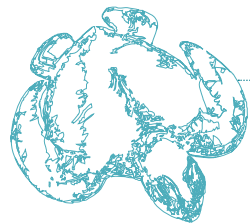
TSRA Executive Committee Meetings

The TSRA Executive Committee meets approximately two to three weeks prior to each TSRA Board Meeting during each quarter of the financial year. The TSRA Chairperson may also call for additional meetings when required. Over the 2009 - 2010 year, the TSRA Executive Committee met on the following dates:

2009 - 2010 TSRA Executive Committee Dates	Apologies
1 September 2009	Ms Napcia Bin Tahal, Portfolio Member for Economic Development
1 October 2009	Ms Nancy Pearson, Portfolio Member for Safe Communities
23 - 24 November 2009	Mr Donald Banu, Portfolio Member for Native Title Mr Phillemon Mosby, Portfolio Member for Culture, Art and Heritage
22 - 23 March 2010	Mr Donald Banu, Portfolio Member for Native Title
27 - 28 May 2010	Mr Phillemon Mosby, Portfolio Member for Culture, Art and Heritage

Attendance at TSRA Executive Meetings	
Mr John Toshie Kris	5 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Ms Napcia Bin Tahal	4 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Mr Kenny Bedford	5 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Mr Donald Banu	3 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Mr Keith Fell	5 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Mr Walter Mackie	5 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Mr Phillemon Mosby	3 of 5 Executive Meetings attended
Ms Nancy Pearson	4 of 5 Executive Meetings attended





Advisory Committees

As a Commonwealth Authority, the TSRA has established the TSRA Audit Committee in compliance with Section 32 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act)*. This committee is the only advisory committee to the TSRA Board.

The objective of the Committee is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the TSRA Board on TSRA's risk, control and compliance framework, and its external accountability responsibilities. Furthermore, the Committee provides assistance to the TSRA Board in fulfilling its responsibilities under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* in relation to financial reporting, risk management and internal control as well as monitoring compliance with relevant requirements of applicable laws, regulations and rules.

The TSRA Board is responsible for the appointment of the Audit Committee Members. The Committee consists of four members, one of which is an independent person selected externally. The external independent member of the Committee provides technical expertise and experience with an understanding of best practice accounting and auditing standards in a public sector environment.

Members of the TSRA Audit Committee	
Mr Adrian Kelly	Chairperson and Independent Member of the TSRA Audit Committee
Ms Napcia Bin Tahal	TSRA Member for Horn and Prince of Wales Islands
Mr Phillemon Mosby	TSRA Member for Poruma Island
Mr Raymond Soki	TSRA Member for Dauan Island

TSRA Audit Committee meetings

The TSRA Audit Committee meets prior to TSRA Board Meetings and may hold a Special Meeting if deemed necessary by the Chairperson of the Committee. The TSRA Audit Committee met on the following dates throughout 2009 - 2010.

2009 - 2010 TSRA Audit Committee Dates	Apologies
Wednesday, 8 July 2009	Nil
Monday 14 September 2009	Mr Phillemon Mosby, Member for Poruma Island
Monday 12 October 2009	Nil
Wednesday 9 December 2009	Nil
Wednesday 7 April 2010	Nil
Monday 7 June 2010	Nil

Attendance at TSRA Audit Committee Meetings	
Mr Adrian Kelly, Independent Member	6 of 6 Audit Meetings attended
Ms Napcia Bin Tahal	6 of 6 Audit Meetings attended
Mr Phillemon Mosby	5 of 6 Audit Meetings attended
Mr Raymond Soki	6 of 6 Audit Meetings attended

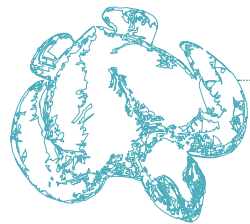
TSRA Board meeting schedule

Under Section 144E of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, the Chairperson of the TSRA must convene at least four meetings each year. The TSRA Chairperson may convene other meetings of the TSRA Board if the Chairperson considers that the meetings are necessary for the efficient performance of the TSRA's functions.

TSRA Board Meetings

Board Meetings	Dates	Apologies	Absent
Meeting No. 70	13 - 14 October 2009	Mrs Florianna Bero, Member for Ugar for 14 October 2009 Mr Ron Day, Member for Mer Mr Walter Mackie, Member for Iama Ms Nancy Pearson, Member for Hammond for 14 October 2009	Mr John Abednego, Member for TRAWQ Mr Phillip Mills, Member for Port Kennedy for 14 October 2009
Meeting No. 71	10 - 11 December 2009	Mr John Abednego, Member for TRAWQ Mr Don Banu, Member for Boigu for 11 December 2009 Mr Ron Enosa, Member for Saibai	
Meeting No. 72	16 March 2010	Mr Reginald Williams, Member for Bamaga	
Meeting No. 73	8 - 9 April 2010	Mr John Abednego, Member for TRAWQ Mr Ron Enosa, Member for Saibai	Mr Phillip Mills, Member for Port Kennedy
Meeting No. 74	8 - 9 June 2010	Mr John Abednego, Member for TRAWQ Mr Jeffery Aniba, Member for Seisia Mr Ron Enosa, Member for Saibai Mr Wayne Guivarra, Member for Badu Mr Phillip Mills, Member for Port Kennedy	Mr Reginald Williams, Member for Bamaga



*Attendance at TSRA Board Meetings*

TSRA Member	Meetings attended
Mr John (Toshie) Kris	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Ms Napcia Bin Tahal	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Kenny Bedford	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr John Abednego	1 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Jeffery Aniba	4 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Donald Banu	4.5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mrs Florianna Bero	4.5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr David Bosun	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Ron Day	4 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Ron Enosa	2 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Keith Fell	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Wayne Guivarra	4 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Willie Lui	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Walter Mackie	4 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Phillip Mills	Part time of 3.5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr John Mosby	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Phillemon Mosby	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Ms Nancy Pearson	4.5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Raymond Soki	5 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended
Mr Reginald Williams	3 of 5 TSRA Board Meetings attended

Profiles of TSRA Board Members



Mr John Toshie Kris, TSRA Chairperson and TSRA Member for St Paul's Community, Moa Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Kris was elected as the Chairperson by the TSRA Board and subsequently commenced his second term as the Chairperson of the TSRA in 2008. Mr Kris is also the TSRA Portfolio Member for Governance and Leadership and continues to work cooperatively with the Australian, Queensland and Local government agencies in the region to achieve real and measurable outcomes for the people of the Torres Strait.

As Chairperson of the TSRA, Mr Kris is a Member of the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) together with the Commonwealth and Queensland Government Ministers for Fisheries. Indigenous ownership of fisheries remains a key area that Mr Kris believes is critical to gaining good economic outcomes and employment for the people of the Torres Strait region.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Kris' was first elected in 2000 and this is his third term as the TSRA Member for St Paul's Community on Moa Island.

Mr Kris was elected on the basis of his specialist knowledge of his community and possesses strong communication, negotiation and relationship management skills. He has the ability to develop relationships across all Torres Strait communities as well as other TSRA related agencies, which ultimately benefits the Torres Strait. As with other TSRA Board Members, Mr Kris also possesses unique communications skills that relate to "Ailan Kastom".

Mr Kris has drawn on his experience as a Fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, Course 10. Mr Kris also holds an Associate and an Advanced Diploma in Environmental Health. In his previous term, Mr Kris held the Portfolio for Housing and Infrastructure and continues to maintain a strong interest in environmental health through programs such as the Major Infrastructure Program (MIP).



Ms Napcia Bin Tahal, TSRA Deputy Chairperson and TSRA Member for Horn and Prince of Wales Islands

Special Responsibilities

Ms Napcia Bin Tahal, TSRA Member for Horn and Prince of Wales, commenced her first term on the Board in 2008. She is also the Deputy Chairperson, the Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Audit Committee Member and the Deputy Mayor of the Torres Shire Council.





Experience and Qualifications

Ms Bin Tahal was employed by the Queensland Public Service and the Australian Public Service for a combined total of approximately 15 years. Most of that time was within Indigenous Affairs. Ms Bin Tahal is actively involved with a number of local community organisations, to ensure that she remains in touch with issues at the grass roots level.

Ms Bin Tahal is a fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation after completing Course 13 of the Australian Rural Leadership Program. She also has a Diploma in Business (Front-Line Management), a Certificate II in Indigenous Leadership and a Certificate in Tourism.

Ms Bin Tahal advocates for long-term economic sustainability, through the development of local businesses that can eventually operate independently of government assistance. For Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people to achieve these goals, Ms Bin Tahal strongly encourages higher education. She believes that through the development of professional skills and self determination, people in the region will take control of their own future.



Above: TSRA Deputy Chairperson and TSRA Portfolio Member for Economic Development Ms Napcia Bin Tahal promoting the Torres Strait with Ms Stacey Ketchell from Torres Shire Council at Queensland Country Expo 2009 in Brisbane.



Mr Kenny Bedford, TSRA Alternative Deputy Chairperson and TSRA Member for Erub Island

Special Responsibilities

Serving on the Board since 2008, Mr Kenny Bedford has been an active member representing his community of Erub. He has also represented the TSRA in his capacity as Alternate Deputy Chairperson, and holds the Portfolio for Fisheries. Mr Bedford is also the Deputy Mayor of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC).

As Portfolio Member for Fisheries, Mr Bedford is particularly pleased with the progress that has been made in the industry for Torres Strait Islanders. Assisting Torres Strait Islanders to access a greater share of the Torres Strait fisheries, as professional full time fishers, remains one of the biggest challenges for Mr Bedford.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Bedford draws on his strong knowledge of Erub community. He possesses excellent communication, negotiation and relationship management skills. Mr Bedford has the ability to develop relationships across all Torres Strait communities and government related agencies.

Mr Bedford is a Vincent Fairfax Fellow and holds a Bachelor of Applied Health Science, and a Diploma of Youth, Welfare and training in Local Government Administration.



Mr Wayne Guivarra, TSRA Member for Badu Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Wayne Guivarra is the TSRA Member for Badu Island. This is his first term on the TSRA Board.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Guivarra has the ability to develop relationships across all Torres Strait communities and government related agencies. He possesses strong communication, negotiation and relationship management skills that relate to "Ailan Kastom".

Since his appointment, Mr Guivarra has gained increased skills and understanding in Government processes and recognises that the tasks ahead are still an enormous responsibility. He is most encouraged to be receiving committed administrative support under the new Program structure and looks forward to the future with great optimism. Mr Guivarra is also committed to supporting regional sports development in Torres Strait communities.





Mr Reginald Williams, TSRA Member for Bamaga

Special Responsibilities

This is Mr Williams fourth term as the TSRA Member for Bamaga in the Northern Peninsula Area. Mr Williams is the Deputy Mayor for the Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Williams has previously held office in the TSRA in 1994 - 1997, 1997 - 2000, and 2000 - 2004.

Mr Williams has specialist knowledge of his community, Bamaga, and strong communication, negotiation and relationship management skills. Mr Williams also has unique communications skills that relate to "Ailan Kastom".

Mr Williams continues to aim to achieve a better lifestyle and standard of living for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the region. Areas of concern for Mr Williams are housing, health and education. Through his representation on the Board, Mr Williams aims to address these concerns by facilitating increased funding for housing, awareness of health issues such as diabetes and heart disease, and in the range of subjects available to secondary school students in the region.



Mr Donald Banu, TSRA Member for Boigu Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Donald Banu is undertaking his second term as the TSRA Board Member for Boigu Island. Mr Banu also holds the Portfolio for Native Title and continues to work strongly in this area.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Banu holds a Diploma in Environmental Health and Certificate IV in both Local Government and Administration and Environmental Health and draws on his experience when required. Mr Banu has specialist communication skills that relate to "Ailan Kastom" and is able to develop relationships across all of the communities in the region. Together with this, Mr Banu is able to work with other TSRA related agencies to achieve outcomes and has been involved in many consultations throughout the region. He possesses strong communication, negotiation and relationship management skills.

A key focus area for Mr Banu is increased capacity building for Prescribed Bodies Corporate so that the people in the Torres Strait can undertake opportunities, such as lease agreements, as they arise.

To maximise benefits for the Torres Strait community, Mr Banu aims to maintain positive

working relationships across the whole-of-government framework and in particular, with community stakeholders. Mr Banu will strive to ensure that there are developments in home ownership, as well as appropriate initiatives under the Torres Strait Treaty to address health and associated cross border issues between Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Mr Banu is concerned about the affects of climate change and coastal inundation in the Torres Strait region and will continue to work with all stakeholders towards finding short and long term solutions to address the issues.



Mr Raymond (Mario) Soki, TSRA Member for Dauan Island

Special Responsibilities

This is the first term for Mr Raymond (Mario) Soki who is the TSRA Member for Dauan Island. Mr Soki is also the rotational member of the TSRA Audit Committee.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Soki draws on his previous experience in administration and management. He also has a Diploma in Broadcasting and worked in the fields of broadcasting, programming and marketing.

During his term with the TSRA, Mr Soki will continue to encourage major improvements in economic development and foster an increased focus on social issues and career pathways.

Mr Soki believes in educating, mentoring, and monitoring youth to ensure that their sense of respect and pride in their culture is not diminished by a diversifying population. Mr Soki wants more resources channelled into capacity building and training for community members so that they better understand government processes and can reap the benefits of a stronger economic base.

Mr Soki is also passionate about empowering his people and this drives his commitment for the region and his community. He also believes that leadership is not about making oneself powerful but making the people around you powerful so that they can stand up for their rights as human beings.



Ms Nancy Pearson, TSRA Member for Hammond Island

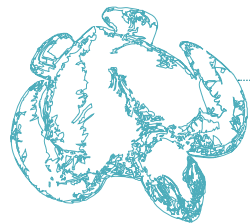
Special Responsibilities

Ms Nancy Pearson is the TSRA Board Member for Hammond Island. She holds the portfolio responsibilities for Safe Communities within the TSRA.

Experience and Qualifications

Ms Pearson is an avid champion for women and families in the region and continues





to form links with all key stakeholders involved in enhancing and supporting safe communities. Her experience working with grass roots people in Local, Queensland and Australian government positions has been valuable to this program.

Ms Pearson has also drawn on her experience and qualifications in courses undertaken in special areas of interest including Social Justice Initiatives, Administration and Town Planning. She has also undertaken a number of short courses when required.

Ms Pearson continues to see economic development, environmental stability and strategies to increase employment opportunities for the people of the Torres Strait region as ongoing concerns. Preservation and revitalisation of “Ailan Kastom” remains a key area of encouragement to communities.



Above: Ms Nancy Pearson TSRA Portfolio Member for Safe Communities and TSRA Member for Hammond Island (right) with Ms Meg Frisby Advisor to Queensland Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships at the official opening of the Thursday Island esplanade project in December 2009.



Above: Mr Mackie, TSRA Portfolio Member for Environmental Management and TSRA Member for Iama Island with First Assistant Secretary for Department of Climate Change Mr Ian Carruthers.



Mr Walter Mackie, TSRA Member for Iama (Yam) Island

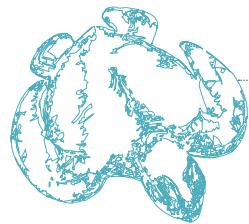
Special Responsibilities

Mr Mackie is a returning Member of the TSRA Board as the Member for Iama Island and is the Portfolio Member for Environmental Management.

Experience and Qualifications

During his previous term, Mr Mackie also held the Portfolio for The Environment and has continued addressing major concerns relating to tidal inundation as well as protection and preservation of the Torres Strait's land and sea resources. He has had close involvement with a number of key environmental management issues since the 1980's and remains committed to his portfolio mandate to protect, preserve and enjoy the natural and cultural environment of the region through sustainable management.





Mr David Bosun, TSRA Member for Kubin Community on Moa Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr David Bosun is the TSRA Member for the Kubin Community on Moa Island.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Bosun holds an Associate Diploma in Journalism and Communication, Certificate IV in Visual Arts and Certificate IV in Business Management. During his term on the TSRA Board, Mr Bosun draws on his knowledge involving tourism, arts and culture and economic development and would like to see marked improvement in the Torres Strait's economy through sustainable tourism ventures and the promotion of arts and culture.

Mr Bosun emphasises a grass roots approach in addressing issues such as training, employment and economic development so that communities will be empowered to be self sufficient and independent.



Above: TSRA Member for Kubin Community Moa Island Mr David Bosun (right) talks about waste management challenges with Queensland Minister Boyle (left) and Queensland Minister Struthers (centre).



Above: Queensland Government Minister for Community Services, Housing and Women the Hon. Karen Struthers MP with Mr Keith Fell, TSRA Portfolio Member for Healthy Communities and TSRA Member for Mabuiag Island look at the issue of the high expense of food and freight for remote communities in the region.



Mr Keith Fell, TSRA Member for Mabuiag Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Keith Fell is the TSRA Member for Mabuiag Island and is undertaking his first term on the TSRA Board. Mr Fell holds the TSRA Portfolio for Healthy Communities.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Fell holds a Diploma in Local Government Administration and a Certificate III in Sports and Recreation.

Mr Fell believes that education, training and communication are the keys to success in all avenues of life and achieving an increased standard of living for the people of the region. Other areas of importance for Mr Fell are economic development, and cultural and social issues.

During his term on the Board, Mr Fell has pursued affordable housing for Torres Strait Islander people in the region and worked towards the empowerment of his people through more accessible employment and training opportunities.





Mr John JS Mosby, TSRA Member for Masig (Yorke) Island

Special responsibilities

Mr Mosby is undertaking his first term as the TSRA member for Masig (Yorke) Island. Mr Mosby is also the elected Councillor for Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC) Division 12 Community of Yorke Island.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Mosby has an associate Degree in Indigenous Community Management and Development.

During his term on the TSRA Board, Mr Mosby aims to concentrate on encouraging his constituents in the region to focus on economic development and try to also maintain the constant pressure on Governments about climate change that is of major concern to the low lying communities in the region. He believes that, for the region to be autonomous from the Australian and Queensland Governments, it must first have sustainable economic ventures in the region.

Mr Mosby is proud of the sustainable economic development initiatives being trialled in his community such as the current Pilot Sponge Farm Project and the upcoming Pearl Farm project. It is his hope that the success of both these projects will result in business ventures like these being developed for other Torres Strait communities.



Mr Ron Day, TSRA Member for Mer Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Ron Day is the returning TSRA Member for Mer Island.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Day has been the TSRA Member for Mer since 2000. Through his past experience on the TSRA Board, Mr Day possesses a sound knowledge of Government processes and engages effectively with his constituents through his first hand knowledge of "Ailan Kastom".

Mr Day is keen to progress all levels of Government to work closely together with the community towards shared goals for our region. The empowerment of his people through independence and a strong, autonomous economy is Mr Day's vision for the region. He believes that the strength of this region will be achieved through the unity of individual Torres Strait Islander people.



Mr Phillip Mills, TSRA Member for Port Kennedy

Special Responsibilities

This is Mr Phillip Mills first term on the TSRA Board as the Member for Port Kennedy.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Mills was the Chairperson and rotational member of the TSRA Audit Committee during 2008 - 2009. He has experience in government management processes and engagement with his community.



Mr Phillemon Mosby, TSRA Member for Poruma Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Phillemon Mosby is the TSRA Member for Poruma Island. Mr Mosby also holds responsibilities under the TSRA Portfolio for Culture, Art and Heritage as well as being a member of the TSRA Audit Committee.

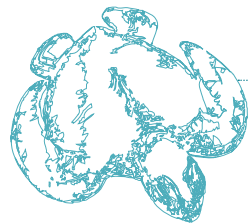
Experience and Qualifications

Currently Mr Mosby is undertaking his second year in a Bachelor of Arts in Adult Education and Community Management and is looking forward to completing his degree and bringing the knowledge he has learnt back to his community.

Under his Portfolio for Culture, Art and Heritage, Mr Mosby would like to promote traditional culture and practice as well as encouraging more engagement between our elders and youth in practicing traditional culture.

During his term on the Board he would like to improve access to housing, particularly for youth. Mr Mosby also sees the need to become much more innovative and creative to find ways of providing more training and employment opportunities in his community. He continues to work with all stakeholders in combating the tidal inundation problem that currently faces the Poruma Island community.





Mr Ron Enosa, TSRA Member for Saibai Island

Special Responsibilities

This is Mr Ron Enosa's first term as Member for Saibai Island on the TSRA Board.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Enosa has Diplomas in Legal Advocacy and Local Government Administration. Mr Enosa continues to advocate for activities to support Torres Strait culture, not only in his home community of Saibai Island but throughout the whole Torres Strait region. He would also like to see closer working arrangements with the Western Province Treaty villages so that issues affecting the region can be addressed.

Mr Enosa continues to support the development of career pathways for students in the Torres Strait to enhance and further economic development in the region. Assistance and support to youth development and related infrastructure is one of Mr Enosa's priorities.

He has also advocated on land and sea matters in the Torres Strait. Currently Mr Enosa's major concern is the coastal erosion and tidal inundation issues that are affecting Saibai Island and he continues to work with all key stakeholders to address the issues.



Above: Former Federal Member for Leichhardt Mr Jim Turnor MP, Minister for Climate Change Senator the Hon. Penny Wong MP, TSRA Member for Saibai Mr Ron Enosa, TSRA Chairperson Mr John T Kris and Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor Fred Gela in a media conference about climate change impacts on Saibai Island in May 2010.



Mr John Abednego, TSRA Member for TRAWQ

Special Responsibilities

Mr John Abednego is the TSRA Board Member for the Communities of Tamwoy, Rosehill, Aplin, Waiben and Quarantine on Thursday Island which are covered by the TRAWQ Ward, and rejoined the TSRA Board after his election in 2008.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Abednego was a previous Board Member from 1994 - 2004, and held office as the TSRA Chairperson from 1997 to 2000. Mr Abednego has a strong knowledge of Government processes and first hand knowledge of Torres Strait Islander culture.

During his time on the Board, Mr Abednego's aspirations include working with the TRAWQ Community and raising its public profile. He sees the establishment of a TRAWQ Development Plan and an increased focus on social services as important preliminary initiatives in achieving this goal.



Mr Jeffrey Aniba, TSRA Member for Seisia

Special Responsibilities

Mr Jeffrey Aniba is the TSRA Member for Seisia and commenced his first term as a TSRA Board Member.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Aniba's main focus is on education reform, and increasing loans for home ownership and small business development in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area.



Mrs Florianna Bero, TSRA Member for Ugar Island

Special Responsibilities

This is Mrs Florianna Bero's first term as a member of the TSRA Board.

Experience and Qualifications

As Member for Ugar Island, Mrs Bero is using her position on the Board to promote good health, education and housing for people in the Torres Strait region.

Mrs Bero has advocated for increased funding in the education and health care sectors together with greater promotion of small businesses to benefit all communities in the Torres Strait region.





Mr Willie Lui, TSRA Member for Warraber Island

Special Responsibilities

Mr Willie Lui is the TSRA Member for Warraber Island and commenced office in 2008.

Experience and Qualifications

Mr Lui has drawn on his past qualifications and experiences in the building industry as a carpenter and more recent training involving legislation, financial sustainability and setting priorities and strategies for his community. Like other TSRA Board Members, Mr Lui possesses strong communication, negotiation skills relevant to his community, and the wider Torres Strait community that relate to "Ailan Kastom".

To build a stronger economic and social base for the Torres Strait region, Mr Lui lists economic development, employment opportunities and increased cultural awareness as key priorities. He continues to advocate for increased numbers of apprenticeships and traineeships with appropriate and accredited training tailored to suit individual communities and opportunities for Indigenous people in the Torres Strait region. Priority areas requiring immediate attention include addressing coastal erosion, progression of fisheries and increased employment opportunities for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people in the Torres Strait region.



Above: (from left) Queensland Minister Desley Boyle MP, TSRA Chairperson Mr John T Kris and TSRA Member for Warraber Mr Willie Lui on Mabuiag Island December 2009.

Executive coaching is provided at TSRA Executive Meetings covering areas such as Directors roles, responsibilities and risk management.

Executive coaching

In transitioning to the new Programs within the TSRA, the TSRA Executive members agreed to a support model for Portfolio holders and the TSRA Executive Committee as a group through an external independent coach. Mr Frank van Schagen of Frank van Schagen and Associates was appointed as the external independent coach to the Portfolio Members.

Mr Van Schagen provides various sessions at TSRA Executive Meetings covering issues such as roles and responsibilities and risk management. Mr Van Schagen also provides one on one support where required.

Business risks


Significant business risks and strategies to manage these risks are identified, through the TSRA Audit Committee process and elevated to the Executive Committee and Board Meetings through the report of the Audit Committee. The TSRA Executive Committee also identifies risks and discusses management strategies through the quarterly program reporting process.

TSRA Board Member's Code of Conduct

The TSRA Board has requested that the TSRA's Board Code of Conduct be reviewed taking into account any new legislative requirements that relate to compliance and breaches of the code. At their June 2010 Board Meeting, the Board endorsed the review and re-drafting to be undertaken by the TSRA Executive Committee prior to putting the revised version to the Board for full endorsement and implementation. This is expected to be finalised midway through the 2010 - 2011 financial year.







Section Two: About the TSRA: Report of Operations

Where We Operate

Regional Overview

Geography

The Torres Strait region stretches between the tip of Cape York Peninsula in Far Northern Queensland to the southwest coast of Papua New Guinea (PNG) covering a distance of about 150 kilometres. The region consists of islands, sand cays and reefs. The closest island to PNG is Saibai Island which is five nautical miles from the Western Province coastline.

The uniquely beautiful Torres Strait region remains predominantly inhabited by Torres Strait Islander people who have retained their strong culture, lifestyle and ancestry with strong links to both their land and sea.

The TSRA's area of responsibility includes the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area. The total population of the region is estimated by the Australia Bureau of Statistics (2006) at 8,576, of whom 7,105 are Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people.

History

The region was named after Luis Vaez de Torres, a Spanish explorer who sailed through the Torres Strait in 1606. After the arrival of the missionaries on Cape York Peninsula and early settlers who were involved in the pearling, bech-de-mer and mining activities, the Queensland Administration of the Torres Strait was established on Thursday Island in 1877.

Native Title

Torres Strait Islander people first achieved recognition of their traditional rights over their land in 1992, through the High Court's landmark decision to grant the Miriam people Native Title rights over Mer (Murray) Island. This was the first time Native Title had been recognised under the common law of Australia. It set a precedent for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people throughout Australia who have since put their own claims through the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, which has resulted in varying levels of success.

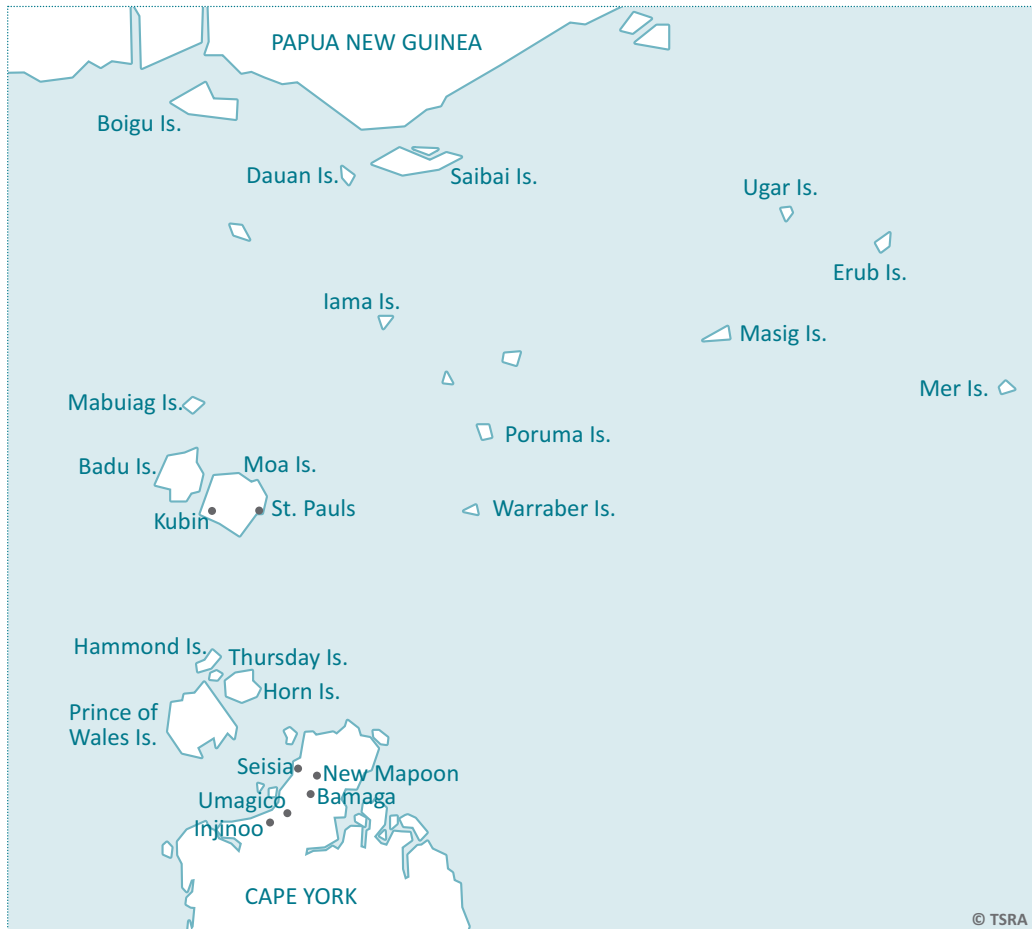
In the Torres Strait region Native Title has been achieved for 13 inhabited as well as most of the uninhabited islands. In addition, the Kaurareg Aboriginal people have achieved recognition of their Native Title rights over seven inner islands - Ngurupai (Horn Island), Muralag (Prince of Wales Island), Zuna (Entrance Island), Yeta (Port Lihou Island), Mipa (Turtle Island), Tarilag (Packe Island) and Damaralag.

Three Native Title claims are being pursued over the remaining three land claims, and the Regional Sea Claim judgement is expected to be handed down by Justice Finn in July 2010.



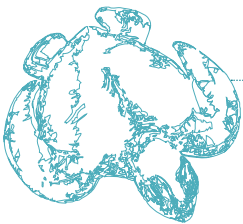
Above: Poruma Island.

Map of Torres Strait Region



The uniquely beautiful Torres Strait remains predominantly inhabited by Torres Strait Islander people who retain their strong cultural, ancestral and lifestyle links to their land and sea.





Data Used to Benchmark Progress Towards Closing the Gap

Closing the Gap for Indigenous Disadvantage

In late December 2007 and February 2008 two events occurred that were to change the way that the Australian Government responded to the challenge of improving the quality of life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

In December 2007 the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to a partnership between all levels of Government to work with Indigenous communities to achieve the targets of “Closing the Gap” in Indigenous Disadvantage. It agreed to the following targets:

1. Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation;
2. Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade;
3. Ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years;
4. Halving the gap for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade;
5. Halving the gap for Indigenous students in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates by 2020; and
6. Halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade.

In February 2008 the former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd apologised on behalf of the Australian Government for the past mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and in particular the “Stolen Generation”, and the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP recognised there was no single solution to closing the gap between the standard of living of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Since its establishment in 1994, the TSRA has worked towards these priorities and the TSRA Planned Outcome statement is:

Progress towards closing the gap for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait region through development planning, coordination, sustainable resource management, and preservation and promotion of Indigenous culture.

The TSRA aims to achieve the planned outcome by implementing programs that actively address the poor socio-economic and health status of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait region. Due to the history of severe disadvantage suffered by the Indigenous people of the region such improvements will be gradual. A 1991 report by the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody revealed that significant improvements could only be achieved through fundamental changes in society’s attitudes and recognition of the rights of Australia’s Indigenous citizens. This needs to be considered when assessing the TSRA’s programs.

Benchmarks and measures used to determine TSRA’s achievements in closing the gap for Indigenous Disadvantage are from three main sources:

- The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1996, 2001 and 2006 Census data;
- Queensland Health Regional Statistics; and
- Other Australian Government data where relevant.

Regional Statistics

The following Australian Bureau of Statistics ABS 2006 data will be used to benchmark progress that TSRA programs make towards closing the gap for indigenous disadvantage over the next decade in line with COAG targets (see page 42).

It is anticipated that the next ABS census in 2011 will demonstrate an improvement in the following TSRA program related statistics. For more details on the achievements and objectives of TSRA programs see pages 60 - 125. Please note that the TSRA expects all of its programs to actively achieve outcomes to meet the COAG targets.

Employment and Income: are anticipated to improve through TSRA's successful implementation of the reformed CDEP program and the high level of support for primary industry based private enterprises in the region through TSRA's Economic Development program.

Housing, Health and Education: TSRA will continue to work in partnership with Australian and Queensland Government and the private sector to improve the delivery of these services in the Torres Strait region. The TSRA is facilitating these partnerships through implementing the Integrated Service Delivery Framework (see page 15 for more details).

Environmental health infrastructure: including water reticulation, sewerage, drainage and roads is addressed through TSRA's successful implementation of the joint Australian and Queensland Government initiative Major Infrastructure Program (MIP) and related projects through the Safe Communities program.

Population

The 2006 Census showed that the Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal population in the region:

- Increased from 6,168 in 2001 to 7,105 in 2006;
- Represented 82.8 percent of the total population of the region, approximately 2.3 percent of the Indigenous population of Australia and approximately 5.5 percent of the Indigenous population of Queensland;
- Are 49.3 percent male and 50.7 percent female; and
- Had a median age of 21 years compared with 37 years in the median age of Australia's resident population.

Employment

The 2006 Census information showed:

- The number of unemployed Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people in the Torres Strait region was 136 and that a total of 2,705 people were employed. This represents an unemployment rate of 5.03 percent for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people compared to 3.1 percent for the non-Indigenous population of the region. In 2001, the unemployment rate in the Torres Strait Islander labour force was 5.5 percent.
- During the week prior to the 2006 Census, 2,842 Indigenous people aged 15 years and over who were usually resident in the Torres Strait Indigenous Region were in the labour force. Of these, 2,705 were employed (95.2 percent) and 137 people (4.8 percent) were unemployed; and
- There were 1,352 Indigenous people not in the labour force.

Note: Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) program participants are counted as employed.





Education

The 2006 Census showed that in the Torres Strait region:

- 13.8 percent of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people who were usually residents of the region and aged 15 years and over, completed year 10 or equivalent and an additional 22.2 percent had completed Year 12 or equivalent; and
- 3.5 percent of the Indigenous people of the region aged 15 to 19 years indicated that they were in full-time education, while 3.2 percent specified that they were undertaking further education through technical / further educational institutions, university or other tertiary establishments.

Income

Household incomes of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people were, according to the 2006 Census, on average lower than those of other households. Of those households where all income data was available:

- \$809 was the reported median household weekly income for the region, compared with the Australian average of \$1,027; and
- For an individual living in the Torres Strait region, the median individual income was \$270 a week, compared to the Australian average of \$466.

Housing

The following information is derived from the report to the Housing Minister's Advisory Council: Multi Measure Modelling of Indigenous Housing Needs August 2003. The source data for this report was based on Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001 Census information and the Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey 2001. The Torres Strait area was defined as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) region in the report.

- Of the total number of households surveyed in the Torres Strait, 20.7 percent were overcrowded. This was above the total regional average (for all ATSIC regions) of 18.92 percent;
- The Torres Strait region has the third highest number of dwellings requiring major repair or replacement, being 369. This is 19 percent of the total Queensland figure of 1,916. (Major repairs were defined as repairs of \$20,000 to less than \$60,000 in low cost areas, \$27,000 to less than \$80,000 in medium cost areas and \$33,000 to \$100,000 in high cost areas. Replacement was defined as repairs of \$60,000 or more in low cost areas, \$80,000 or more in medium cost areas and \$100,000 or more in high cost areas.); and
- This figure represented 36.8 percent of the total number of dwellings surveyed in the Torres Strait region and is above the total regional average (for all ATSIC regions) of 26.1 percent.

The 2006 Census reported that there were 1,653 dwellings in the region with Indigenous residents. Of these:

- 7 percent of these were fully owned;
- 1.6 percent were being purchased; and
- 87.6 percent were rented.

Health

The following information is derived from the Report on Health Indicators for the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Health Service District (2001), a publication of the Tropical Public Health Unit Network of Queensland Health.

