# AJAMURNDA Maintaining the Anindilyakwa language through collection building and sharing



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**Groote Eylandt Language Centre** 

http://www.anindilyakwa.org.au

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Yirruwa yirriyamarngkwuna-ma yirrilikarnuma-langwa enenuwa angalya.

Ngarna ngarrayamarngkwajuna-ma aduwaba warnuwa warnukwarda-warda Puliima-manja.

Yarna yirruwerrikiyangmarngwa-jungunama nungkwurri-langwa wurrarumuruma warnungaduwaba akwa ambakmurra.

We would like to thank the people of this land for having us here today and the Puliima organisers. We would like to pay our respect to the elders of this land past and present.





Yirrilangwa ayakwa amikbiya ena abiyakarbiya langwa communities. Anindilyakwa ayakwa eningilyamarmba yikidirrakina yada nara yada-ka amarrawama akiyengbina manja. Ena amikbiya wurriyukwaya langwa. Yirrilangwa wurrarumuruma warnungaduwaba akw warnungkwura yirrabumaka-ma yikiyengbina yada nara yada ajunguma ena ayakwa Anindilyakwa. Yirrilangwa ena yirrabukama wurrarumuruna nuwadukwulijina-ma ariba-wa nadirrirdenama adalyuma-wa akwa makarduwa.

Ena Ngawa



Our language Anindilyakwa is important in our 3 communities. Anindilyakwa language is special so we are protecting it so it doesn't die out. It is important for the children to learn for the future.

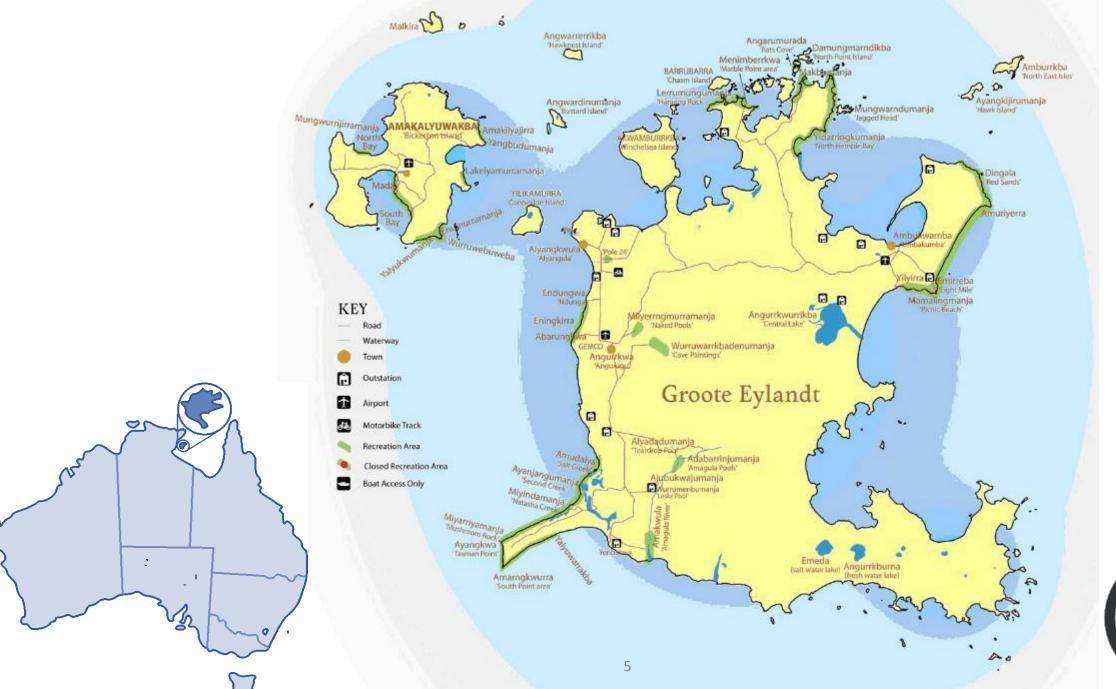
This language was given to us by elders in the past and the present

It connects us to our land, rivers and seas. It surrounds the whole island.

The end.









# Anindilyakwa

- 1200-1800 speakers
- Nearly all live here
- Not Indigenous to anywhere else
- "Isolate" or Kunwinykuan
- Commonalities with Wubuy/Nunggubuyu

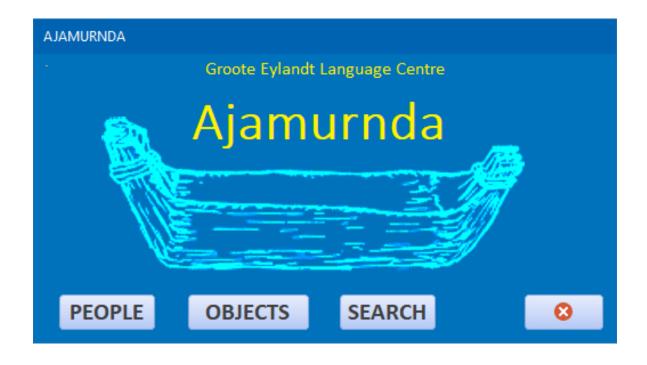


# The Anindilyakwa language

- The Indigenous language of the Groote Eylandt archipelago
- Spoken fully and by all generations, mostly as mother tongue
- One of the strongest spoken Indigenous languages in Australia
- Culturally and linguistically unique



