Reference No. 119

Summarising: Smith & Claudie (2003), *Developing a land and resource management framework for Kaanju homelands, Central Cape York Peninsula*
Responsibility for the preparation of this research summary rests with the authors of the MCEETYA report *Education, Training and Indigenous Futures: CAEPR Policy Research 1990–2007* and not the original author(s) of the summarised material.

Title of Research:
Developing a land and resource management framework for Kaanju homelands, Central Cape York Peninsula.

Research Publication:

Name of Researcher(s):
B.R. Smith and D. Claudie

Time period:
2003

Geographic location:
Chuula Homeland Camp, Cape York Peninsula (Qld.).

Methodology:
This research is based on the long-term perspectives of its authors, Chairman of the Chuulangun Aboriginal Corporation, David Claudie, and the anthropologist, Benjamin Smith.

Aims
This paper aims to outline the opportunities and challenges entailed by the innovative approach of the Kaanju people towards management of their homelands

- It also seeks to explore the cultural and political context underlying Kaanju relationships with current land management structures.

Selected findings and insights:
The Kaanju people, whilst prepared to work within governance structures provided or imposed from without, were actively seeking to develop the grounds of their own authority as a community and power base that governments should deal with directly. This ambition was embodied in the operation of the Chuulungan Aboriginal Corporation.

- One of the ambitions of this development of localised governance structures was to encourage the provision of homeland-based education and training programs to educate the wider community on the interrelationships between Kaanju people and their homelands.

- Another employment option was the training of rangers to take on land management responsibilities, a priority issue due to urgent needs for regional landcare improvement.

Educational implications:
The development of suitable training courses for ranger programs is rapidly becoming a priority, with government initiatives to support ranger programs in remote regions of Australia. Other CAEPR research has emphasised the need for the delivery of such courses to be based upon sound pedagogy, developed in close consultation with the local community and adapted to meet their immediate needs. This research also identifies another educational challenge of how best to integrate Indigenous ecological and cultural knowledge into contemporary land management, which relates closely to sustainable wildlife management being studied in other remote communities. [training]
Relevance:

Domain 5: Pathways to training, employment and higher education

Pathways and strategies for remote locations

Related papers

M.J. Cochrane 'The Djelk Ranger Program: An Outsider’s Perspective' CAEPR Working Paper No. 27, 2005