- Rates for all causes of death were higher in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Health Service District than in Queensland, with much of the excess occurring in the age group 40 - 70 years;
- Deaths due to Diabetes Mellitus were more than ten times higher in the region than in Queensland. Information on deaths due to Diabetes Mellitus was sourced from Improving Diabetes Self-Care in the Torres Strait: a one-year randomised cluster trial 2002 - 2003; and
- Hospital admission rates for Diabetes Mellitus were ten times higher in the Torres Strait than rates for Queensland over the period 1994 - 1998.

For the period 1999 - 2003, mosquito-borne diseases were 164 times higher than the rate for Queensland as a whole and in 2005 a second mosquito species capable of carrying dengue fever was detected in the Torres Strait for the first time.

Over 300 cases of dengue fever were recorded from 2002 to 2006, and in response the Torres Strait Dengue Mosquito Eradication Strategy was implemented in 2007.

Data gathered from community consultation and available statistics and studies indicated that numerous factors impacted on the health status of the Torres Strait region including environment, housing, infrastructure, nutrition, access to health services, community involvement and traditional culture, alcohol and other substance abuse, infectious diseases, women's health and mental health.

TSRA will continue to work in partnership with Australian and Queensland Government and the private sector to improve the delivery of housing, health and education services in the Torres Strait region.





How We Operate

Legislative Framework

Formation

The TSRA is a Commonwealth Authority which was established on 1 July 1994 under the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*, now known as the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005 (ATSIA Act 2005)*. It is the leading Commonwealth representative body for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait.

The TSRA consists of an elected arm and an administrative arm. The elected arm is comprised of 20 elected representatives who are Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait region. Seventeen TSRA Members are Island Councillors elected under the *Local Government Act 1993 (Qld)*, and three TSRA Members are elected under Division 5 of the *ATSIA Act 2005*.

Members of the TSRA elect a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and an Alternate Deputy Chairperson. A General Manager is responsible for the TSRA's administration and staffing.

The TSRA also performs separate functions under the *Native Title Act 1993* as the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) for the Torres Strait Region.

The TSRA is required under section 142D of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* to formulate and implement a plan to guide the progress of the Torres Strait region. This plan, known as the Torres Strait Development Plan, is updated every four years to be consistent with the term of the TSRA Board.

In 2008 - 2009 the TSRA finalised its Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013, the fourth development plan since the establishment of the TSRA. The plan outlines seven new or revised TSRA program components: Culture, Art and Heritage; Economic Development; Environmental Management; Governance and Leadership; Healthy Communities; Native Title and Safe Communities.

Each of these programs has a number of desired outcomes and associated benefits that are linked to both the COAG Closing the Gap for Indigenous disadvantage goals and the whole-of-Torres Strait region and government visionary document, the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 (see pages 60 - 62 for more detail about the Regional Plan).

Enabling Legislation

The enabling legislation as stated in Section 142, Part 3A Division 1 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005 (ATSIA Act 2005)*, is as follows:

- (1) A Torres Strait Regional Authority is established.
- (2) The TSRA:
 - (a) is a body corporate, with perpetual succession; and
 - (b) is to have a common seal; and
 - (c) may acquire, hold and dispose of real and personal property; and
 - (d) may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

Note:

The *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, applies to the TSRA. That Act deals with matters relating to Commonwealth Authorities, including reporting and accountability, banking and investment, and conduct of officers.

- (3) The common seal of the TSRA is to be kept in such custody as the TSRA directs and must not be used except as authorised by the TSRA.
- (4) All courts, judges and persons acting judicially must:
 - (a) take judicial notice of the imprint of the common seal of the TSRA appearing on a document; and
 - (b) presume that the imprint was duly affixed.

Functions

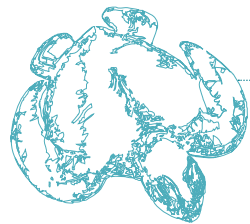
The functions of the TSRA, as outlined in Section 142A of the *ATSI Act 2005*, are:

- (a) to recognise and maintain the special and unique Ailan Kastom of Torres Strait Islanders living in the Torres Strait area;
- (b) to formulate and implement programs for Torres Strait Islanders, and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (c) to monitor the effectiveness of programs for Torres Strait Islanders, and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area, including programs conducted by other bodies;
- (d) to develop policy proposals to meet national, State and regional needs and priorities of Torres Strait Islanders, and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (e) to assist, advise and co-operate with Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal communities, organisations and individuals at national, State, Territory and regional levels;
- (f) to advise the Minister on:
 - (i) matters relating to Torres Strait Islander affairs, and Aboriginal affairs in the Torres Strait area, including the administration of legislation;
 - (ii) the co-ordination of the activities of other Commonwealth bodies that affect Torres Strait Islanders or Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (g) when requested by the Minister, to provide information or advice to the Minister on any matter specified by the Minister;
- (h) to take such reasonable action as it considers necessary to protect Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal cultural material and information relating to the Torres Strait area if the material or information is considered sacred or otherwise significant by Torres Strait Islanders or Aboriginal persons;
- (i) at the request of, or with the agreement of, the Australian Bureau of Statistics but not otherwise, to collect and publish statistical information relating to Torres Strait Islanders, and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (j) such other functions as are conferred on the TSRA by this Act or any other Act;
- (k) such other functions as are expressly conferred on the TSRA by a law of a State or of an internal Territory and in respect of which there is in force written approval by the Minister under section 142B;
- (l) to undertake such research as is necessary to enable the TSRA to perform any of its other functions; and
- (m) to do anything else that is incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the preceding functions.

Powers

The powers of the TSRA, as outlined in section 142C of the *ATSI Act 2005*, are the following:





- (1) The TSRA has power to do all things that are necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.
- (2) The powers of the TSRA include, but are not limited to, the following powers:
 - (a) to accept gifts, grants, bequests and devises made to it;
 - (b) to act as trustee of money and other property vested in it on trust;
 - (c) to negotiate and co-operate with other Commonwealth bodies and with State, Territory and local government bodies;
 - (d) to enter into an agreement for making a grant or loan under section 142GA to the State of Queensland or an authority of that State (including a local government body); and
 - (e) to enter into an agreement (other than an agreement referred to in paragraph (d) with a State or a Territory.
- (3) Despite anything in this Act, any money or other property held by the TSRA on trust must be dealt with in accordance with the powers and duties of the TSRA as trustee.
- (4) The powers of the TSRA may be exercised in or out of Australia.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs - Responsible Minister

TSRA is an Agency within the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) portfolio. During the reporting year the responsible Minister for TSRA was the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP.

Powers of Direction by the Minister

The TSRA is directed by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Honourable Jenny Macklin, under section 142E of the *ATSIA Act 2005*, which states:

- (1) The TSRA must perform its functions and exercise its powers in accordance with any general written directions given to it by the Minister.
- (2) The Minister must not give directions about the content of any advice, information or recommendation that may be given by the TSRA to a Minister, Department of State or authority of the Commonwealth.
- (3) The Minister must not give directions about the content of any advice, information or recommendation that may be given by the TSRA to:
 - (a) a Minister of a State or Territory; or
 - (b) a Department of State of a State or Territory; or
 - (c) an authority of a State or Territory;

except for the purpose of protecting the confidentiality of information given to the TSRA by the Commonwealth or an authority of the Commonwealth.

- (4) Subject to subsection (5), the Minister must cause a copy of a direction to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after that direction was given.
- (5) The rule in subsection (4) does not apply if the laying of a copy of a direction before each House of the Parliament would result in the disclosure of a matter in a manner that would be inconsistent with the views or sensitivities of Torres Strait Islanders or Aboriginal persons.

The TSRA did not receive any formal Directions by the Minister during the reporting period.

Ministerial appointments

There were four Ministerial appointments during the reporting period. These were for the Acting General Manager, and full time appointment of the TSRA General Manager.

The full time appointment was made by the Hon. Jenny Macklin MP, Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in accordance to Section 144L(1)(a) of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005. Mr Wayne See Kee was appointed for a period of five years which commenced on 30 June 2010.

Mr Damian Miley was appointed as Acting General Manager by the Minister for the following periods: 4 - 15 January 2010; 30 - 31 March 2010; 12 - 23 April 2010. Mr Miley was appointed in accordance with Section 144(L) of the *ATSI Act 2005*.

Briefings and information provided to Minister

Throughout the reporting period the TSRA provided Ministerial Minutes and Briefings to the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs both on request and to inform the Minister of a range of events occurring in the region. The Minister was briefed on events in the Torres Strait region involving media interest, and confidential international and cultural issues.

The TSRA follows the format and protocols for Ministerial Minutes and Briefing as specified by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) for Portfolio Agencies.

Judicial Decisions and Reviews

During the 2009 - 2010 reporting period, there were no judicial decisions, decisions of administrative tribunals, Parliamentary Committees or from a Commonwealth Ombudsman that had any significant impact on the operations of the Torres Strait Regional Authority.



The Hon. Jenny Macklin MP, Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (centre) with Ms Nancy Pearson, TSRA Member for Hammond Island (left) and Mrs Florianna Bero, TSRA Member for Ugar Island (right).



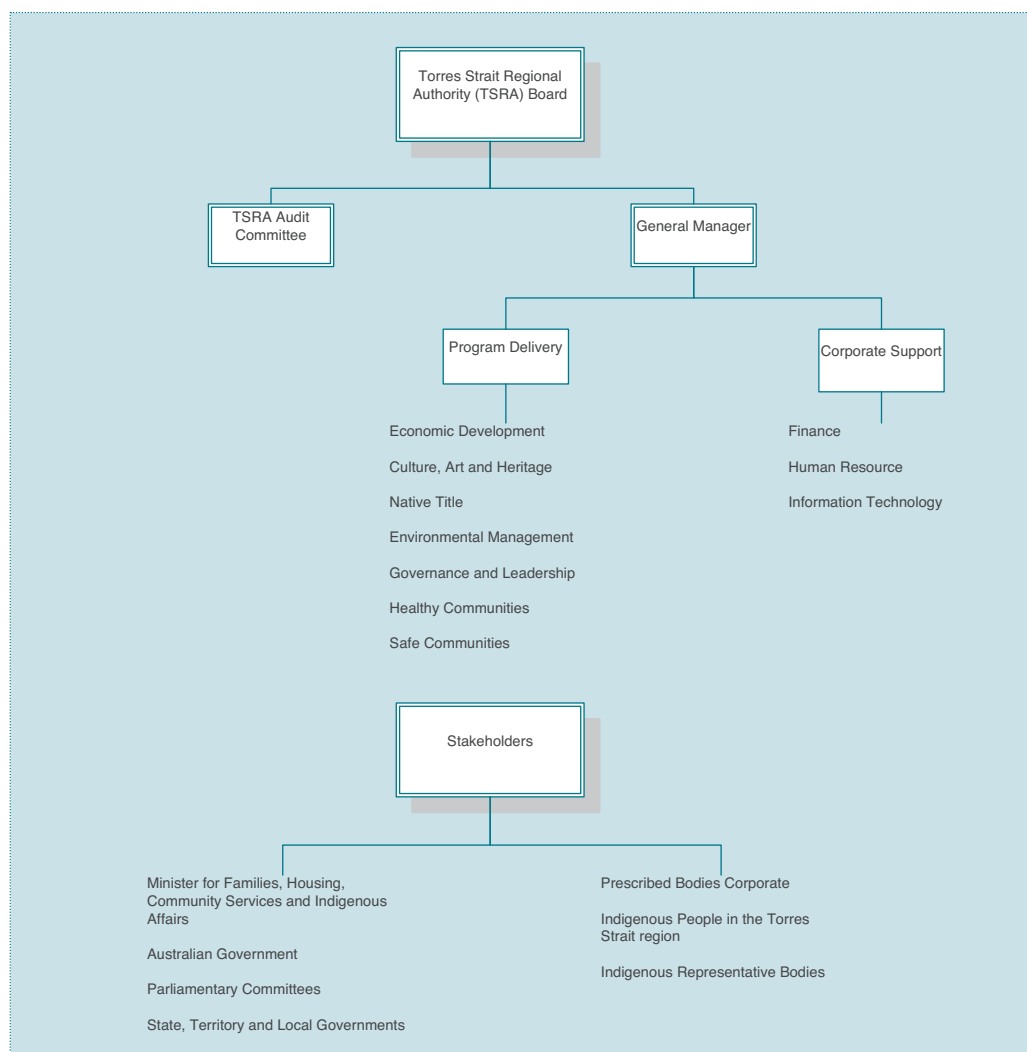


Corporate Governance and Accountability

Overview of Governance Structure

TSRA's governance structure provides a system of direction and controls allowing for organisational goals and objectives to be set and achieved. The framework allows for the escalation of risks and issues where the nature of a particular risk requires specific responsibilities and skills.

TSRA Governance Framework



TSRA Board and Committee

The TSRA Board is made up of elected representatives who meet quarterly. The primary function of the Board is to set the TSRA's Vision for the Torres Strait and overall strategic direction, scope and broad organisational objectives, and approve Program Mandates. The Board also oversees the performance against the objectives set in Program mandates, manages strategic risk, and manages regional stakeholder relations. For more details about the TSRA Board please go to page 18.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is made up of three Members of the TSRA Board plus one independent Member who is a technical expert. The Audit Committee's role is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the TSRA Board to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* in relation to financial reporting, risk management and internal control. The Audit Committee also monitors compliance with relevant laws, regulations and rules. More information about the Audit Committee can be found on page 20.

Program Steering Committee

The Program Steering Committee (PSC) oversees the progress and monitors performance of TSRA's programs and operations. It consists of the TSRA General Manager, Program Managers and Project Managers and meets quarterly. The PSC prioritises activities when there are projects competing for funding and resources, and ensures alignment between programs, strategies and operational activities. The Program Reporting section of this Report provides more detail about the PSC on page 63.

Enabling Functions*Information Management and Technology*

The TSRA has undergone a major Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure and network upgrade during 2009 - 2010. This has included improving reliability and redundancy of core systems and components, and improving the accessibility of our systems for our remote workforce.

In addition, a comprehensive disaster recovery plan has been developed, which allows for all TSRA information systems to be recovered within four hours of catastrophic failure at our main data centre. This disaster recovery plan was tested in March 2010 and found effective.

The TSRA is progressing towards the implementation of an Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS). A records authority is currently being developed and various electronic workflows are now established for processing correspondence and accounts payable. The TSRA will migrate all electronic records into the EDRMS in 2010 - 2011, in order for it to become the central repository of all documents and other records.

Environmental Impact Management

TSRA is committed to managing its own operations and those of its contractors to minimise adverse environmental and community impacts and protect the Torres Strait environment now and into the future.

During 2009 - 2010, an internal Environmental Policy was developed as formal recognition of TSRA's commitment to improving the sustainable performance of the organisation. In addition, an environmental management system was established to provide a framework for achieving the commitments in the Policy.

Risk Management

Relative to other organisations Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) is considered to be low risk. Yet TSRA still





faces a range of risks that can significantly affect achievement of its objectives. Risk is inherent in the achievement of its corporate strategies and in attaining the objectives of its programs and projects at every level of TSRA activity.

The TSRA aims to minimise risks in areas such as health, safety and the environment. However, to be effective in its broader business endeavours, TSRA cannot adopt a negative approach or avoid risk taking.

To maximise overall performance, TSRA accepts that the concept of managed risk is a crucial and necessary part of our work. Also, stakeholders expect that the TSRA continues to excel at managing risk.

Going forward TSRA will emphasise management of risk that is:

- 1) **dynamic** - responsive to change and assists corporate learning and continuous improvement;
- 2) **systematic** - rigorous, transparent and explicit and taking into account stakeholder perspectives; and
- 3) **integrated** and embedded in so far as practicable into established management planning, decision-making and reporting processes.

Accordingly, risk management at TSRA is based on the better practice principles and processes as outlined in the International Standard ISO31000 'Risk Management - principles and guidelines on implementation' and the Australian / New Zealand standard AS4360 'Risk Management'.

Accountability

External Scrutiny

Internal and external audits are carried out and other measures are in place to ensure that operations are in accordance with the accountability provisions of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. These measures include induction training for Directors, compliance and due diligence checks, disclosure of potential conflicts of interests, risk identification and management, and systems for monitoring performance.

The TSRA is subject to an annual audit by the Australian National Audit Office. The 2009 - 2010 Audit was conducted in August 2010; a copy of the Independent Auditor's report including the Auditor's Opinion is provided as part of the Financial Statements on page 128 of this Annual Report.

Freedom of Information Requests

TSRA handles all Freedom of Information (FOI) requests in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. The TSRA FOI Coordinator provides advice on FOI matters to any interested parties and liaises with applicants. Formal applications for access to documents under FOI must be made by letter or written request to the General Manager.

Information relating to document types and FOI requests in 2009 - 2010 are contained in Appendix 2. No FOI requests were received during the reporting period.

Fraud Control

TSRA has a fraud control framework in accordance with the Fraud Control Policy of the Commonwealth—Best Practice Guide for Fraud Control (Australian National Audit Office Audit Report No. 39 of 1996 - 1997), which seeks to minimise the likelihood and impact of fraud. The policy is reviewed regularly by the Board's Audit Committee to ensure that it remains relevant to the TSRA's business. Internal audits, an important component of the risk management framework, are managed by the Audit Committee. TSRA's Fraud Control Plan is planned for review during 2010 - 2011. No incidence of fraud was reported or detected during the year.

Internal Audit

The TSRA Board (the Board) has established the Audit Committee as a key component of the TSRA's governance

framework. This Audit Committee's charter provides the framework for the conduct of the internal audit function in the TSRA and has been approved by the Board on the advice of the Audit Committee.

Internal audit provides an independent and objective review and advisory service that ensures the TSRA's financial and operational controls are managing the organisation's risks and achieving the entity's objectives in an efficient, effective and ethical manner.

Compliance Report

In accordance with section 16(1)(c) of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act, 1997), TSRA in September 2010 provided the Finance Minister and the Minister for Families, Housing Community Services and Indigenous Affairs with a letter from TSRA Directors advising that TSRA:

- 1) complied with the provisions and requirements of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act); and
- 2) complied with the provisions and requirements of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Regulations 1997 (CAC Regulations) and Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2008 (CAC Orders) (as amended or replaced).

In order to demonstrate their compliance with the CAC Act, a Compliance Index (page 200) and a table called Compliance with Australian Government Statutes and policies (Appendix 6, page 186) have been included in this Annual Report.

Indemnities and Insurance Premiums for Officers

TSRA has comprehensive insurance cover with the Australian Government insurer ComCover for its Directors and officers. In accordance with the contract of insurance with ComCover, TSRA is prohibited from disclosing details of insurance.

Directors' Interests Policy

In accordance with the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, the TSRA Board has a process to manage all direct and indirect conflicts of interest, including Directors' formal declarations of their interests at each meeting, documented in the minutes of the meeting. This policy extends to all committees of the TSRA.



Above: Iama Island.





Human Resources

Overview

The TSRA consists of an elected arm and an administrative arm. The elected arm is comprised of 20 elected representatives who are Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait. Please refer to pages 18 - 36 for more detail about the TSRA Board.

The General Manager is responsible for the administrative arm. See Appendix 1 for details of the staffing structures and Equal Employment Opportunity data.

Location of major activities and facilities

The TSRA major activities and facilities are based on Thursday Island. TSRA also has access to offices in Cairns and Canberra.

Workplace Agreement

All TSRA staff operate under the TSRA Enterprise Agreement 2009 - 2011. The terms and conditions of employment are set out in this agreement which is effective until 30th June 2011. The salary ranges for staff covered under the Enterprise Agreement range from \$37,256 for an APS level 1 staff member to \$114,555 for an EL2 staff member.

Payroll and leave records

The HR and payroll company Frontier Software Pty Ltd provides software and support services so that TSRA can provide these services in-house.

Staff development and training

TSRA employees attended various internal and external courses throughout the year including Program and Project Management training, Cross Cultural Awareness training, Indigenous Career Trek Workshops, Career Development training, Leadership training, Fitness and Health Seminar and Customer Service training. All new TSRA employees complete the Australian Public Service Commission Introduction to the APS on line program as part of their induction. TSRA also uses a wide range of Computer Based Training products to assist staff with computer programs including all Microsoft applications, Customer Service skills, and telephone techniques.

The TSRA has a policy of offering office administration traineeships each calendar year and made two placements in January 2010.

Health and Safety Management Arrangements

The TSRA continues to fulfil its responsibilities under the *Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991*. The TSRA has a Health and Safety Committee consisting of TSRA staff which is responsible for developing and implementing strategies to protect employees from risks to their health and safety.

The Health and Safety Committee work with management and staff in a cooperative manner to manage all OH&S Policy and operational matters. Staff members are informed of the current issues and receive OH&S publications from Comcare. The TSRA has three trained Health and Safety Representatives.

Workplace Health

The TSRA has an active injury management strategy in place that in April 2010 saw the refurbishment of the main



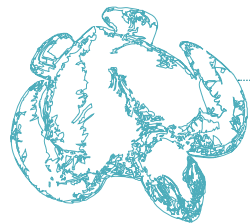
Above: Staff receive training in-house on Thursday Island, Human Resources Manager, Ms Catherine Daly (left) and Ms Bonita Yamashita (right).

TSRA staff attended various training courses including program and project management, cross cultural awareness, career development, leadership, customer service and fitness and health.



Above: TSRA Economic Development team reviewing TSRA's Development Plan (left to right) Ms Leitha Assan, Ms Noramah Bin Doraho, Mr Shane McDonell and Mr Anthony McAlary.





office to include ergonomically adjustable desks and chairs at each workstation.

The TSRA also continues to use Occupational Therapist services to provide ergonomic support to any new employees and any employees experiencing pain or injury. Flu vaccinations on site and healthy lifestyle reimbursement of up to \$200 per year are also available to all employees.

The TSRA has a Preventing Bullying and Harassment Policy in place and two trained Harassment Contact Officers for employee support.

TSRA uses Commonwealth Rehabilitation Services (CRS) to provide short-term, confidential counselling services to all employees.

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

The TSRA is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer and upholds the Australian Public Service Values. It provides a workplace that is free from discrimination and recognises and utilises the diversity of the Australian community it serves. Staff members and management receive up to date information and have access to the publications from the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC), Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and numerous other agencies on employment related matters including Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), Harassment Free Workplaces and Workplace Diversity.

EEO statistical information is collected upon recruitment of all TSRA staff and provided to the APSC. The TSRA statistical data is set out in Appendix 1: Organisational Structure.

Industrial Democracy

The TSRA fosters and promotes industrial democracy through regular management, program area and staff meetings. As appropriate, it consults with employees on:



Above: TSRA's Governance and Leadership staff reviewing project planning (left to right) Ms Kate McLinton, Miss Kate Whitton, Ms Ann-Marie Titasey and Mrs Rosemary Loban.

- Major workplace changes;
- The development of guidelines and policies applying to employment conditions; and
- Implementation of the Workplace Agreement.

Privacy

The Privacy Commissioner did not issue a report on the TSRA under Section 30 of the *Privacy Act 1988* and no personal privacy complaints were made against the TSRA during the reporting period.

Commonwealth Disability Strategy

TSRA reports on its progress in implementing the Commonwealth Disability Strategy against its provider role. TSRA continues to look at improving in the areas of access to policies, programs and facilities for people with disability.

TSRA reports on its employer role through the State of the Service agency survey (the survey can be accessed via the Australian Public Service Commission website).

Provider role

Objective	Performance Indicator	Performance Measure	Performance 2009 - 2010
Providers deliver the services they have been contracted to provide under specific conditions.	Providers have established mechanisms for quality improvement and assurance.	Evidence of quality improvement and assurance systems in operation.	The TSRA Service Charter includes a mechanism to monitor and review TSRA performance including the number and level of customer complaints. TSRA has had no customer complaints relating to disability issues.
To ensure that agencies recognise people with disability as customers.	Providers have an established service charter that specifies the roles of the provider and consumer and service standards which address accessibility for people with disability.	Established service charter that adequately reflects the needs of people with disability.	TSRA has an established Service Charter in place. The Service Charter refers to clients rights and responsibilities and outlines the service standards TSRA will adhere to when providing service to all customers including those with disability.
To ensure that customers with disability are able to have their issues and concerns addressed.	Complaint and grievance mechanisms, including access to external mechanisms, in place to address concerns raised about TSRA performance.	Established complaints / grievance mechanisms, including access to external mechanisms, in operation.	TSRA has an established complaints / grievance process in place which provides customers with information on how they can make a complaint or give feedback. The process also clearly explains how complaints can be escalated to Commonwealth Ombudsman or Ministerial level.





Section Three:

Program

Reporting





How We Deliver Our Programs

Overview of TSRA's Program Structure - why and how new Programs were developed

History

Prior to 2009 - 2010 the TSRA used the Outcomes and Outputs model of planning activities and budget and managing resources at their disposal.

From the 1 July 2009 the TSRA implemented a new program structure that focussed on delivering outcomes and measurable benefits contributing to the COAG Building Blocks to Close the Gap for Indigenous disadvantage as well as the goals contained in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029.

Why develop a new program and reporting structure?

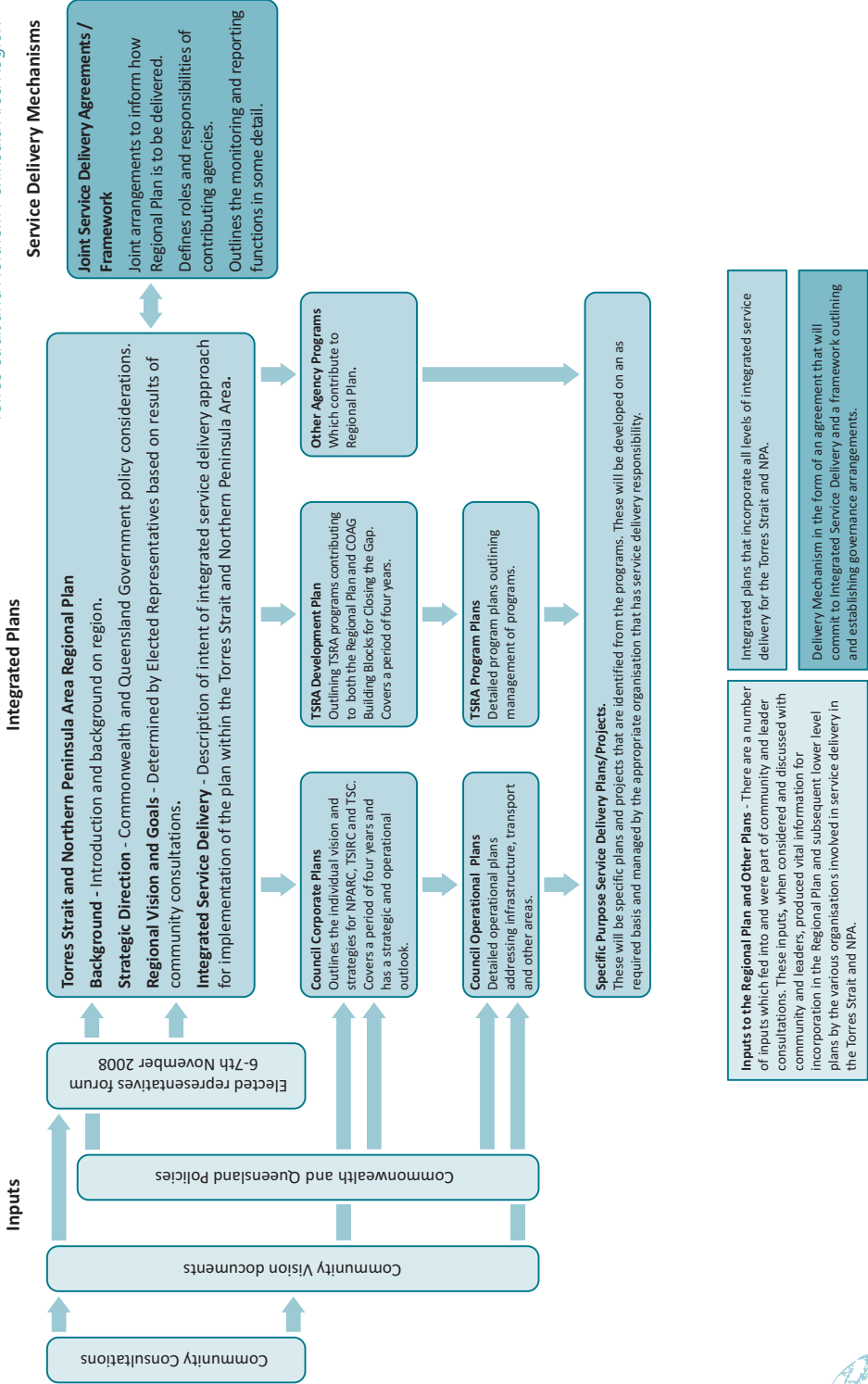
The existing Government output model of program delivery and measuring was not demonstrating optimal outcomes for the region. It was also apparent that many levels of Government were trying to deliver the same services without consultation with each other and this was resulting in a duplication of some services, and lack of services in other critical areas.

Prior to 2008 Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area region (for whom all these programs and government services were trying to benefit) had been given minimal opportunity to influence the priority and level of government service they and their communities required.

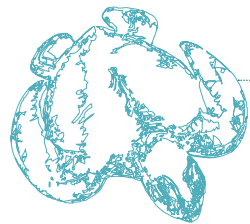
The elected leaders of the TSRA, Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC), Torres Shire Council (TSC) and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council (NPARC) decided to extensively consult with Torres Strait communities in order to determine their challenges, priorities, and aspirations. They also aimed to develop government programs that were relevant and beneficial, and minimised service delivery overlaps. This process resulted in the creation of the 20 year visionary document called the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 (the Regional Plan). A copy of the Regional Plan can be found on the TSRA website www.tsra.gov.au.

The Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 aims to minimise government service delivery duplication and optimise resources through a whole-of-government partnership approach.

Diagram for Integrated Planning Framework for
Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Region



Section Three



During the community engagement process communities were asked to identify their issues and priorities, and put forward ideas to address challenges faced by their communities, which were broadly based on the COAG Building Blocks of: Early Childhood; Schooling; Health; Economic Participation; Healthy Homes; Safe Communities; and Governance and Leadership.

From these community discussions the data was collated and workshopped by representatives from each community, and the Regional Plan evolved containing eleven key goals to be worked towards over the next 20 years.

The Regional Plan's goals now guide strategic policy development by all government service providers in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area regions. The TSRA has developed its seven programs based on the Regional Plan and the goals and aspirations of the residents of the Torres Strait. TSRA's partner agencies of TSIRC, TSC and NPARC are also aligning their service delivery programs to the goals contained in the Regional Plan.

The Regional Plan aims to minimise government service delivery duplication and optimise resources by having all government agencies working together. To facilitate this process the Regional Plan will be supported by a formal Integrated Service Delivery Framework involving Government at all levels working together to achieve tangible benefits for people living in the region.

Implementation of the TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013

The TSRA is required under section 142D of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* to formulate and implement a plan to guide the progress of the Torres Strait region. This plan, known as the Torres Strait Development Plan, is updated every four years in line with the term of the TSRA Board. A copy of the Development Plan can be viewed on www.tsra.gov.au.

In 2008 - 2009 the TSRA finalised the Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013, the fourth development plan since the establishment of the TSRA. The Plan outlines the seven new or revised TSRA programs (Culture, Art and Heritage; Economic Development; Environmental Management; Governance and Leadership; Healthy Communities; Native Title; and Safe Communities), each of which has a number of desired outcomes and associated benefits.

Structure of TSRA Programs

Each program contains the following information:

- The link and alignment to the **Regional Plan Goal** and **COAG Building Blocks**;
- **Overview and aim** of the Program including the intent of the program;
- **Program outcomes** which describe the results achieved from a wide range of activities and outputs. This also reflects that the TSRA provided funding for activities and projects that achieved a positive outcome and contributed to the broader regional and Australian Government goals;
- **Benefits and Performance Measures** (Indicators) that measure meaningful improvements resulting from outcomes. Short term benefits have been defined as those achievable by 2013, while the long term benefits are achievable by 2017. Performance Indicators identify whether progress is being made in achieving outcomes

and benefits. To support the gauging and tracking of benefits over time, baseline measures and targets for key indicators have been established;

- **Initiatives** will be undertaken within each program to produce outputs. The list for each program is not exhaustive; it recognises that as the program develops and is influenced by environmental, policy or community changes ideas, priorities and options will also change. Any initiative undertaken by the TSRA must contribute to program outcomes and benefits meeting the criteria of effective application of resources;
- A **Program Map** for each program has been developed in order to clearly show the linkages between the program and its goals, projects / initiatives, outputs, outcomes and short and long term benefits. The Program Map should be read in conjunction with the Program Benefits and Indicators Tables (see the Program Reporting section); and
- **Program Benefits and Indicators Table** details the summary of program benefits, indicators and targets with timelines for their achievement.

Program Steering Committee

The Program Steering Committee (PSC) was established to provide strategic direction to all of the TSRA's Programs and resulting projects.

The committee consists of the TSRA General Manager and Program Managers who meet each quarter, or as required, to evaluate and approve program documents. The committee provides high level monitoring of performance, progress and benefits for each program as well as the monitoring of risks and issues at an organisational and program level, as reported by PSC Members. The PSC also reports strategic level risks to the TSRA Board.

The next section of the Annual Report provides details about the performance of the programs and projects including achievements against the Regional Plan goals and the COAG Closing the Gap targets.



How We Performed

In the first year of the new program structure the TSRA has already demonstrated a number of achievements against the short term benefits and performance measures.

This section gives the details of the TSRA's seven programs:

- Culture, Art and Heritage
- Economic Development
- Environmental Management
- Governance and Leadership
- Healthy Communities
- Native Title
- Safe Communities



Above: Saibai Access Road was constructed under a joint Major Infrastructure Program, Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme and Heavy Equipment and Management Training Program Initiative.

Each program provides an overview, details of projects and progress against the programs short term target. It also shows the alignment of the COAG Closing the Gap target against the benefit description. The program map is shown for each program, as well as a summary table of the actual versus budget expenditure.

This introductory section contains the TSRA's planned outcome statement, and a summary table showing overall actual versus budget expenditure across all programs.

Planned Outcome Statement

In November 2008 the TSRA Board endorsed the following outcome statement:

Progress towards Closing the Gap for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait region through development planning, coordination, sustainable resource management, and preservation and promotion of Indigenous culture.

Appropriation Program Expenditure 2009 - 2010 Budget as compared to Actual

This table provides the summary of financial performance for each program over the reporting period. For details on variances see the footnotes at the base of the table. The Financial Statements (pages 131 - 171) provide a more detailed breakdown of expenditure across all areas of the TSRA.

Program	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Culture, Art and Heritage	2,345	2,187	(158)
Economic Development	30,658	30,513	(145)
Environmental Management	2,897	2,349	(548)
Governance and Leadership	3,969	3,788	(181)
Healthy Communities	22,833	23,452	619
Native Title	2,114	1,551	(563)
Safe Communities	2,766	2,925	159
Total	67,582	66,765	(817)

Notes:

1. In addition to appropriation expenditure, TSRA expended a modest level of third party funding (\$4.5m). The bulk of the third party expenditure (\$4.2m) was spent on Environmental Programs including the Ranger Program.
2. Please refer to Appendix 7, page 187, for the explanation of the variances incurred over the reporting period for each program.