# Ajamurnda project

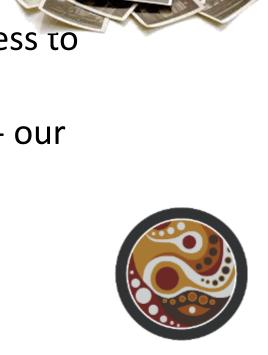


Ajamurnda - a basket made of paperbark used for collecting and carrying things



# Why are we building Ajamurnda?

- To organise our resources so we know where they are and how to access them
- To keep our documents, photos, recordings safe for the long term
- To enable and encourage Anindilyakwa people to have access το these resources
- To preserve our language, culture, history, and knowledge our identity as Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island people
- To reach our people at home or wherever they live



# Sylvia's Story

- I grew up in two worlds
- After living away I came back to relearn my first language
- Language united me with my people and place, and gave me the confidence to do what I wanted to
- I learnt the importance of Anindilyakwa people living off the islands being able to retain or reconnect with their language and culture



Interpreting for the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of children in the Northern Territory



# Building Ajamurnda

 Funded in collaboration with Indigenous Languages and Arts program



- Who is involved?
  - Our multiskilled team
  - Collaboration with other collections/archives e.g. Northern Territory Library
  - Software developer
  - Plus broad community participation (... see later)



#### **Activities**

- Organise, select and digitise collection of physical materials
- Organise, select and upload collection of digital materials
- Commission robust storage
- Research/consult community needs, priorities, methods, protocols
- Design, build and populate online catalogue and apps with goals:
  - wide and easy access for community members
  - crowdsourcing input: encouraging users to add value by inputting and sharing their own knowledge
- Success will be measured by community acceptance, usage, and participation; and catalogue vitality

#### Work so far

- Triage collections
- Digitising

- Research and formulate metadata
- Build *prototype* database/catalogue for data entry
- Experiment with populating the catalogue





#### Metadata

#### What is metadata?

Additional information added to a resource to enable:

- discovery (via search or browse)
- appropriate usage
- understanding



#### Metadata sources

- Conventional, e.g. Dublin Core
- Indigenous e.g. IRCA (Indigenous Remote Communications Association)
- Team brainstorming and research
- Feedback from cataloguing data entry

