

Executive Board Meeting

9 Dec 2008

Agenda item no. 7.1

Prepared by: Roger Garland

Date: 3 Dec 2008

Topic: ICOM Australia Museum Partnerships Program report

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 That the Executive Board note the attached summary report for the ICOM Australia Museum Partnerships Program
- 1.2 That the Executive note the tentative closing dates for 2009 applications.

2. Background

- 2.1 The program is an update since the last report of Oct 2008.
- 2.2 Tentative dates for 2009 applications:
 - 29 May (AusAID applications - NB AusAID closing date yet to be announced)
 - 26 June
 - 3 November.

3. Issues

- 3.1 **2007-1-1 Fiji Museum collections storage:** import duties problem overcome by Fiji Museum; activity completion report submitted to AusAID; project complete.
- 3.2 **2007-3-1 Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit:** project complete
- 3.3 **2008-1-1 Project partnership:** on hold due Project Manager's personal issues
- 3.4 Approximately \$32,000 remains in IAMPP budget.
- 3.5 Call for new projects by 14 Nov 2008 resulted in no qualifying submissions.
- 3.6 AusAID are reviewing Pacific Governance Support Program with an expectation of multiple year funding from FY2009-2010.
- 3.7 ICOM Australia needs to better target and promote IAMPP.

4. Attachment

- 4.1 IAMPP summary report (Dec 2008)
- 4.2 2007-1-1 Fiji Museum collections storage activity completion report
- 4.3 2007-3-1 Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit final report

Attachment 4.1

IAMPP summary report (Dec 2008)

Funding Financial year	ICOM Project ID	Project title	Australian host institution	Pacific institution	Funding				Acquittal date	Comment
					NMA	AusAID	Other	Total		
2007-2008	2007-1-1	Fiji Museum collections storage	Museum Victoria	Fiji Museum		\$13,590	\$37,260	\$50,850	13 Oct 2008	Import duties problem overcome by Fiji Museum Activity Completion Report sent to AusAID 11 Nov 2008 Complete
	2007-3-1	Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit	Australian Museum	Solomon Islands National Museum	\$16,975		\$28,240	\$45,215	29 Oct 2008	Final project report received 29 Oct 2008 Project under budget by \$3,587.24 Complete
2008-2009	2008-1-1	Project partnership	South Australian Museum	Papua New Guinea National Museum	\$1,012			\$1,012	30 Nov 2008	Approved by Executive Board by flying minute late Sep 2008 Letter sent 29 Sep 2008 Project on hold due to project manager's personal matters

Attachment 4.2

2007-1-1 Fiji Museum collections storage activity completion report (to AusAID)

Note: This report should not exceed 4 pages (plus attachments). Completed reports should be forwarded, and emailed concurrently to: The PGSP Manager, Pacific Group, AusAID, GPO Box 887, CANBERRA ACT 2601; pgsp@ausaid.gov.au

Name of Implementing Agency: National Museum of Australia	
Agency contact officer (name, position title, telephone and fax numbers, address and email address): Roger Garland Manager <i>Strategic Development & Policy</i> ph: (02) 6208 5122 fax: (02) 6208 5398 email: r.garland@nma.gov.au GPO Box 1901 CANBERRA ACT 2601	
Activity title: Provision of Fiji Museum Staff Training and Collections Storage Assistance	
Name of counterpart organisation(s): ICOM Australia Museum Victoria Fiji Museum	
Summarise extent to which the Activity has met its objective(s) (as defined in schedule to the Schedule): Fiji Museum staff (Mr Jone Balenaivalu, Head, Prehistoric Archaeology and Mr Arivakisati Tubuka Raikaci, Conservator) underwent intensive training in the various possibilities for collections storage furniture and the layouts of this furniture within existing storage spaces. At the end of this period, a working and feasible plan had been developed, which staff then took back with them to the Fiji Museum where the plan was further developed in consultation and association with relevant Fiji Museum staff and other Fiji public servants involved in Museum development. Selected storage furniture in excess of that required for Museum Victoria was then packed in a shipping container, sent to Fiji Museum. The container and its contents were subject to internal taxes which Fiji Museum have managed largely to have waived. All funds under this grant have now been fully expended.	
Outcomes and outputs: (a) state below the anticipated outcomes and outputs as stated in the Schedule; and (b) summarise briefly the actual outcomes and outputs achieved and comment on their impact on the development of governance in the region.	
(a) Anticipated outcomes and outputs:	(b) Actual outcomes and outputs:
Anticipated outcomes :	Actual outcomes
(a) The Fiji Museum team trained to prepare a viable plan for collections relocation.	Fiji Museum staff received training through examining the various storage systems in use by Museum Victoria, and how similar systems would be of value to the Fiji Museum in meeting requirements for the relocation of their collections.