Details About Our Programs

Culture, Art and Heritage

Regional Goal

Protect, promote, revitalise and maintain Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal traditions and cultural heritage

Aim of Program

- Protection of culturally significant sites and artefacts to ensure longevity
- Revitalisation and maintenance of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Culture, Art and Heritage

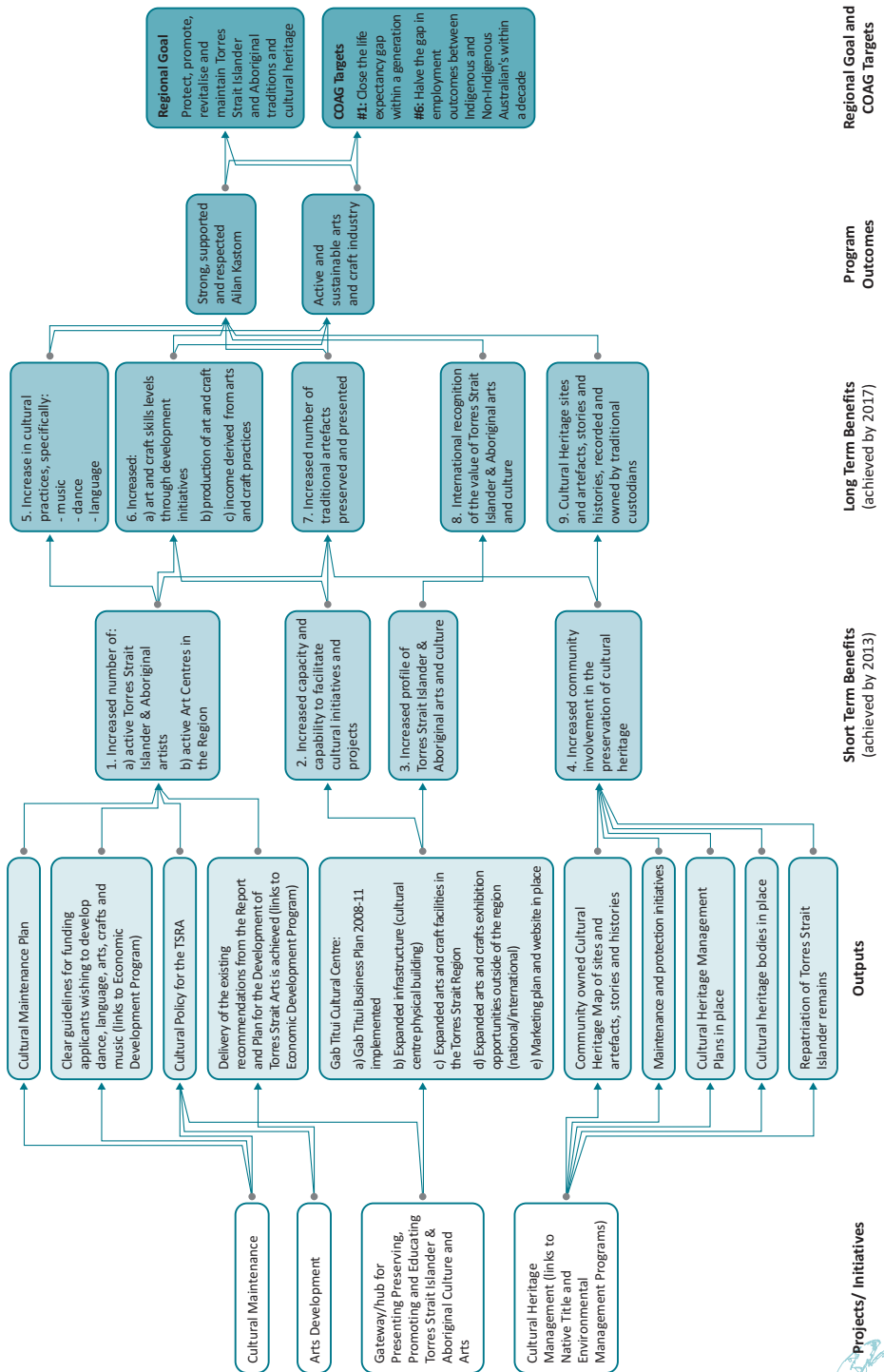
Program Outcomes

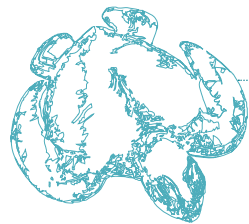
- Strong, supported and respected Ailan Kastom
- Active and sustainable arts and craft industry

Culture, Art and Heritage Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
2,345	2,187	(158)

Culture, Art and Heritage Program Map





Culture, Art and Heritage Program Projects and Achievements

Project Name: Cultural Maintenance

Project Purpose

To develop a TSRA Cultural Policy to guide all program activities that intersect with cultural matters or impact on culture and / or cultural practice within the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Completed the framework covering the principles, goals and strategies, and the methodology for developing protocols when planning and implementing projects, activities and communications with Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait.
- The Cultural Policy Framework was endorsed by the TSRA Board and the policy document will be developed in 2010 - 2011.
- A Cultural Maintenance Plan was approved for developing the Culture, Art and Heritage (CAH) Program.
- A CAH Grants Program was developed to support applications from the Torres Strait community for the cultural maintenance of music, dance and language. The program was over-subscribed and increased its grant budget to meet demand.

Project Name: Arts Development

Project Purpose

To implement the Torres Strait Islander Arts Development Plan that promotes:

- a skilled and professional Torres Strait Islander Arts Industry;
- a regular supply of diverse Torres Strait art to all identified markets, with a focus on high quality work; and
- an increased amount of Torres Strait Islander art sold across all markets.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- The 3rd Gab Titui Cultural Centre Indigenous Art Award was held in June 2010 showcasing 54 artists from 15 communities, and resulting in regional, state and national media.
- Three Art Centres have been established, two in 2009 - 2010. All are incorporated and receive funding from Australian and Queensland Government agencies, in partnership with the TSRA.
- 15 Art Skills workshops in 12 island communities were conducted throughout the year, engaging over 180 participants.
- Torres Strait Art and Culture were presented at both the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair and the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair to thousands of people attending the art fair.
- The TSRA partnered again with Arts Queensland's Indigenous Regional Arts Fund to support nine arts activities in the region. Over \$100,000 in grants was distributed.

Table continued next page

Culture, Art and Heritage Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Gateway / Hub for the presentation, preservation, promotion and education of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal culture and arts.*Note: This project is the featured case study see page 71***Project Purpose**

The Gab Titui Cultural Centre is the Gateway / Hub, and presents, preserves, and promotes Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal culture, and educates interested audiences about the history of the region, its people and culture.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- The Gab Titui Cultural Centre received 14,605 visitors between July 2009 and June 2010.
- The Cultural Maintenance Exhibition, Zamiyakal: Torres Strait Dance Machines, was launched in 2009 and attracted 500 people to its opening.
- Bipotaim: Stories of the Torres Strait, toured to the Queensland State Library in February 2010. This exhibition of life size portraits accompanied by peoples' stories reflected on the 1967 Referendum and the changes that have occurred since.
- 'Aiewal' (come gather) exhibition showcased the work of the participants of the Art Skills Workshops.
- The Gab Titui Website was launched in May 2010. It is the Internet portal to Torres Strait Islander arts and culture and had 2,107 hits as at 30 June 2010.
- Gab Titui Cultural Centre attended the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair and Cairns Indigenous Art Fair where they promoted Torres Strait Islander culture, and increased the profile of Torres Strait Islander artists nationally and regionally, selling over \$20,000 of art work on behalf of regional artists.
- The Cultural Centre sold \$177,900 worth of art on behalf of Torres Strait Islander artists and craftspeople in 2009 - 2010.

Project Name: Cultural Heritage Management (links to Native Title and Environmental Management programs)**Project Purpose**

To develop strategies to support community owned Cultural Heritage Maps recording cultural and sacred sites, artefacts, stories and histories.

To establish Cultural Heritage Bodies (CHBs).

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Commenced development of the Cultural Policy to establish cultural protocols for conducting this work.
- The Traditional Ecological Knowledge project, established and managed by the Environmental Management program, has commenced.
- Dauan, Mabuag and Masig communities have working CHBs.





Culture, Art and Heritage Program progress against target

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Increased number of a) active Torres Strait Islander artists	15 applications for funding supported through Culture Art and Heritage Grants Program	→ Applications closed March 30, 2010 → Total Applications: Cultural Development Grants: 14 Arts Development: 15 Quick Response: 18	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade
	70 artists supported through the CAH Program	→ 54 artists - Annual Art Award. → 15 communities - Zamiyakal exhibition. → 67 artists - Aiewal Exhibition. → 60 dancers and ten cultural practitioners supported through CAH Program. → 90 arts and craftspeople supported through the Gift Shop and Gallery.	
b) Active art centres in the region	Three Art centres established as at June 2011	→ Funding agreement contracts for Erub, Badu and Kubin Islands in place. Art Centre Managers recruited and housed.	
Increased capacity and capability to facilitate cultural initiatives and projects	Increase display area	→ Project planning has commenced for the Gab Titui Expansion and Renovations project which will commence in 2010 - 2011.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	Two external partnerships for display by 1 July 2010	→ Gab Titui presented at the 2009 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair and the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair with two external partners.	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade
Increased profile of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal arts and culture	12,000 visitors to the Gab Titui in 2009 - 2010	→ 14,605 visitors as at 30 June 2010.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	\$180,000 generated through retail and activities in 2009 - 2010	→ \$242,765 generated as at 30 June 2010.	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade
	500 hits on Gab Titui website	→ 2,107 hits as at 30 June 2010.	

Table continued next page

Culture, Art and Heritage Program progress against target cont'd

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Increased community involvement in the preservation of cultural heritage	One cultural heritage activity undertaken 2009 - 2010	→ The Traditional Ecological Knowledge project has begun.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	One Cultural Heritage Body (CHB) in place as at July 2010	→ Goemulgaw (TSI) Corp RNTBC, the PBC for Mabuiag, became a CHB in 2009; Dauan and Masig are working CHBs administered by their respective PBCs.	

Case Study

Project Description:

Zamiyakal: Torres Strait Dance Machines was a Gab Titui Cultural Maintenance Project. The exhibition was comprised of hand-held mechanical moving objects, elaborate moving headdresses and photographs of the zamiyak in use, unique to Island dancing in the Torres Strait.

Aim

The aim of the Zamiyakal exhibition was to meet the cultural maintenance exhibition's goals by maintaining and promoting the cultural importance of Torres Strait dance, skilled craftsmanship, language and song, ensuring the continuation, preservation and revitalisation of these cultural practices.

The Zamiyakal Exhibition was displayed as part of the annual Ephraim Bani Gallery exhibition. The Ephraim Bani Gallery aims to preserve local culture, history and heritage by presenting themes and issues of importance, showcasing the culture of the Torres Strait and its people.



Above: Poruma dance group with Zamiyak.



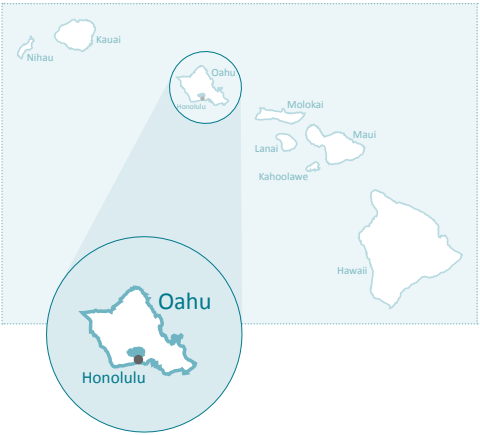
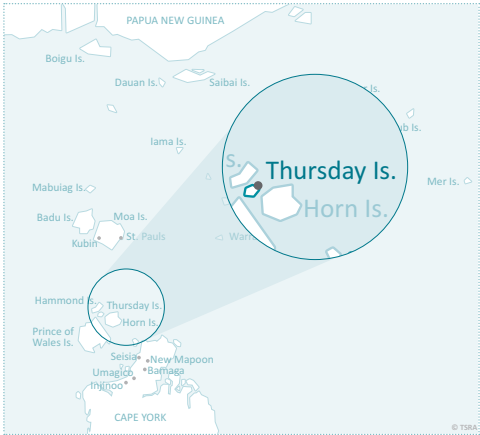


Achievements:

- A professional cultural maintenance exhibition showcasing Torres Strait dance machines and the importance and relevance of dance in Torres Strait Culture.
- Increased community involvement with the Cultural Centre through the loaning of sacred objects, photographs and stories.
- Increased national and international profile and recognition of the value of Torres Strait Arts and Culture.
- Strong external stakeholder relationships developed with key industry agencies including the National Film and Sound Archive and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS).
- The resounding success of the exhibition led to an invitation to tour an internationally significant cultural institution in the United States - the East West Centre, Honolulu, Hawaii where the exhibition was on show between November 2009 - January 2010, showcasing Torres Strait dance culture to an international audience.
- The production of a high quality publication that showcased zamiyak designs from various islands, highlighted the importance of dance in the Torres Strait, promoted the talent and workmanship of zamiyak makers, and provided a tangible record of the exhibition and project.
- The TSRA provided financial support to Ariw Peonipan Cultural Group so they were able to travel to the East West Centre, where they brought life to the artefacts through their performances at the opening, and also featured as artists-in-residence including dancing at other venues within the region.
- Over 10,000 visitors viewed the exhibition at Gab Titui Cultural Centre.
- A further 5,000 people viewed the exhibition during its international display at the East West Centre.

The Gab Titui Cultural Centre was awarded the Queensland Gallery and Museum Achievement Award for its Ephraim Bani Gallery cultural program in 2009. This Queensland Award was for the category of "Organisations with Staff of 5 or more". The award was presented by the Queensland Premier, the Hon. Anna Bligh MP to the TSRA Portfolio Member for Culture, Arts and Heritage, Mr Phillemon Mosby, at the Queensland Museum in November 2009.

Over 10,000 visitors viewed the exhibition at Gab Titui Cultural Centre and a further 5,000 people viewed the exhibition during its international display at the East West Centre, Honolulu.



Section Three



Above: The Zamiyakal Exhibition in East West Centre, Honolulu, Hawaii.





Economic Development

Regional Goal

Enhance our region's wealth by creating sustainable industries and increasing employment opportunities for our people equivalent to the wider Australian community

Aim of Program

- Stimulate economic development across the region
- Advance business skills and align training initiatives with regional employment opportunities
- Advance Indigenous ownership and management of industries and enterprises

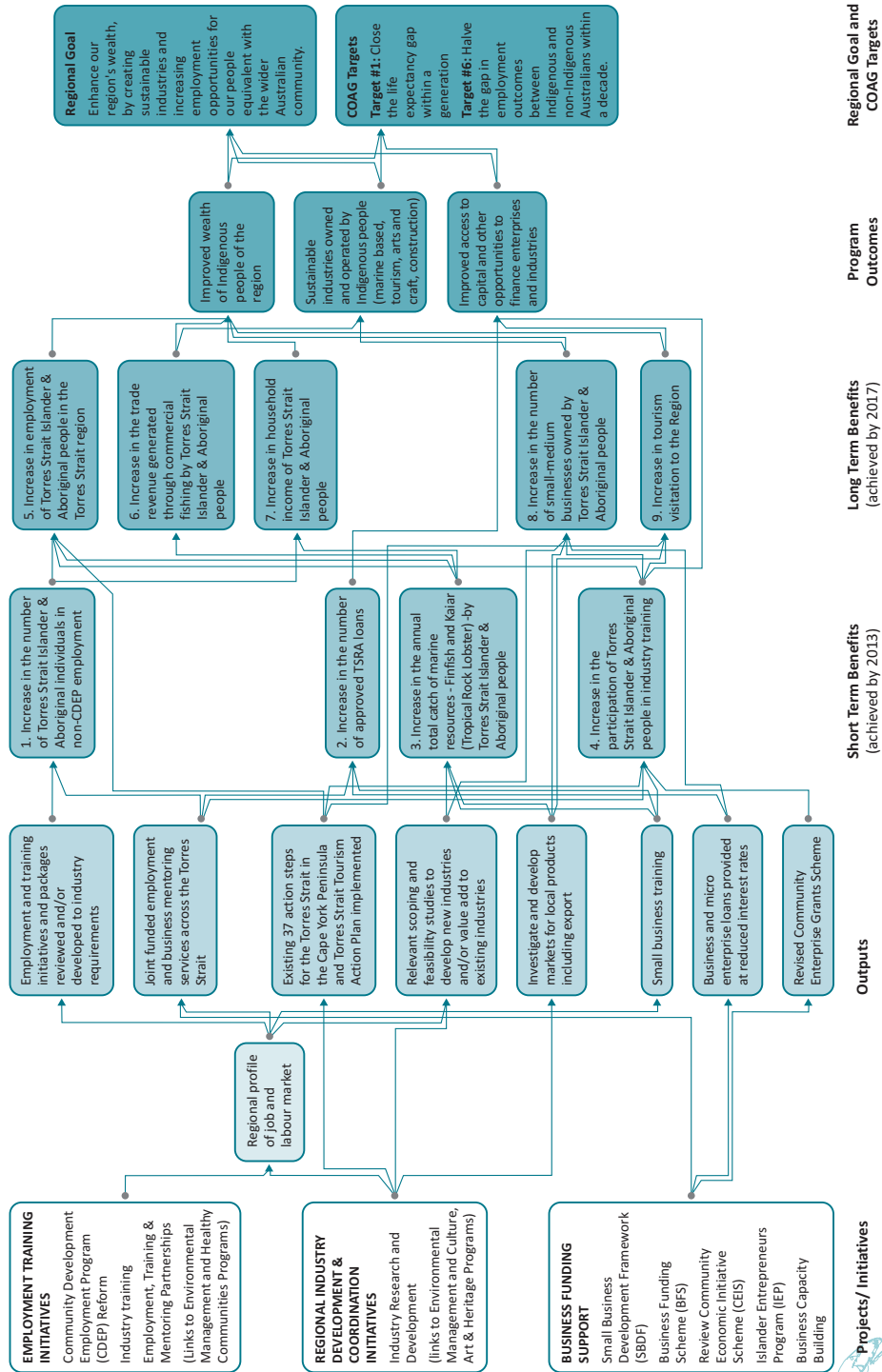
Program Outcomes

- Improved wealth of Indigenous people of the region
- Sustainable industries owned and operated by Indigenous people (e.g. marine based, tourism, arts and craft, construction)
- Improved access to capital and other opportunities to finance enterprises and industries

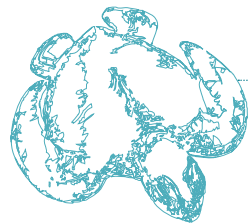
Economic Development Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
30,658	30,513	(145)

Economic Development Program Map



Section Three



Economic Development Program Projects and Achievements

Project Name: Employment Training Initiatives

Note: This project is the featured case study see page 78

Project Purpose

To advance business skills and align training initiatives with regional employment opportunities.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- The reformed Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) Program will commence in the Torres Strait on 1 July 2010. The focus of the reformed CDEP is to deliver work readiness services and community development projects to provide opportunities for participants to obtain targeted skills and experience to maximise the take up of available employment opportunities. In the lead up to the commencement of the reformed CDEP extensive community engagement was undertaken, including two rounds of information sessions being held on all island communities.
- Commenced action to transition over 230 positions funded through CDEP for Australian Government service delivery, into permanent employment positions. These jobs are in education, aged care, child care, arts and culture, sport and recreation and environment.
- Training courses aimed at developing capacity in construction were identified, training providers engaged, and an ongoing program of courses were delivered and evaluated. Approximately 156 students attended these courses, with a 98 percent pass rate.

Project Name: Regional Industry Development and Coordination Initiatives

Project Purpose

To stimulate economic development across the region.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Completed the draft five year business plan for the Tropical Rock Lobster fishery.
- The TSRA Board created a new Fisheries Program for 2010 - 2011, which will ensure sustainable management of natural resources, improve the wealth of Indigenous people of the region, increase employment in the fishing industry and ensure the development of efficient, viable and sustainable businesses that are owned and operated by Indigenous people.

Project Name: Business Funding Support

Project Purpose

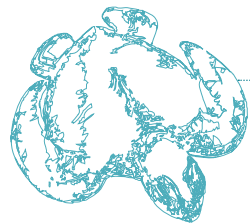
To advance Indigenous ownership and management of industries and enterprises.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Two business loans and two home loans were completed under the Business Funding Scheme.
- Advisory, technical, and financial support was provided to seven incorporated community organisations. This included grant funding approval for six of these organisations.
- Communication products for the Islander Entrepreneurs Program were developed and distributed to all communities.

Economic Development Program progress against target

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Increase in the number of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal individuals in non-CDEP employment	50 people moved from CDEP into non-CDEP jobs per annum from July 2009 to June 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Action to transition over 230 CDEP jobs within the Australian government into permanent positions is underway. → There are two CDEP providers in the region. One placed 12 participants into work placements and the other provider did not collect data on the number of job placements. → The new CDEP Provider/s contract will commence on 1 October 2010, and will collect this data, and will report from that date forward. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Close the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade</p>
Increase in the number of approved TSRA loans	Five new business loans and three new home loans granted per annum from July 2009 to June 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Two business loans. → Two home loans. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Close the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade</p>
Increase in the annual total catch of marine resources (Finfish and Tropical Rock Lobster) by Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people	<p>Kaiar (Tropical Rock Lobster): A five percent increase in catch against the nominal 'total allowable catch' for the Traditional Inhabitant Boat (TIB) sector per year until 2013</p> <p>(The percentage increases are for the catch amounts for TIB fishers)</p> <p>Spanish Mackerel: 3.5 tons per annum</p> <p>Coral Trout: 20 tons per annum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Progress is difficult to quantify as the data collection system is voluntary. Work has commenced to identify and implement a more robust system of data collection. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Close the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade</p>
Increase participation of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people in industry training	50 people trained per annum to 2013 in the four core industries of tourism, construction, marine and arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Tourism: 45 → Construction: 156 → Marine (aquaculture): 25 → Culture, Arts and Heritage: 100 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Close the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade</p>



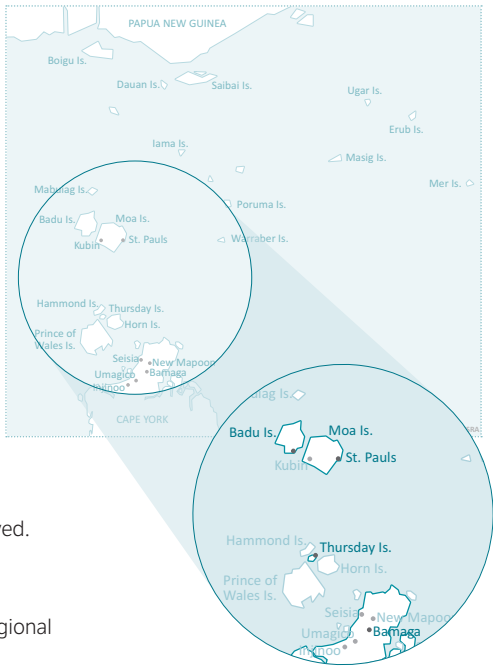
Case Study: Delivery of Building Services Authority Training Courses

Project Description

Under the Employment Training Initiatives project the TSRA delivered a range of Building Services Authority (BSA) approved training courses in partnership with the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI), and the Master Builders Association. These courses included Electrical Testing and Tagging, Asbestos Removal, General Safety Induction and Business Management. The courses were delivered in four communities; Badu Island, Bamaga, St Pauls and Thursday Island. Approximately 156 Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal people participated in the various training courses, and a 98 percent completion rate was achieved.

Aim

To advance business skills and align training initiatives with regional employment opportunities.



Above: Participants of the Masters Builder's course on Badu Island in March 2010.

Achievements

- Mr. Ralph Pearson-Bann of Iama Island is a qualified tradesman. Mr Pearson-Bann was determined to undertake the training courses even though they were not being delivered near his home, as he recognised the benefits the training would bring to him in his current employment and also into the future.
- Mr Pearson-Bann travelled approximately 65 km by dinghy from Iama Island to Badu Island for one course. In the following week he travelled approximately 110 km by dinghy from Iama Island to Bamaga to complete the Business Management course. Mr Pearson-Bann said that he saw the opportunity and grabbed it; he was going to attend the courses even if it meant travelling large distances by dinghy and paying for his own fuel, accommodation and meals.
- Mr Pearson-Bann commented that completion of the courses, particularly the Business Management course, had given him a more thorough understanding of the business aspects of the construction industry. He said the delivery method used by Master Builders Association trainers was 'deadly', and the courses were delivered in a way that broke down a lot of barriers and established trust between the trainer and the students. This in turn enhanced the students learning capabilities.
- Mr Pearson-Bann's next goal is to complete a Certificate IV in Building and Construction and become a qualified builder, which will enable him to encourage and employ more youth to take on apprenticeships and gain qualifications in the construction industry.
- Mr Kim Grossman, a trainer with the Master Builders Association who facilitated some of the courses, noted 'The difference between delivering training up here and on the mainland is that these participants want to be here and the dedication towards completing the training is one hundred percent'.



Above: Mr Ralph Pearson-Bann.





Environmental Management

Regional Goal

Our natural and cultural environment is an asset that is protected, preserved and enjoyed through sustainable management.

Aim of Program

- Achieve sustainable management of natural resources
- Contribute to ensuring adequate water supplies for the region into the future
- Contribute to the reduction of the carbon footprint of Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area residents

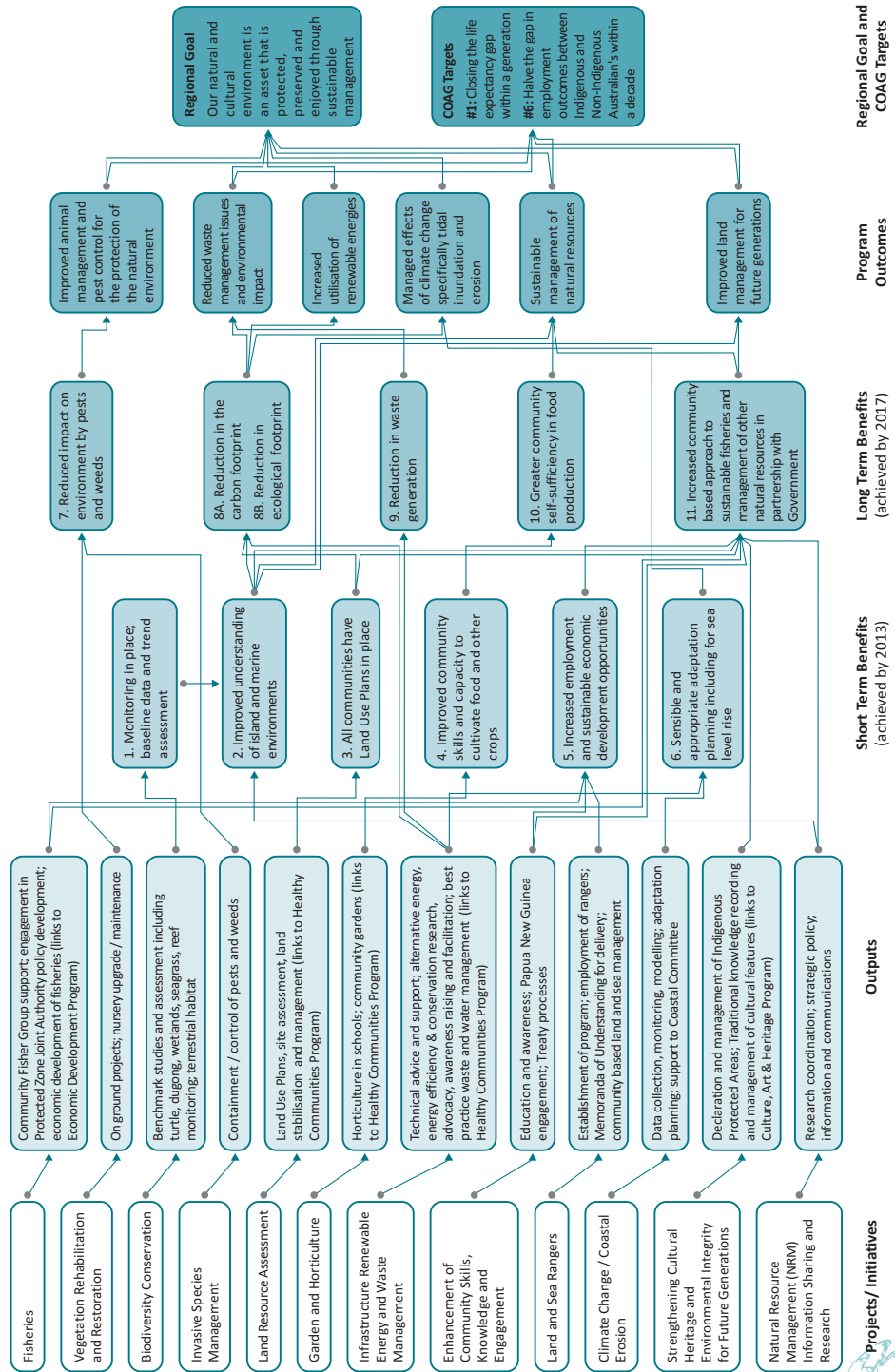
Program Outcomes

- Improved animal management and pest control for the protection of the natural environment
- Reduced waste management issues and environmental impact
- Increased utilisation of renewable energies
- Managed effects of climate change, specifically tidal inundation and erosion
- Sustainable management of natural resources
- Improved land management for future generations

Environmental Management Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
2,897	2,349	(548)

Environmental Management Program Map



Section Three



Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements

Program Name: Fisheries

Program Purpose

To increase employment in the fishing industry and create sustainable businesses whilst ensuring ecological sustainable management.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Participation at the 2009 Fisheries Bilateral meeting in Madang, Papua New Guinea.
- Torres Strait Islanders involved in annual bêche-de-mer survey research and training.
- Conducted community consultation on Tropical Rock Lobster (TRL) Interim Management Arrangements for 2010 and five-year business plan for TRL Fishery.
- Community Fisheries Group representatives participated in 23 Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) forums.

Project Name: Vegetation Rehabilitation and Restoration, and Devolved Grants

Project Purpose

To complete vegetation surveys on all inhabited Torres Strait islands, and compile regional ecosystem maps and associated data to inform future biodiversity planning and development assessment into the future.

To establish a small environmental grants scheme to support Torres Strait communities to undertake local environmental initiatives.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Field work and vegetation surveys were completed on Badu Island.
- Two devolved grants released.

Project Name: Biodiversity Conservation / Wetland Survey

Project Purpose

This project involves a pilot aquatic benchmarking survey within the Torres Strait, to develop a baseline dataset from which to evaluate and manage changes within aquatic ecosystems such as wetlands and swamps. It was conducted on Boigu Island.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully completed an inventory and assessment of wetlands on Boigu Island through James Cook University.
- Developed numerous significant flora and fauna records demonstrating the rich biodiversity of Torres Strait including newly recording invasive fish species resulting in management responses being coordinated across a number of agencies.

Table continued next page

Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Biodiversity Conservation / Dugong and Turtle Plans	
Project Purpose To implement community-based management plans for dugongs and turtles.	Achievements for 2009 - 2010 → Dugong and Turtle Officers appointed on Saibai, Dauan, Poruma, Warraber and Masig (Yorke) Islands. → Draft Dugong and Turtle Plans completed for all of remaining Torres Strait communities. → Successfully applied for funding under the <i>Caring for our Country</i> program for the implementation of community-based dugong and turtle management plans over the period 2010 - 2013. → Participation at the Dugong Monitoring and Performance Indicators Technical Workshop, 30 th International Sea Turtle Symposium and the Ghost Nets Summit.
Project Name: Biodiversity Conservation / Dugong and Turtle Research	
Project Purpose To support continued community-based monitoring of seagrass habitat health. To trial subtidal monitoring with community rangers and Dugong and Turtle Officers, and continue the mapping of marine habitats (including seagrass) in the Torres Strait. Support research into turtle nesting populations.	Achievements for 2009 - 2010 → Successfully implemented the Seagrass-Watch program in five Torres Strait communities. → Intertidal surveys completed for areas adjacent to the Great North East Shipping Channel and Dugong Sanctuary Survey. → Identified Australia's largest single continuous seagrass meadow, covering 875,244 ha within the Dugong Sanctuary. → Finalised a <i>Critical Habitats Atlas</i> for publication. → Conducted a Turtle Tagging Project across the Orman reefs. → Completed annual nesting turtle tagging at Dowar and Maizub Kaur (Bramble Cay). → Conducted a Dugong Satellite Tracking Project.
Project Name: Biodiversity Conservation / Masig Sponge Project	
Project Purpose Conduct research to increase the sustainable collection and handling of sponges.	Achievements for 2009 - 2010 → Officially launched the Kailag Express shipping vessel. → Conducted an underwater assessment of the marine debris at Masig. → Assessed the impact of the Masig Sponge farm on Hawksbill turtle populations in the area.

Table continued next page





Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Biodiversity Conservation / Biodiversity Management Planning (Land)

Project Purpose

To provide information to improve understanding about the significance, condition and management requirements of terrestrial ecosystems and wildlife (flora and fauna species) of the Torres Strait.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Funding obtained to:
 - enable the delivery of the Biodiversity Management Planning (Land) to set the direction for the use of traditional and western science in essential land management.
 - inform the ongoing refinement of the Land and Sea Ranger Working on Country Plans.
- Provided input into the draft Queensland Biodiversity Strategy.

Project Name: Invasive Species Management

Project Purpose

To support the monitoring and management of threats posed to biodiversity in the Torres Strait by invasive species.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Invasive Species Management Officer appointed.
- Established the Torres Strait Invasive Species Advisory Group and facilitated two meetings.
- Provided input to the Torres Strait island Regional Council (TSIRC) Pest Management Plans.
- Conducted invasive species assessments to build an invasive species database.
- Commenced a rodent trapping program on inbound barges.
- Eradicating Leucaena in partnership with TSIRC and the Masig Island community.
- Assisted with pig management issues on Kiririri (Hammond Island).
- Commenced a wild dog control program on Muralag (Prince of Wales Island).
- Coordinated a response to control Climbing Perch species on Saibai and Boigu Islands.

Project Name: Garden and Horticulture / Sustainable Horticulture Project

Note: This project is the featured case study see page 90

Project Purpose

To assist families throughout Torres Strait in gaining the motivation, skills and capacity necessary to access a wider range of fresher and more affordable fruits, vegetables and herbs than is currently available.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Pilot project sites were implemented in Horn Island Tagai School, Hammond Island Nursery, Masig Island Nursery and St Pauls Community Garden.
- Established a horticulture partnership with TAFE.
- Established a working group to progress a multi-agency, regional approach to 'Healthy Living'.

Table continued next page

Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Garden and Horticulture / Tagai Horticulture in Schools**Project Purpose**

To provide funding for Tagai State College to employ an Environmental Education Coordinator to design and implement a range of environmental initiatives.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully partnered with Queensland Education through Tagai State College to deliver a curriculum-based horticulture program.
- Provided focussed educational, technical support and practical advice for teachers.
- Conducted gardening activities with school children, including supply of small nursery shade houses, worm farms, raised garden bed structures and fruit trees.

Project Name: Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Sustainable Land Use Planning (MIP Project)**Project Purpose**

To assist all Torres Strait communities to identify the key environmental assets on their islands, mapping information about the suitability of land for development and conservation purposes, and developing local land-use plans for the future sustainable management of their islands.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Facilitated the implementation of the Sustainable Land Use Plans in partnership with TSIRC.
- Engaged RPS Group to deliver the project.

Project Name: Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Waste Management Strategy**Project Purpose**

To provide funding and technical support to Local Governments, enabling them to improve waste management within the Torres Strait region.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Co-funded an independent review of waste management and recycling facilities.
- Provided advice to the TSIRC to assist to develop regional waste management options.

Project Name: Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Marine Debris Project**Project Purpose**

To expand community-based monitoring and management of marine debris and ghost nets by Rangers and Dugong and Turtle Officers to other interested communities.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Delivered an expanded marine debris management project.
- Facilitated ghostnet recording and data analysis training on Badu, Mabuiag and Boigu Islands.

Table continued next page





Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement / Research

Project Purpose

To progress the management of the seas of the Torres Strait through improved training and technology to identify potential Indigenous Protected Areas or Marine Protected Areas.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Community consultations conducted to review protected area mechanisms for the marine environment.

Project Name: Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement / Treaty and Bilateral Engagement

Project Purpose

To support the representation of Torres Strait Islander issues, concerns and aspirations regarding environmental issues through the Treaty and other bilateral engagement processes with Traditional Inhabitants from Western Province coastal villages in Papua New Guinea.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Coordinated two meetings with PNG Western province communities to discuss the shared management of dugongs and marine turtles in the Torres Strait Protected Zone.
- Attended the Environmental Management Committee and Joint Advisory Committee meetings in Alotau, Papua New Guinea.

Project Name: Ranger Program

Project Purpose

To employ Indigenous Land and Sea Rangers to look after their land, sea and culture by carrying out on-ground works that address priorities identified by local communities.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Ranger groups are now in place on Mabuag, Badu, Iama, Erub, Boigu and Mer Islands.
- Senior Rangers successfully completed training in core competencies.
- Facilitating the construction and delivery of seven Land and Sea Ranger vessels.

Project Name: Climate Change / Coastal Erosion Project

Project Purpose

To provide for sustainable management of coastal hazards and climate change issues in the Torres Strait, including appropriate adaptation planning for sea level rise.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Finalised and launched the Torres Strait Climate Change Strategy.
- Provided briefings and presentation on climate change and coastal issues in the Torres Strait, and on Saibai in particular, to members of the House of Representatives Senate Inquiry into matters relating to the Torres Strait, various Government Ministers, and national and international conferences.
- Obtained funding for at least four permanent tide gauges in the region through the Major Infrastructure Program. This funding was matched by Senator the Hon. Penny Wong to fund maintenance of the gauges.