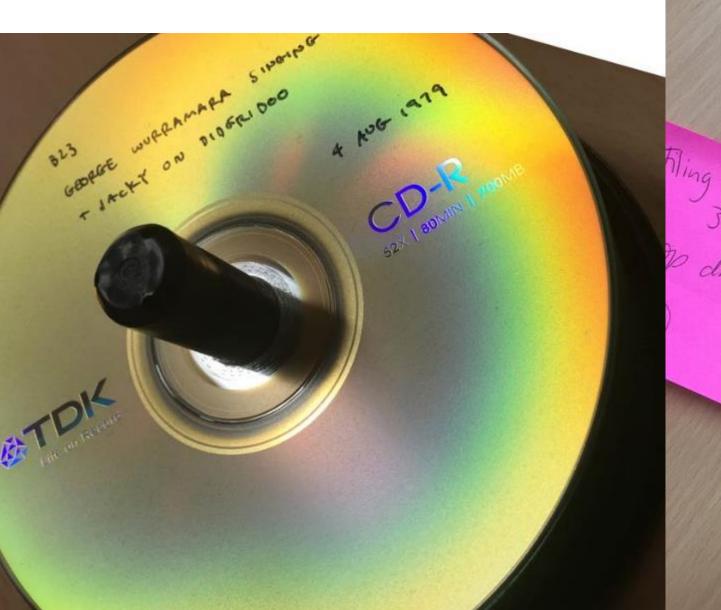




Metadata brainstorming session



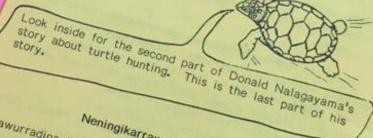






M W TH F 3 10 17 24 31 4 11 18 25 5 6 12 13 19 20 26 27 1 8 15 22 29 7 14 21 28

Sheet 5 Public Holidays: Friday 22nd July -Darwin Show Day Monday 1st August -

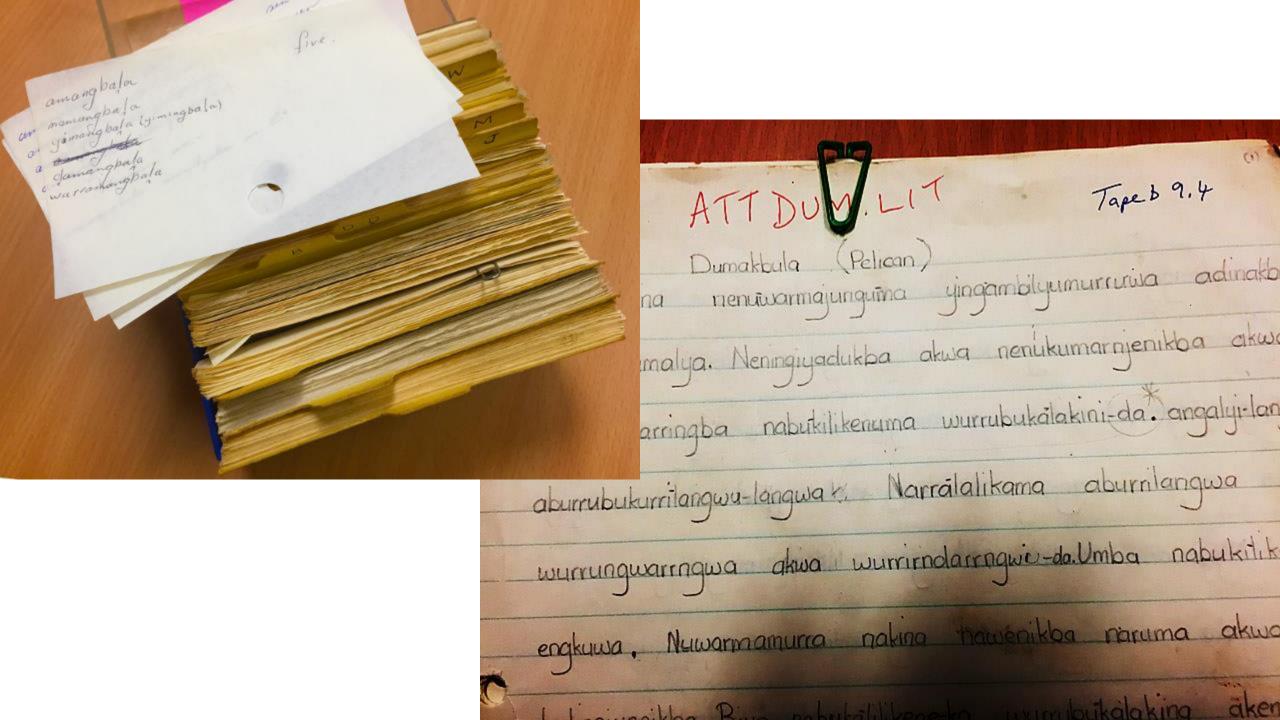


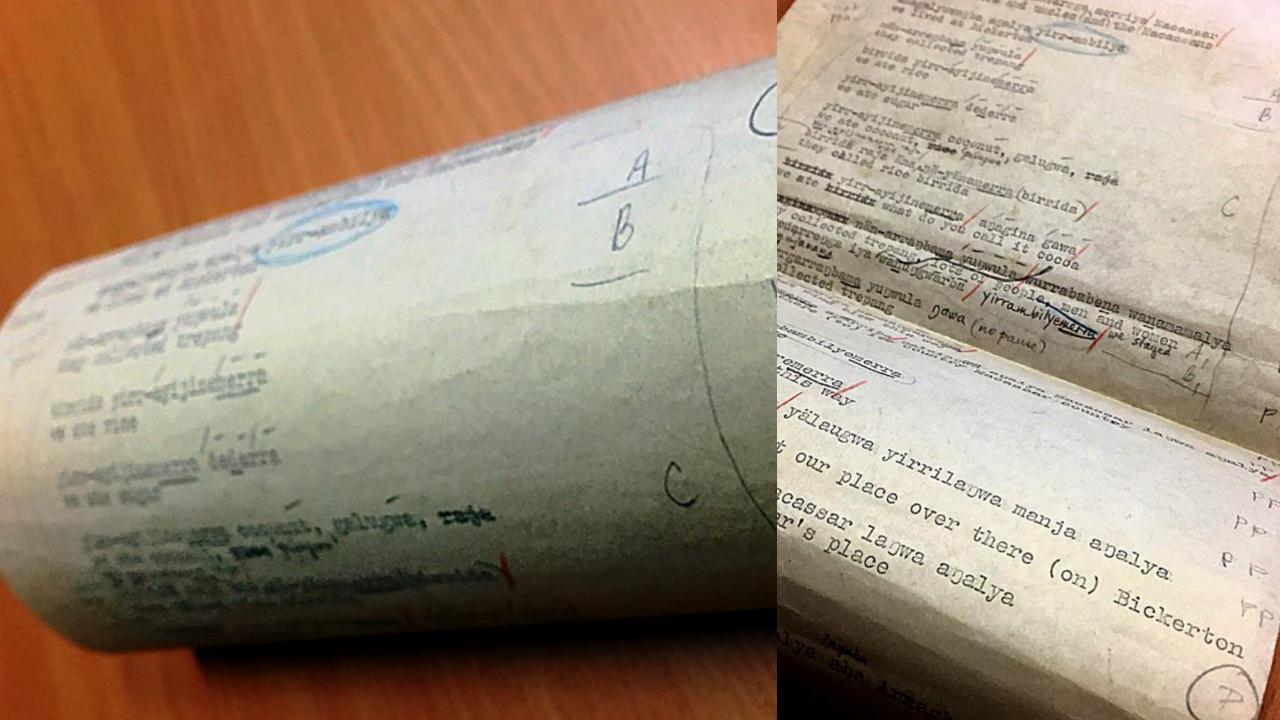
Neningikarrawari-langwa Ayakwa

Lawurradina Nubungkawu-wa nungkwulangwu-wa Neningikarrawara. Numarngkirra nakina akwa kin-errukwulinama nungkuwu-manja.

will have pity on you.

Come back to the Lord your God. He is kind and he (Joel 2:13)





