



NATIONAL FIRST PEOPLES GATHERING ON CLIMATE CHANGE

# Communique from the sixth Steering Committee meeting

20 July 2020

**The National First Peoples Gathering on Climate Change (NFPGCC) aims to celebrate, learn from and enhance First Peoples-led climate change action.**

The sixth meeting of the NFPGCC Steering Committee was held online on 20 July 2020.

## Attendees

Steering Committee members in attendance were Bianca McNeair (meeting chair), Damian Morgan-Bulled, Samarla Deshong, Hilda Mosby, Djungan Neal, Jason Wilson and Josh Gilbert.

Apologies were received from Djarra Delaney, Jamie Graham and Kelvin Flugge.

Mandy Hopkins, Rowena Bullio, Marian Sheppard, Ro Hill and Karen Pearce from the Organising Committee were also in attendance.

## Gathering location and format

The Steering Committee set a firm deadline of Monday 27 July for submissions to host the NFPGCC from Steering Committee members. To be considered as potential host, locations need to:

- Be no more than one regional flight from a major/international airport
- Be able to provide accommodation for 50–100 people

- Be able to provide catering for 50–100 people, preferably using local Indigenous businesses
- Have an undercover facility for 50–100 people, on Country if possible
- Be willing and able to showcase community activities
- Have a member from the NFPGCC Steering Committee on the ground to assist with logistics
- Have community capacity to hold the event
- Have the resources to enact COVID-19 hygiene recommendations
- Have good internet access to allow videoconferencing.

In light of ongoing uncertainty regarding border closures and travel disruptions, submissions should also note their ability to service different possible formats for the Gathering, namely:

- A national Gathering, predominantly at one location, with videoconferencing access to other locations if needed.
- A network of concurrent regional meetings, with local activities on the ground and national discussion via videoconference.

Other formats may be considered, depending on budget, facilities, availability of technology, people and other resources, and travel status at the time of the Gathering.

## Communication planning

The need for a strategic framework for communication, engagement and related activities was discussed, with a sub-committee formed to progress planning on behalf of the Steering Committee. The sub-committee – Bianca McNeair, Damian Morgan-Bulled, Djarra Delaney and Jamie Graham – will work with the Organising Committee to:

- Prepare a clear statement of purpose and desired outcomes for the NFPGCC
- Identify key audiences to support the delivery of these outcomes
- Identify strategies to reach the key audiences
- Schedule communication and engagement activities.

The resulting communication and engagement plan, which will be worked up over the coming weeks, will serve as a working document to guide the delivery of NFPGCC communication activities.

## Co-design principles for the Gathering

The need for co-design principles to guide the delivery of the Gathering was discussed. The need for co-design principles to guide the delivery of the Gathering was discussed. The Steering Committee agreed that the [Co-design, cross-cultural communication and climate change: considerations for engaging with First Nations peoples](#) document developed through a Traditional Owners workshop at the AMOS Conference in February 2020 provided

an excellent starting point. The Organising Committee was asked to add a principle “First Peoples-led”, make some minor amendments, and present Draft Co-design Principles for consideration and adoption by the Steering Committee at the next meeting.

## Next meeting

The next Steering Committee meeting will be on 17 August 2020, via videoconference.

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The National First Peoples Gathering on Climate Change is being supported through the Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub of the Australian Government’s National Environmental Science Programme.

The Gathering will build on earlier meetings held in 2012 and 2018 hosted by Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation on their Country. The report from the 2018 meeting is available on the [Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub website](#).

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**Earth Systems and  
Climate Change  
Hub**

National Environmental Science Programme

*Artwork: Layers of Country by Keisha Leon.*

*“Building upon the knowledge and history of the Country, both its people and environment, from land and sea, to work towards creating a sustainable future.”*

*The layers represent (from top to bottom) Past, Present, Future – using the knowledge of our past and present to pave the way into the future; Diversity – diverse communities and ecosystems that create the greater ecosystem; People – the power of people and connections that strive for a greater future; and Knowledge Pathways (reproduced below) – shared knowledge to co-create sustainable solutions.*