Table continued next page

Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Climate Change / Modelling**Project Purpose**

To analyse observed local climate change data and develop interim climate change projection models to assist with adaptation planning.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Commenced a project with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) to analyse observed climate change data in the Torres Strait region from 1950 to 2009, and develop interim climate projection models for 2030, 2050 and 2070.

Project Name: Coastal Impacts Assessment**Project Purpose**

To carry out probabilistic assessment and mapping associated with high tides and other factors contributing to ocean inundation hazards throughout the Torres Strait to assist with adaptation planning.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Commissioned probabilistic assessment and mapping associated with high tides, changes in sea level and other factors contributing to ocean inundation hazards throughout the Torres Strait.
- Obtained digital data associated with the LIDAR mapping for Boigu and Saibai Islands, with final maps to be provided through the inundation project.

Project Name: Alternative Energy**Project Purpose**

To identify and assess opportunities for Torres Strait communities to reduce their overall dependence on fossil fuels for energy generation through the adoption of energy conservation and efficiency measures, and identification of appropriate renewable energy technologies.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Organised for the Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT) to conduct a scoping study to identify potential opportunities for Torres Strait communities to reduce overall dependence on fossil fuels for energy generation.
- Supported the coordination of a tidal energy survey between Thursday and Prince of Wales Islands to assess whether a tidal energy proposal is feasible to develop further.

Project Name: Traditional Ecological Knowledge / Cultural Heritage / Indigenous Protected Areas**Project Purpose**

To investigate the establishment of a system to record, access, manage and protect Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) to inform land and sea management and planning in the Torres Strait.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Identified potential options, staging, issues and resourcing requirements for establishing a regional Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) recording and mapping system for the Torres Strait.
- Cultural heritage site surveys and training in cultural site recording underway on Mabuiag Island.
- Promoted the Indigenous Protected Areas (IPA) program.

Table continued next page





Environmental Management Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: NRM Information Sharing and Research

Project Purpose

To promote effective partnerships for research and information sharing purposes.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully worked in collaboration with Traditional Owners, communities, key partner organisations, service providers, the research sector and all levels of government to ensure the successful delivery of initiatives under the Environmental Management Program.
- Chaired the quarterly Torres Strait Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTSRF) meeting.
- Supported projects under the MTSRF program covering turtle and dugong management, climate change and adaption, and communication.
- Participated in the Protected Zone Joint Authority Scientific Advisory Committee.

Environmental Management Program progress against target

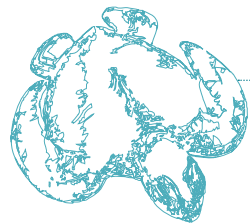
Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Monitoring in place; baseline data and trend assessment.	Trend analysis contributing to environmental management initiatives realised progressively from July 2010.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Completed environmental baseline data to support sustainable land use planning for all inhabited islands. → Terrestrial natural resource assessments underway. → Prepared complete layer of vegetation datasets and Regional Ecosystem maps. → Approved funding for a terrestrial biodiversity conservation planning project for 2010 - 2011. 	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
Improved understanding of island and marine environments	Ranger groups in place on 15 islands to assist communities to carry out land, sea and cultural resource management activities by 2012 - 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Ranger groups in place on six islands. → Funds approved for the early expansion of the Ranger Program to the remaining communities from 2010 - 2011. 	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade

Table continued next page

Environmental Management Program progress against target cont'd

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
All communities have land use plans in place	All 15 island communities have Sustainable Land Use Plans in place by 2010 - 2011	→ 15 island communities to have land use plans in place by the end of 2010.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
Improved community skills and capacity to cultivate food and other crops	Eight communities supported to establish sustainable horticulture activities by 2010 - 2011	→ Four pilot communities actively involved in sustainable horticultural activities. → Four additional communities supported in preliminary analysis for implementing sustainable horticultural activities. → Established partnerships to promote healthy living and community capacity to grow fresh produce. → Delivering environmental education program that includes sustainable horticulture in curriculum.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
Increased employment and sustainable economic development opportunities	Rangers employed in all 15 island communities by 2012 - 2013	→ Ranger groups in place on six islands. → Funds approved for the expansion of the Ranger Program to the remaining communities from 2010 - 2011.	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade
Sensible and appropriate adaptation planning including for sea level rise	Regional climate change modelling and adaptive planning strategies in place for communities by 2010 - 2011 Climate Change Strategy Action Plan developed by 2011 and implemented progressively from 2011	→ Torres Strait Climate Change Strategy launched by Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water, the Hon. Penny Wong. → Monitoring, modelling, assessment and mapping of ocean hazards and likely sea level rise scenarios underway.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation





Case Study: Sustainable Horticulture in the Torres Strait

Project description

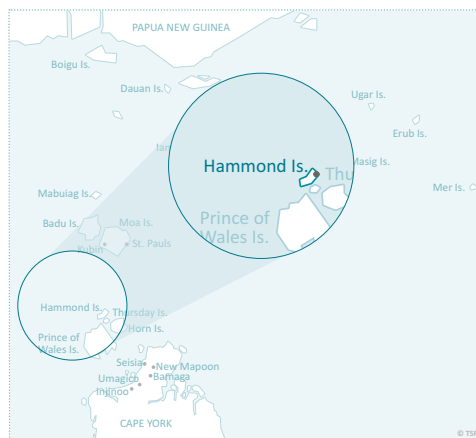
This project supports communities to develop small scale horticulture ventures to produce fruits and vegetables, native plant species for re-vegetation, bush foods, medicines, timber, crafts, and plants for beautifying home gardens and community areas. The project also provides training to promote organic growing methods, improved nursery practice, pest and disease management, recycling of water and nutrients, soil conservation and other sustainable land management practices.

Aim

To increase the health and well-being of communities by providing training, advice and resources to establish community gardens.

Achievements

- The **Hammond Island Nursery**: upgrade and improvements to the nursery shed, clearing of the garden area behind the nursery, assessment of a suitable location for growing root crops, assistance with foreshore re-vegetation works, presentation of training videos, work planning meetings, erection of a pig proof fence, irrigation work and assistance with other community beautification works.
- A **'Harmony Garden'** including work shed and meeting area has been established in the grounds of **Horn Island** Tagai primary school. Weekend volunteers tend the garden and harvest fruit and vegetables, and are working to involve school children in gardening, plant propagation and food preparation.
- Re-established a community garden area at **St Paul's** on Moa Island which utilises groundwater to provide families with vegetable plots. A large nursery structure has been constructed to house a table hydroponics system for supplementary greens and more sensitive plants.
- With project support, the **Masig Island 'Mothers Well' Nursery** operates as a highly productive, well maintained facility providing a wide range of native plant stock for use by the community.
- To assist with long term sustainable outcomes for horticulture in the Torres Strait, the TSRA has partnered with Queensland Education through Tagai State College to provide a full time Environmental Education Coordinator to deliver a curriculum based horticulture program.
- A working group partnership incorporating the TSRA Healthy Communities and Environmental Management Programs, Education Queensland, Queensland Rural Health Promotion, TSC and TSIRC is established to provide greater project support under the theme of healthy living.



This project aims to increase the health and well-being of communities by providing training, advice and resources to establish community gardens.

Section Three



Above: In the Hammond Island Nursery Mr Paul Warren, Natural Resource Officer (Land) Land and Sea Management Unit, TSRA and Aunty Salu Dorante, Nursery Supervisor, Hammond Island.





Governance and Leadership

Regional Goal

Effective and transparent self-government with strong leadership

Aim of Program

- Involve Indigenous leaders in integrated service delivery
- Ensure that mainstream services are contributing to and meeting regional goals and outcomes
- Strengthen leadership within communities
- Grow future leaders for the community
- Encourage more women to seek leadership roles
- Improve communication and information networks across communities
- Optimise and enhance TSRA Board Member decision-making and communication capabilities

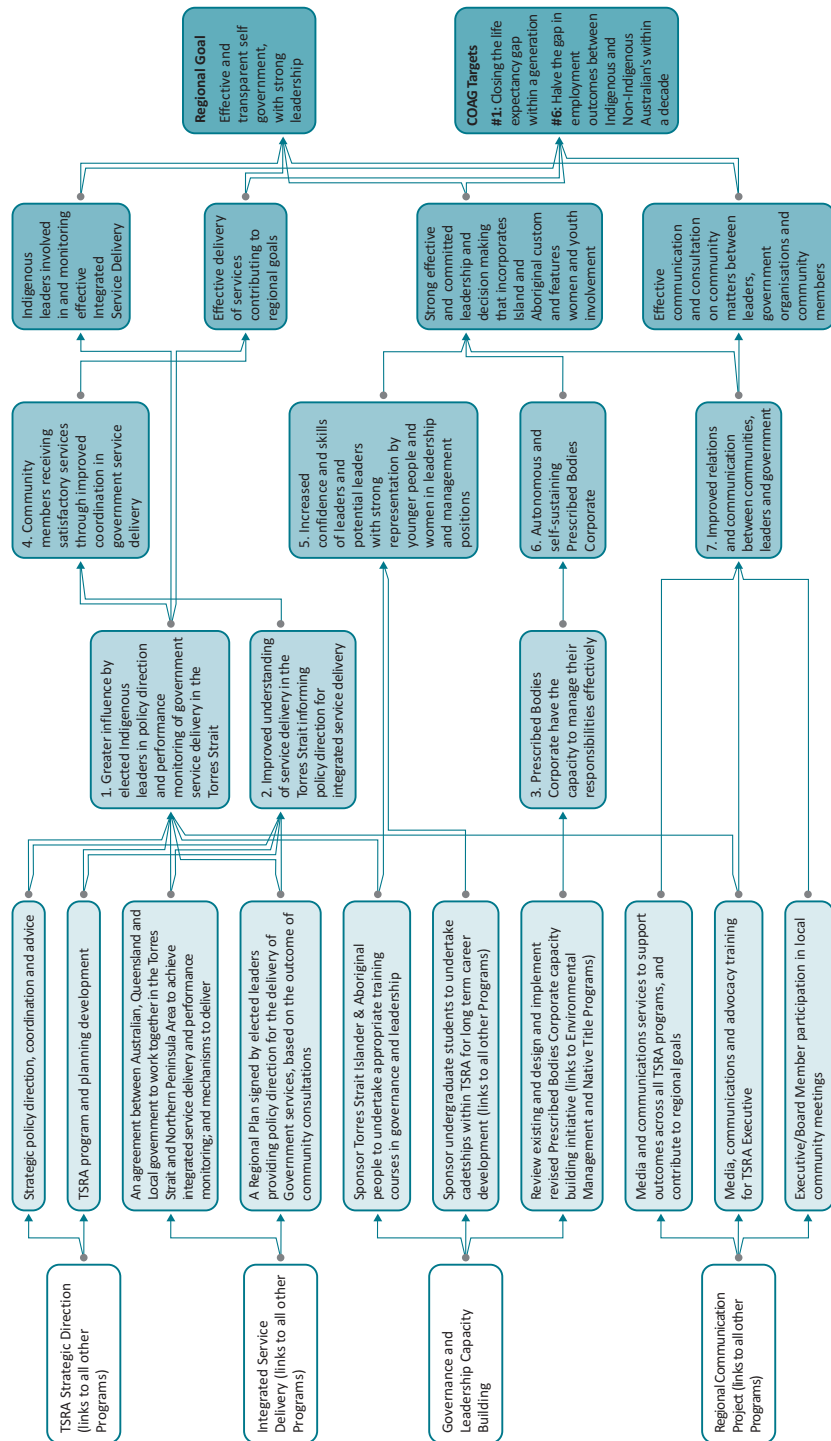
Program Outcomes

- Indigenous leaders involved in and monitoring effective integrated service delivery
- Effective delivery of services contributing to regional goals
- Strong, effective and committed leadership and decision making that incorporates Aboriginal and Ailan Kastom, and features women and youth involvement
- Effective communication and consultation on community matters between leaders, government organisations and community members

Governance and Leadership Program Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
3,969	3,788	(181)

Governance and Leadership Program Map



Section Three



Governance and Leadership Program Projects and Achievements

Project Name: Integrated Service Delivery for Torres Strait and NPA Planning Project

Project Purpose

To contribute to the design and implementation of an Integrated Service Delivery Framework for the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area region.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Facilitated the finalisation and sign off of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 (the Regional Plan) by the TSRA Chairperson and three Local Government Mayors on 15 July 2009.
- Published and distributed the Regional Plan.

Project Name: Data Management

Project Purpose

Effective collection, analysis and reporting processes built in to normal business reporting to support performance indicators.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Commenced preliminary meetings with stakeholders.

Project Name: Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) Capacity Building

Project Purpose

To build the capacity of PBCs, in order that they require less assistance from TSRA, with a view to becoming more accountable for their own affairs.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- A regional workshop was held on Mer Island in November 2009.
- All PBCs achieved compliance or were granted exemptions by the Office of the Register of Indigenous Corporations under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* for 2009 - 2010.
- Completed consultations regarding FaHCSIA's Repatriation Project with the final report presented to the TSRA Board in June 2010.

Project Name: Governance and Leadership Capacity Building

Note: This project is the featured case study see page 96

Project Purpose

To deliver Leadership, Governance and Capacity building initiatives for Indigenous individuals and / or organisations within the Torres Strait region.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Sponsorship offered by Australian Rural Leadership Program (ARLP) for Course 18 to be conducted in 2011.
- Sponsorship offered by ARLP for School-Leaver and Training Rural Australian in Leadership (TRAIL) Programs.
- Agreement finalised with Tagai TAFE to conduct Certificate IV Governance Training.

Project Name: Regional Communication

Project Purpose

To review the TSRA's contribution to communication services in the region to ensure effective communications and consultations on community matters between leaders, Government organisations and community members takes place.

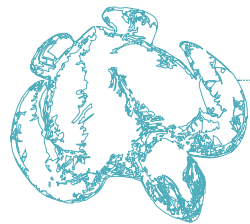
Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Consultants (Queensland Corporate Communications Network) have been appointed to review the TSRA's contributions to media and communications in the Torres Strait region between July - December 2010.

Governance and Leadership Program progress against target

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Greater influence by elected Indigenous leaders in policy direction and performance monitoring of government service delivery in the Torres Strait	TSRA Chair and Executive Members participate in 16 senior government and ministerial level meetings per annum	→ 16 senior government and ministerial level meetings attended.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	Regional Plan signed in 2009	→ Regional Plan signed on 15 July 2009.	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade
	Integrated / Regional Service Delivery Agreement signed by elected leaders and State and Commonwealth Ministers by July 2010	→ Integrated Service Delivery Framework and Agreement being discussed with State and Commonwealth Government officials.	
Improved understanding of service delivery in the Torres Strait informing policy direction for integrated service delivery	Baseline community survey completed by July 2010	→ Preliminary work commenced.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	Service map completed by July 2010	→ Template for service mapping and template for reporting to Regional Plan Steering Committee provided to Regional Plan Working Groups.	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade
	Analysis of results of service mapping and survey completed by December 2010 and delivered to Integrated / Regional Service Delivery Steering Committee	→ Three rounds of Regional Plan Working Group Meetings have been held. Service mapping is occurring and results are expected to be analysed in the fourth quarter of 2010.	
	Integrated / Regional Service Delivery meetings held quarterly from 2009 - 2010	→ Governance and Leadership Regional Planning Working Group Meetings planned for remainder of 2010.	
PBC have the capacity to manage their responsibilities effectively	20 registered Prescribed Bodies Corporate adhering to / complying with legislation by 1 July 2011	→ In Financial year 2008 - 2009, 19 PBC submitted their General Reports as required by the Registrar under the <i>Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006</i> . One PBC obtained an exemption from reporting requirements from the Registrar. As the closing date for submitting General Reports is 31 December each year, the compliance figures for financial year 2009 - 2010 will be reported in the TSRA Annual Report 2010 - 2011.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade





Case Study: TSRA Assistance with Tertiary Education Scholarship recipient Sayuri Fujii

Project Description

The TSRA's Assistance with Tertiary Education Scholarship (ATES) is aimed at assisting Indigenous students from the Torres Strait with living away expenses while they attend university outside of the region. The scholarships are for one year and are valued at \$6,000. Students re-apply each year for subsequent years of study and must be Indigenous and living in the Torres Strait region to qualify for a scholarship. The TSRA advertises three ATES scholarships and one Morey Scholarship each year.

The Morey Scholarship is a new initiative funded by Senator Sue Boyce and delivered by the TSRA under the auspice of the ATES Scholarships. The Morey Scholarship is earmarked specifically for an Indigenous female from the Torres Strait region.



Aim

This initiative aims to encourage more women to seek leadership roles, support future leaders for the community and strengthen leadership within communities.

Achievements

- The TSRA has supported numerous students from the region through its ATES program and one of the most notable scholarship recipients is Thursday Island resident Ms Sayuri Fujii.
- Ms Sayuri Fujii successfully completed a Bachelor of Justice, University of Queensland through full ATES scholarship in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.
- Ms Fujii's success in securing an ATES scholarship over the four years can be attributed to her dedication, commitment and standard of academic results throughout the course of her studies. Some of the challenges faced by Ms Fujii included cultural barriers and a demanding academic environment. Fortunately Ms Fujii had the support of the University's Indigenous Unit of which she is a member. Ms Fujii confirms that the assistance provided by the Unit was second to none and highly beneficial throughout the course of her studies. Ms Fujii's plan for the future is to secure employment in the Australian Public Service and gain mainstream experience before returning to the Torres Strait.
- This case study demonstrates the success of the project to assist Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people from the region to complete formal tertiary qualifications, resulting in an increased level of skill being brought back to benefit Torres Strait communities.

Ms Fujii's success in securing an ATEs scholarship over the four years can be attributed to her dedication, commitment and standard of academic results throughout the course of her studies.

Section Three



Above: Ms Sayuri Fujii.





Healthy Communities

Regional Goals

Enhance both healthy communities and our living environment (Health)

To achieve the provision of adequate, appropriate and affordable housing (Housing)

Aim of Program

- Seek to influence policy for all health programs across all tiers of Government
- Monitor health service and initiatives across the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area and provide strategic policy advice. This will be undertaken under the broad umbrella of Integrated Service Delivery and the Torres Strait Health Partnership, with reports being delivered at appropriate forums under the service level agreement intended for the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area
- Direct support targeting healthy lifestyles including such areas as improving availability of fresh produce and healthy food options, and encouraging people to undertake healthy activities
- Provide some direct support for home ownership and other specific housing initiatives when linked to economic development for example enterprises that develop trade skills of people and / or deliver environmental management services in terms of water management and renewable energies. The TSRA will also assist with engaging with Traditional Owners regarding negotiations for land release for housing development where appropriate

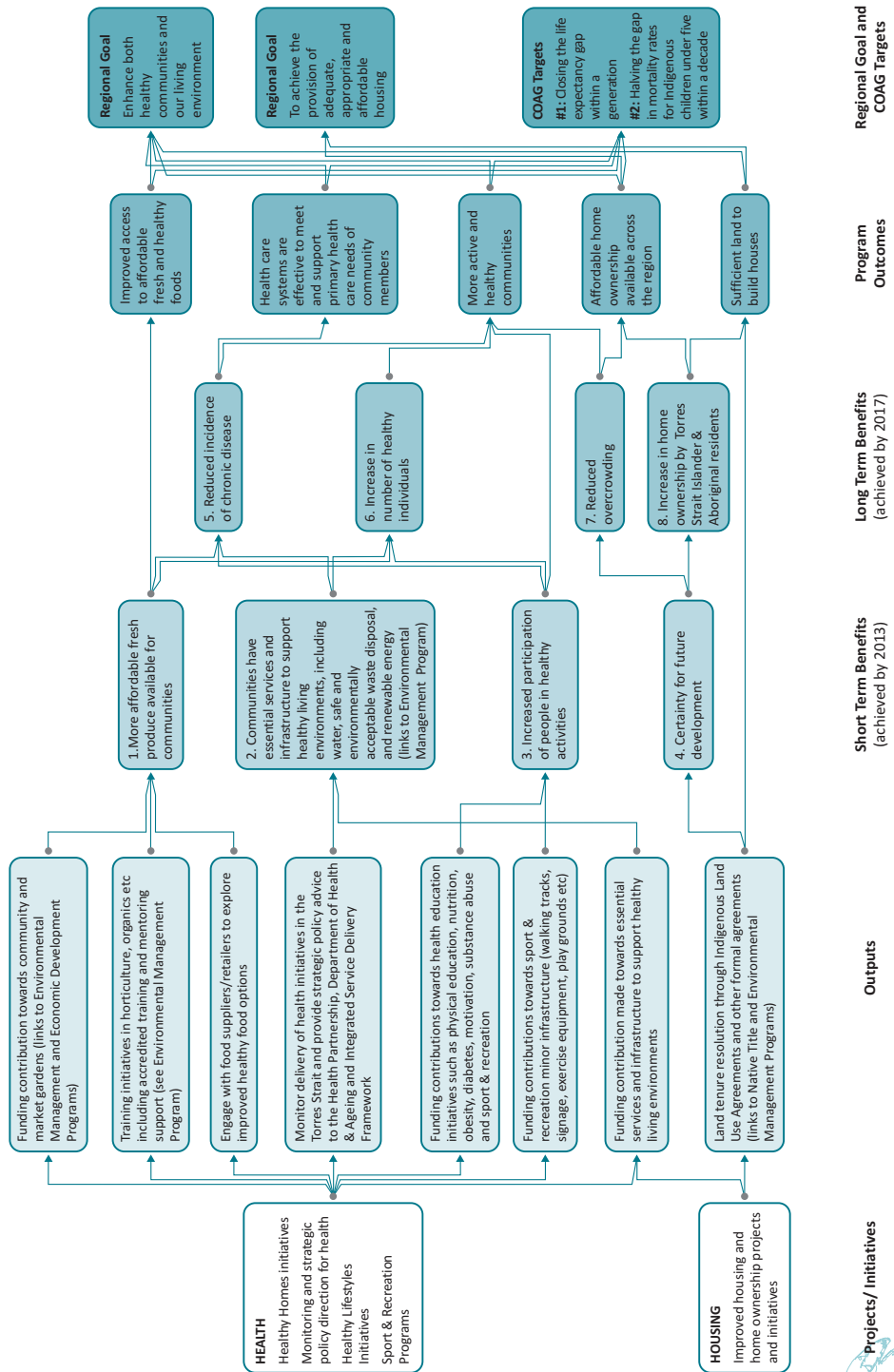
Program Outcomes

- Improved access to affordable fresh and healthy foods
- Health care systems are effective to meet and support primary health care needs of community members
- More active and healthy communities
- Affordable home ownership available across the region
- Sufficient land to build houses

Healthy Communities Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
22,833	23,452	619

Healthy Communities Program Map



Section Three



Healthy Communities Program Projects and Achievements

Project Name: Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Community Market Gardens

Project Purpose

To provide funding contributions towards the establishment of community and market gardens and support training initiatives in horticulture for community members.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Worked in partnership with the TSRA Environmental Management Program to support the establishment of four pilot gardens in Hammond, St Pauls, Horn and Masig (Yorke) Islands.
- Facilitated the formation of a working group consisting of the TSRA, Torres Shire Council, Torres Strait Island Regional Council, Tagai College and Queensland Health to work in partnership in initiating gardens throughout the region.

Project Name: Health / Healthy Homes initiatives / Improved Access to Healthy Foods

Project Purpose

To engage with relevant retailers / food suppliers to explore options for improved access to affordable healthy foods.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully engaged local food retailers such as regional supermarket owner Islander Board Industry and Service (IBIS) and will strengthen relationship through proposed future involvement in regional multi-agency health meetings.

Project Name: Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Monitoring and strategic policy direction for health

Project Purpose

To monitor the delivery of health initiatives in the Torres Strait and provide strategic policy advice to the Torres Strait Health Partnership / Regional Plan Working Group for Health to ensure that advances are being made in primary and preventative health care.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully facilitated a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the TSRA and the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing to appoint a Senior Project Officer for Healthy Communities. Recruitment of this position will be finalised in 2010 - 2011.

Project Name: Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives

Project Purpose

To provide funding contributions towards health education initiatives including:

- Physical education
- Nutrition
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Substance abuse

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully identified and developed potential projects in partnership with Queensland Health and other relevant agencies as well as through the Regional Plan Working Group for Health (multi-agency).

Table continued next page

Healthy Communities Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives / Sport and Recreation Programs**Project Purpose**

To provide funding contributions towards the operation of the Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association (TSYRSA) and other funded organisations to contribute to the Healthy Communities Program Objectives.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully supported the TSYRSA to:
 - Conducted 'After School' sports programs with local primary schools (Tagai and Sacred Heart Primary School);
 - Coordinated and promoted a range of team sports such as basketball, touch football and rugby league in the local community;
 - Provided funding to Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Sport and Recreational bodies;
 - Promoted and developed career pathways for Indigenous people in sport and recreation; and
 - Assisted local Sport and Recreation bodies to coordinate major sporting events such as 'Island of Origin' and 'Torres Strait Cup' rugby league carnivals; basketball and touch football carnivals.
- Supported 11 one-off sports and recreation activities enabling individuals and teams to participate in sporting events nationally and internationally.

Project Name: Major Infrastructure Program (MIP)

Note: This project is the featured case study please see page 104

Project Purpose

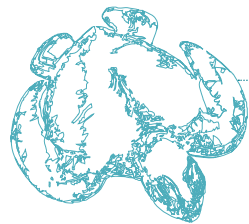
To improve the health and general well-being of Indigenous people living in the region, through the delivery of essential environmental health infrastructure including clean water supplies, reticulated sewerage systems, and serviced sub-divisions. This is achieved by the TSRA's partnering in sponsorship of MIP with the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP), and by the TSRA's administration of the MIP program.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- MIP Stage 4A:
 - Kubin Island Drainage Stage 1 (Joint project with Heavy Equipment Management Training Program).
 - Mabuiag Island Roads and Drainage Project Stage 1: (Joint project with HEMTP).
 - Mabuiag: Rectification and Covering of the Water Supply to Increase Water Storage.
 - TSIRC Sustainability Asset Renewal Project: Workslope confirmation.
- MIP Stage 4B:
 - Mabuiag Island Roads and Drainage Project Stage 2: (Joint project with HEMTP).

Table continued next page





Healthy Communities Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Heavy Equipment Management Training Program (HEMTP)

Project Purpose

To provide routine maintenance works on environmental health infrastructure, and a plant pool of heavy equipment and machinery for the delivery of minor capital works, along with associated Indigenous training to Island communities in the Region.

HEMTP is administered by Department of Transport and Main Roads through their Remote Communities Services Unit (RCSU) and is jointly funded by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR), the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP), and the TSRA.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Mabuia Island Roads and Drainage Project, Stages 1 and 2: (Joint project with MIP).
- Roads and Drainage Maintenance at:
 - Kubin and St Pauls (Moa Island);
 - Dauan Island;
 - Boigu Island; and
 - Hammond Island.

Project Name: Torres Strait Island Regional Council Engineering Services (TSIRC ES): Water Services Operations and Maintenance Program.

Project Purpose

To achieve improved health, economic and social outcomes for communities by providing funding assistance for the operation and maintenance by TSIRC ES of water supply and sewerage services; and strengthen community and local government capacity to operate and maintain such water supply and sewerage services.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successful maintenance of essential and high standard water services to outer Island communities throughout 2009 - 2010 by TSIRC ES Water Services.

Project Name: Horn Island Affordable Housing Project

Project Purpose

This joint TSRA / TSC project seeks to:

- Provide safe, healthy, adequate, appropriate and affordable housing at Horn Island to local Indigenous families resident in the inner islands of the Torres Strait; and
- Provide an appropriate level of Indigenous employment and training in the development of the land and housing construction.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Funds were granted by the TSRA to the TSC for a consultant to be engaged to develop, and make recommendations on, a comprehensive and appropriate Project Plan for a 30-Lot affordable housing project at the township of Wasaga on Horn Island.
- Funds were granted to the TSC by TSRA to purchase the land from the Department of Environment and Resources Management (DERM).

Healthy Communities Program progress against target

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
More affordable fresh produce available for communities	Eight communities supported to establish sustainable horticulture systems, to be realised in 2010 - 2011 (measured by Environmental Management program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Supported the establishment of four pilot community garden projects on Hammond, St Pauls, Horn and Masig Islands. → Participated in regular Community Garden Working Group in partnership with TSC, TSIRC, Tagai College and Queensland Health to initiate gardens in schools, backyards and communities throughout the region. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade</p>
Communities have essential health related infrastructure, including adequate water supply and safe and environmentally acceptable waste disposal (links to Environmental Management program)	90 percent of environmental health infrastructure projects completed per annum as per the Major Infrastructure Project Implementation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → On track to meeting 2013 benefit target in the delivery of MIP Stages 4A and B Projects, Heavy Equipment Management Training Program and TSIRC ES. → Successfully conducted MIP Stages 3 and 4 Review and TSIRC ES Water Services Review. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade</p>
Increased participation of people in healthy activities	A five percent increase per annum in number of people participating, realised progressively from July 2010 to 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Supported five healthy lifestyle activities which benefited young and older community members. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade</p>
	Establishment of a new long-term sustainable healthy lifestyle initiative in 2010 - 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Project on hold until the Senior Project Officer for Healthy Communities position filled. 	
Certainty for future development	Land made available for housing development through Indigenous Land Use Agreements from July 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Being addressed through the Regional Multi-Agency Group for Healthy Homes. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade</p>





Case Study: Major Infrastructure Program MIP Stage 4 Warraber Island Sewerage Project

Project Description

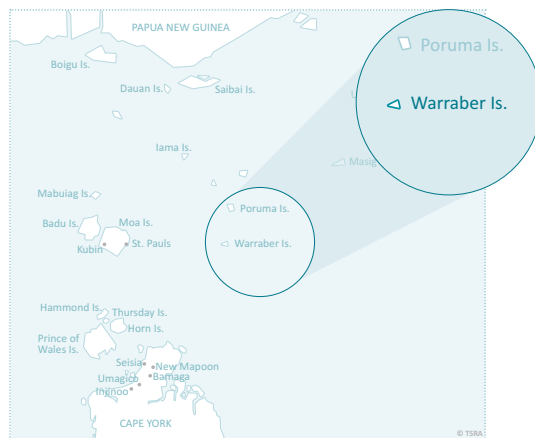
The Warraber Island Sewerage Project consists of the construction of a modern sewerage scheme with 2,400m of sewerage mains, three pump stations and a Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) Sewerage Treatment Plant. The works replace existing septic tanks on Warraber.

Aim

The primary aim of the project was to improve Community health by providing a reticulated sewerage system for Warraber Island. The new system aimed to overcome the problems experienced with septic tanks particularly during the wet season.

Achievements

- The \$10.4 million project was constructed by an external contractor utilising their own workforce and local labour. This project was completed on time and within budget.
- Delivery of the MIP Stage 4 Warraber Sewerage Project has resulted in approximately 5,275 hours of local employment and training over a period of 346 days for nine trainees from Warraber Island. Types of accredited training undertaken include Blue Card, Confined Space Training and Certificate II in Water Operations. Local personnel have been trained and employed to run the system.
- Benefits to the community include improved health outcomes by removal of septic tank systems and absorption trenches which experience problems typically highlighted during the wet season and at high tides.
- The system has been operating successfully for ten months since handover to the TSIRC.



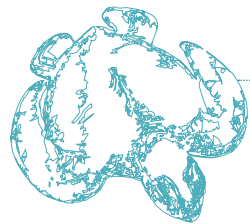


Above: Warraber Sewer - Practical Completion Handover, (left) Ms Gabrielle Osborn (Aurecon - Project Engineer) and (right) Mr Sam Tamu, Chairperson of Warraberalgal (TSI) Corporation RNTBC.



Above: Warraber Sewer - Trench digging.





Native Title

The TSRA's Native Title Program recognises the importance of native title rights by performing its Commonwealth functions as the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.

The TSRA has been recognised as the regional NTRB since 1996. The Native Title Program and the performance of TSRA's Native Title Act functions are performed by the TSRA's Native Title Office as the regional NTRB.

This section details Native Title program achievements as well as the legislative information required from a NTRB (see page 113)

Regional Goal

To protect, maintain and progress Native Title rights and recognition over the region's land and sea country.

Aim of Program

- Assist Traditional Owners obtain legal recognition of Native Title over land and sea in the Torres Strait region
- Manage and legally protect native title rights
- Build capacity of Native Title Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs)

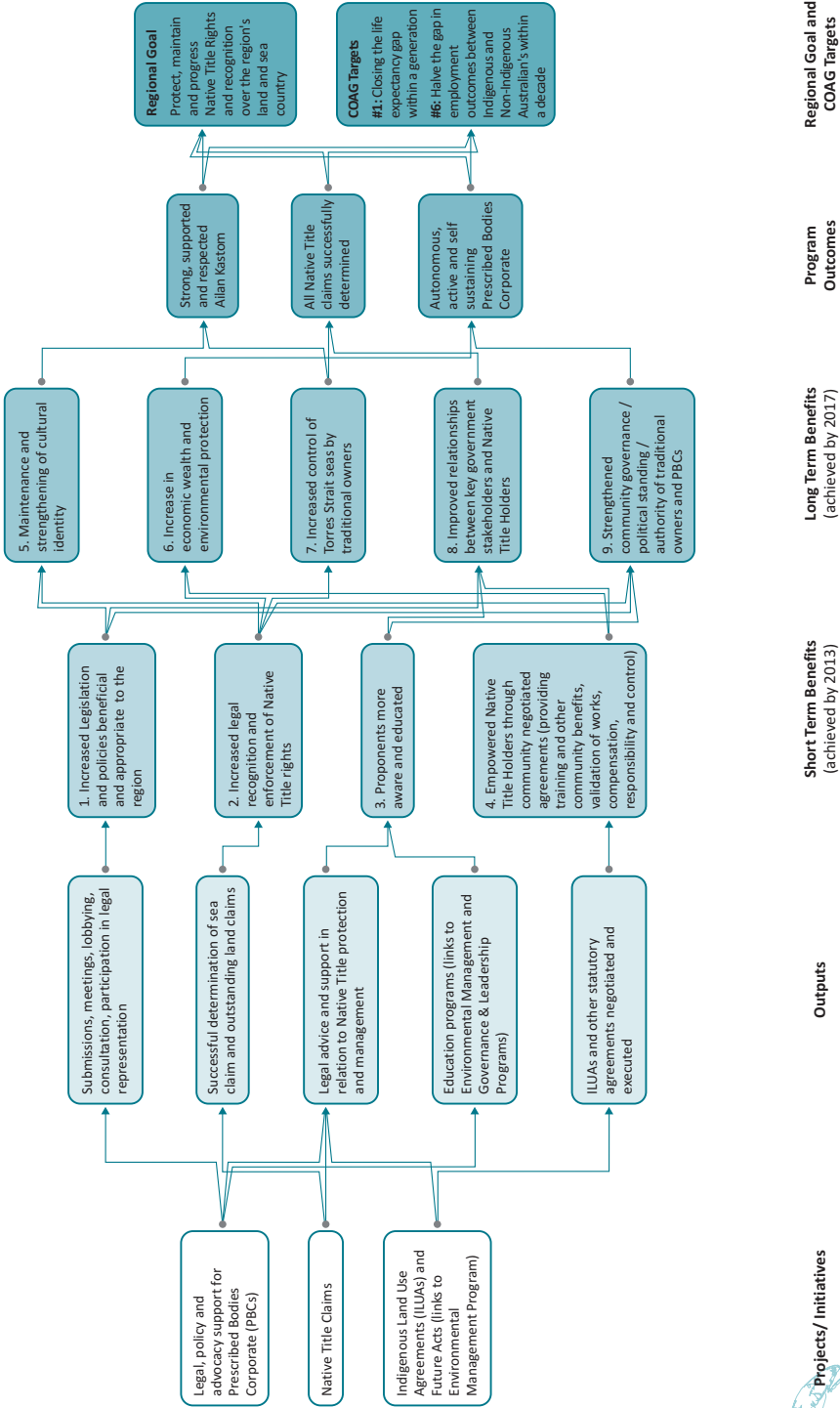
Program outcomes

- Strong, supported and respected Ailan Kastom
- All Native Title claims successfully determined
- Autonomous, active and self sustaining PBCs

Native Title Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
2,114	1,551	(563)

Native Title Program Map



Section Three



Native Title Program Projects and Achievements

Project Name: Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUAs) and Future Acts

Note: This project is the featured case study see page 112

Project Purpose

Native Title Compliance
and Infrastructure
Delivery

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Three ILUAs executed.
- Two ILUAs accepted by the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) for notification of the intention of registration of the ILUAs.
- Prominent ILUA matters progressed include:
 - Mer School ILUA finalised after a five year process of negotiation and mediation related to native title compensation;
 - Community Island Infrastructure ILUA template draft;
 - Islander Board of Industry Services (IBIS) stores template ILUA;
 - Six other major ILUAs nearing finalisation; and
 - In-principle consents and associated template ILUAs related to Capital Investment (Housing) with respect to all 14 community Islands and TSIRC Enterprise Divestment related to four community islands, including for Mer Canteen.