# Metadata discovery

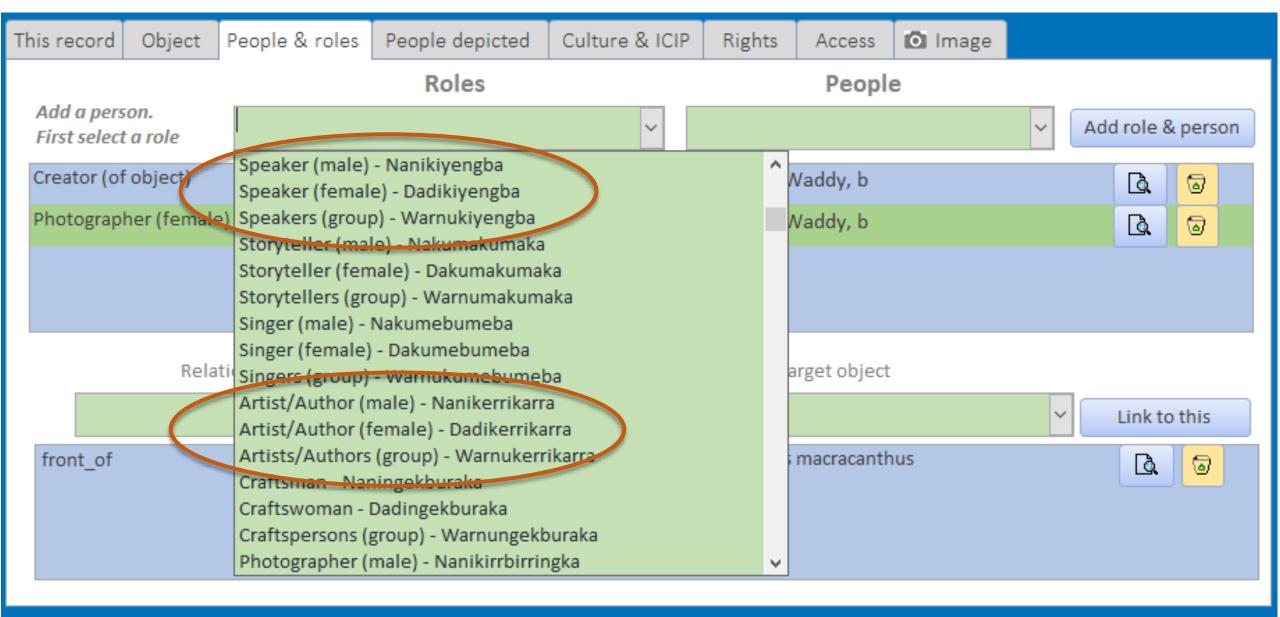
- We are developing metadata consisting of:
  - conventional categories, e.g. title, author etc.
  - language resource categories, e.g.
    - speaker, language genre
  - Groote Eylandt community and culture categories, e.g.
    - cultural and access protocols
    - people's roles and relationships to resources
    - kinship and totem information
    - land and places



