A joint community update from the Gove Futures Reference Group.

This was presented at the Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club on 23 May and 30 May 2023, by members of the Gove Peninsula Futures Reference Group.

# Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Traditional Owners’ vision
3. Reference group work streams
4. Work to date
5. Work streams priorities 2022-23

# Traditional Owners' vision

# The Gove Peninsula is one of the most special places in Australia.

# Our vision is to rejuvenate the region. It will be a place for us to share our culture, and a business and services hub for all of Arnhem Land.

We will work together to create a stronger and more secure future for generations of Yolŋu and Ŋäpaki (non-Aboriginal people)   
to come.

Gove Peninsula-nydja dhuwala dhapirrk wäŋa dhuwala Australia.

Ŋilimurruŋguŋu nhänharanydja ŋilimurru yurru sharing ŋilimurruŋguwuy culture, business ga services dhiyala Arnhem Landŋuru.

Marr ŋilimurru yurru djäma rrambaŋi ŋurikina bala yalalaŋumirri wu Yolŋuwu ga Ŋäpakiwu.

**Recognition of Traditional Owners.**

Dharaŋan wäŋa-waṯaŋunha malanha.

**Yolŋu and Ŋäpaki together.**

Yolŋu ga Ŋäpaki rrambaŋi.

**Connecting with culture and country.**

Rrambaŋikuma bala wäŋalili, Romlili, ga Culturelili.

**A diverse economy.**

Yaka yurru djäma waŋganygala miṯtjiwala marr ŋilimurru yuru djäma rrambaŋi ga wiripu-wiripu djäma

**Rejuvenating Nhulunbuy.**

Djäma Nhulunbuynha yuṯakuma.

**Nhulunbuy as a services hub.**

Nhulunŋura base yurru djingaryun yalalawu marr yurru guŋga’yun Yolŋuŋha.

**Infrastructure ready for the future.**

Djäma Nhulunbuynha latju ga ŋäthilmirriyama yalalawu marr yurru wäŋa djäma manymakkuma balanyara bitjan dhukkar, bäwa, houses, airport.

**Town, communities and**

**homelands strong together.**

Nhulunbuy, Yirrkala, Gunyaŋara ga Homeland yurru djäma rrambaŋi.

# Reference group work streams

The Gove Peninsula Futures Reference Group Workstreams are:

* Yolŋu and Ŋäpaki together (in 2023)
* Land Tenure
* Economic Development and Transition
* Essential Services and Infrastructure
* Community and Government Services
* Town Governance (in 2023).

# Work to date

## 2018

* Reference group formed
* Terms of reference developed and endorsed
* Gove Peninsula Economic Options Report finalised

## 2019

* Reference group statement of intent released
* Funding Traditional Owners’ vision commitment (Rio Tinto, NT Government and Australian Government)
* Direction set for the reference group

## 2020

* Economic modelling completed (social and economic impact assessment)
* TO Vision consultations and workshops conducted

## 2021

* TO Vision finalised and realised
* Amendments agreed and passed to *Aboriginal Land Rights Act (Northern Territory) 1976*
* Joint statement released
* Development of 4 work streams
* First meetings of work stream working groups
* Major investment secured in roads and telecommunications

## 2022

* Land tenure consultancy scope settled ready to go to tender
* Town master planning scope developed
* Funding for combined 10.5MW solar farm secured
* Gove Port Tourism Precinct upgrade funding secured
* Invitation to establish Stronger Places, Stronger People site to support community strengthening over coming years
* ‘Acceleration of Gove Peninsula Accommodation’ EOI released for Government Employee Housing (GEH) and broader support of industry housing availability
* An update to the SEIA – a social and economic knowledge base (2021 census) and an Impact Assessment to better understand community challenges and opportunities. WSP Golder appointed as consultant to lead the work

## 2023

* Land Tenure Consultant appointed
* Rio Tinto engineering study of the condition of town assets

# Land Tenure Updates

## TO Vision Objectives

* Put in place suitable land tenure that supports investment attraction now and into the future.
* Develop a masterplan for the Nhulunbuy township which aligns to the TO Vision.

## Key actions 2023

* Consultant to support TO consideration of land tenure models and tenure transition processes completed.
* Nhulunbuy master planning consultancy underway.
* Identify processes for early diversification of land/assets on minerals title leases.

## Land Tenure Consultancy

* Consultant appointed April 2023 (complete)
* Engagements with TO Groups commenced July 2023 (current action)
* Final Report Complete (approx December 2023)
* Agreements prepared (approx 2024)
* Post-mining tenure arrangement in place (approx 2025)

# Essential Services and Infrastructure Updates

## TO Vision Objectives

* Transition of essential services to new authorities, including power generation and distribution, water and sewage.
* Securing and improving enabling infrastructure such as key roads, telecommunications, ports and airports.