Project Name: Native Title Claims

Project Purpose

Native Title Determination

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Four current claimant applications:
 - Regional Sea Claim
 - All matters relating to Part A of the claimed area finalised in preparation for Justice Finn's judgment to be handed down in July; and
 - Part B adjourned pending determination of Part A.
 - Naghir Island Claim Mediation
 - Draft mediation agreement developed for purpose of mediation between the Islander parties.
 - Zuizin Island Claim
 - Connection Report passed to State with a view to progressing matter to a consent determination.
 - Warral and Ului
 - Adjourned until finalisation of Part A of the Sea Claim.

Table continued next page

The TSRA has invested in supporting capacity building for PBCs since 2008, with specific project funding available until 30 June 2011.



Above: TSRA Native Title team and Barristers at the expert hearings for the Regional Sea Claim 2009.

Section Three

Native Title Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Legal, Policy and advocacy support for Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBC)

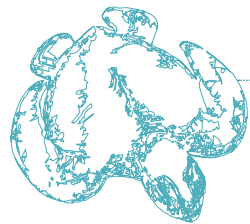
Project Purpose

Infrastructure delivery, law reform and interpretation of Native Title Act

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Three sets of law reform submissions and conduct of Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) transfer matters, including:
 - DOGIT transfer matters progressed with the development of a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between relevant PBC and community enterprise development organisation;
 - Submissions on the Native Title (Prescribed Bodies Corporate) Amendment Regulations 2010 written and submitted; and
 - Submissions on *Native Title Amendment Bill (No 2) 2009* (Cth) written and submitted.
- Submissions drafted on proposed amendments to the *Aboriginal Land Act 1999* (Qld) and the *Torres Strait Island Land Act 1991* (Qld).





Native Title Program progress against target

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Increased legislation and policies beneficial and appropriate to the region	One or more policies developed by end of 2009 - 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Provided detailed submission to the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) in regards to proposed Amendments to the <i>Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 (QLD)</i>. → Made various submissions to the Australian Government expressing its views and the views of its clients in relation to the Native Title Amendment Bill (No 2) 2009 and the proposed amendments to the Native Title (Prescribed Bodies Corporate) Regulations 1999 (Cth). → Developing a framework agreement so that public infrastructure projects can progress with the recognition and realisation of rights to compensation and other native title rights under the <i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)</i>. 	<p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian's within a decade</p> <p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p>
Increased legal recognition and enforcement of native title rights	One regional Sea Claim resolved	→ Regional Sea Claim - All submissions have been submitted by the TSRA and Justice Finn's judgement is due to be handed down in July.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	Three remaining land claims progressed by July 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Progressed Kulkalgal # 2 (Zuizin) claim and awaiting response from the Queensland Government. → Progressed Naghir land claim and this is currently in mediation. → Warral and Ului, by the direction of the Court will be progressed on resolution of the Regional Sea Claim. 	COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian's within a decade

Table continued next page

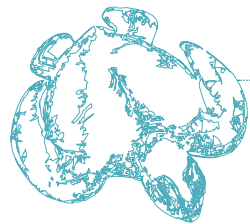
Native Title Program progress against target cont'd

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Proponents more aware and educated	Legislative requirements met for future acts (including timing and process) from 1 July 2010 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Successfully meeting legislative requirements to processing future act notices, with all future acts recorded, responded to where required, or progressed to ILUA negotiations if necessary. → Developed a framework agreement that requires proponents to consider native title implications of their proposed projects at an early stage in the process. 	<p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p> <p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian's within a decade</p>
Empowered native title holders through community negotiated agreements (providing training and other community benefits, validation of works, compensation responsibility and control)	Reduction in outstanding Indigenous Land Use Agreement matters as at July 2009, by June 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Successfully assisted Native Title holders in the negotiation of monetary compensation. → Assisted Native Title holders to secure access to important infrastructure, employment opportunities and other community benefits through the negotiation of ILUAs. → Two ILUAs negotiated. → Nine other ILUAs still in negotiation all of which provide for a range of benefits. 	<p>COAG Target 6 - Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian's within a decade</p> <p>COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation</p>

It is hoped that this ILUA can act as a template for similar projects on other islands in the Torres Strait.

(Native Title program case study p112)





Case Study - Mabuiag IBIS ILUA negotiations

Project Description

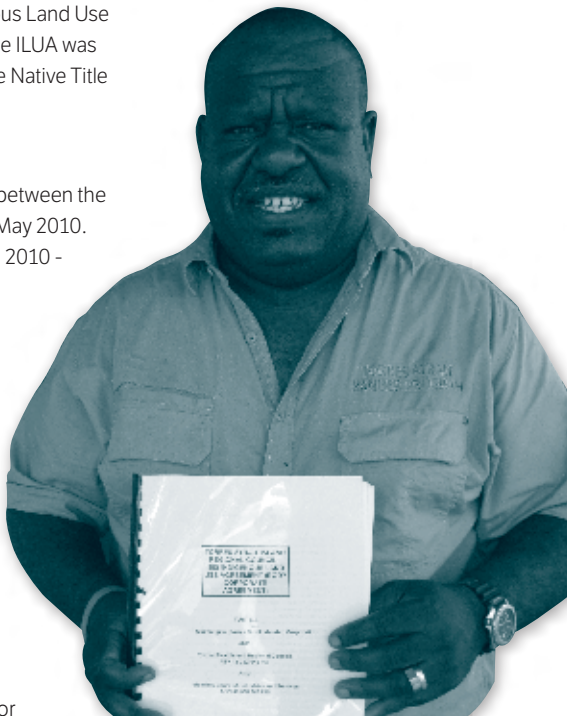
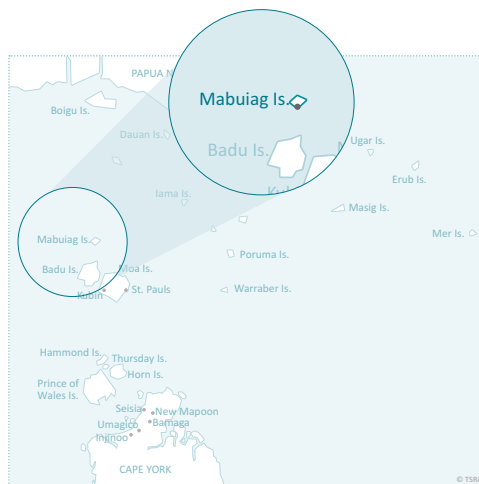
In December 2007, the TSRA received correspondence from the Islander Board of Industry and Services (IBIS), the regional food retailer, of its intention to build a new store on Mabuiag. The current store on Mabuiag is very old and highly inadequate for the growing population on Mabuiag, compromising the availability of fresh food and other essential items. Native title consent was required prior to the granting of a lease to IBIS for the construction of the new store on native title land.

Aim

The Goemulgaw (Torres Strait Islander) Corporation Registered Native Title Body Corporate (the PBC), on behalf of the Mabuiag Native Title holders were prepared to grant Native Title consent in an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) so that the store could be built. The ILUA was to provide for community benefits in exchange for the Native Title consent.

Achievements

- After over two years of negotiation, agreement between the parties was reached with the ILUA executed in May 2010. Construction of the new store will commence in 2010 - 2011.
- The ILUA provided financial compensation, community benefits and employment opportunities for Native Title holders and secure land tenure over Native Title land so that the store could be built.
- The successful negotiations identified the relationships and tensions between the protection and recognition of native title rights and cultural heritage, the community need for the store, PBC and local government interactions and commercial versus community interests.
- It is hoped that this ILUA can act as a template for similar projects on other islands in the Torres Strait.



Above: Mr Terence Whap, Chair, Goemulgaw (TSI) Corporation RNTBC, with the signed ILUA.

Native Title Representative Body Reporting

The information reported as follows is specific to TSRA's Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) function under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.

Overview of TSRA as a Native Title Representative Body

NTRBs are primarily responsible for providing Native Title and related assistance to constituents in their prescribed regions effectively and equitably. Constituents are those persons who hold or may hold Native Title in the region where the NTRB performs its functions. On that basis, one of the guiding principles for the operations of NTRBs is their responsibility to act in the best interests of their constituents.

The TSRA through its Native Title Office (NTO) performs the NTRB functions for the Torres Strait region. The TSRA was initially appointed as a recognised NTRB under the *Native Title Act (Cth) 1993* in 1996. The 1998 amendments to the Act required NTRBs to re-apply for recognition and following an independent examination, the TSRA was reinstated as the NTRB for the Torres Strait. In 2007, the Australian Government announced reforms to the Native Title system including the need to re-recognise all NTRBs. The TSRA was invited to re-apply for recognition and was subsequently advised that it would be recognised as the Torres Strait NTRB for a further six years.

The performance of the NTO's functions is also consistent with the overall TSRA operational planning framework. The NTO Operational Plan for the 2009 - 2010 reporting period was developed and aligns to the TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013 (as outlined on page 62). The Operational Plan contains a report on the 2008 - 2009 performance as well as a work plan for 2009 - 2010 work year and expected expenditure. Together with the TSRA Development Plan the operations of the NTO are clearly documented and accounted for.

Prescribed Bodies Corporate

When a favourable determination of native title is made by the Federal Court the Traditional Owners are required to establish a Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) in order to hold that title. PBCs must be incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006*. The PBC model was adopted to enable Native Title communal property rights to interact meaningfully with Australian property law. The model ensures that the group is represented by a legal entity vested with authority to make binding decisions on its behalf, thus ensuring legal certainty for any parties wishing to negotiate, conduct business or make agreements with the Native Title holding group. The TSRA recognises that PBCs have specific functions and obligations under both the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* and the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders) Act 2006 (Cth)*.

As such the TSRA has invested in supporting capacity building for PBCs since 2008, with specific project funding available until 30 June 2011. In 2010 - 2011 the TSRA will review how it may better support the Torres Strait region's PBCs into the future.

Legislative Functions of the TSRA in its NTRB Capacity

As an NTRB, the TSRA through the NTO performs specific functions under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. These include:

- Facilitating the research, preparation and making of claims by groups of Aboriginal peoples or Torres Strait Islanders, for determinations of Native Title and for compensation for acts affecting their Native Title;





- Assisting in the resolution of disputes within groups about the making of such claims;
- Assisting groups by representing them, if requested to do so, in negotiations and proceedings relating to the doing of acts affecting Native Title, the provision of compensation in relation to such acts and any other matter relevant to the operation of the Act; and
- Facilitating support and assistance to PBCs.

The legislative functions of NTRBs are set out in section 203B of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* which states as follows:

- (1) A representative body has the following functions:
- (a) The facilitation and assistance functions referred to in section 203BB;
 - (b) The certification functions referred to in section 203BE;
 - (c) The dispute resolution functions referred to in section 203BF;
 - (d) The notification functions referred to in section 203BG;
 - (e) The agreement making function referred to in section 203BH;
 - (f) The internal review functions referred to in section 203BI; and
 - (g) The functions referred to in section 203BJ and such other functions as are conferred on representative bodies by this Act.

A representative body may only perform its facilitation and assistance functions if requested to do so.

Organisational Structure and Corporate Governance Policies

As a section of the TSRA, NTO staff are included in the organisational structure reproduced at Appendix 1 of this report. Similarly, NTO staff are bound by the same corporate governance policies that apply to the TSRA generally.

Management of Human Resources

The NTO staff structure consists of six employees all of whom live in the region: a Principal Legal Officer, one Senior Legal Officer, one Legal Officer, a Paralegal, a Senior Administration Officer and an Administration Assistant. Since 2005, the NTO has also had eight law students undertake legal internships through the Aurora Project. One student has also undertaken Practical Legal Training.

Workforce planning, occupational health and safety performances, indemnities and insurance premiums for NTO staff are included within the TSRA overall procedures and policies.

All NTO staff are subject to the 2009 - 2011 TSRA Enterprise Agreement, with no Native Title staff on Australian Workplace Agreements.

There was turn-over of staff within the 2009 - 2010 reporting period and these positions were filled within the reporting period.

As a section of the TSRA, NTO staff members participated in training and development undertaken by all TSRA staff in addition to the training and development requirements legal practitioners in Queensland are required to meet under the relevant legislation.

Native Title Office Representation of Equal Employment Opportunity Groups within classification levels at 30 June 2010

Classification	Female	Male	Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal	People With a Disability
Executive Level 2	0	1	0	0
Executive Level 1	0	1	0	0
APS Level 6	1	0	0	0
APS Level 5	1	0	0	0
APS Level 4	1	0	1	0
APS Level 2	1	0	1	0
Total	4	2	2	0

NTO Consultancies for the 2009 - 2010 Reporting Period

The NTO also uses external legal counsel and external consultants to meet its strategic objectives. The NTO engaged consultants during the reporting period. A list of NTO consultants is listed below.

Legal

Robert Blowes SC – Senior Counsel for the Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim
 Tom Keely – Junior Counsel for the Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim
 David Yarrow – Counsel assisting with Sea Claim extinguishment submissions
 Tina Jowett – Counsel assisting with the negotiation of ILUAs
 HWL Ebsworth – advice and opinions on various matters including ILUAs
 Micheal Neal – independent legal representation for Naghir matter
 Jim Brooks – independent legal representation for Naghir matter
 Oliver Gilkerson – advice and assistance with the Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) transfer and development of an Infrastructure ILUA
 Norton Rose – (pro bono) – advice with the Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) transfer
 Chalk and Fitzgerald – Kaurareg Aboriginal Sea Claim

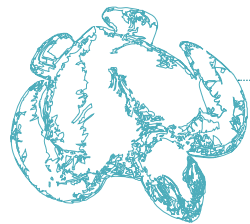
Anthropological

Dr Garrick Hitchcock – Sea Claim anthropological advice and Zuizin anthropological research
 Dr Kingsley Palmer – Naghir anthropological advice

Report on Performance

See “Projects and Achievements” and “Progress against targets” tables on pages 108 - 111 and the statistical data in the following pages.





Statistical Data

Facilitation And Assistance	Report On Number Only
Claimant Applications	4 ¹
Filed this year	Nil
Number current	4
Number registered with NNTT	4 ²
Non claimant applications	Nil
Agreements	3
→ Indigenous land use agreements finalised	3
→ Indigenous land use agreements finalised but not yet executed	Nil
Leases	Nil
→ Determination Deeds finalised but not yet executed	Nil
Other Agreements	10
Total Agreements	13
Compensation claims	Nil
Future Act Notices received	135
Responses to Future Acts	130
Objections to Future Acts	115
Determinations of Native Title	Nil
ILUAs registered	1
Disputes relating to Native Title applications	3
Disputes relating to ILUAs, rights of access and other matters	1
Number of ILUAs effected	1
Number of reviews pending	Nil
Number of reviews completed	Nil
Number of PBCs established	Nil
Number of PBCs assisted	21
Number of claims certified	Nil
Number of ILUAs certified	Nil

- 1 The Kaurareg people have lodged two separate sea claims that overlap areas claimed in the Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim. These overlapping claims fall within the TSRA's NTRB area. However, the Kaurareg have not requested legal advice from the TSRA, instead electing to use different legal representation funded by the TSRA.
- 2 As per footnote 1, the Kaurareg sea claims are registered with the NNTT and fall within the TSRA's NTRB area but are not represented by the TSRA.

Statements for the Purpose of the Native Title Act

The TSRA is a recognised NTRB and has legislative functions pursuant to section 203B of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. This Native Title program reporting section as contained within the TSRA Annual Report 2009 - 2010 is also a report for the purposes of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.

Financial Performance of the TSRA in NTRB Capacity

For the 2009 - 2010 financial year, the NTO was funded an amount of \$2,114,000 for their ongoing operations.

The financial performance of the TSRA in its NTRB capacity is outlined in the following expenditure report:

NTRB Functions	Actual 2008 - 2009 \$'000	Budget 2009 - 2010 \$'000	Actual 2009 - 2010 \$'000	Variation \$'000
Expenditure				
Capital	-	-	-	
Activities	3,267	1,784	909	875
Corporate	763	330	642	-312
<i>Total</i>	4,030	2,114	1,551	563
Income				
Revenue from Government	1,817	2,114	2,114	-
Activity Generated Income				
Interest	84			
Reversal of previous Asset writedowns	57			
Other	45			-
<i>Total</i>	2,003	2,114	2,114	-
Surplus / Deficit	2,027	-	563	-563

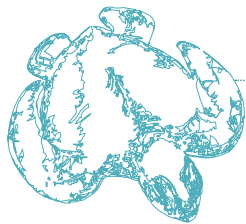
External Scrutiny

As a section of the TSRA, the NTO has been audited in accordance with the audit reports set out in the financial statements on pages 128 - 170.

Compliance Index - NTRB

For the purpose of identifying where the required information is located for NTRB compliance please see the Compliance Index located on page 209 of this document.





Safe Communities

Regional Goals

Safe, healthy, respectful and progressive communities, based on Ailan Kastom and Aboriginal traditions (Communities)

Strong families and safe and healthy communities that are guided by cultural and traditional lore (Social Services)

Aim of Program

- Contributing to the development of standards for the provision of all mainstream social services and facilities, including emergency response services, through engagement with responsible agencies
- Undertaking a policy advocacy, monitoring and supporting role with respect to mainstream services, advocating and acting as a solution broker on behalf of communities and the region, using integrated service delivery forums
- Providing direct funding and resource support for some social support services, and infrastructure, facilities and equipment, that contribute to improved safety and accessibility of communities and families (the TSRA will not provide mainstream social or community services)

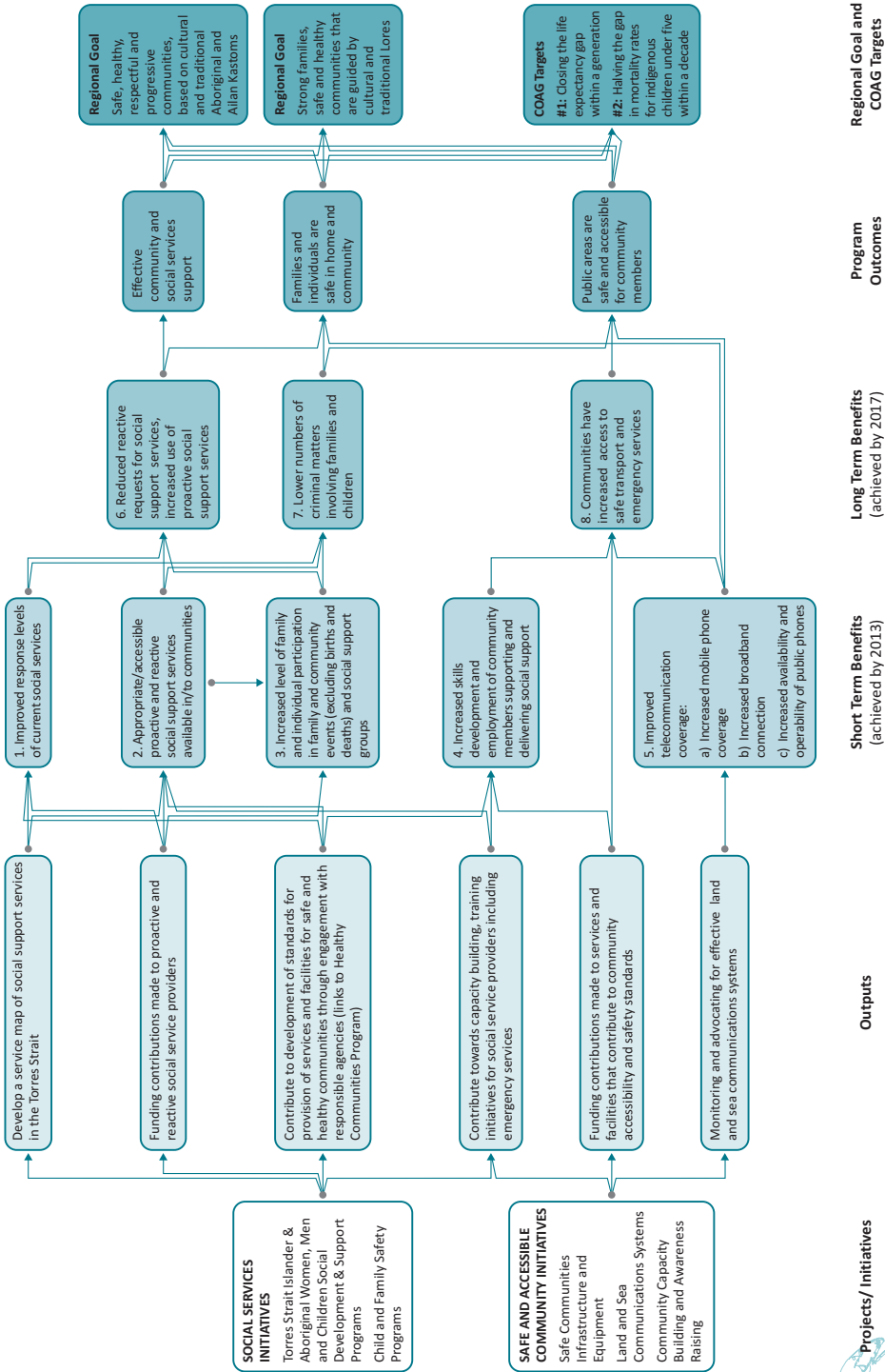
Program Outcomes

- Effective community and social services support
- Families and individuals are safe in home and community
- Public areas are safe and accessible for community members

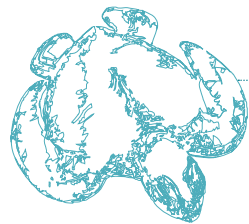
Safe Communities Expenditure 2009 - 2010

Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
2,766	2,925	159

Safe Communities Program Map



Section Three



Safe Community Program Projects and Achievements

Project Name: Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Women, Men and Children Social Development and Support Programs

Project Purpose

To fund organisations and monitor their performance against meeting outcomes that contribute to ensuring safe, healthy, respectful and progressive communities, based on Ailan Kastoms and Aboriginal traditions.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Successfully supported the Port Kennedy Association, Mura Kosker Sorority and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Service (ATSICLS) (NQ) to deliver social support services to Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Women, men and children.
- The Port Kennedy Association Incorporated undertook a number of activities which include operating Vacation Care services, the Mura Kaimel Playgroup, a Social Worker Program, providing a Disability Support Service and developing and staging community events.
- The Mura Kosker Sorority delivered a range of Social Services Programs including the Old Peoples Action Program (OPAP); Emergency Relief Program (ERF); Child and Family Support Services (CAFS); Indigenous Domestic and Family Violence Counselling; Indigenous Consumer Assistance Network (ICAN) and Legal Aid Queensland Services.
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Service (ATSICLS) North Queensland contributed to the Safe Communities Program Objectives, by providing the following activities in relation to the provision of legal aid services to Indigenous Australians in the Torres Strait and the Bamaga and Seisia communities that are located in the NPA.

Project Name: Child and Family Safety programs

Project Purpose

To fund organisations and monitor their performance against meeting outcomes that contribute to ensuring safe, healthy, respectful and progressive communities, based on Ailan Kastoms and Aboriginal traditions.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Supported the licensing of two child care centres based on Hammond Island and Kubin Community through funding to the TSIRC.

Table continued next page

Safe Community Program Projects and Achievements cont'd

Project Name: Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Safe Communities Infrastructure and Equipment / Airstrips and Marine Transport Infrastructure*Note: This project is the featured case study see page 124***Project Purpose**

To contribute towards improved safety of the Indigenous people of the region through a contribution to the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS). TIDS is a Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads program which provides for the upgrade of community airstrips, roads and marine infrastructure in the region.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Program planning and administration (including Prince of Wales Jetty Study).
- Kubin Barge Ramp Repair.
- Poruma Island Barge ramp Repair.
- Kubin Airstrip Reseal.
- Badu Island Airstrip Reseal.
- Mabuiag Island Airstrip Reseal.
- Saibai Island Airstrip Reseal.
- Boigu Island Airstrip Reseal.

Project Name: Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Land and Sea Communication Systems**Project Purpose**

To engage with relevant Government bodies to advocate for effective land and sea communications.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Project will proceed in 2010 - 2011.

Project Name: Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Community Capacity Building and Awareness Raising**Project Purpose**

To deliver community capacity building and awareness raising initiatives for Indigenous individuals and / or organisations within the Torres Strait region.

Achievements for 2009 - 2010

- Project will proceed in 2010 - 2011.





Safe Community Program progress against target

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Improved response levels of current social services	Level of community satisfaction gauged through transition review survey of service delivery, realised by 2011	→ Transition review of funded organisations completed.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade
Appropriate / accessible proactive and reactive social services available in / to communities	Service map showing all social support services and identifying service delivery gaps in the Torres Strait presented to Integrated / Regional Service Delivery Steering Committee by June 2010	→ Regional Planning Working Group Meeting for Safe Communities currently undertaking service mapping process with other agencies.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade
	Level of community satisfaction gauged through transition review survey of service delivery, realised by 2011	→ Transition review of funded organisations completed.	
Increased level of family and individual participation in family and community events and social support groups	Five percent improvement in participation and two additional events supported commencing July 2010, to a maximum of six additional events by 2013	→ Supported eight community events. → Continued support for the delivery of the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC).	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade

Table continued next page

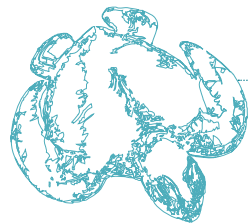
Safe Community Program progress against target cont'd

Short Term Benefit Description	Benefit Target	Progress	COAG Target
Increased skills development and employment of community members supporting and delivering social support	Two community members provided with skills development training	→ Facilitated preliminary discussions to support capacity building / training opportunities for social service providers.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
	Two community members provided with employment in the social services area realised annually from 2010 to 2013		COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade
a) Increased mobile phone coverage	Five percent increase / improvement in coverage realised by 2013	→ Commenced project planning and scope.	COAG Target 1 - Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation
b) Increased broadband connection			COAG Target 2 - Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade
c) Increased availability and operability of public phones			

The initiative serves to improve the communities' quality of life through access to barge services which carry the bulk of the region's food and building supplies.

(Safe Communities program case study p124)





Case Study: Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS): Repairs to Poruma Island and Kubin Barge Ramps Projects

Project Description

The barge ramps in the communities at Poruma Island and Kubin (Moa Island) were constructed in the early 1990's from precast, reinforced concrete components. Over subsequent years, the barge ramps have sustained damage from vessel operation and cargo handling activities, necessitating substantial repair.

These two projects are part of the response by the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) to the recommendations of the *Torres Strait Transport Infrastructure Plan of 2006*. This Plan was an initiative of Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) and the TSRA, and is part of a strategy aimed at improving access and transportation facilities to the isolated outer island communities of the Torres Strait region. The initiative also serves to improve the communities' quality of life through access to barge services which carry the bulk of the region's food and building supplies.

The projects are funded by the TSRA and the DTMR as joint sponsors under the TIDS program.

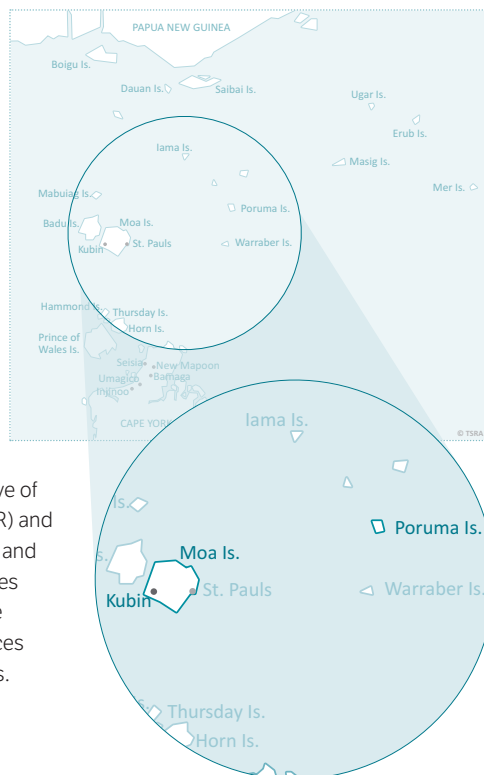
Aim

Poruma Island: This project aimed to replace the barge ramp at Poruma Island and involved on-site works to construct a new reinforced concrete ramp, along with pre-cast toe planks at the lower section and an on-site cast jointing section.

Kubin (Moa Island): This project aimed to deliver repair works to the barge ramp at the Kubin community, and involved the replacement of damaged toe planks with new precast concrete toe planks at the lower section of the ramp.

Achievements

- The works to both communities were completed in early 2009 - 2010 at a total project cost of \$915,000. The Poruma Island and Kubin communities now have improved barge ramps contributing to safer more reliable barge freight services.
- The replacement and repairs of barge ramps in the outer Torres Strait Island communities will continue to provide substantial outcomes and improvements in the quality of life for the Indigenous people of the region.
- The projects also provide good examples of the importance of strategic planning and the need for a guide, such as the Torres Strait Transport Infrastructure Plan, for longer term direction and investment in infrastructure.



The replacement and repairs of barge ramps in the outer Torres Strait Island communities will continue to provide substantial outcomes and improvements in the quality of life for the Indigenous people of the region.



Above: Poruma Island Barge ramp undergoing repair.



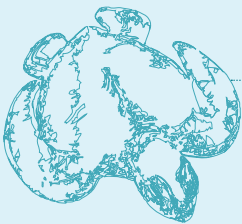


Section Four:

Financial

Statements





INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Scope

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Torres Strait Regional Authority for the year ended 30 June 2010, which comprise: a Statement by the Directors, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer, Statement of Comprehensive Income; Balance Sheet; Statement of Changes in Equity; Cash Flow Statement; Schedule of Commitments; Schedule of Contingencies; Schedule of Asset Additions; and Notes to and forming part of the financial statements, including a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.

The Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, including the Australian Accounting Standards (which include the Australian Accounting Interpretations). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit.

I have conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of

GPO Box 707 CANBERRA ACT 2601
19 National Circuit BARTON ACT 2600
Phone (02) 6203 7300 Fax (02) 6203 7777

material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to Torres Strait Regional Authority's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Torres Strait Regional Authority's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting the audit, I have followed the independence requirements of the Australian National Audit Office, which incorporate the requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of Torres Strait Regional Authority:

- (a) have been prepared in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, including the Australian Accounting Standards; and
- (b) give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders including Torres Strait Regional Authority's financial position as at 30 June 2010 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office



Mark A Moloney

Senior Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

3 September 2010



**STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTORS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2010 are based on properly maintained financial records and give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997, as amended*.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Torres Strait Regional Authority will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Signed


Mr J T Kris
Chairperson

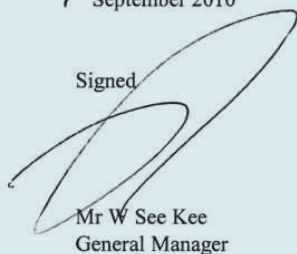
/ September 2010

Signed


Ms N Bin Tahal
Deputy Chairperson

/ September 2010

Signed


Mr W See Kee
General Manager

/ September 2010

Signed


Mr C de Mamiel
Chief Financial Officer

/ September 2010

Table of Contents

Statement of Comprehensive Income
Balance Sheet
Statement of Changes in Equity
Cash Flow Statement
Schedule of Commitments
Schedule of Contingencies
Schedule of Asset Additions
Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
Note 2: Events after the Reporting Period
Note 3: Expenses
Note 4: Income
Note 5: Financial Assets
Note 6: Non-Financial Assets
Note 7: Payables
Note 8: Provisions
Note 9: Cash Flow Reconciliation
Note 10: Contingent Liabilities and Assets
Note 11: Directors Remuneration
Note 12: Related Party Disclosures
Note 13: Executive Remuneration
Note 14: Remuneration of Auditors
Note 15: Financial Instruments
Note 16: Assets held in Trust
Note 17: Reporting of Outcomes





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the year ended 30 June 2010

		2010	2009
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
EXPENSES			
Employee benefits	3A	7,796	6,506
Supplier expenses	3B	13,258	11,799
Grants	3C	48,894	51,349
Depreciation	3D	706	499
Write-down and impairment of assets	3E	580	481
Loss on disposal of non-financial assets	3F	-	11
Total Expenses		<u>71,234</u>	<u>70,645</u>
LESS:			
OWN-SOURCE INCOME			
Own-source revenue			
Sale of goods and rendering of services	4A	486	414
Interest	4B	1,447	1,650
Other	4C	3,681	18,713
Total own-source revenue		<u>5,614</u>	<u>20,777</u>
Gains			
Reversals of previous asset write-downs	4D	27	812
Other gains	4E	1	800
Total gains		<u>28</u>	<u>1,612</u>
Total own-source income		<u>5,642</u>	<u>22,389</u>
Net cost of services		<u>65,592</u>	<u>48,256</u>
Revenue from Government	4F	67,391	51,904
Surplus attributable to the Australian Government		<u>1,799</u>	<u>3,648</u>
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Changes in asset revaluation reserves		(157)	2,378
Total other comprehensive income		<u>(157)</u>	<u>2,378</u>
Total comprehensive income		<u>1,642</u>	<u>6,026</u>
Total comprehensive income attributable to the Australian Government		<u>1,642</u>	<u>6,026</u>

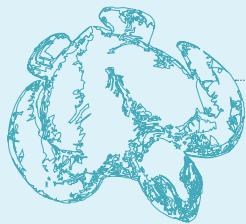
The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
BALANCE SHEET
as at 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
ASSETS			
Financial Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5A	32,551	25,466
Trade and other receivables	5B	6,833	7,133
Total financial assets		39,384	32,599
Non-Financial Assets			
Land and buildings	6A	21,286	20,474
Plant and equipment	6B,C	685	471
Total non-financial assets		21,971	20,945
Total Assets		61,355	53,544
LIABILITIES			
Payables			
Suppliers	7A	1,675	515
Grants	7B	11,955	7,976
Other	7C	1,356	610
Total payables		14,986	9,101
Provisions			
Employee provisions	8A	1,720	1,436
Total provisions		1,720	1,436
Total Liabilities		16,706	10,537
Net Assets		44,649	43,007
EQUITY			
Contributed equity		32	32
Reserves		8,890	9,047
Retained surplus		35,727	33,928
Total Equity		44,649	43,007

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
STATEMENT of CHANGES in EQUITY
for the year ended 30 June 2010

	Retained Surplus		Asset Revaluation Reserves		Contributed Equity		Total Equity	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance								
Balance carried forward from previous period	33,928	30,280	9,047	6,669	32	32	43,007	36,981
Adjusted opening balance	33,928	30,280	9,047	6,669	32	32	43,007	36,981
Comprehensive income								
Other comprehensive income	-	-	(157)	2,378	-	-	(157)	2,378
Surplus for the period	1,799	3,648	-	-	-	-	1,799	3,648
Total comprehensive income	1,799	3,648	(157)	2,378	-	-	1,642	6,026
of which:								
Attributable to the Australian Government	1,799	3,648	(157)	2,378	-	-	1,642	6,026
Closing Balance attributable to the Australian Government	35,727	33,928	8,890	9,047	32	32	44,649	43,007

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Goods and services		4,552	19,951
Receipts from Government		67,391	51,904
Interest		1,038	1,531
Net GST received		6,414	4,321
Total cash received		<u>79,395</u>	<u>77,707</u>
Cash used			
Employees		(7,512)	(6,315)
Suppliers		(13,519)	(11,387)
Loan payments		(409)	(284)
Grants		(49,406)	(49,366)
Total cash used		<u>(70,846)</u>	<u>(67,352)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities	9	<u>8,549</u>	<u>10,355</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Loan receipts		971	899
Total cash received		<u>971</u>	<u>899</u>
Cash used			
Loan payments		(547)	(1,607)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(1,888)	(436)
Total cash used		<u>(2,435)</u>	<u>(2,043)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(1,464)</u>	<u>(1,144)</u>
Net increase in cash held		<u>7,085</u>	<u>9,211</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		25,466	16,255
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	5A	<u>32,551</u>	<u>25,466</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS
as at 30 June 2010

BY TYPE	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
Commitments receivable		
Sublease rental income	(1,279)	(1,507)
GST recoverable on commitments	(77)	(29)
Total commitments receivable	(1,356)	(1,536)
Operating lease commitments payable		
Operating leases	419	735
Project commitments	1,268	1,158
Total other commitments	1,687	1,893
Net commitments by type	331	357
BY MATURITY		
Commitments receivable		
Operating lease income		
One year or less	(272)	(291)
From one to five years	(1,007)	(1,216)
Total operating lease income	(1,279)	(1,507)
Other commitments receivable		
One year or less	(77)	(29)
Total other commitments receivable	(77)	(29)
Operating lease commitments payable		
One year or less	272	384
From one to five years	147	351
Total operating lease commitments payable	419	735
Other Commitments		
One year or less	1,268	1,158
Total other commitments	1,268	1,158
Net Commitments by Maturity	331	357

Operating leases included are effectively non-cancellable and comprise:

Commitments Receivable

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) receives rental income from the provision of staff housing. This is a necessary activity given the geographic location and housing availability in the Torres Strait.