# Some features developed so far



#### Roles respecting cultural categories and expressed in Anindilyakwa



























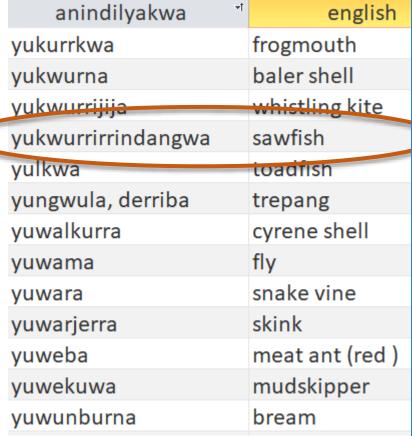


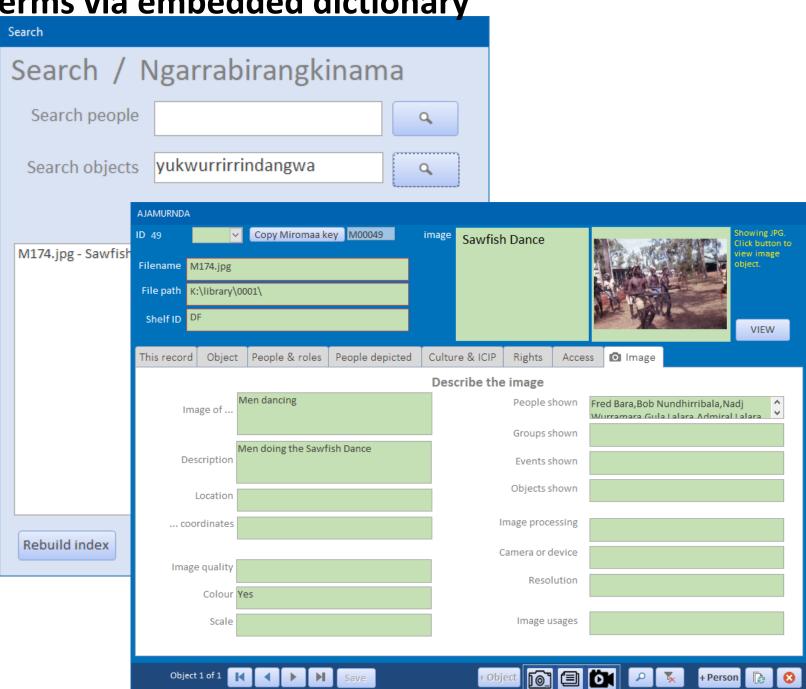




Search using Anindilyakwa terms via embedded dictionary

#### **Embedded dictionary**



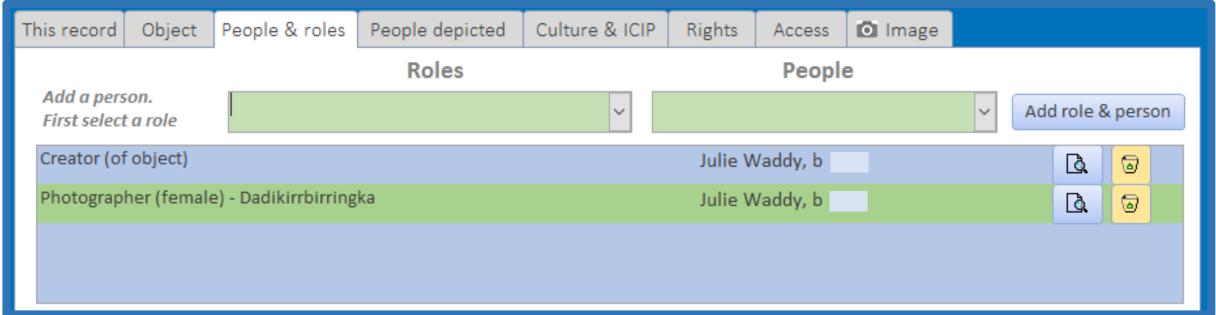


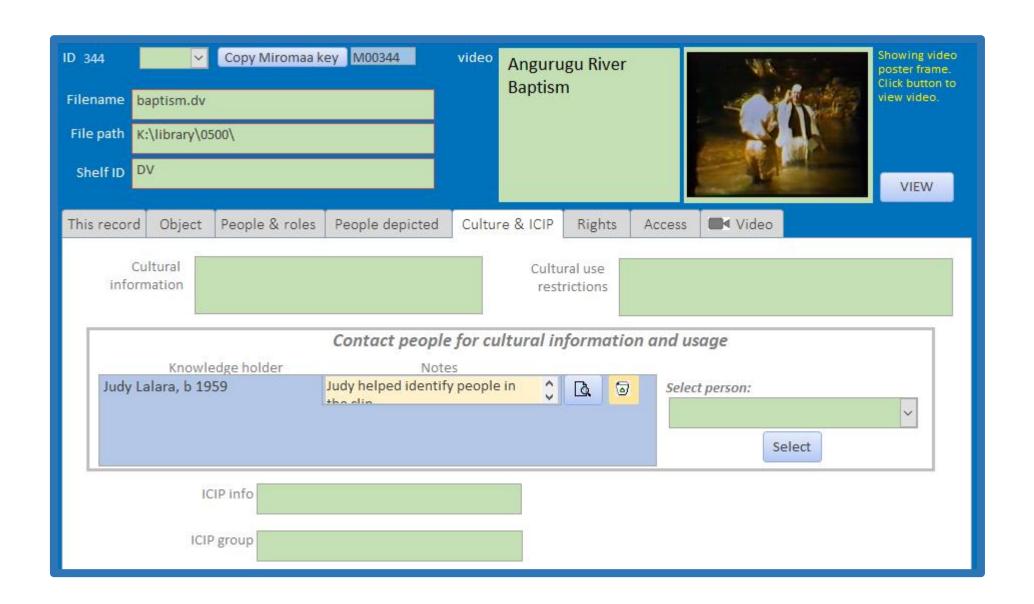
# Catalogue is people-centric

- People-related information includes:
  - who provided information
  - who (individuals, families, clans) holds or owns knowledge and rights
  - who appears or is mentioned in images, videos, documents
  - who to contact about cultural matters, e.g. warnikujungwa-langwa ('kumanjayi') situations









# Access protocol

- We are still researching this
- Current technology and community usage of mobiles might help, e.g.
  - access based on detecting user location
  - access via signal of physically local wireless network

What is access protocol?
Who can access a resource,
based on:

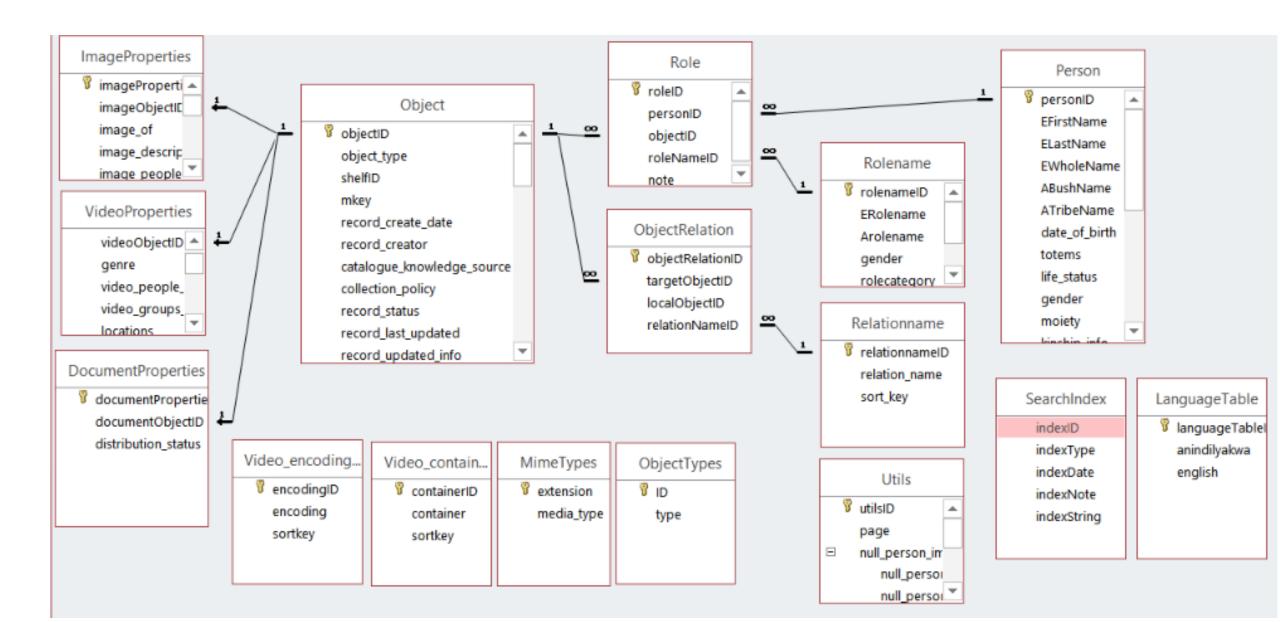
- clan
- sex
- age
- moiety
- land/country

