

## WORKSHOP 2 : INTERACTION OF LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES AND ABORIGINES

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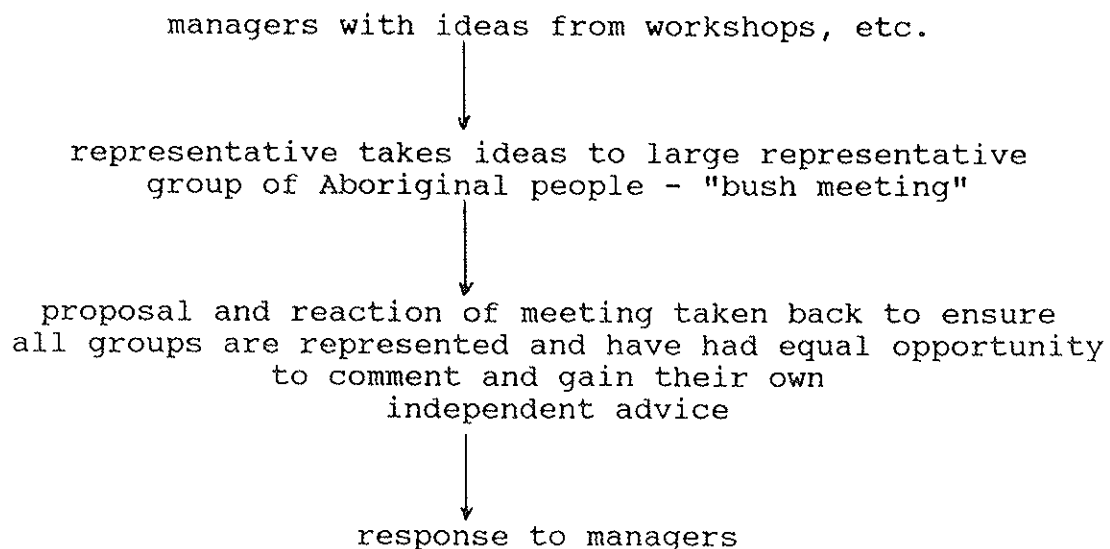
Northern Territory situation.

Interaction breakdown areas - N.T. Government ideologically opposed to Federal Land Rights Act. C.C.N.T. required to implement Government policy so this often causes conflict with Aboriginal organisations.

Aboriginal organisations often do not or cannot distinguish between Government departments; complicated by numerous departments, changing names and sources of funding.

Political difficulties overshadow or have implications on all other aspects.

### OPERATIONAL INTERACTION



- misbalance of power between dominant powerful agencies and disadvantaged Aboriginal people.
- appropriation of control of land.
- conservation and exploitation of resources not necessarily the point of conflict - but need sustainable resource use.
- not enough resources on the ground to undertake appropriate liaison with Aboriginal communities.

- conflicting land "rights" arrangements and reserves on the border of States makes it difficult to negotiate satisfactory joint management arrangements.
- suggest positioning of liaison staff in regional offices to improve communications.
- "liaison post" with communities or councils funded by independent funding ? A.A.P.A.? A.T.S.I.C.?
- difficulties with organisation imposing ideas on communities - need to have the person chosen by communities.
- difficulty with setting up programs because previous failures mean people do not wish to run over the same issues again.
- training needs to be undertaken and carried through to some finite endpoint.
- suggest employing Aboriginal people as experts to provide information to the management process as well as typical ranger training in the European ranger role. Pay experts as such i.e. professional rates not ranger rates,; make a distinction between expert work and training.
- encourage Aboriginal people to contribute to interpretation and the training of European rangers.

#### WILDLIFE HARVESTING

- sustainability - what impact are Toyotas and guns having? concentration of people, greater access and greater killing ability.
- education role for park managers to alert Aboriginal people to the dangers of over-exploitation of rare and limited distribution species.
- include people in active ecological management programs, this helps educate people about the problems and encourages their involvement.
- differences in perceptions as to why animals disappear and reappear - need to blend both cultural perceptions to a joint aim.
- communications - cultural and linguistic differences need to be addressed.

#### ABORIGINAL OWNERS OPENING UP LAND TO EXPLOITATION

- over-exploitation of firewood resources
- mining interests - concerns about species of limited distribution or habitats. E.I.A. still needs to be prepared. Aboriginal owners do have more say over mining (in N.T.) than European land owners.

#### POLITICS OF ACCESS ROADS

- concerns about the decision making process - Aboriginal organisations building roads without consultation. For instance, C.A.L.M. would like to be in a position to advise or suggest good locations to protect flora and fauna.

#### FLEXIBILITY OF EMPLOYMENT

- limitations caused by A.E.D.P. etc. funding which does not include funds for a European co-worker or researcher.
- arbitrary restrictions on how funds can be expended.
- time frame - conflict of time constraints versus time needed to incorporate Aboriginal people into research programs.
- funding by financial years - difficult to have funds released quickly at the start of the year and disposal of funds at the year's completion often problematic.