Lease for office and residential accommodation

Lease payments exist for office accommodation. The lease increases at CPI each year and is for a period of 4 years with an option to extend for 1 additional year.

The TSRA currently leases 8 houses for staff accommodation. Lease terms range from 1 month to 2 years with varying expiry dates. Two of these leases have the option to extend for 1 further year.

Agreement for the provision of motor vehicles

One vehicle is leased for senior executive officer use. Four vehicles are leased for operating activities of the TSRA. There are no contingent rentals and no renewal or purchase options are available to the TSRA.

Leases for information and communication technology equipment

Leases are in place for telephone systems and standard office equipment for operating activities of the TSRA. Rates are fixed for the term of all leases with no purchase options available. Two telephone system leases began in June 2007 and one in October 2008 for a 5 year term and two multi-function device leases began in December 2008 for a 4 year term and two multi-function device leases began in November 2009 for a 37 month term. There are no options for extension on these lease arrangements.

Project Commitments

TSRA has committed to projects for furthering the Yorke Sponge Farm and enterprise divestment and associated capacity building in the Torres Strait region following the Local Government amalgamations in Queensland in 2008. These projects are at various stages of progression and payment of grant funds will be made upon satisfactory achievement of the applicable milestones.

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF CONTINGENCIES**

as at 30 June 2010

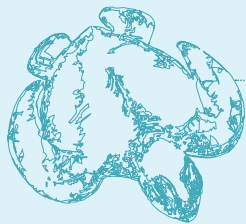
	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
Contingent liabilities		
Bank guarantee	-	116
Total Contingent Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>116</u>
Net Contingent Assets (Liabilities)	<u>-</u>	<u>(116)</u>

Details of each class of contingent liabilities and contingent assets listed above are disclosed in Note 10: Contingent Liabilities and Assets, along with significant remote contingencies and contingencies that cannot be quantified.

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Section Four





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF ASSET ADDITIONS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

The following non-financial non-current assets were added in 2009-10

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Plant & equipment \$'000	Heritage & cultural \$'000	Total \$'000
Additions funded in the current year					
By purchase - Government Funding	-	1,417	479	-	1,896
Total additions	-	1,417	479	-	1,896

The following non-financial non-current assets were added in 2008-09:

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Plant & equipment \$'000	Heritage & cultural \$'000	Total \$'000
Additions funded in the current year					
By purchase - Government Funding	-	204	243	-	447
Assets acquired	395	405	-	-	800
Total additions funded in the current year	395	609	243	-	1,247

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

1.1 Objective of the Torres Strait Regional Authority

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) is an Australian Government controlled entity. The objective of the Torres Strait Regional Authority is to achieve a better quality of life and develop an economic base for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal persons living in the Torres Strait.

The TSRA is structured to meet one outcome:

Outcome 1: To achieve a better quality of life and develop an economic base for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal persons living in the Torres Strait.

The continued existence of the TSRA in its present form and with its present programs is dependent on Government policy and on continuing funding by Parliament for the TSRA's administration and programs.

1.2 Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements and notes are required by clause 1(b) of Schedule 1 to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* and are general purpose financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Finance Minister's Orders (or FMO) for reporting periods ending on or after 1 July 2009; and
- Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified.

Unless an alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard or the FMO, assets and liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet when and only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to TSRA or a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and the amounts of the assets or liabilities can be reliably measured. However, assets and liabilities arising under Agreements Equally Proportionately Unperformed are not recognised unless required by an accounting standard. Liabilities and assets that are unrecognised are reported in the schedule of commitments or the schedule of contingencies.

Unless alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard, income and expenses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when and only when the flow, consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be reliably measured.

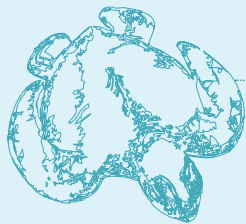
1.3 Significant Accounting Judgements and Estimates

In the process of applying the accounting policies listed in this note, the TSRA has made the following judgements that have the most significant impact on the amounts recorded in the financial statements:

- The fair value of land and buildings has been taken to be the market value of similar properties as determined by an independent valuer as detailed in Note 1.16.
- The initial fair value of concessional loans is taken to be the present value of all future cash receipts, discounted using the prevailing market rate of interest for instruments of a similar structure (currency, term, type of interest rate, credit risk). Subsequently the value of the loan is derived by applying the amortised cost using the effective interest method, with the initial market rate as the effective rate, and anticipated cash flows based on contracted repayment terms, resulting in the amortisation of the discount over the anticipated life of the loan.

No accounting assumptions or estimates have been identified that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next accounting period.





1.4 New Accounting Standards

Adoption of New Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

No accounting standard has been adopted earlier than the application date as stated in the standard. The following standards and amendments to standards are applicable to the current reporting period:

AASB 101 : Presentation of Financial Statements

The Australian Accounting Standards Board revised AASB101 and as a result, there have been changes to the presentation and disclosure of certain information within the financial statements. Below is an overview of the key changes of the impact on the financial statements.

Disclosure impact

Terminology changes – The revised version of AASB 101 contains a number of terminology changes, including the amendment of the names of the primary financial statements.

Reporting changes in equity – The revised AASB 101 requires all changes in equity from transactions with owners, in their capacity as owners, to be presented separately from non-owner changes in equity.

Owner changes in equity are to be presented in the statement of changes in equity, with non-owner changes in equity presented in the statement of comprehensive income. The previous version of AASB 101 required that owner changes in equity and other comprehensive income be presented in the statement of changes in equity.

Statement of comprehensive income – The revised AASB 101 requires all income and expenses to be presented in the statement of comprehensive income.

Other comprehensive income – the revised version of AASB 101 introduces the concept of other comprehensive income which comprises income and expenditure that are not recognised in profit or loss as required by other Australian Accounting Standards. Items of other comprehensive income are to be disclosed in the statement of comprehensive income.

Other new standards/revised standards/Interpretations/amending standards that are applicable to the current reporting period did not have a financial impact, and are not expected to have a future financial impact on the entity.

AASB 1 First-time Adoption of Australian Accounting Standards - May 2009 (Principal)

AASB 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors - July 2008 (Compilation)

AASB 110 Events after the Reporting Period - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 117 Leases - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 118 Revenue - August 2008 (Compilation).

AASB 119 Employee Benefits - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 120 Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance - July 2008 (Compilation)

AASB 132 Financial Instruments: Presentation - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 136 Impairment of Assets - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets - June 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement - October 2009 (Compilation)

AASB 1031 Materiality - December 2007 (Compilation)

AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards - June 2010 (Principal)

AASB 1049 Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting - September 2008 (Compilation)

Interp. 4 Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease - June 2009 (Compilation)

Interp. 127 Evaluating the Substance of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a Lease - June 2009 (Compilation)

Interp. 1019 The Superannuation Contributions Surcharge - December 2007 (Compilation)

Interp. 1031 Accounting for the Goods and Services Tax (GST) - December 2007 (Compilation)

Future Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

The following new standards/revised standards/Interpretations/amending standards were issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, which are expected to have a financial impact:

- AASB 9: Financial Instruments and AASB 2009–11: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 10 & 12] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2013).

These Standards are applicable retrospectively and amend the classification and measurement of financial assets. TSRA has not yet determined any potential impact on the financial statements.

The changes made to accounting requirements include:

- simplifying the classifications of financial assets into those carried at amortised cost and those carried at fair value;
- removing the tainting rules associated with held-to-maturity assets;
- requiring financial assets to be reclassified where there is a change in an entity's business model as they are initially classified based on: (a) the objective of the entity's business model for managing the financial assets; and (b) the characteristics of the contractual cash flows.

- AASB 124: Related Party Disclosures (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2011).

This Standard removes the requirement for government-related entities to disclose details of all transactions with the government and other government-related entities and clarifies the definition of a 'related party' to remove inconsistencies and simplify the structure of the Standard. No changes are expected to materially affect TSRA.

- AASB 2009–4: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project [AASB 2 and AASB 138 and AASB Interpretations 9 & 16] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing from 1 July 2009) and AASB 2009–5: Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project [AASB 5, 8, 101, 107, 117, 118, 136 & 139] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing from 1 January 2010).

These Standards detail numerous non-urgent but necessary changes to Accounting Standards arising from the IASB's annual improvements project. No changes are expected to materially affect TSRA.

- AASB 2009–12: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 5, 8, 108, 110, 112, 119, 133, 137, 139, 1023 & 1031 and Interpretations 2, 4, 16, 1039 & 1052] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2011).

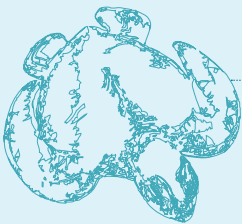
This Standard makes a number of editorial amendments to a range of Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, including amendments to reflect changes made to the text of IFRSs by the IASB. The Standard also amends AASB 8 to require entities to exercise judgment in assessing whether a government and entities known to be under the control of that government are considered a single customer for the purposes of certain operating segment disclosures. The impacts of the amendments will be in the form of disclosure.

- AASB 2010–4 Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project [AASB 1, AASB 7, AASB 101 & AASB 134 and Interpretation 13] (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2011).

This standard amends the identified standards providing additional disclosure requirements.

There were additional new standards/revised standards/Interpretations/amending standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board which are not listed above that are not relevant to the operations of TSRA.





1.5 Revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when:

- The risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer;
- The TSRA retains no managerial involvement nor effective control over the goods;
- The revenue and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- It is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the TSRA.

Receivables for goods and services, which have 30 day terms, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any impairment allowance account. Collectability of debts is reviewed as at the end of reporting period. Allowances are made when collectability of the debt is no longer probable.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method as set out in AASB 139

Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement.

Resources Received Free of Charge

Resources received free of charge are recognised as gains when, and only when, a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. Use of those resources is recognised as an expense.

Resources received free of charge are recorded as either revenue or gains depending on their nature.

Revenues from Government

Funding received or receivable from agencies (appropriated to the agency as a CAC Act body payment item for payment to TSRA) is recognised as Revenue from Government unless they are in the nature of an equity injection or a loan.

1.6 Gains

Resources Received Free of Charge

Resources received free of charge are recognised as gains when, and only when, a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. Use of those resources is recognised as an expense.

Resources received free of charge are recorded as either revenue or gains depending on their nature.

Contributions of assets at no cost of acquisition or for nominal consideration are recognised as gains at their fair value when the asset qualifies for recognition, unless received from another Government agency or authority as a consequence of a restructuring of administrative arrangements.

Sale of Assets

Gains from disposal of non-financial assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

1.7 Transactions with the Government as Owner

Equity Injections

Amounts that are designated as equity injections for a year are recognised directly in contributed equity in that year.

Other Distributions to Owners

The FMO require that distributions to owners be debited to contributed equity unless in the nature of a dividend.

1.8 Employee Benefits

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits (as defined in AASB 119) and termination benefits due within twelve months of the end of the reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts.

The nominal amount is calculated with regard to the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.

Other long-term employee benefits are measured as net total of the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period minus the fair value at the end of the reporting period of plan assets (if any) out of which the obligations are to be settled directly.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of the TSRA is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that applied at the time the leave is taken, including the TSRA's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The liability for long service leave has been determined by reference to the work of an actuary as at 30 June 2010. The estimate of the present value of the liability takes into account attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

Separation and Redundancy

Provision is made for separation and redundancy benefit payments. The TSRA recognises a provision for termination when it has developed a detailed formal plan for the terminations and has informed those employees affected that it will carry out the terminations.

Superannuation

Staff of the TSRA are members of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS), the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS) or the PSS accumulation plan (PSSap).

The CSS and PSS are defined benefit schemes for the Australian Government. The PSSap is a defined contribution scheme.

The liability for defined benefits is recognised in the financial statements of the Australian Government and is settled by the Australian Government in due course. This liability is reported by the Department of Finance and Deregulation as an administered item.

The TSRA makes employer contributions to the employee superannuation schemes at rates determined by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the cost to the Government of the superannuation entitlements of the TSRA's employees. The TSRA accounts for the contributions as if they were contributions to defined contribution plans.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions for the final fortnight of the year.

1.9 Leases

A distinction is made between finance leases and operating leases. Finance leases effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of leased assets. An operating lease is a lease that is not a finance lease. In operating leases, the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

The TSRA does not have any finance leases.

Operating lease payments are expensed on a straight line basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets. In 2009-10, the TSRA leased six vehicles, office accommodation and equipment, commercial and residential property for the operation of the organisation.

1.10 Grants

Most grant agreements require the grantee to perform services, provide facilities, or to meet eligibility criteria. In these cases, the TSRA recognises grant liabilities only to the extent that the services required have been performed or the eligibility criteria have been satisfied by the grantee.

In cases where grant agreements are made without conditions to be monitored, liabilities are recognised on signing of the agreement.

1.11 Cash

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value. Cash is recognised at its nominal amount.





1.12 Financial Assets

The TSRA classifies its financial assets in the following category:

- loans and receivables.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of initial recognition.

Financial assets are recognised and derecognised upon trade date.

Effective Interest Method

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss where the financial assets:

- have been acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near future;
- are a part of an identified portfolio of financial instruments that the TSRA manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking; or
- are derivatives that are not designated and effective as a hedging instrument.

Assets in this category are classified as current assets.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are stated at fair value, with any resultant gain or loss recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest earned on the financial asset.

Available-for-sale Financial Assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories.

Available-for-sale financial assets are recorded at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are recognised directly in the reserves (equity) with the exception of impairment losses.

Interest is calculated using the effective interest method and foreign exchange gains and losses on monetary assets are recognised directly in profit or loss. Where the asset is disposed of or is determined to be impaired, part (or all) of the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in the reserve is included in profit and loss for the period.

Where a reliable fair value can not be established for unlisted investments in equity instruments cost is used. The TSRA has no such instruments.

Held-to-Maturity Investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity dates that the group has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity investments.

Held-to-maturity investments are recorded at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment, with revenue recognised on an effective yield basis.

Loans and Receivables

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as 'loans and receivables'. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate.

Impairment of Financial Assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period.

- Financial assets held at amortised cost - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred for loans and receivables or held to maturity investments held at amortised cost, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount is reduced by way of an allowance account. The loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

· Available for sale financial assets - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss on an available-for-sale financial asset has been incurred, the amount of the difference between its cost, less principal repayments and amortisation, and its current fair value, less any impairment loss previously recognised in expenses, is transferred from equity to the statement of comprehensive income.

· Financial assets held at cost - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred the amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate for similar assets.

1.13 Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as other financial liabilities.

Financial liabilities are recognised and derecognised upon trade date.

Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent fair value adjustments are recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest paid on the financial liability.

Other Financial Liabilities

Other financial liabilities, including borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs.

Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

1.14 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the balance sheet but are reported in the relevant schedules and notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

1.15 Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition, unless acquired as a consequence of restructuring of administrative arrangements. In the latter case, assets are initially recognised as contributions by owners at the amounts at which they were recognised in the transferor Authority's accounts immediately prior to the restructuring.

1.16 Property, Plant and Equipment

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the balance sheet, except for purchases costing less than \$1,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Revaluations

Fair values for each class of asset are determined as shown below:

Asset class	Fair value measured at:
Land	Market selling price
Buildings	Market selling price
Plant & equipment	Market Selling Price
Heritage and cultural assets	Market Selling Price





Following initial recognition at cost, property plant and equipment are carried at fair value less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets do not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depends upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reverses a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

Depreciation

Depreciable property plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the TSRA using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Buildings on freehold land	40 years	40 years
Plant and Equipment	3 to 5 years	3 to 5 years

The TSRA has items of property that are heritage and cultural assets, that have indefinite useful lives and are not depreciated.

Impairment

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2010. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the TSRA were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

1.17 Taxation / competitive neutrality

The TSRA is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST except:

- where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- for receivables and payables.

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 2: Events After the Reporting Period

There has been no event that has occurred after the reporting date that would significantly affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of the TSRA.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 3: Expenses

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
<u>Note 3A: Employee Benefits</u>		
Wages and salaries	6,750	5,544
Superannuation		
Defined contribution plans	762	769
Leave and other entitlements	284	193
Total employee benefits	7,796	6,506
<u>Note 3B: Suppliers</u>		
Goods and services		
Consultants and Professional Fees	5,638	5,071
Travel	2,629	1,407
Repairs and maintenance	1,015	671
Other staff costs	1,313	818
Office Running Costs	886	652
Media, Advertising, Public Relations	342	373
Other	993	2,441
Total goods and services	12,816	11,434
Goods and services are made up of:		
Provision of goods – external parties	550	768
Rendering of services – external parties	12,266	10,666
Total goods and services	12,816	11,434
Other supplier expenses		
Operating lease rentals:		
Minimum lease payments	433	303
Workers compensation premiums	9	62
Total other supplier expenses	442	365
Total supplier expenses	13,258	11,799
<u>Note 3C: Grants</u>		
Private sector:		
Non-profit organisations	48,894	51,349
Total grants	48,894	51,349
<u>Note 3D: Depreciation</u>		
Depreciation:		
Buildings	447	343
Plant and equipment	259	156
Total depreciation	706	499
<u>Note 3E: Write-Down and Impairment of Assets</u>		
Asset writedowns from		
Loans provided for as impaired	-	119
Write down of loans to net present value	580	362
Total write-down and impairment of assets	580	481
<u>Note 3F: Loss on disposal of non-financial assets</u>		
Proceeds from sale	-	-
Carrying value of assets disposed	-	11
Total loss on disposal of non-financial assets	-	11

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 4: Income

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000

REVENUE

Note 4A: Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services

Provision of goods - external parties	242	233
Rendering of services - external parties	244	181
Total sale of goods and rendering of services	486	414

Note 4B: Interest

Loans	408	413
Deposits	1,039	1,237
Total interest	1,447	1,650

Note 4C: Other Revenue

Rent	74	258
Other Government contributions	3,607	18,455
Total other revenue	3,681	18,713

GAINS

Note 4D: Reversals of Previous Asset Write-Downs and Impairments

Reversal of losses from remeasuring financial instruments held at fair value	5	812
Reversal of expense recognised in previous years when providing for the impairment of financial instruments	22	-
Total reversals of previous asset write-downs and impairments	27	812

Note 4E: Other Gains

Gain from acquisition of land and buildings	-	800
Sale of assets	1	-
Total other gains	1	800

REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT	\$'000	\$'000
--------------------------------	---------------	---------------

Note 4F: Revenue from Government

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs		
CAC Act body payment item	67,391	51,904
Total revenue from Government	67,391	51,904





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 5: Financial Assets

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000

Note 5A: Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash at bank	32,551	25,465
Cash on hand	-	1
Total cash and cash equivalents	32,551	25,466

Note 5B: Trade and Other Receivables

Goods and services - external parties	115	499
GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	1,774	1,568
Loans	5,069	5,714
Total trade and other receivables (gross)	6,958	7,781

Less impairment allowance account:

Loans	(125)	(648)
Total trade and other receivables (net)	6,833	7,133

Receivables are expected to be recovered in:

No more than 12 months	1,889	2,067
More than 12 months	4,944	5,066
Total trade and other receivables (net)	6,833	7,133

Receivables are aged as follows:

Not overdue	6,812	6,910
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	1	-
31 to 60 days	-	3
61 to 90 days	1	33
More than 90 days	144	835
Total receivables (gross)	6,958	7,781

The impairment allowance account is aged as follows:

Overdue by:		
More than 90 days	(125)	(648)
Total impairment allowance account	(125)	(648)

TSRA holds a portfolio of concessional loans that are provided for business development and home ownership programs.

The values of these loans as at 30 June 2010 are as follows:

Concessional loans - nominal value	6,200	6,421
Less: unexpired discount	(1,131)	(707)
Concessional loans - carrying value	5,069	5,714

Reconciliation of the impairment allowance account:

Movements in relation to 2010

	Goods and services \$'000	Loans \$'000	Total \$'000
Opening balance	-	(648)	(648)
Amounts written off	-	-	-
Amounts recovered and reversed	-	523	523
Increase/decrease recognised in net surplus	-	-	-
Closing balance	-	(125)	(125)

Movements in relation to 2009

	Goods and services \$'000	Loans \$'000	Total \$'000
Opening balance	-	(560)	(560)
Amounts written off	-	27	27
Amounts recovered and reversed	-	-	-
Increase/decrease recognised in net surplus	-	(115)	(115)
Closing balance	-	(648)	(648)

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 6: Non-Financial Assets

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Note 6A: Land and Buildings</u>		
Land at fair value	7,365	7,365
Buildings on freehold land:		
Work in progress	1,556	140
Fair value	12,365	12,969
Accumulated depreciation	-	-
Total land and buildings	21,286	20,474

No indicators of impairment were found for land and buildings.

Note 6B: Property, Plant and Equipment

Heritage and cultural:		
Artifacts and artworks – at fair value	41	41
Total heritage and cultural	41	41
Other property, plant and equipment:		
Gross carrying value (at fair value)	1,203	855
Accumulated depreciation	(559)	(425)
Total other property, plant and equipment	644	430
Total property, plant and equipment	685	471

All revaluations are conducted in accordance with the revaluation policy stated at Note 1. In 2009-10, an independent valuer, Neill Teves, conducted the revaluations.

No indicators of impairment were found for infrastructure, plant and equipment.

No revaluation increments or decrements were recorded for land (2009: increment of \$1,431,869) and revaluation decrements were recorded for buildings on freehold land of \$156,954 (2009: increment of \$946,000) and have been debited to the asset revaluation reserve by asset class and included in the equity section of the balance sheet and the other comprehensive income section of the statement of comprehensive income.

No indicators of impairment were found for property, plant and equipment.

No items of property, plant or equipment are expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 6: Non-Financial Assets

Note 6C: Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment (2009-10)

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Heritage and Cultural \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2009					
Gross book value	7,365	13,108	856	41	21,370
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	(425)	-	(425)
Net book value 1 July 2009	7,365	13,108	431	41	20,945
Additions:					
by purchase	-	1,417	479	-	1,896
Revaluations and impairments through equity	-	(157)	-	-	(157)
Depreciation expense	-	(447)	(259)	-	(706)
Disposals:			(7)		(7)
Other disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Net book value 30 June 2010	7,365	13,921	644	41	21,971
Net book value as of 30 June 2010 represented by:					
Gross book value	7,365	13,921	1,203	41	22,530
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(559)	-	(559)
	<u>7,365</u>	<u>13,921</u>	<u>644</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>21,971</u>

Note 6C (Cont'd): Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment (2008-09)

Item	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Heritage and Cultural \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2008					
Gross book value	6,024	11,410	652	41	18,127
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	(297)	-	(297)
Net book value 1 July 2008	6,024	11,410	355	41	17,830
Additions:					
by purchase	-	204	243	-	447
from acquisition of land and buildings	395	405	-	-	800
Revaluations and impairments through equity	946	1,432	-	-	2,378
Depreciation expense	-	(343)	(156)	-	(499)
Disposals:			(11)		(11)
Other disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Net book value 30 June 2009	7,365	13,108	431	41	20,945
Net book value as of 30 June 2009 represented by:					
Gross book value	7,365	13,108	856	41	21,370
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	(425)	-	(425)
	<u>7,365</u>	<u>13,108</u>	<u>431</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>20,945</u>

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 7: Payables

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Note 7A: Suppliers</u>		
Trade creditors	1,675	515
Total supplier payables	1,675	515

Supplier payables expected to be settled within 12 months:

External parties	1,675	515
Total	1,675	515

Settlement is usually made net 30 days.

Note 7B: Grants

Private sector:		
Non-profit organisations	11,955	7,976
Total grant payables	11,955	7,976

Total grant payables are expected to be settled in:

No more than 12 months	11,955	7,976
Total grant payables	11,955	7,976

Note 7C: Other Payables

Salaries and wages	430	133
Accrued expenses	926	477
Total other payables	1,356	610

Total other payables are expected to be settled in:

No more than 12 months	1,356	610
Total other payables	1,356	610





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 8: Provisions

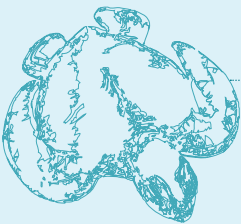
	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Note 8A: Employee provisions</u>		
Long Service Leave	700	517
Annual Leave	934	839
Personal Leave	86	80
Total employee provisions	<u>1,720</u>	<u>1,436</u>
Employee provisions are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	1,504	1,234
More than 12 months	216	202
Total employee provisions	<u>1,720</u>	<u>1,436</u>

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 9: Cash flow reconciliation

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per Balance Sheet to Cash Flow statement		
Cash and cash equivalents as per:		
Cash flow statement	32,551	25,466
Balance Sheet	32,551	25,466
Difference	-	-
Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash from operating activities:		
Net cost of services	(65,592)	(48,256)
Add revenue from Government	67,391	51,904
Adjustments for non-cash items		
Depreciation	706	499
Net writedown of financial assets	580	373
Bad and Doubtful Debts	-	119
Gain on acquisition of assets	-	(800)
Interest	(410)	(119)
Concessional component of Loans funded	(331)	(413)
Reversal of previous loan writedowns and impairments	(27)	(812)
Gain on Sale of Assets	(1)	-
Changes in assets / liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables from Goods and Services	385	824
(Increase) / decrease in GST receivable	(206)	(117)
Increase / (decrease) in employee provisions	284	192
Increase / (decrease) in supplier payables	1,077	23
Increase / (decrease) in Unexpended Grants	3,977	6,468
Increase / (decrease) in Other Payables	716	470
Net cash from operating activities	8,549	10,355





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 10: Contingent Liabilities and Assets

	Bank Guarantees		Total	
	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
Contingent liabilities				
Balance from previous period	-	116	-	116
Total contingent liabilities	-	116	-	116

Quantifiable Contingencies

The schedule of contingencies reports no contingent assets. (2008-09 : Nil)
The schedule reports no contingent liabilities (2008-09: \$116,000 relating to a bank guarantee in favour of the Torres Shire Council.) There are no unquantifiable or remote contingencies (2008-09 : Nil).

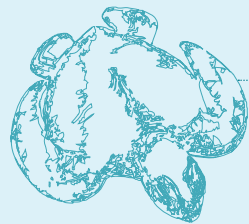
TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 11: Directors Remuneration

	2010	2009
The number of directors of the TSRA included in these figures are shown below in the relevant remuneration bands:		
\$Nil - \$14,999	15	15
\$15,000 - \$29,999	3	4
\$30,000 - \$44,999	1	-
\$190,000 - \$204,999	-	1
\$220,000 - \$234,999	1	-
Total number of directors of the TSRA	20	20
Total remuneration received or due and receivable by directors of the TSRA:	424,956	394,788

The TSRA's Board consists of twenty director positions. Seventeen hold office by virtue of their election to regional councils last held in March 2008 under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Qld). The other three are elected in accordance with the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* (Cth) (formerly the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*). The directors other than the chairperson receive sitting fees when undertaking business of the TSRA.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 12A: Related Party Disclosures

Loans to Directors and Director-related Entities

Loans were made or held by the following directors and director-related entities. They were approved under normal terms and conditions applying to the TSRA's loan schemes. The directors involved took no part in the relevant decisions of the TSRA.

<u>TSRA Director Name</u>	<u>Council Relationships</u>
Mr Wayne Guivarra	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Donald Banu	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Philemon Mosby	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Kenny Bedford	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Raymond (Mario) Soki	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mrs Nancy Pearson	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr David Bosun	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Keith Fell	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Ron Day	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Ron Enosa	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mrs Florianna Bero	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr John Toshie Kris	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Willie Lui	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Walter Mackie	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr John Mosby	Torres Strait Island Regional Councillor
Mr Reginald Williams	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Councillor
Mr Jeffrey Aniba	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Councillor
Ms Napcia Bin Tahal	Torres Shire Councillor
Mr John Abednego	Torres Shire Councillor

One director, Mr Philip Mills, is not a councillor of any of the councils to which TSRA has provided grants in the 2010 financial Year.

The table below outlines the loan holder/s and the TSRA director with whom a related party connection exists.

Loans

Anthony Titasey
- Mr Keith Fell and Mr Philip Mills - TSRA Board Members
Ruth Doolah
- Mr Keith Fell and Mr Philip Mills - TSRA Board Members
James Mills
- Mr Keith Fell and Mr Philip Mills - TSRA Board Members
Robert Sagigi
- Mr John Abednego - TSRA Board Member
Reginald Williams
- TSRA Board Member
Triple A Family Values
- Mr Philip Mills - TSRA Board Member
Bamaga Enterprises
- Mr Reginald Williams - TSRA Board Member
Mosby Enterprises
- Mr John Mosby - TSRA Board Member
Poruma Island Pty Ltd
- Torres Strait Island Regional Councillors
Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
- Northern Peninsula Area Regional Councillors
Elthies Alion Bowie
- Mr John Kris - TSRA Board Member

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
Loans to current Directors outstanding at year-end:	5,496	7,339
Loan repayments during the year:	2,000	4,386
Loans to current Director-related Entities outstanding at year-end:	1,227,404	1,466,058
Loans to current Director-related Entities during the year:	-	382,560
Loan repayments during the year:	297,641	278,222
Interest revenue included in operating result from loans to current Directors/Director-	104,936	117,658
Related party loans for current Directors provided for as doubtful debts:	5,496	7,339
Related party loans written off:	-	-

The TSRA has adopted *AASB 139 Financial Instruments - Recognition and Measurement*, and treated loans outstanding at year end as Loans and Receivables valued at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 12B: Related Party Disclosures

Other Transactions with Directors or Director-related Entities

Grants were made to the following director-related Entities. They were approved under normal terms and conditions applying to the TSRA's grant programs. The directors involved took no part in the relevant decisions of the TSRA.

Directors' Name	Council	Grants Received	Grants Received
		2010	2009
		\$	\$
*	Torres Shire Council	3,645,593	92,500
*	Torres Strait Island Regional Council	38,874,958	38,897,358
*	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	4,299,067	4,299,067
J Abednego	Tagai College	36,415	28,747
J Mosby	Kailag Enterprises Ltd	245,000	115,000
K Fell & W Guivarra	Torres Strait Youth & Recreational Sporting Assn.	503,226	443,548
J Abednego	Torres Strait Islanders Media Assn.	670,297	680,178

*Please refer to Note 12A for information regarding Director relationships with these entities.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 13: Executive Remuneration

Note 13A: Actual Remuneration Paid to Senior Executives

	2010	2009
The number of senior executives who received:		
less than \$145,000*	4	3
\$145 000 to \$159 999	-	3
\$175 000 to \$189 999	1	-
\$205 000 to \$219 999	1	2
Total	6	8

* Excluding acting arrangements and part-year service.

Total expense recognised in relation to Senior Executive employment

	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits:		
Salary (including annual leave taken)	755,988	717,536
Changes in annual leave provisions	55,625	117,042
Performance bonus	43,966	37,655
Other ¹	186,829	284,073
Total Short-term employee benefits	1,042,408	1,156,306
Superannuation (post-employment benefits)	123,336	138,078
Total	1,165,744	1,294,384

During the year TSRA paid \$19,746 in termination benefits to senior executives (2009: \$69,349)

Notes

1. "Other" includes District allowances and other allowances.

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 13B: Salary Packages for Senior Executives as at 30 June

Average annualised remuneration packages for substantive Senior Executives

	As at 30 June 2010			As at 30 June 2009		
	No.	Base salary (including annual leave)	Total remuneration package ¹	No.	Base salary (including annual leave)	Total remuneration package ¹
\$145,000 to \$159,999	1	123,995	157,374	2	109,053	145,858
\$160,000 to \$174,999	1	128,534	167,210	-	-	-
\$205,000 to \$219,999	-	-	-	1	166,582	208,893
\$220,000 to \$234,999	1	184,732	228,859	-	-	-
Total	3			3		

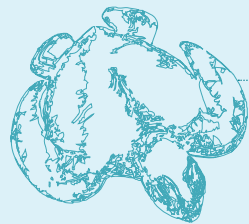
* Excluding acting arrangements and part-year service.

Notes

1. Non-Salary elements available to Senior Executives include:

- (a) Performance Bonus
- (b) District Allowance
- (c) Superannuation
- (d) Leave Fare Allowance
- (e) Housing Subsidy





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 14: Remuneration of Auditors

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
The cost of the financial statement audit services to the TSRA.	<u>43</u>	<u>43</u>
No other services were provided by the auditors of the financial statements.		

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 15: Financial Instruments

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Note 15A: Categories of Financial Instruments</u>		
Financial Assets		
Loans and receivables		
Cash and cash equivalents	32,551	25,466
Receivables for goods and services	115	499
Loans	5,069	5,714
Total	37,735	31,679
Carrying amount of financial assets	37,735	31,679
Financial Liabilities		
Trade creditors	1,675	515
Grant liabilities	11,955	7,976
Total	13,630	8,491
Carrying amount of financial liabilities	13,630	8,491
	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000

Note 15B: Net Income and Expense from Financial Assets

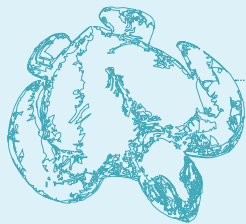
Loans and receivables		
Interest revenue (see note 4B)	1,447	1,650
Allowance for Impairment (see note 3E)	-	(119)
Write down of loans to Net Present Value (see note 3E)	(580)	(362)
Net gain/(loss) loans and receivables	867	1,169
Net gain/(loss) from financial assets	867	1,169

There is no interest income not at fair value through profit or loss in the year ending 2010 (2009:- \$Nil)

Note 15C: Net Income and Expense from Financial Liabilities

There is no income or expense through profit or loss in the year ending 2010 (2009:- \$Nil)





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 15D: Fair Value of Financial Instruments

	Notes	Carrying Amount 2010 \$'000	Fair Value 2010 \$'000	Carrying Amount 2009 \$'000	Fair Value 2009 \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	5A	32,551	32,551	25,466	25,466
Receivables for goods and services	5B	115	115	499	499
Loans	5B	5,069	4,944	5,714	5,066
Total Financial Assets		37,735	37,610	31,679	31,031
Financial Liabilities					
Trade creditors	7A	1,675	1,675	515	515
Grant liabilities	7B	11,955	11,955	7,976	7,976
Total Financial Liabilities		13,630	13,630	8,491	8,491

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 15E: Credit risk

TSRA is exposed to minimal credit risk as the majority of loans and receivables are cash or high quality trade receivables. TSRA also holds a portfolio of concessional loans that are provided for business development and home ownership programs. The maximum exposure to credit risk is the risk that arises from potential default of a trade debtor or a concessional loan holder. This amount is equal to the total amount of trade and loan receivables (2010: \$5,185,000 and 2009: \$6,113,000).

In relation to the housing loans, TSRA holds mortgages as sole mortgagor over the houses for which the loans are provided. TSRA receives market advice from a qualified valuer or market expert on the value of a property prior to the loan being approved. In relation to Business Funding Scheme loans, from 2007-08 TSRA has required that inexperienced business owner(s) successfully complete an approved business course and submit a business plan prior to the loan being approved. These policies mitigate against credit risk for the TSRA loans portfolio.