Also, how the resource can be used or shared

Access protocol is live and dynamic, not fixed in time



#### Tech: 'Data model/Entity-Relationship diagram

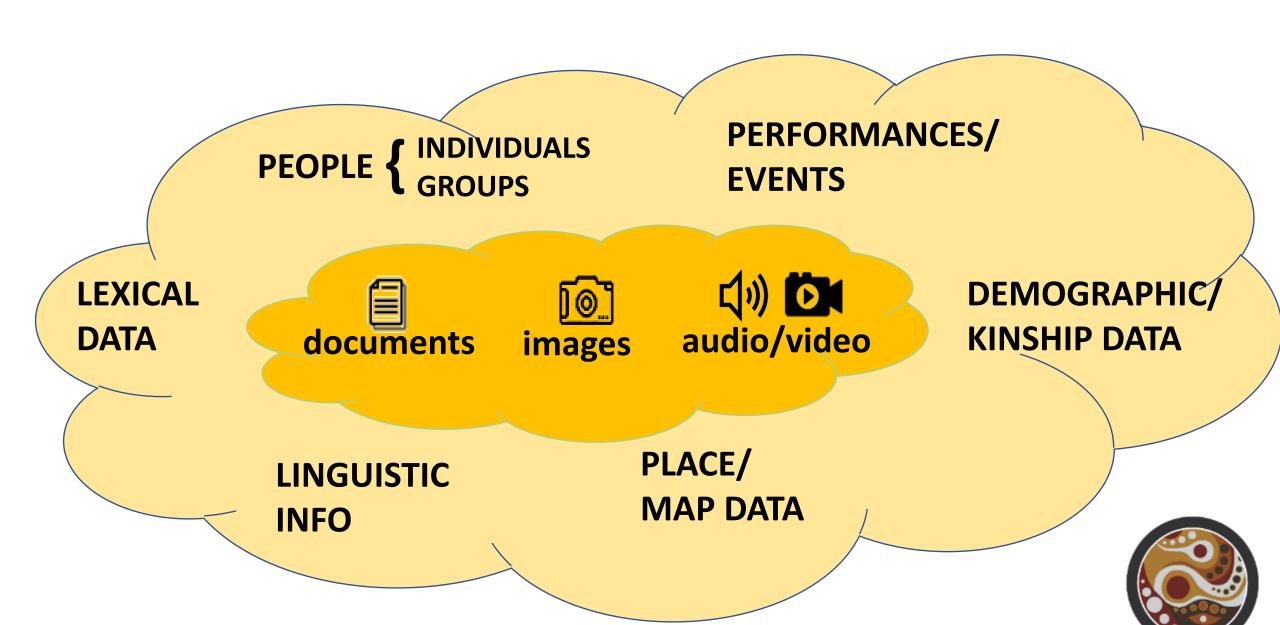


# Ajamurnda is more than software

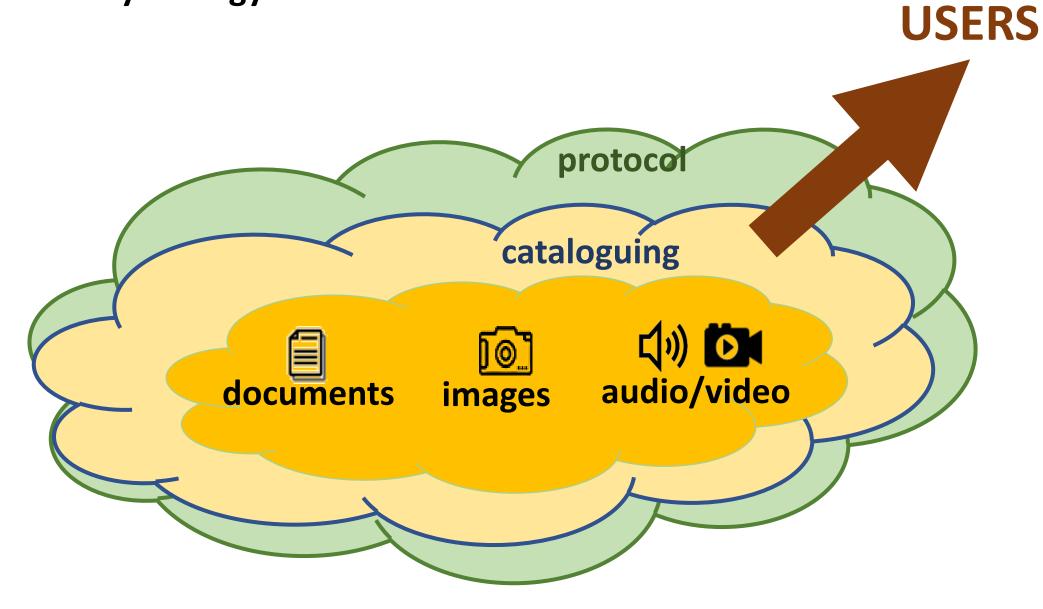
- A holistic, research, and participatory approach to preserving, searching, accessing, sharing and enhancing Anindilyakwa materials
- Strong attention to usability factors
  - language (Anindilyakwa, English ...), literacy, modality (audio, image, text), disability (hearing and vision, MJD)
- Raise awareness, provide guides
- Maximise availability
  - relevant devices, e.g. mobile
  - public access room, computers and assistance
  - public wifi



