

Schedule 4.1 Commercial Use of Native Species by Indigenous People

Schedule Team

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Issues

The parties agree the key issues to be addressed are:

- There are two classes of native species-based industry
 - the supply of items that depend on the cultural connection as an essential part of the product and its value.
 - the supply of items that do not depend or are weakly dependent on connection to Indigenous culture for their market value

This schedule is concerned primarily with the first class

- Collaboration between Indigenous people, Government, researchers and conservationists on matters to do with commercial use of native species involves a very complex set of issues. Accordingly the approach needs to be long term, adaptive and provide for sustainability and succession planning within project.

- There is a history of failure of externally imposed enterprise in Indigenous communities but there is demonstrated interest by Indigenous communities in active land management involving sustainable use of native species,
- There are numerous barriers to successful Indigenous enterprise based on commercial use of native species. Many of these barriers are based on policies and administrative convenience; there is a need for an integrated, whole of government approach to Indigenous enterprise;
- Production based on native species is often small and supply irregular. However, aside from the Arts and Crafts industries, the economics of Indigenous native species-based industries are poorly understood;
- There is potential to link enterprise development to capacity building, training and education in resource and business management; learning particularly from enterprises from overseas based on native species.

Strategies

The parties agree the strategies they will employ are:

- Identify the impediments to successful Indigenous business based on native species embedded in policy and legislation (links to Schedule 2.7);
- Identify, analyse and understand the size and nature of existing Indigenous native species-based enterprises, linking to broader surveys of bio-industries where appropriate;
- Undertake research as requested on Indigenous enterprises based on native species, including research on sustainability, policy, design and markets;
- Contribute to regional analyses of business opportunities as appropriate (links to Schedule 4.4);
- Investigate the potential for the development of a native-species based enterprise trade association, linked where appropriate to the NT Foods Group;
- Undertake regular training of practitioners in and administrators of native species-based enterprises;
- Create and maintain a network of practice among practitioners in the area of enterprise based on native species;
- Engage with national and international interests in this area through the IUCN Sustainable Use Specialist Group.

Performance Indicators

The parties agree the indicators to be used are:

- Completed analysis of the legal and policy impediments to Indigenous enterprises based on native species in the three northern jurisdictions;
- Completed analysis of the size of the Indigenous native-species based economy;
- Completed analysis of the potential for a native-species based enterprise trade association
- Completion of two short courses for practitioners in and administrators of native species-based enterprises per year;
- Size and level of activity of a livelihoods-based network of practice