Credit quality of financial instruments not past due or individually determined as impaired:

	Not Past Due Nor Impaired 2010 \$'000	Not Past Due Nor Impaired 2009 \$'000	Past due or impaired 2010 \$'000	Past due or impaired 2009 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	32,551	25,466	-	-
Receivables for goods and services	113	463	2	36
Loans	4,925	4,879	144	835
Total	37,589	30,808	146	871

Ageing of financial assets that are past due but not impaired for 2010

	0 to 30 days \$'000	31 to 60 days \$'000	61 to 90 days \$'000	90+ days \$'000	Total \$'000
Receivables for goods and services	1	-	1	-	2
Loans	-	-	-	20	20
Total	1	0	1	20	22

Ageing of financial assets that are past due but not impaired for 2009

	0 to 30 days \$'000	31 to 60 days \$'000	61 to 90 days \$'000	90+ days \$'000	Total \$'000
Receivables for goods and services	-	3	33	-	36
Loans	-	-	-	155	155
Total	0	3	33	155	191

TSRA has assessed the risk of the default on payment and has allocated \$125,000 in 2010 (2009: \$640,000) to an allowance for impairment. Security underpinning this impairment includes a 5 bedroom house, which was independently valued in June 2009, a 2001 Toyota Camry taxi, 2 boats and motors, which have been valued based on the security value at the inception of the loan. These securities have an estimated total value of \$510,000.



Note 15F: Liquidity Risk

TSRA's financial liabilities are trade creditors and grant liabilities. The exposure to liquidity risk is based on the notion that TSRA will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities. This is highly unlikely due to Government funding available to TSRA and internal policies and procedures put in place to ensure there are appropriate resources to meet its financial obligations.

Maturities for non-derivative financial liabilities 2010:

	On demand \$'000	within 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	> 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
Trade creditors	-	1,675	-	-	1,675
Grant liabilities	-	11,955	-	-	11,955
Total	-	13,630	-	-	13,630

Maturities for non-derivative financial liabilities 2009:

	On demand \$'000	within 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	> 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
Trade creditors	-	515	-	-	515
Grant liabilities	-	7,976	-	-	7,976
Total	-	8,491	-	-	8,491

TSRA receives funding from its Portfolio Department. TSRA manages its budgeted funds to ensure it has adequate funds to meet payments as they fall due. In addition, the TSRA has policies in place to ensure timely payments are made when due and has no past experience of default.

Note 15G: Market Risk

TSRA holds basic financial instruments that do not expose TSRA to certain market risks. The TSRA is not exposed to 'currency risk' or 'other price risk'.

Interest Rate Risk

The only interest-bearing items on the balance sheet are the cash at bank and loans. Interest earned on cash at bank may be effected by changes in market interest rates. The following table represents the effect to the statement of comprehensive income (and corresponding effect to the cash value in the balance sheet) when the current market interest rate is varied by 1.5%. 1.5% is anticipated to be a reasonable estimate of the maximum movement in market interest rates in financial year 2010-11.

	Value \$'000	Effect on Statement of Comprehensive Income Income (Expense) \$'000
Anticipated interest earned for 2010-11 financial year at current market interest rate	1,228	-
Increase of 1.5% in market interest rate	1,569	341
Decrease of 1.5% in market interest rate	887	(341)

The value of concessional loans is derived by applying the amortised cost using the effective interest method. Because the loan portfolio is valued at net present value using market interest rates, movements in market interest rates will impact on the value of the loan portfolio and the income statement. The following table represents the effect to the income statement (and corresponding effect to the loan portfolio value in the balance sheet) when the current market interest rate is varied by 1.5%. 1.5% is anticipated to be a reasonable estimate of the maximum movement in market interest rates in financial year 2010-11.

	Value \$'000	Effect on Statement of Comprehensive Income Income (Expense) \$'000
Net Present Value of Loans 30 June 2010	5,069	-
Increase of 1.5% in market interest rate	4,586	(483)
Decrease of 1.5% in market interest rate	5,676	607

Assets past due and impaired are represented by loans individually assessed to be at high risk of default.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 16: Assets Held in Trust

Following the Australian Government 100% buyout of commercial finfish entitlements in favour of the Torres Strait Islanders, a decision of the representative Torres Strait Community Fisher Group (CFG) has vested responsibility for administration of the asset in support of the CFG to the TSRA. Activities will include leasing of a percentage of unused fishing entitlements back to the commercial sector to provide additional benefits and opportunities to traditional inhabitants to increase their fishing capacity. The TSRA holds cash and receivables in a trust for the beneficiaries.

	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
Receipts from sale of finfish licenses		
Total amount held at the beginning of the reporting period	479	-
Cash receipts	78	98
Interest received	3	326
Movement in Receivables	(22)	55
Total amount held at the end of the reporting period	538	479
Total	538	479

The values above are estimated fair values at the time when acquired.

TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 17: Reporting of Outcomes

Note 17A: Net Cost of Outcome Delivery

	Outcome 1		Total	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenses	71,234	70,645	71,234	70,645
Income from non-government sector				
Other	3,681	22,389	3,681	22,389
Total	3,681	22,389	3,681	22,389
Other own-source income	1,961	-	1,961	-
Net cost of outcome delivery	65,592	48,256	65,592	48,256

Outcome 1 is described in Note 1.1.





TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2010

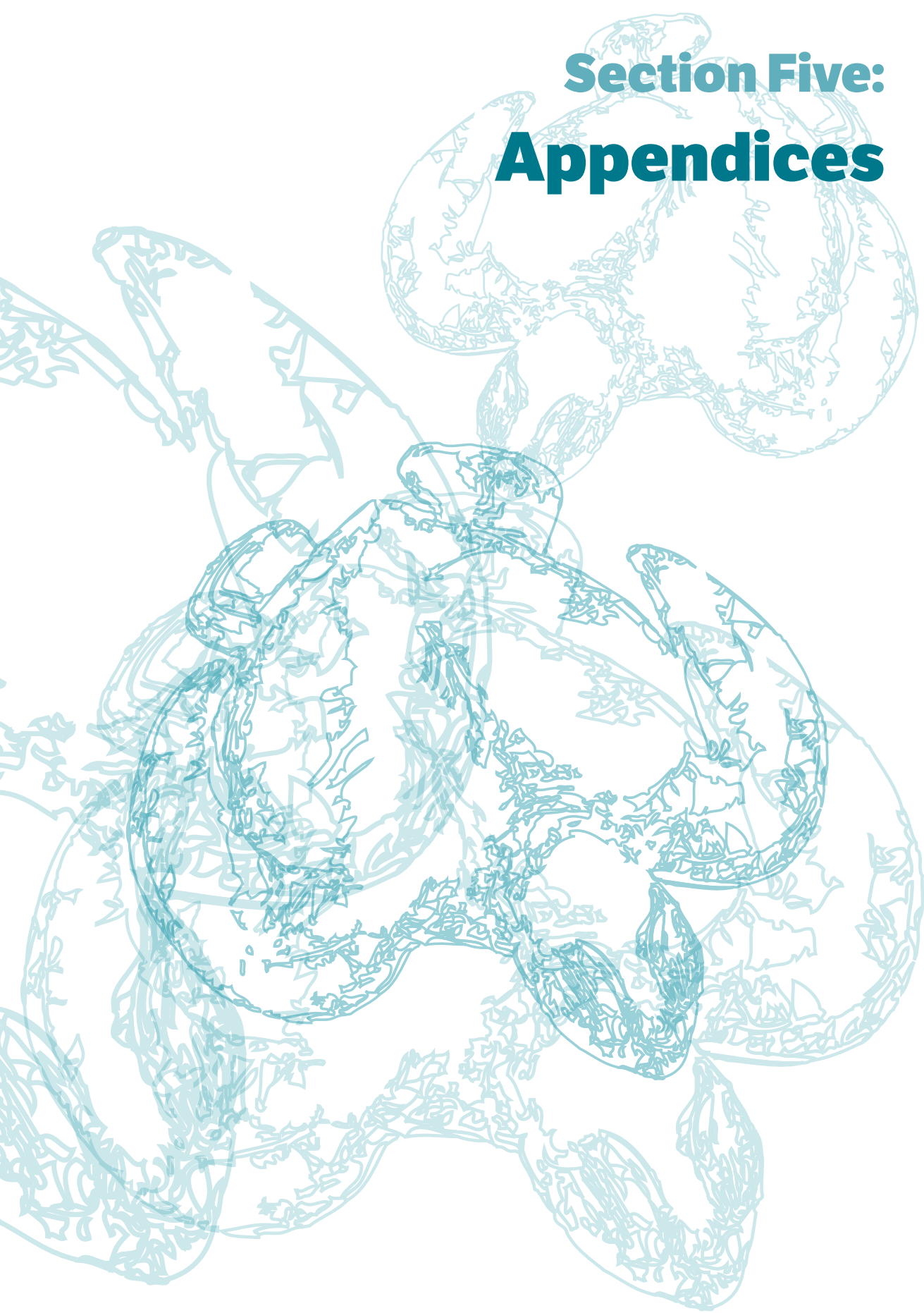
Note 17B: Major Classes of Expenses, Income, Assets and Liabilities by Outcomes

	Outcome 1		Total	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenses				
Employees	7,796	6,507	7,796	6,507
Suppliers	13,258	11,798	13,258	11,798
Depreciation and amortisation	706	499	706	499
Write-down of assets	580	492	580	492
Grants	48,894	51,349	48,894	51,349
Total	71,234	70,645	71,234	70,645
Income				
Income from government	67,391	51,904	67,391	51,904
Sales of goods and services	486	414	486	414
Interest	1,447	1,650	1,447	1,650
Net gain from disposal of assets	1	-	1	-
Reversal of previous asset write down	27	1,613	27	1,613
Other	3,681	18,712		18,712
Total	73,033	74,293	73,033	74,293
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	32,551	25,466	32,551	25,466
Trade and other receivables	6,833	7,133	6,833	7,133
Land and buildings	21,286	20,474	21,286	20,474
Plant and equipment	685	471	685	471
Total	61,355	53,544	61,355	53,544
Liabilities				
Suppliers	1,675	515	1,675	515
Grants	11,955	7,976	11,955	7,976
Other	1,356	610	1,356	610
Employee provisions	1,720	1,436	1,720	1,436
Total	16,706	10,537	16,706	10,537





Section Five: Appendices

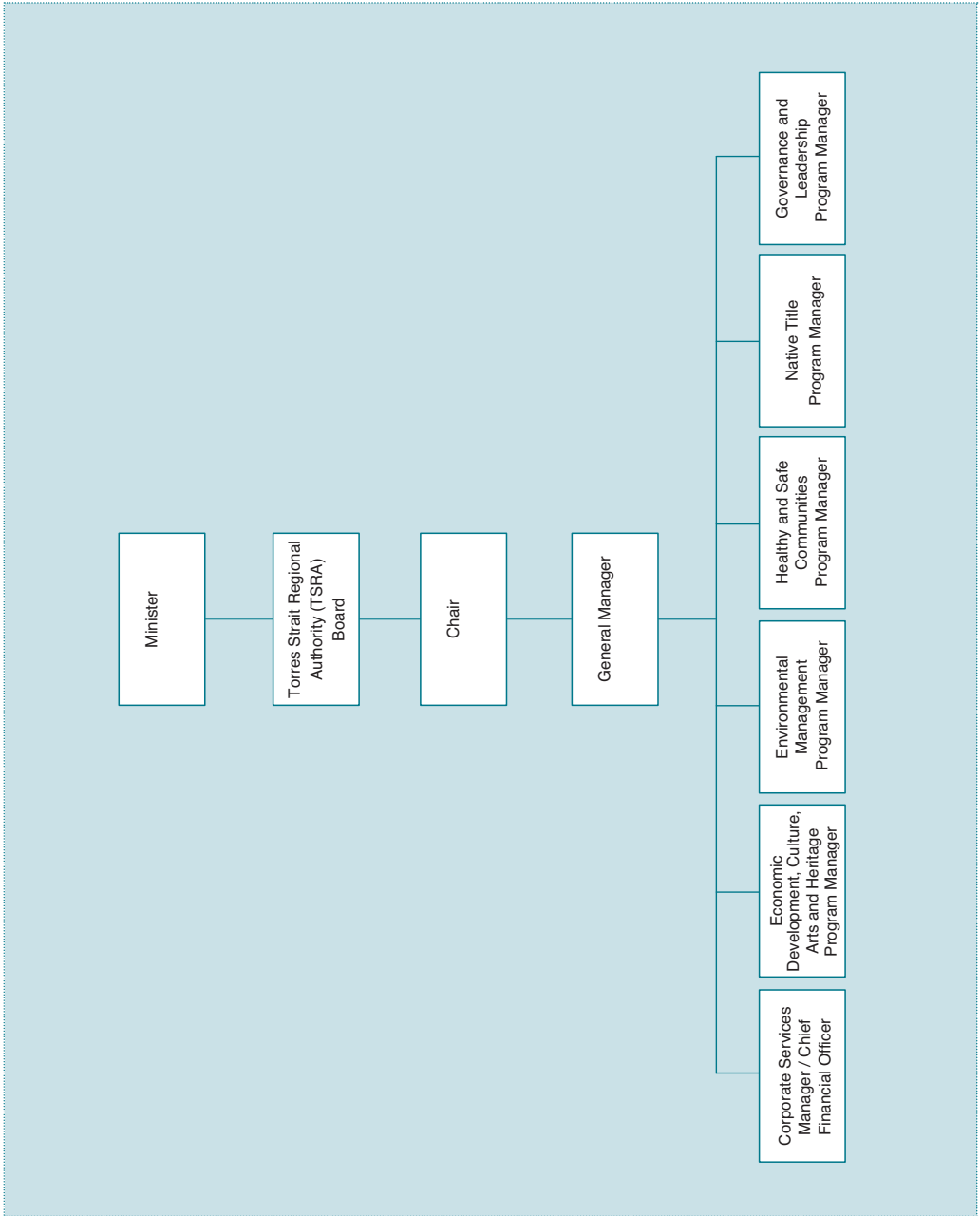




Appendices

Appendix 1: Organisational Structure

TSRA Organisational Chart



Staffing Overview

Staff Classification at 30 June 2010

Classification	Total Number of Staff
PEO	1
Executive Level 2	6
Executive Level 1	11
APS Level 6	19
APS Level 5	23
APS Level 4	6
APS Level 3	3
APS Level 2	8
APS Level 1	3
Trainee	3
Total	83

Representation of EEO Groups within classification levels at 30 June 2010

Classification	Female	Male	TSI and Aboriginal	PWD
PEO	0	1	1	0
Executive Level 2	3	3	1	0
Executive Level 1	4	7	2	0
APS Level 6	7	12	5	1
APS Level 5	16	7	16	0
APS Level 4	6	0	6	0
APS Level 3	3	0	3	0
APS Level 2	8	0	7	0
APS Level 1	2	1	3	0
Trainee	2	1	3	0
Total	51	32	47	1

PWD = Person with disability.





Appendix 2: Freedom of Information

Freedom of Information (FOI) requests are administered by TSRA in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, (*FOI Act*). As required by the *FOI Act 1982* the TSRA has detailed its FOI activity, functions, structure, provision of funding and categories of documents.

FOI Activity 2009 - 2010

No freedom of information requests have been received in the 2009 - 2010 financial year. There have been no requests finalised, nor are there any requests outstanding, from previous years.

TSRA's Functions

As stated in Section 142A of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* the functions of the TSRA are to:

- (a) recognise and maintain the special and unique Ailan Kastom of Torres Strait Islanders living in the Torres Strait area;
- (b) formulate and implement programs for Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (c) monitor the effectiveness of programs for Torres Strait Islanders, and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area, including programs conducted by other bodies;
- (d) develop policy proposals to meet national, State and regional needs and priorities of Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (e) assist, advise and co-operate with Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal communities, organisations and individuals at national, State, Territory and regional levels;
- (f) advise the Minister on:
 - (i) matters relating to Torres Strait Islander affairs, and Aboriginal affairs, in the Torres Strait area, including the administration of legislation;
 - (ii) the co-ordination of the activities of other Commonwealth bodies that affect Torres Strait Islanders, or Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;
- (g) when requested by the Minister, to provide information or advice to the Minister on any matter specified by the Minister;
- (h) take such reasonable action as it considers necessary to protect Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal cultural material and information relating to the Torres Strait area if the material or information is considered sacred or otherwise significant by Torres Strait Islanders or Aboriginal persons;
- (i) at the request of, or with the agreement of, the Australian Bureau of Statistics but not otherwise, to collect and publish statistical information relating to Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal persons, living in the Torres Strait area;

- (j) such other functions as are conferred on the TSRA by this Act or any other Act;
- (k) such other functions as are expressly conferred on the TSRA by a law of a State or of an internal Territory and in respect of which there is in force written approval by the Minister under section 142B;
- (l) undertake such research as is necessary to enable the TSRA to perform any of its other functions;
- (m) do anything else that is incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the preceding functions.

Structure of the TSRA

The TSRA is a Commonwealth Authority constituted under the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*. It consists of an elected arm and an administrative arm. The elected arm is made up of a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Alternate Deputy Chairperson, and Members, who are elected to office by Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people in their respective communities (see the 'TSRA Board' section for more details). The administrative arm is the responsibility of the General Manager.

Provision of Funding

The TSRA is required to prepare estimates of receipts and expenditure for each financial year for submission to the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs under the Australian Government financial management framework of accrual accounting.

The TSRA operates a number of programs and sub-programs for the allocation of funds within the region including:

- Loans and grants for enterprises;
- Housing loans;
- Economic, social and cultural grants to community organisations and individuals;
- The administrative and elected arm operating costs;
- Funding for programs to be conducted by the State; and
- Funding for programs to be conducted by Regional Councils.

The actual allocation of money to the various programs is guided by the policies and strategies set by the TSRA Board. The administration also ensures that grants and loans are used in accordance with the purposes for which they are provided, and that grants and loans are appropriately acquitted.

Categories of Documents

The Corporate Services Section maintains paper and electronic files on TSRA budget expenditure; financial records; wages; client accounts; financial procedures; asset register; property management records; workplace agreement; recruitment; personnel files of TSRA officers; and Grants and Personnel Policy documents including instructions from the Australian Public Service Commissioner; Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and the Remuneration Tribunal and Comcare. The Corporate Services Section is also responsible for files containing:





engagement of consultants; Occupational Health and Safety; Equal Employment Opportunities; Industrial Democracy; responses to the Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner, statistics for the Australian Bureau of Statistics, statistics for the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service, survey for the Australian National Audit Office, statistics for the Australian Public Service, statistics and information for the Remuneration Tribunal and responses to Freedom of Information activities. A number of manuals and guidelines are used in the TSRA's decision-making policies and guidelines, including the TSRA Decision Making Principles, Finance Procedures manual, and the Program, Administration and Personnel Delegation manuals.

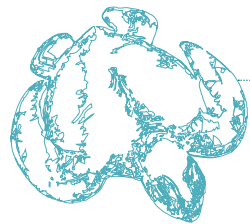
The Governance and Leadership program area continues to maintain copies of the submissions that have been presented to the TSRA Board meetings; minutes of the TSRA Board meetings; TSRA Decision Sheets; and financial records relating to payment of TSRA members and meetings, as well as providing administrative support services to the office of the Chairperson. Governance and Leadership also maintains the Register for Ministerial Briefings and Responses to the Ombudsman. TSRA Program areas maintain files relating to program-specific activities.

Appendix 3: Advertising and Market Research

The TSRA advertises all ongoing and non-ongoing (those exceeding twelve months) vacancies using the Online APS Jobs and SEEK websites, as well as other selected national advertising. For national advertising for tenders and recruitment the TSRA used the Government's preferred supplier AdCorp Australia Ltd. The TSRA also uses the regionally based (Far North Queensland) print media for advertising job vacancies, publishing media releases and for the distribution of TSRA Community newsletters under the Commonwealth Financial Guidelines.

No market research or polling and direct mailing of organisations was undertaken by the TSRA.





Appendix 4: Details of Grants

Recipient	Purpose	Amount (\$)
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Services (NQ)	Operating Expenses	627,688
Ariw Poenipan Cultural Group	Revitalising and maintaining traditional art and knowledge of the traditional Saibai headdress	4,999
Badhulgaw Kuthinaw Mudh TSI Corp	Art Centre office equipment	15,500
Badhulgaw Kuthinaw Mudh TSI Corp	Contribution to Arts Centre	40,000
Badu Island Foundation Ltd	Capacity building	68,872
Badu Island Foundation Ltd	Kala Lagaw Ya Language Program	43,220
Buthu Lagau Sarai TSI Corp	Sewing project Poruma Island	4,000
Buthu Lagau Sarai TSI Corp	Language project on Poruma Island	5,000
Community Enterprises Australia	Community Development Employment Projects program	70,167
Emergency Management Queensland	Far North meets South East	5,000
Erub Erwer Meta TSI Corp	Contribute Erub Erwer Meta TSI Corp operations	50,000
Erub Erwer Meta TSI Corp	Erub Erwer Meta film and website	15,880
Kailag Enterprises Ltd	Costs of preparing a marketing plan and attending an international conference	21,000
Kailag Enterprises Ltd	Yorke Island Sponge Farm	127,500
Kaziw Asesered Le Inc	Traditional coconut weaving and food preparation in St Pauls	3,020
Kaziw Asesered Le Inc	Healthy kaikai for our kids project on Yam Island	9,350
Kaziw Asesered Le Inc	Tell stories using lino prints on textiles on St Pauls	12,230
Kaziw Asesered Le Inc	Live long live strong project	29,329
Kaziw Asesered Le Inc	Men Protecting Families project on St Pauls	32,103
Lena Passi Women's Shelter	Kaiwagal Rugby League Inc	50,000
Lena Passi Women's Shelter	Getting On program	66,569
Mrs Betty Magaret Tekahika	Travel to Mabo Day celebrations in Townsville	4,000

Recipient	Purpose	Amount (\$)
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Establish a self sustaining business - Tari Fell	3,500
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Roy Pearce Indigenous Touch tournament NZ	3,600
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Jacob Gabey travel to Intertwined Exhibition	4,682
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Northern X-posure Wallaby Creek festival	5,000
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Biography of Aka Marion Pearl Lois Akee - Patricia Akee	9,197
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Mens Support Group on Yam Island	10,000
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Deep Sea Dancers travel to Mabo Day celebrations in Brisbane	24,368
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Regional Community Safety Referral Plan	30,600
Mura Kosker Sorority Inc	Operating Expenses	157,253
Ngalmun Lagau Miniral TSI Corporation	Art Centre office equipment	15,500
Ngalmun Lagau Miniral TSI Corporation	Contribution to establishment and operations of the Moa Art Centre	40,000
Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Community Enterprise capacity Building	104,500
Opnor Bakir Atabur TSI Corp	Capacity building for divestment	50,400
Port Kennedy Association	F. Loban Basketball Super League	4,000
Port Kennedy Association	Health Awareness For A Healthy Community program	4,533
Port Kennedy Association	Wagadagam Storm Rugby League Trip	5,000
Port Kennedy Association	Noel Bon record and document language project	5,250
Port Kennedy Association	Rugby League coaching clinics	8,400
Port Kennedy Association	Iwao Takai Record and produce five song EP	9,500
Port Kennedy Association	Patrick Mau video clip of "My blood my people"	18,500
Port Kennedy Association	KRL North Qld games	26,250
Port Kennedy Association	Operating Expenses	160,121
Roselind Barkus	Travel to Ukelele festival	4,172
Saibai Community Development TSI Corporation	Capacity building for divestment	50,400
Seisia Community TSI Corp	Enterprise Divestment	47,500





Recipient	Purpose	Amount (\$)
Tagai State College	Dauan Island Primary Campus - NAIDOC Celebrations	1,000
Tagai State College	Gondwana - Torres Strait music craft project	10,415
Tagai State College	Activities in preparation for the Cultural festival	25,000
Torres Shire Council	Ariw Poenipan Cultural Group trip to Hawaii	30,600
Torres Shire Council	Consultancy on Horn Island Affordable Housing project	50,000
Torres Shire Council	Muralug Emergency Services vehicle and equipment	64,856
Torres Shire Council	Muralug Emergency Services Facility	110,137
Torres Shire Council	Preservation of WW2 sites on Horn Island	140,000
Torres Shire Council	Horn Island Airport	196,428
Torres Shire Council	Construction of a Rose Hill pontoon	150,000
Torres Shire Council	Purchase of land on Horn Island for the Affordable Housing project	400,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Dengue Mosquito Eradication	35,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Enterprise Divestment	393,330
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Community Organisation Capacity Building	475,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Dancing on water - Saibai island	2,222
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Urab Dance Team travel expenses	3,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	August 1st celebrations - Saibai Island	3,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Urab Dance Group August 23rd celebration on Masig Island	4,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Coming Of The Light activities on Erub Island	5,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Zogo Tudi Dance Team	7,500
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Produce painting and carving works - Tony Harry and Julius Sorogo	8,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Urab Dance Team recording of traditional songs	9,896
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Saibai Island Arts and Language project	10,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Masigilgal Mura Buai Language restoration and revival project	13,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Malu Kiai Dance Team travel to Coming Of The Light activities in Cairns	19,800

Recipient	Purpose	Amount (\$)
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Cultural Festival on Mabuiag Island	20,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Urab Dance Team promote and share traditional stories	20,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Adhibuya Dance Project - Saibai Island	25,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Heavy Equipment Management and Training program	742,500
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme	1,000,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Water Related Infrastructure Management Support	1,700,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Major Infrastructure Program	14,000,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Community Development Employment Projects program	18,586,603
Torres Strait Islander's Media Association	Kara Ged A Kara Mir - My Home and My Language	25,000
Torres Strait Islander's Media Association	Operating expenses	645,297
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	2009 Townsville Indigenous Rugby League Carnival - Badu Island	5,000
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	Argun Warriors Rugby League Team - Badu Island	5,000
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	Thursday Island Touch Association - Battle of the Islands	5,000
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	Thursday Island Touch Association - National Touch League	10,000
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	2010 Foley Shield competition	13,000
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	2010 Island of Origin Carnival on Badu Island	20,000
Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association Inc	Operating Expenses	445,226
Tropical North Queensland TAFE	Mosaic works Thursday Island TAFE campus	5,255
Tropical North Queensland TAFE	Sam Stephen - CD recording and production	14,000
Wagalgau Garkaziw Zageth	Business planning	8,250
Wug Danalag Incorporated	Dancing the line	8,291

Section Five





Appendix 5: Details of Consultants

The TSRA is required to provide details of consultants engaged under section 144T of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005.

Under section 144T the TSRA is also required to report any significant differences between the terms and conditions on which the consultants were engaged and the standard terms and conditions for the engagement of consultants by the TSRA. The TSRA reports that there were no significant differences between the terms and conditions for engagement of consultants during 2009 - 2010.

The following table provides the details for consultants engaged during the reporting period.

Consultant	Purpose of Consultancy	Amount (\$)
3D Environmental Vegetation Assessment and Mapping Specialists	Ecosystem mapping	193,801
Anthony Kingston	Community Fishers Group Review	49,545
Arafura Consulting	Anthropological Services	55,434
Arenelle Pty Ltd	Program and Planning Review	130,750
CSIRO	Potential sea level rises	32,500
Davidson Marine Consultants	Vessel procurement program	27,317
DELV Pty Ltd	IT Support	74,888
Environmental System Solutions	Traditional Ecological Knowledge System	29,000
Felicity Wright	Business and marketing plan	23,480
Garrick Hitchcock	Anthropological Services	9,247
GDG Developments Pty Ltd	Ferry feasibility study	15,000
Gilkerson Legal	Native Title Claim Support	22,189
Go Marine Surveyors Pty Ltd	Ranger Marine Operations Program	51,902
Icemedial	IT Support	10,242
James Cook University	Boigu Aquatic Survey	20,000
James Cook University	ARC Industry Linkage	35,736
Joanne Lambden and Associates	TSRA Future Support to PBC's	61,501
Kevin Murphy	Anthropological Services	2,400
Kleinhardt Pty Ltd	Develop five year business plan	32,065

Consultant	Purpose of Consultancy	Amount (\$)
KPMG	Project Accounting services	25,300
Longley Stapleton	Accounting and system support	140,180
Moore Stephens Canberra Pty Ltd	Independent Chair of the Audit Committee	10,680
Murphy Contractors and Consultants Pty Ltd	Media / Communications	101,676
NOETIC Solutions Pty Ltd	IT Strategic Plan	41,961
Northern Gulf Resource Management	Marine Debris Project	26,000
PDM Consultancy	Internal Audit	18,378
Pegasus Studios	Music and Dance Audit	50,000
Positive Solutions	Cultural Policy and Plan	42,477
Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation	Marine Debris Project	70,000
Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation	Seagrass Monitoring	585,000
Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation	Dugong Survey	150,000
R&B Creative Communications	Creative Agency	32,420
Rachel Wicks Consulting	Media / Communications	118,492
Rebecca Murphy	Media / Communications	11,662
Regional Land and Sea Management Solutions	Strategic advice and support for Environment program	40,126
Robert Blowes Barrister	Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim	92,429
Tagai State College	Employment of Environment Education Co-ordinator	180,000
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Turtle and Dugong project officers	78,700
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Maubiag Ranger Project	311,210
Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Indigenous Ranger Project	1,340,375
Tracker Development	Badu and Kubin Arts Development	20,018





Appendix 6: Compliance with Australian Government Statutes and policies

Under the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2008, Schedule 1, clause 12 the TSRA is required to provide particulars of general policies that apply to them as a Commonwealth Authority under section 28 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Company Act 1997*.

Additionally under the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2008, Schedule 1, clause 17 the TSRA needs to provide details of other statutory requirements that apply to its operations throughout the reporting period.

The following table details both the policies (as per clause 12) and the statutory requirements (as per clause 17) that apply to the TSRA.

Statute / Government policy	Obligation	Compliance
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005</i>	Various	Fully compliant, please see Compliance Index page 200
Australian Competitive Grants Register (ACGR)	Comply with eligibility for inclusion on ACGR	Not applicable
Competitive Neutrality (CN)	Comply with CN Policy as provided by Treasury	Compliant
Energy Efficiency in Government Operations	Comply with Australian Greenhouse Office energy data reporting requirements	Compliant
Fraud Policy	Comply with Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines	Compliant TSRA has a fraud control plan in place
<i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	Comply with <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	Compliant See Appendix 2
<i>Privacy Act 1988</i>	Comply with <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> - Personal Information Digest	Compliant No breaches to <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> during 2009 - 2010
Protective Security Policy Framework	Attorney Generals Department Australian Government Protective Security Survey	Compliant No breaches to the Protective Security Policy Framework during 2009 - 2010
Senate Continuing Order No.6 as varied by the Senate on 3 December 1998	TSRA to provide FaHCSIA with an indexed list of file title created each six monthly period to comply with Senate Order	Compliant

Appendix 7: Explanation of Program Budget Variance

This appendix is in reference to the Appropriation Program Expenditure table found on page 65 and details the reasons behind the variance for each program area's expenditure against budget.

During 2009 - 2010 the TSRA entered into the implementation phase of its new revised program components, which are focussed on the delivery of outcomes and realisation of measurable benefits. The program components aim to contribute to achieving the goals of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029 and the Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013.

The table on page 65 of this Annual Report provides a comparative between actual TSRA program spend during 2009 - 2010 and the appropriation budget for the same period. As can be seen from the table, TSRA programs were allocated a budget for 2009 - 2010 totalling \$67.582m. This budget amount is in line with revenue from government \$66,782m plus a modest interest allocation of \$800,000. The actual programs spend during the year totalled \$66,765m which resulted in a variance compared to budget of \$817,000 or within 1.2% of budget.

The TSRA program budget for 2009 - 2010 was approved by the TSRA Board in June 2009. Through out the 2009 - 2010 year TSRA administration provided the Board with financial updates on actual program performance including spend as compared to budget. This monitoring and evaluation process conducted by the Board provided the opportunity to identify potential savings and reallocate funds to those programs with additional funding requirements.

Culture, Art and Heritage

Underspend of \$0.158m can be attributed to efficiencies linked to operational activity throughout the year.

Economic Development

The underspend of \$0.145m while not a material variance compared to the activity spend (\$30.513m) including CDEP wages paid over the full financial year, can be attributed to a reduction in the number of CDEP participants being paid CDEP wages over the full financial year.

Environmental Management

The underspend of \$0.548m can be attributed to an increase in third party funding for the Ranger Program, resulting in efficiencies associated with operational costs funded through appropriation .

Governance and Leadership

The underspend of \$0.181m in the Governance and Leadership program is the result of a decision to defer some project activity from 2009 - 2010 to 2010 - 2011.

Healthy Communities

The majority of the overspend \$0.619m is due to the reallocation of funding (identified from underspends in other program areas) toward an affordable housing project on Horn Island in June 2010.

Native Title

The main reason for underspend of \$0.560m in the Native Title Program can be attributed to savings associated with legal expenses set aside for the sea claim determination. The determination was expected during 2009 - 2010 but will not occur until July 2010 - 2011.

Safe Communities

The overspend of \$0.159m is the result of a decision late in the 2010 financial year to allocate funding (based on forecast savings from other program areas) toward the upgrade of childcare facilities on Hammond and Kubin communities to meet licensing requirements.