#### Information ecology



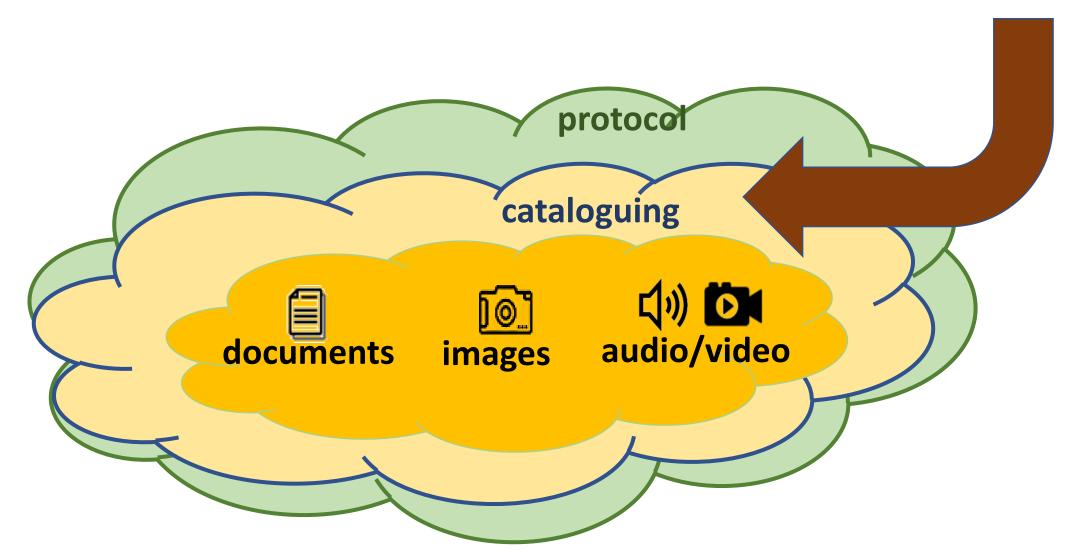
#### **Delivery ecology - Access**





#### Delivery ecology: enrichment/crowdsourcing

#### **KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS**

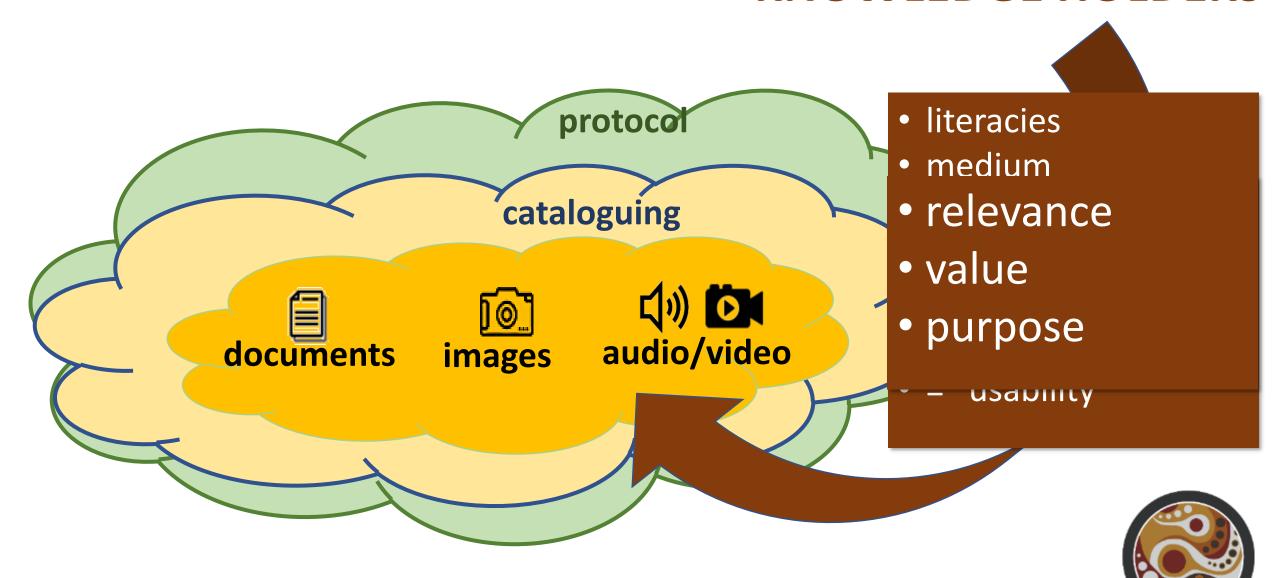


participation, incentive and effectivess factors

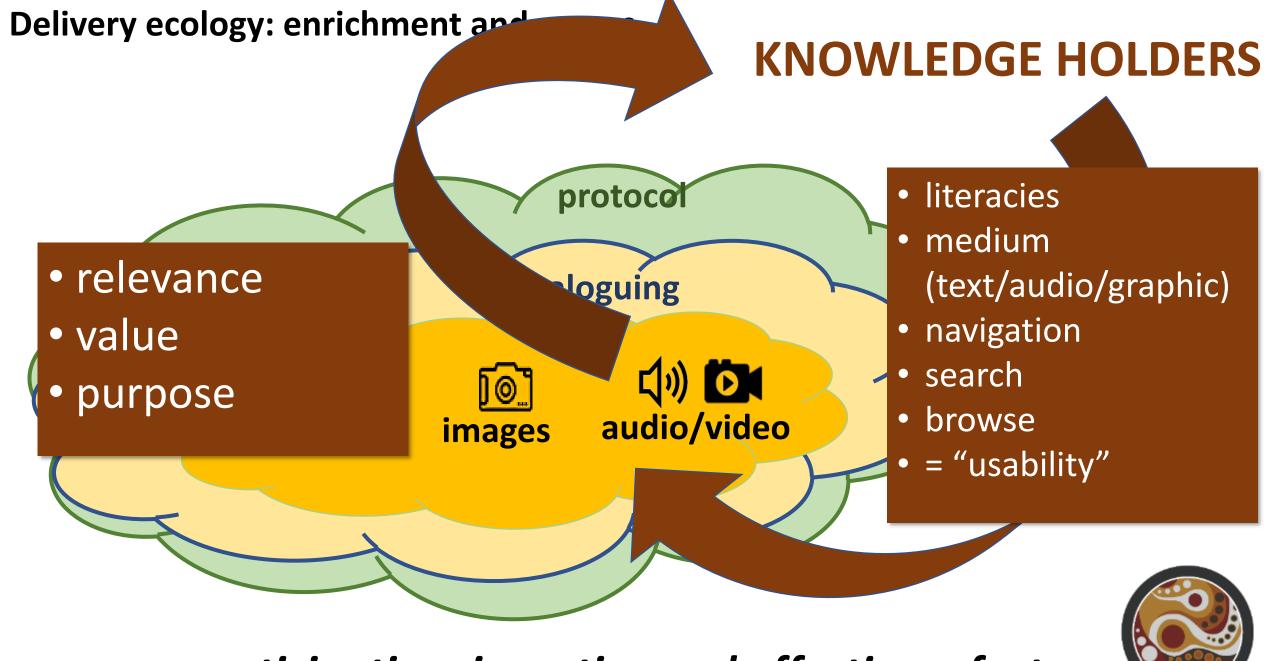


#### **Delivery ecology: enrichment and access**

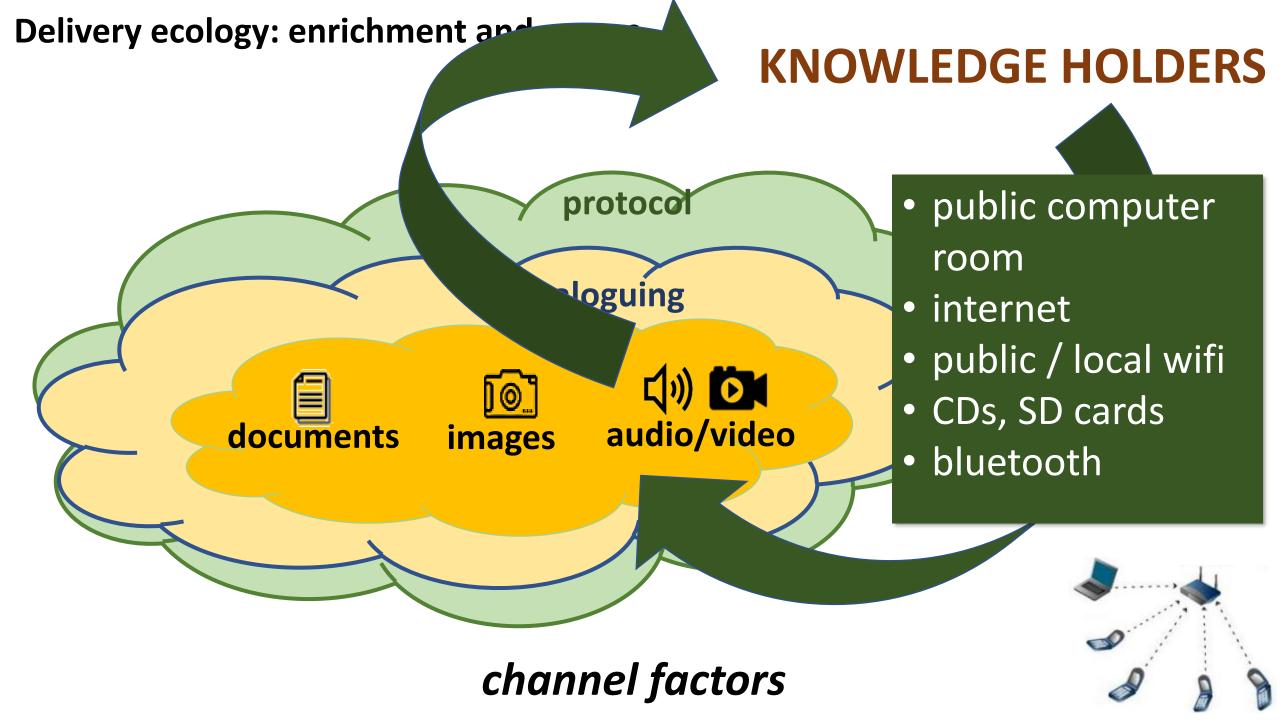