## Key actions 2023

* Sustainable power solutions
  + Renewable energy supply (solar) for Gove Peninsula - complete construction in 2024
  + Studies on other renewables & hybrid options for power supply, storage and scalability for future industries
* Infrastructure enables economic transition and sustainability
  + Commenced an engineering study to support Nhulunbuy town transition.
  + $14M 100 GB Optic Fibre backhaul upgrade to Arnhem Region and Yirrkala to be completed in July 2023.
  + Central Arnhem Road - Early work packages for sealing works from Dhupuma to Birany Birany are currently being surveyed.
  + Gove Port Masterplan (Sustainable Development Precinct)
  + $8M Gove Port tourism and commercial precinct upgrade commenced

## Engineering Study

* Town Transition study funded November 2022 (complete)
  + Rio Tinto confirms investment to assess town assets, utilities and services.
* Assets and services data collection February 2023 (complete)
  + Asset condition, engineering, GIS platform and environmental information collected.
* Site investigations and studies June-October 2023 (complete)
  + Sewerage, water and stormwater inspections. Water, sediment and soil sampling.
* Engagement on asset pathways January 2024 (current action)
  + Analysis of asset condition, criteria and expectations for transition and build roadmap forward
* Asset management plans (approx July 2024)
  + With partners, develop asset maintenance, transfer and remediation plans.

# Community and Government Services Update

## TO Vision Objectives

* Retaining and enhancing services in the town to ensure Nhulunbuy remains a services hub for the region.
* A hub for:
  + Business support and services
  + Access to government agencies and funded services
  + Education and training with a choice of schools and education pathways (higher education, VET, adult learning) for local families
  + Health, disability and aged care
  + Regional sports facilities and competitions
  + Regional resilience and disaster response and preparedness

## Key actions 2023

* Planning for regionalisation and strengthening of services in priority areas for consideration by Governments.
* NT Government Cyclone centre and cyclone shelter/recreation projects feasibilities.

# Yolŋu & Ŋäpaki Together Update

## TO Vision Objectives

* Nhulunbuy as a place for Yolŋu and Ŋäpaki to live and work together.
* Work together in spirit of trust and openness.
* Supporting Yolŋu to live in communities and homelands.
* Respecting cultural and environmental values.
* Supporting Yolŋu economic independence and workforce development.
* Brokering respectful partnerships.
* A harmonious culture among Yolŋu and Ŋäpaki in Nhulunbuy.
* Involvement of TOs in managing alcohol in Nhulunbuy.

## Key actions 2023

* Dedicated resources to support workstream.
* Identification of a backbone team as part of the ‘Stronger Places, Stronger People’ initiative.
* Workshop to be held to identify key ways for the community to live and work together in the spirit of the TO Vision.

# Economic Development and Transition Update

## TO Vision Objectives

*Yaka yurru djäma waŋganygala miṯtjiwala marr ŋilimurru yuru djäma rrambaŋi ga wiripu-wiripu djäma.*

* The Gove Peninsula will be a place for new business ideas, building on its special location and history. We will have a diverse economy with a choice of jobs.
* Traditional Owners are fully informed and properly engaged in all potential economic development opportunities
* Existing and new businesses are supported by removing barriers and facilitating enablers
* The benefits to the region from mine closure work, town transition and long-term monitoring are maximised.
* There are respectful partnerships with Yolŋu businesses.

## Key actions 2023

* Refer to Regional Economic Growth Plan for region wide initiatives​
* New processes to support Traditional Owners to consider economic development opportunities.
* Social Economic Impact Assessment for mine closure and town transition:
  + Community and business surveys
  + Workforce focus group and data collection
  + Interviews with private and public organisations
* Development and implementation of a housing strategy to meet demand on the Gove Peninsula​

## Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) Study

* Socio-Economic Impact Assessment study for Mine Closure October 2022 (complete)
  + Rio Tinto investment led by GPFRG to understand the potential impacts and benefits of change
* Data collection – update baseline and understand possible futures December 2022 (complete)
  + Population, demographics, business development and future investments information
* Draft base case and transition scenarios August 2023 (current action)
  + Develop transition scenarios based on evidence from consultation and collective outcomes
* Resilience and management plans (approx December 2023)
  + With partners to develop resilience and management plans for identified impacts of change
* Study outcomes (approx 2024)
  + Summary of findings to be shared publicly

# Gumatj projects

\*Gumatj Corporation CEO Klaus Helms provided an update on a range of projects which are currently underway on or are being planned for the Gove Peninsula.

\*If you would like to learn more, please refer to the presentation notes available on the Gove Futures website.

# Rirratjiŋu projects

\*Rirratjiŋu Aboriginal Corporation CEO Rhian Oliver provided an update on a range of projects which are currently underway on or are being planned for the Gove Peninsula.

\* If you would like to learn more, please refer to the presentation notes available on the Gove Futures website.

# Panel Discussion

\*A panel discussion was held with speakers.

# Getting information

* The Reference Group invites community members to visit Gove Futures website for any further information on the TO Vision or progressing initiatives – govefutures.nt.gov.au
* Community members are encouraged to submit any questions they may have surrounding the work of the Reference Group via gove.futures@nt.gov.au
* The Reference Group will be holding another Community Update event in November and welcomes community members and businesses to engage with live surveys in advance of the future community updates.