Section Six:

Glossary

Index

Compliance Index



Glossary

Terms and Abbreviations

Ailan Kastom	Island Custom
APSC	Australian Public Service Commission
ATES	Assistance with Tertiary Education Scholarship
ATSI Act	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005</i>
ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
ATSICLS	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Services
AWA	Australian Workplace Agreement
BFS	Business Funding Scheme
BSA	Building Services Authority
CAC Act	<i>Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997</i>
CAH	TSRA Culture, Arts and Heritage Program
CDEP	Community Development Employment Project
CFG	Community Fishers Group
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DEEDI	Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
DERM	Department of Environment and Resource Management
Development Plan	TSRA Torres Strait Development Plan 2009 - 2013
DIP	Department of Infrastructure and Planning
DOGIT	Deed of Grant in Trust
DTMR	Department of Transport and Main Roads
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
Erub	Also known as Darnley Island
FaHCSIA	Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
FOI	Freedom of Information
GBE	Government Business Enterprise
GTCC	Gab Titui Cultural Centre
HEMTP	Heavy Equipment and Management Training Program
Iama	Also known as Yam Island
IBIS	Islander Board of Industry and Services
ILUA	Indigenous Land Use Agreement
ISD	Integrated Service Delivery – an action from the Regional Plan
Kaiar	Traditional name for Tropical Rock Lobster

Masig	Also known as Yorke Island
Mer	Also known as Murray Island
MIP	Major Infrastructure Program
MP	Member of Parliament
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTSRF	Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility
NNTT	National Native Title Tribunal
NPA	Northern Peninsula Area
NPARC	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
NTO	Native Title Office
NTRB	Native Title Representative Body
OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
PBC	Prescribed Body Corporate
PEO	Principal Executive Officer
PNG	Papua New Guinea
Poruma	Also known as Coconut Island
PSC	Program Steering Committee
PZJA	Protected Zone Joint Authority
Regional Plan	Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009 - 2029
RNTBC	Registered Native Title Body Corporate
SMA	Statutory Marketing Authority
TIB	Traditional Inhabitants Boating sector
TIDS	Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme
TRAWQ	Tamwoy, Rosehill, Aplin, Waiben and Quarantine
TRL	Tropical Rock Lobster
TSC	Torres Shire Council
TSI	Torres Strait Islander
TSIRC	Torres Strait Island Regional Council
TSIRC ES	Torres Strait Island Regional Council Engineering Services
TSRA	Torres Strait Regional Authority
TSYRSA	Torres Strait Youth and Recreational Sporting Association
Ugar	Also known as Stephen Island
Warraber	Also known as Sue Island





A

- Abednego, John, 35
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, 46
- advertising and market research, 179
- advisory committees, 20
- 'Ahead of the Game: Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration', 16
- Alternative Energy
 - project purpose and achievements, 87
- Aniba, Jeffery, 35
- Appropriation Program Expenditure 2009–2010, 65
- arts and culture, 3
- Arts Development
 - project purpose and achievements, 68
- Assistance with Tertiary Education Scholarship
 - see TSRA Assistance with Tertiary Education Scholarship recipient Sayuri Fujii – case study
- Audit Committee, 20, 37, 51
 - and fraud control, 52
 - and internal audit, 52–3
 - meetings, 20
 - members, 20
- Australian public service reforms (blueprint)
 - see 'Ahead of the Game: Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration'

B

- Banu, Donald, 26–7
- beche-de-mer research, 10
- Bedford, Kenny, 25
- Bero, Florianna, 35
- Bin Tahal, Napcia, 23–4
- Biodiversity Conservation / Biodiversity Management Planning (Land)
 - project purpose and achievements, 84
- Biodiversity Conservation / Dugong and Turtle Plans
 - project purpose and achievements, 83
- Biodiversity Conservation / Dugong and Turtle Research
 - project purpose and achievements, 83

- Biodiversity Conservation / Masig Sponge Project
 - project purpose and achievements, 83
- Biodiversity Conservation / Wetland Survey
 - project purpose and achievements, 82
- blueprint (Australian public service reforms)
 - see 'Ahead of the Game: Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration'
- Board Member's Code of Conduct, 37
- Board of Directors, 18, 51
 - attendance at Board meetings, 22
 - meeting schedule, 21
 - overview, 18–22
 - profiles of, 23–36
- Bosun, David, 30
- Building Services Authority (BSA)
 - see Delivery of Building Services Authority Training Courses
- bullying
 - see Preventing Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Business Funding Support
 - project purpose and achievements, 76
- business risks, 37

C

- Chairperson's report, 8–12
- challenges, 4
- Child and Family Safety programs
 - project purpose and achievements, 120
- climate change
 - impacts, 3
 - see also impacts of climate change on Torres Strait communities
- Climate Change / Coastal Erosion Project
 - project purpose and achievements, 86
- Climate Change / Modelling
 - project purpose and achievements, 87
- closing the gap for Indigenous disadvantage, 13, 46
 - data used to benchmark progress towards, 42
 - see also COAG 'Building Blocks' for Closing the Gap
- COAG 'Building Blocks' for Closing the Gap, 13, 60, 62
 - see also closing the gap for Indigenous disadvantage

Coastal Erosion Project *see* Climate Change / Coastal Erosion Project

Coastal Impacts Assessment
project purpose and achievements, 87

Commonwealth Disability Strategy, 57

Community Capacity Building and Awareness Raising
see Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Community Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

Community Development Employment
Projects program, 2
reform, 13, 15–16

Community Fisher Group
review of, 10

Community Market Gardens
see Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Community Market Gardens

Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement / Research
project purpose and achievements, 86

Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement / Treaty and Bilateral Engagement
project purpose and achievements, 86

compliance report, 53

compliance with Australian Government statutes and policies, 186

conflicts of interest, 53

consultancies
Native Title Office, 115

consultants
details of, 184–5

corporate governance and accountability, 50–3

Cultural Heritage
see Traditional Ecological Knowledge / Cultural Heritage / Indigenous Protected Areas

Cultural Heritage Management
project purpose and achievements, 69

Cultural Maintenance
project purpose and achievements, 68

Culture, Art and Heritage program, 66–73
case study – Zamiyakal: Torres Strait Dance Machines, 71–3
explanation of program budget variance, 187

program map, 67
progress against target, 70–1
projects and achievements, 68–9
regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes, expenditure 2009–2010, 66

D

Data Management
project purpose and achievements, 94

Day, Ron, 32

Delivery of Building Services Authority Training Courses –
case study, 78–9
see also Employment Training Initiatives

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, 48

Development Plan
see Torres Strait Development Plan 2009–2013

Directors' Interests Policy, 53

dugong
research, 10, 83

dugong and turtle plans
see Biodiversity Conservation / Dugong and Turtle Plans

dugong sanctuary area
assessment of, 10

E

Economic Development program
case study: Delivery of Building Services Authority Training Courses, 78–9
explanation of program budget variance, 187
program map, 75
progress against target, 77
projects and achievements, 76
regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes, expenditure 2009–2010, 74

education, 43

Electronic Document and Records Management System, 51

employment, 43





Employment Training Initiatives
project purpose and achievements, 76
see also Delivery of Building Services Authority
Training Courses – case study

Enosa, Ron, 34

Enterprise Agreement
see TSRA Enterprise Agreement 2009–2011

environmental impact management, 51

Environmental Management program
case study: Sustainable Horticulture in Torres Strait,
90–1
explanation of program budget variance, 187
program map, 81
progress against target, 88–9
projects and achievements, 82–8
regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes,
expenditure 2009–2010, 80

equal employment opportunity, 56
Native Title Office, 115

executive coaching, 37

Executive Committee, 18–19
meetings, 19
objectives of, 18
portfolio positions, 19

explanation of program budget variance, 187

external scrutiny, 51, 117

F

Fell, Keith, 31

financial performance
Torres Strait Regional Authority in its capacity as
Native Title Representative Body for the Torres Strait
Region, 117

financial statements, 127–70

Fisheries
project purpose and achievements, 82

fisheries
Protected Zone Joint Authority and, 9–10

Fisheries Program, 10

Five Year Business Plan for TRL (draft), 10

fraud control, 51

Fraud Control Plan, 51

freedom of information, 176–8
requests, 51

Fujii, Sayuri
see TSRA Assistance with Tertiary Education
Scholarship recipient Sayuri Fujii – case study

G

Gab Titui Cultural Centre, 3, 72

Gab Titui Cultural Maintenance Project
Zamiyakal: Torres Strait Dance Machines, 71–3

Garden and Horticulture / Sustainable Horticulture
Project
project purpose and achievements, 84
see also Sustainable Horticulture in Torres Strait – case
study

Garden and Horticulture / Tagai Horticulture in Schools
project purpose and achievements, 85

Gateway / Hub for the presentation, preservation,
promotion and education of Torres Strait Islander and
Aboriginal culture and arts
project purpose and achievements, 69
see also Zamiyakal: Torres Strait Dance Machines –
case study

General Manager's review, 13–17

Governance and Leadership Capacity Building
project purpose and achievements, 94
see also TSRA Assistance with Tertiary Education
Scholarship recipient Sayuri Fujii – case study

Governance and Leadership program
case study: TSRA Assistance with Tertiary Education
Scholarship recipient Sayuri Fujii, 96–7
explanation of program budget variance, 187
program map, 93
progress against target, 95
projects and achievements, 94
regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes,
expenditure 2009–2010, 92

governance structure, 50–1

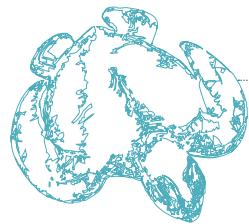
grants
details of, 180–3

Guivarra, Wayne, 25

H

- harassment
 - see Preventing Bullying and Harassment Policy
 - health, 45
 - Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Community Market Gardens
 - project purpose and achievements, 100
 - Health / Healthy Homes initiatives / Improved Access to Healthy Foods
 - project purpose and achievements, 100
 - Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Monitoring and strategic policy direction for health
 - project purpose and achievements, 100
 - Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives
 - project purpose and achievements, 88
 - Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives / Sport and Recreation Programs
 - project purpose and achievements, 101
 - Health and Safety Committee, 54
 - health and safety management arrangements, 54
 - Healthy Communities program
 - case study: Major Infrastructure Program MIP4 Warraber Sewerage Project, 104–5
 - explanation of program budget variance, 187
 - program map, 99
 - progress against target, 103
 - projects and achievements, 100–2
 - regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes, expenditure 2009–2010, 98
 - Healthy Homes Initiatives
 - see Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Community Market Gardens; Health / Healthy Homes initiatives / Improved Access to Healthy Foods; Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Monitoring and strategic policy direction for health
 - Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives
 - see Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives; Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives / Sport and Recreation Programs
 - Heavy Equipment Management Training Program
 - project purpose and achievements, 102
 - highlights of 2009–2010, 2–3
 - Horn Island Affordable Housing Project
 - project purpose and achievements, 102
 - housing, 44
 - human resources, 54–7
- ## I
- impacts of climate change on Torres Strait communities, 9
 - Improved Access to Healthy Foods
 - see Health / Healthy Homes initiatives / Improved Access to Healthy Foods
 - income, 43
 - indemnities and insurance premiums for officers, 53
 - independent auditor's report, 128–9
 - Indigenous Land Use Agreement and Future Acts
 - project purpose and achievements, 108
 - see also Mabuiag Islander Board of Industry and Services Indigenous Land Use Agreement negotiations – case study
 - Indigenous Protected Areas
 - see Traditional Ecological Knowledge / Cultural Heritage / Indigenous Protected Areas
 - industrial democracy, 56–7
 - information management and technology, 51
 - Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Marine Debris Project
 - project purpose and achievements, 85
 - Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Sustainable Land Use Planning (MIP Project)
 - project purpose and achievements, 85
 - Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Waste Management Strategy
 - project purpose and achievements, 85
 - insurance premiums for officers
 - see indemnities and insurance premiums for officers
 - integrated development planning framework, 61
 - Integrated Service Delivery Agreement, 2, 13, 15, 62
 - Integrated Service Delivery for Torres Strait and NPA Planning Project
 - project purpose and achievements, 94
 - Integrated Service Delivery Framework, 8





internal audit, 52–3

Invasive Species Management
project purpose and achievements, 84

J

judicial decisions and reviews, 49

K

Kris, John Toshie, 23

Kubin (Moa Island) barge ramp project
see Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme:
Repairs to Poruma and Kubin Barge Ramps Projects

L

Land and Sea Communication Systems
see Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Land
and Sea Communication Systems

Legal, Policy and advocacy support for Prescribed
Bodies Corporate
project purpose and achievements, 109

legislative framework, 46–9

legislative functions of Torres Strait Regional Authority as
Native Title Representative Body for the Torres Strait
region, 113–14

letter of transmittal, iii

location of major activities and facilities, 54

Lui, Willie, 35

M

Mabuiag Islander Board of Industry and Services
Indigenous Land Use Agreement negotiations – case
study, 112

Mackie, Walter, 29

Major Infrastructure Program, 2
project purpose and achievements, 101
see also Major Infrastructure Program MIP4 Warraber
Sewerage Project – case study

Major Infrastructure Program MIP4 Warraber Sewerage

Project – case study, 104–5

Marine Debris Project
see Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Marine Debris
Project

market research
see advertising and market research

Masig Sponge
see Biodiversity Conservation / Masig Sponge Project

Mills, Phillip, 33

Minister
briefings and information provided to, 49
see also powers of direction by the Minister;
responsible Minister

Ministerial appointments, 49

Ministerial visits, Senate inquiries and visiting officials,
11–12

monitoring and strategic policy direction for health
see Health / Healthy Homes Initiatives / Monitoring
and strategic policy direction for health

Mosby, John JS, 32

Mosby, Phillemon, 33

N

National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, 12

native title, 3, 40, 46
see also Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim

Native Title Claims
project purpose and achievements, 108

Native Title Office, 3, 113, 114
consultancies, 115
equal employment opportunity, 115
management of human resources, 114–15
organisational structure and corporate governance
policies, 114

Native Title program
case study: Mabuiag Islander Board of Industry
and Services Indigenous Land Use Agreement
negotiations, 112
explanation of program budget variance, 187
program map, 107
progress against target, 110–11

projects and achievements, 108–9
 regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes, expenditure 2009–2010, 106

Native Title Representative Body for the Torres Strait region, 46, 106

Native Title Representative Body reporting, 113–17
 consultancies, 115
 financial performance, 117
 legislative functions, 113–14
 management of human resources, 114–15
 organisational structure and corporate governance policies, 114
 overview, 113
 Prescribed Bodies Corporate, 113
 statements for the purpose of the *Native Title Act*, 117
 statistical data, 116

NRM Information Sharing and Research
 project purpose and achievements, 88

O

opportunities, 4
 organisational chart, 174
 organisational structure, 174–5

P

partnerships, 3, 13
 payroll and leave records, 54
 Pearson, Nancy, 27–8
 performance, 64–5
 planned outcome statement, 65
 population, 43
 Portfolio Members, 8
 Poruma Island barge ramp project
 see Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme:
 Repairs to Poruma and Kubin Barge Ramps Projects

powers of direction by the Minister, 48

Prescribed Bodies Corporate, 113
 see also Legal, Policy and advocacy support for
 Prescribed Bodies Corporate

Preventing Bullying and Harassment Policy, 56

privacy, 57

program budget variance
 explanation of, 187

program reporting, 59–125

Program Steering Committee, 51, 63

program structure, 62–3
 history, 60
 new, 2, 4, 8, 13, 46
 development of, 60, 62
 overview, 60–3

programs
 see Culture, Art and Heritage program; Economic
 Development program; Environmental Management
 program; Governance and Leadership program;
 Healthy Communities program; Native Title program;
 Safe Communities program

Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA)
 and fisheries, 9–10

R

Ranger Program
 project purpose and achievements, 86

Regional Communication
 project purpose and achievements, 94

Regional Industry Development and Coordination
 Initiatives
 project purpose and achievements, 76

regional overview, 40–1

Regional Plan
 see Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional
 Plan 2009–2029

Regional Sea Claim
 see Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim

regional statistics, 43–5

report of operations, 39–57

responsible Minister, 48

Review of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council's
 Freezer and Fishing Operation, 10

rising sea levels, 3

risk management, 51–2





S

- Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Community Capacity Building and Awareness Raising project purpose and achievements, 121
- Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Land and Sea Communication Systems project purpose and achievements, 121
- Safe and Accessible Community Initiatives / Safe Communities Infrastructure and Equipment / Airstrips and Marine Transport Infrastructure project purpose and achievements, 121
 - see also* Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme: Repairs to Poruma and Kubin Barge Ramps Projects – case study
- Safe Communities program
 - case study: Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme: Repairs to Poruma and Kubin Barge Ramps Projects, 124–5
 - explanation of program budget variance, 187
 - program map, 119
 - progress against target, 122–3
 - projects and achievements, 120–1
 - regional goal, aim of program, program outcomes, expenditure 2009–2010, 118
- sea levels
 - see* rising sea levels
- Senate inquiries
 - see* Ministerial visits, Senate inquiries and visiting officials
- Social Development and Support Programs
 - see* Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Women, Men and Children Social Development and Support Programs
- Soki, Raymond (Mario), 27
- Sport and Recreation Programs
 - see* Health / Healthy Lifestyles Initiatives / Sport and Recreation Programs
- staff development and training, 54
- staffing overview, 175
- strategic overview, 7–37
- Sustainable Horticulture in Torres Strait – case study, 90–1

see also Garden and Horticulture / Sustainable Horticulture Project

- Sustainable Land Use Planning (MIP Project)
 - see* Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Sustainable Land Use Planning (MIP Project)

T

- Tagai Horticulture in Schools
 - see* Garden and Horticulture / Tagai Horticulture in Schools
- Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Regional Plan 2009–2029, 2, 8, 13, 14, 46, 60, 62
- Torres Strait Climate Change Strategy, 3
- Torres Strait Development Plan 2009–2013, 13–14, 46
 - implementation of, 62
- Torres Strait Island Regional Council Engineering Services: Water Services Operations and Maintenance Program
 - project purpose and achievements, 102
- Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Women, Men and Children Social Development and Support Programs
 - project purpose and achievements, 120
- Torres Strait region
 - geography, 40
 - history, 40
 - map, 41
- Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA)
 - enabling legislation, 46–7
 - formation, 46
 - functions, 47
 - as Native Title Representative Body for the Torres Strait region, 46, 106
 - see also* Native Title Representative Body reporting powers, 47–8
- Torres Strait Regional Sea Claim, 3, 9, 13, 15
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge / Cultural Heritage / Indigenous Protected Areas
 - project purpose and achievements, 87
- Traditional Inhabitant Boat Licence, 10
- Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme: Repairs to Poruma and Kubin Barge Ramps Projects – case study, 124–5

Treaty and Bilateral Engagement
 see Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement /
 Treaty and Bilateral Engagement

tropical rock lobster
 research, 10

Tropical Rock Lobster licence buy-out, 10

TSRA Assistance with Tertiary Education Scholarship
 recipient Sayuri Fujii – case study, 96–7

TSRA Enterprise Agreement 2009–2011, 54, 114

turtles
 research, 10, 83
 see also Biodiversity Conservation / Dugong and
 Turtle Plans

U

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
 interventions presented to Ninth Session, 3, 9

V

Vegetation Rehabilitation and Restoration, and Devolved
 Grants
 project purpose and achievements, 82

vision, 1

visiting officials
 see Ministerial visits, Senate inquiries and visiting
 officials

W

Warraber Sewerage Project
 see Major Infrastructure Program MIP4 Warraber
 Sewerage Project

Waste Management Strategy
 see Infrastructure, Energy, Waste / Waste
 Management Strategy

Water Services Operations and Maintenance Program
 see Torres Strait Island Regional Council Engineering
 Services: Water Services Operations and Maintenance
 Program

wetlands

see Biodiversity Conservation / Wetland Survey

Williams, Reginald, 26

workplace agreement, 54

workplace health, 54, 56

Z

Zamiyakal: Torres Strait Dance Machines – case study,
 71–3
 see also Gateway/Hub for the presentation,
 preservation, promotion and education of Torres Strait
 Islander and Aboriginal culture and arts





Compliance Index

TSRA - Commonwealth Authority

This TSRA Annual Report 2009 - 2010 is prepared in accordance with Section 144ZB of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, and all other Sections.

As the Torres Strait Regional Authority is a Commonwealth Authority it is also required to prepare an Annual Report in accordance with the *Commonwealth and Companies Act 1997*. The reporting requirements are set-out in Division 2 Reporting Obligations Subdivision A, Schedule 1 Annual Report for Commonwealth Authority and Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2008.

The table below references the specific legislation reporting requirement and informs the location of the information within this TSRA Annual Report 2009 - 2010.

Any inquiries relating to this Compliance Index can be directed to the TSRA by telephoning (07) 4069 0700, toll free telephone 1800 079 093, or emailing info@tsra.gov.au

Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act – Section 144ZB	
(2) Certain matters must be included in the Annual Report. The TSRA must include in each Annual Report details of:	
Any directions given by the Minister under section 142E.	Page 48 Section 2 - How we operate - Minister for Indigenous Affairs
Any consultants engaged under section 144T.	Page 184 Appendix 5 - Details of Consultants
(3) Report must include details of grants. If a grant was made by the TSRA during a financial year to an individual or body, then, in addition to the matters referred in subsections (1) and (2), the Annual Report for that year must set out:	
The name of the individual or body.	Page 180 Appendix 4 - Details of Grants
The amount and purpose of grant.	Page 180 Appendix 4 - Details of Grants
(4) Report must not disclose sacred matters:	
The TSRA must not disclose in any Annual Report any matters known by the TSRA to be held sacred by Torres Strait Islander or Aboriginal persons.	No disclosure of sacred matters has been reported
(5) Report must include certain details about consultants	
If an Annual Report gives details of a consultant engaged under section 144T, the report must set out any significant differences between the terms and conditions on which that consultant was engaged and the standard terms and conditions for the engagement of consultants by the TSRA as set out in the instrument referred to in subsection 144T(3).	Page 184 Appendix 5 - Details of Consultants

Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
<i>Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 – Division 2 Reporting Obligations – Subdivision A Annual Report and related obligations</i>	
(9) Directors must prepare an Annual Report	
(1) The Directors of a Commonwealth Authority must: (a) Must prepare an Annual Report in accordance with Schedule 1 for each financial year; and	This requirement has been met
(b) Give it to the responsible Minister by the deadline for the financial year presentation to the Parliament.	This requirement has been met
<i>Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 – Schedule 1 Annual Report for Commonwealth Authority</i>	
Part 1 - Contents of Annual Report	
(1) Summary of contents the Annual Report must include:	Page vi Table of Contents
(a) A Report of Operations , prepared by the Directors in accordance with the Finance Ministers Orders;	Page iii Letter of Transmittal
(b) Financial Statements, prepared by Directors under clause 2 of this Schedule; and	Page 130 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(c) The Auditor-General's report on those financial statements, prepared under part 2 of this Schedule and addressed to the Minister.	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(2) Financial Statements	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(1) The Financial Statements must be prepared in accordance with the Finance Ministers Orders and must give a true and fair view of the matters that those orders require to be included in the statements.	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements - Independent Auditor's Report
(2) If Financial Statements prepared in accordance with the Finance Ministers Orders would not otherwise give a true and fair view of the matters required by those Orders, the Directors must add such information and explanations as will give a true and fair view of those matters.	Not applicable
(3) In the Financial Statements the Directors must state whether in their opinion the Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders.	Page 130 Section 4 - Financial Statements - Statement by the Directors
(4) If the Commonwealth Authority is a GBE or SMA, the Directors must state whether or not, in their opinion, there are, when the statement is made, reasonable grounds to believe the Authority will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.	Page 130 Section 4 - Financial Statements - Statement by the Directors Please note TSRA is not a GBE





Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
Part 2- Auditor's report on Financial Statements	
(3) Whether the statements comply with the Finance Minister's Orders	
(1) The Auditor-General must state whether in the Auditor-General's opinion, the financial statements: (a) Have been prepared in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders; and	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements - Independent Auditor's Report
(b) Give a true and fair view of the matters required by those Orders.	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements - Independent Auditor's Report
(2) If the Auditor-General is not of that opinion, the Auditor-General must state the reasons.	Not applicable
(3) If the Auditor-General is of the opinion that failing to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Finance Minister's orders has a quantifiable effect, the Auditor-General must quantify that financial effect and state the amount.	Not applicable
(4) Proper accounting records not kept If the Auditor-General is of the opinion that the Authority has contravened section 20, the Auditor-General must state particulars of the contravention.	Not applicable
(5) Inadequate information and explanations If the Auditor-General is of the opinion that the Auditor-General did not obtain all the necessary information and explanations, the Auditor-General must state particulars of the shortcomings.	Not applicable
Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Report of Operations) Orders 2008	
Schedule 1 Report of Operations Schedule	
Part 1 Preliminary	
(4) Certification	
(1) The Report of Operations must: (a) Be made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors;	Page iii Letter of Transmittal
(b) Be signed by a Director; and	Page iii Letter of Transmittal
(c) Specify the date on which the report is made; and	Page iii Letter of Transmittal
(d) State that the Directors are responsible under section 9 of the CAC Act for the preparation and content of the Report of Operations in accordance with the Finance Minister's Order.	Page iii Letter of Transmittal

Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
(2) If the Commonwealth Authority has only one Director, the Report of Operations must: (a) Be signed by a Director;	Not applicable
(b) Specify the date on which the Report is made;	Not applicable
(c) State that the Director is responsible under section 9 of the CAC Act for the preparation and content of the Report of Operations in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders.	Not applicable
Part 2 - Form and content of the Report of Operations Division 1 Overview	
(5) The Report of Operations must include: (a) The general information required by Division 2; and	Please refer to Division 2 as detailed in this table
(b) The specific information required by Division 3.	Please refer to Division 3 as detailed in this table
(6) Standards of presentation	
(1) The Report of Operations must be constructed having regard to the interests of users, information included in the report must be relevant and reliable and should be concise, readily understandable and well balanced.	It is the opinion of the TSRA Directors that this Annual Report is relevant, reliable, concise, readily understandable and well balanced.
(2) The text of the Report of Operations should be free of ambiguity, jargon and excessive use of acronyms and technical terms.	It is the opinion of the TSRA Directors that this report is well written and free of ambiguity
(3) Use should be made in the Report of Operations of appropriate tables, graphs, diagrams and charts to illustrate and explain matters dealt with in the Report.	Tables and charts have been used throughout this document particularly in Board of Directors pages 18 - 36 and in the Program Reporting pages 66 - 125
(4) The Report of Operations may be accompanied by, or incorporate, other reports (for example a Chief Executive Officer's report) not inconsistent with the Report of Operations, which meet the standards required by this clause.	Pages 8 - 12 Chairperson's Report Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review
(5) This schedule should not be construed as specifying particular structure for the Report of Operations, nor as limiting the Directors as to any other additional matters they consider appropriate to report upon.	Additional matters include: Pages 2 - 5 Highlights and Opportunities Pages 60 - 63 Section 3 - Overview of TSRA's Program Structure





Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
(7) Obtaining information from subsidiaries	Not applicable - TSRA does not have subsidiaries
Division 2 - General Information about operations and activities	
(8) Enabling legislation and responsible Minister	
The Report of Operations must specify : (a) The Commonwealth Authority's enabling legislation and its objectives and functions as the case requires, set out in that legislation; and	Pages 46 - 48 Section 2 - Where We Operate - Legislative Framework
(b) The name of the responsible Minister at the date of the report and the names of any other responsible Minister during the period covered by the report.	Pages 48 - 49 Section 2 - Where We Operate - Responsible Minister
(9) Outline of organisational structure	
The Report of Operations must provide an outline of the organisational structure of the Commonwealth Authority (including subsidiaries) and the location of major activities and facilities.	Page 50 TSRA Governance Framework Pages 54 - 56 Human Resources (organisational structure and location of activities and facilities) Appendix 1 - Organisational Structure
(10) Review of operations and future prospects	
(1) The Report of Operations must include the following information: (a) A review of how the Commonwealth Authority has performed during the financial year in relations to: (i) its Commonwealth objects and functions, as the case requires; (ii) its corporate plan, where applicable; and (iii) its principal outputs and contribution to outcomes.	<i>Review of Performance</i> Pages 2 - 5 Highlights and Opportunities Pages 8 - 12 Chairperson's Report Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review <i>Principal Outputs</i> Pages 60 - 125 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(b) Factors, events or trends influencing its performance over the financial year and in the future, including the risks and opportunities that it faces and the strategies adopted or proposed to be adopted to manage those risks and opportunities.	Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review Pages 51 - 52 Section 2 - Corporate Governance - Risk Management

Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
(c) Significant events referred to in section 15 of the CAC Act that have taken place during the financial year.	Pages 8 - 12 Chairperson's Report Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review
(d) The operational and financial results of the authority during the financial year, including: (i) its principal outputs; (ii) major investing and financing activities; and (iii) key financial and non-financial performance indicators.	<i>Operational results</i> Pages 60 - 125 Section 3 - Program Reporting Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review <i>Financial Results</i> Pages 128 - 171 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(e) Significant changes in the authorities state of affairs or principal activities that have occurred during the financial year.	Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review Pages 60 - 63 Section 3 - Overview of TSRA's Program Structure
(f) Developments since the end of the financial year, giving particulars of any matter or circumstance that has arisen and has significantly affected or may significantly affect: (i) The authority's operations in future years; (ii) The results of those operations in future years; and (iii) The authority's state of affairs in future financial years.	Not applicable
(2) The assessment of performance required under paragraph (1) (a) should: (a) Address both the efficiency and effectiveness of operations of the Commonwealth Authority in producing its principal outputs; and (b) Make clear links between outcomes, strategies for achieving those outcomes and the principal outputs.	<i>Review of Performance</i> Pages 2 - 5 Highlights and Opportunities Pages 8 - 12 Chairperson's Report Pages 13 - 17 General Manager's Review <i>Principal Outputs</i> Pages 60 - 125 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(11) Judicial Decisions and Reviews by outside bodies	
The Report of Operations must include particulars of: (a) Judicial decisions and decisions of administrative tribunals that have had, or may have, a significant impact on the operations of the Commonwealth Authority.	Page 49 Section 2 - Legislative Framework - Judicial Decisions and Reviews





Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
(b) Reports on the operations of the authority by the Auditor-General (other than the report on the financial statements), a Parliamentary Committee or the Commonwealth Ombudsman.	Page 49 Section 2 - Legislative Framework - Judicial Decisions and Reviews
(12) Effects of Ministerial directions	
(1) The Report of Operations must provide particulars of: (a) Any directions issued by the responsible Minister, or other Minister, under the enabling legislation of the Commonwealth Authority or other legislation: (i) During the financial year; (ii) Since the end of the financial year; and (iii) Continuing from previous financial years.	Page 48 Section 2 - Powers of Direction by the Minister
(b) General policies of the government that apply to the Commonwealth Authority under section 28 of the CAC Act: (i) During the financial year; (ii) Since the end of the financial year; and (iii) Continuing from previous financial years.	Page 53 Section 2 - Corporate Governance - Compliance Report Appendix 6 - Compliance with Australian Government Statutes and policies
(2) Where a direction or general policy reported under subclause (1) has not been fully complied with, the report should include an explanation of the extent of, and reasons for, the non-compliance.	Not applicable The TSRA has complied under subclause (1)
Division 3 - Specific Information	
(14) Directors	Pages 18 - 37
(1) The following particulars must be given in the Report of Operations with respect to the Directors of the Commonwealth Authority: (a) Each Directors name, qualifications, experience and special responsibilities and whether he or she is an executive Director or a non-executive Director; and	Page 18 Section 1 - TSRA Board of Directors Pages 23 - 36 Section 1 - TSRA Board of Directors - Profiles
(b) The number of meetings of the Board of Directors held during the financial year and each Directors attendance at those meetings.	Pages 21 - 22 Section 1 - TSRA Board of Directors - Meeting schedule and attendance tables
(2) The particulars required by subclause (1) should be given for each Director who was in office at the date of the Report of Operations or during the period covered by the report, distinguishing between Directors at the date of the report and those who ceased to be Directors during the period covered by the report.	Pages 23 - 36 Section 1 - TSRA Board of Directors - Profiles

Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
(3) The particulars required by paragraph (1) (b) do not apply in the case of a Commonwealth Authority which has only Director	Not applicable
(15) Statement of Governance	
(1) The Report of Operations must include a statement of the main corporate governance practices that the Commonwealth Authority had in place during the financial year.	Pages 50 - 57 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Corporate Governance
(2) The statement must include the following information for each Board Committee (including the Audit Committee) of the Commonwealth Authority: (a) The Committees main responsibilities and rights;	Page 51 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Corporate Governance Page 20 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(b) Each members' name, position held within the Commonwealth Authority and special responsibilities; and	Page 20 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(c) The number of meetings of the Committee held during the financial year and each members' attendance at those meetings.	Page 20 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(3) Without limiting the content of the statement, it may include: (a) Whether there are any formal induction or continuing education processes to inform non-executive Directors of their responsibilities and rights;	Page 37 Section 1 - Board of Directors - Executive coaching
(b) Whether there is any formal mechanism for reviewing the performance of Directors;	To be developed in 2010 - 2011
(c) The main procedures by which the Directors can seek independent professional advice, at the authority's expense, in carrying out their duties;	Page 37 Section 1 - Board of Directors - Executive coaching
(d) The Directors approach to identifying areas of significant risk and to putting arrangements in place to manage such risk; and	Page 37 Section 1 - Board of Directors - Business risks
(e) The authority's policy on the establishment and maintenance of appropriate ethical standards.	Page 37 Section 1 - Board of Directors - TSRA Board Member's Code of Conduct
(16) Indemnities and insurance premiums for officers	
(1) The Report of Operations must include details of: (a) Any indemnity that is given to a current or former officer against a liability, or any relevant agreement under which an officer may be given an indemnity of that kind; and	Page 53 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Corporate Governance - Indemnities and Insurance Premiums for Officers





Guiding legislation requirement	Page Reference
(b) Any premium that is paid, or agreed to be paid, for insurance against a current or former officer's liability for legal costs.	Page 53 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Corporate Governance - Indemnities and Insurance Premiums for Officers
(2) The details required under subclause 1.	Page 53 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Corporate Governance - Indemnities and Insurance Premiums for Officers
(3) The Report of Operations need not give details of the nature of the liability covered by, or the amount of the premium payable under, a contract of insurance to the extent that disclosure of those details is prohibited by the insurance contract.	Page 53 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Corporate Governance - Indemnities and Insurance Premiums for Officers
(17) Other Commonwealth requirements	
(1) The Report of Operations must include any matters required to be included in the Annual Report of the Commonwealth Authority by: (a) The authority's enabling legislation; and	Pages 46 - 47 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Legislative Framework
(b) any other legislation.	Appendix 6
(2) Any requirements referred to in subclause (1) must include any such matters carried out by or through a subsidiary of the Commonwealth Authority.	Not applicable
(18) Commonwealth disability strategy	
The Report of Operations of Commonwealth Authority (other than a GBE) must include an assessment of the authority's performance in implementing the Commonwealth Disability Strategy in the terms set out in the Guide to the Performance Reporting Framework.	Page 57 Section 2 - Report of Operations - Human Resources - Commonwealth Disability Strategy

TSRA - Native Title Representative Body (NTRB)

The TSRA is a Commonwealth Authority and as such is governed by Section 144ZB of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, and the *Commonwealth and Companies Act 1997*.

The TSRA is also a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) and required to provide an Annual Report of its operations and performance of Representative Body functions together with financial statements prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

The following table is the checklist of reporting requirements for 2009 - 2010 for an NTRB as supplied by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Please note that all *CAC Act 1997* requirements have already been referenced in the Compliance Index titled – TSRA as a Commonwealth Authority.

Any inquiries relating to this Compliance Index can be directed to the Native Title Office, Torres Strait Regional Authority by telephoning (07) 4069 2581 or emailing info@tsra.gov.au

Requirement	Page Reference
Covering letter to Minister	Page iii Letter of Transmittal
Table of Contents	Page vi - vii Table of Contents
Glossary	Page 190 Glossary
Contact Officer and contact details	Page v Page 209 NTRB Compliance Index
Report by Chairperson	Page 8 Chairperson's Report
Report by Chief Executive Officer including:	Page 13 General Manager's Review
(a) Summary of significant issues and developments;	
(b) Overview of performance and financial results; and	
(c) Outlook for the following year.	
NTRB Overview	Page 113 Section 3 - Program Reporting - Native Title Program - NTRB Functions
(a) Overview description of NTRB	

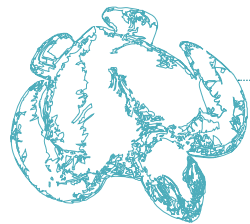




Requirement	Page Reference
(b) Role and functions (i) Legislation (ii) Legislative functions (iii) Corporate Governance Policies	Pages 113 - 114 Section 3 - Program Reporting - Native Title Program - NTRB Functions
(c) Organisational structure	Pages 114 - 115 Section 3 - Program Reporting - Native Title Program - NTRB Functions
(d) Outcome and output structure	Pages 60 - 62 Section 3 - Program Structure
(e) Key features - strategic plan, operational plan	Page 113 Section 3 - Program Reporting - Native Title Program - NTRB Functions
Report on Performance	Pages 108 - 111 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(a) (i) Review of performance during the year in relation to strategic and operational plan and by function (ii) Summary data on outputs	Pages 115 - 116 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(b) Narrative discussion and analysis of performance	Pages 108 - 111 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(c) Summary resources tables by outputs, budget / actual by main heads of expenditure and revenue (i) Discussion of analysis of NTRB's financial performance against budget (ii) Discussion of any significant changes from the prior year or from budget	Page 117 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(d) Developments since the end of financial year have affected or may significantly affect the NTRB's operations in future	Not applicable
Corporate Governance - statement of the main practices in place	Pages 50 - 53 Section 2 - Corporate Governance
(a) Name of the senior executive and their responsibilities	Pages 23 - 36 Section 1 - Board of Directors

Requirement	Page Reference
(b) Senior Management committees and their roles - Separation of Powers	Pages 18 - 22 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(i) Number of Board and Committee Meetings, attendance by Members	Pages 18 - 22 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(ii) Training arrangements for Board Members	Page 37 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(c) Corporate and operational planning and associated performance reporting and review	Pages 23 - 36 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(d) Approach adopted to identifying areas of significant financial or operational risk and arrangements in place to manage risks	Pages 37 and 51 Section 1 and Section 2
(e) Policy and practices on the establishment and maintenance of appropriate ethical standards	Page 37 Section 1 - Board of Directors
(f) Nature and amount or remuneration for senior management and how it is determined	Page 160 Section 4 - Financial Statements
External Scrutiny - Significant developments in external scrutiny	Page 49
(a) Judicial decisions and decisions of administrative tribunals	Section 2 - Judicial Decisions and Reviews
(b) Evaluation and / or audit reports - findings and responses	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(c) Other external reviews	Not applicable
Management of Human resources - Assessment in effectiveness in managing and developing human resources to perform NTRB functions and achieve NTRB objectives	Page 114 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(a) Workforce planning, staff turnover and retention	
(b) Training and development undertaken and its impact	Page 114 Section 3 - Program Reporting
(c) Impact and features of Certified Agreements and AWA's	Page 54 Section 2 - Human Resources
(d) Occupational health and safety performance	Page 54 Section 2 - Human Resources
(e) Statistics on staffing	Page 115 and Appendix 1 Section 3 - Program Reporting





Requirement	Page Reference
(f) Indemnities and insurance premiums for officers	Page 53 Section 2 - Human Resources
Consultants and Competitive tendering and Contracting	Pages 50 - 53 Section 2 - Corporate Governance
(a) Competitive tendering and Contracting practices	
(b) Number of consultancy services contracts let and total expenditure on consultancy services	Page 115 Section 3 - Program Reporting Page 184 Appendix 5
Financial Statements	All contained within Section 4
(a) Auditor's Report	Page 128 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(b) Statement by Governing Committee and CEO	Page 130 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(c) Financial Statements	Page 131 Section 4 - Financial Statements
(d) Notes to Financial Statements	Pages 139 - 170 Section 4 - Financial Statements
Other information	Pages 200 - 212 Section 6 - Compliance Index
(a) Index	