#### **KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS**



participation, incentive and effectivess factors



participation, incentive and effectivess factors



# Conclusion - strategies underlying Ajamurnda

# "classical, best-practice" library/archiving



## community curation

see www.elpublishing.org/publicationpage/12

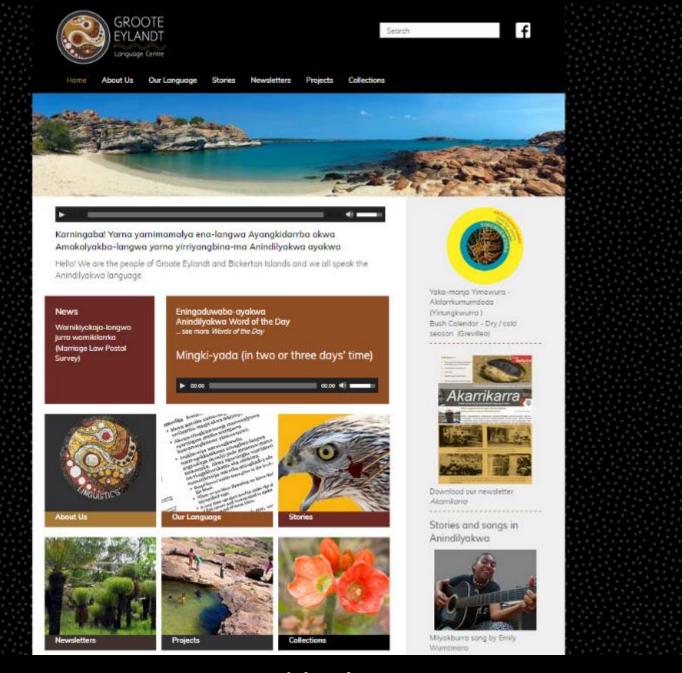


### crowdsourcing



# individual/community practices & dynamics





www.anindilyakwa.org.au

## ENA NGAWA

• The end

Ajamurnda demonstration database