<p>(b) Fiji Museum staff trained at Museum Victoria able to pass on their learned knowledge and skills to their colleagues at the Fiji Museum.</p>	<p>Fiji Museum staff and Museum Victoria staff cooperated in the preparation of notional plans for the distribution of the various storage systems. These plans were then taken back to Fiji where they were more fully developed in consultation with the others at the Fiji Museum.</p>
<p>(c) Good potential for a relatively seamless movement of objects into a new and more efficient configuration.</p>	<p>Initial plans included realignment and reorganisation of the collections so as to reflect cultural associations of the collections, but the reality of the situation was that insufficient resources would be available to carry out this task. Instead collections will be rehoused in far superior conditions but maintaining storage by artefact type.</p>
<p>(d) Sustained corroborative relationships between the Fiji Museum and Museum Victoria.</p>	<p>While the logical extension to the current project is in further aiding staff at the Fiji Museum in the relocation of their collections, this is unlikely to occur. There will, however, be considerable scope for continued corroboration between our institutions.</p>
Anticipated outputs :	Actual outputs
<p>(a) Training for two Fiji Museum staff in the implementation of collections storage upgrades.</p>	<p>In the course of examining Museum Victoria storage systems, Fiji Museum staff were able to see the ways in which storage systems could be developed within their institution.</p>
<p>(b) Preliminary project plan documents prepared at Museum Victoria for the Fiji Museum.</p>	<p>Detailed project documents were developed for further fine tuning by Fiji Museum staff.</p>
<p>(c) Documentation provided by Museum Victoria staff in formats useful for instruction of colleagues at Fiji Museum</p>	<p>While the plans were somewhat notional, sufficient detail was provided which was useful in further developing the project. Such details included density, weight, colour and dimensions.</p>
<p>(d) Sources of storage furniture identified</p>	<p>All storage furniture provided to the Fiji Museum came from shelving and cabinets excess to requirements of Museum Victoria.</p>
<p>Lessons learned: Summarise the lessons learned (positive or negative) in implementing the Activity that might serve to improve the effectiveness of any future similar activities.</p> <p>We were unaware that a government organisation, in this case the Fiji Museum, would be subject to Fiscal Import duty, Import Excise duty, and Customs VAT. These additional expenses would have blown out the activity budget considerably.</p>	
<p>Sustainability of impacts: Do you consider the outcomes and outputs of the Activity to be sustainable - why or why not?</p> <p>Fiji Museum expects to take thorough advantage of the storage systems made available through Museum Victoria resources.</p>	

Follow-on activities: Describe any follow-on activities you now see resulting from the completed Activity, and the funding source envisaged for these.

The storage systems included in the shipping container add considerable protection to the heritage resources of Fiji. Fiji resources apply to their installation.

Costs: Complete, sign and attach an acquittal of the fund advanced.

Actual Start Date: 14.02.2008

Actual Completion Date: 23.10.2008

Other Information/Comments: Please provide here any other information or comments you consider relevant in assessing the benefits of the completed Activity or the likely benefits of similar activities in the future.

Agency

Signed:

Name (Organisation coordinating officer): Mr. Roger Garland
Position: Manager *Strategic Development & Policy*
Institution: National Museum of Australia

Date:

Counterpart Organisations

1. ICOM Australia

Signed:

Name (Organisation coordinating officer): Craddock Morton
 Chair
 ICOM Australia

Date:

2. Principle Australian partner

Signed:

Name (Organisation coordinating officer): Robin Hirst
Position: Director, Collections, Research and Exhibitions
Institution: Museum Victoria

Date: 22 October 2008

3. Principle Pacific partner

Signed:

Name (Organisation coordinating officer): Ms Sagale Buadromo
Position: Director
Institution: Fiji Museum

Date: 23/10/08

FUNDS ACQUITTAL

	AusAID funds	
	Originally approved (A\$)	Actually incurred (A\$)
Staff Costs:		
▪ Salaries		
▪ on-costs if any ¹	0	0
▪ travel costs	3,530	1,857
▪ living expenses	2,875	2,524
STAFF COSTS SUB-TOTAL	6,405	4,381
Consultant costs (if any) ²		
▪ fees		
▪ travel costs		
▪ living expenses		
CONSULTANT COSTS SUB-TOTAL	0	0
Counterpart organisation costs:		
▪ travel costs		
▪ living expenses		
COUNTERPART ORGANISATION COSTS SUB-TOTAL	0	0
Procurement Costs ³ (itemised, inc. freight):		
▪ international freight charges	5,950	9,417
PROCUREMENT COSTS SUB-TOTAL	5,950	9,417
Training costs (itemised, inc. costs of any trainer not included above):		
TRAINING COSTS SUB-TOTAL	0	0
ADMINISTRATION / OVERHEADS ¹	0	0
OTHER (SPECIFY) - CONTINGENCY / A) BANK TRANSFER FEE, B) GST INCLUDED ABOVE	1,235	(195)
TOTAL	13,590	13,603

Note: See Clause 5.7(a) in the Schedule regarding the requirement for an Adjustment Note under GST Legislation.

Certification:

I certify that the amounts shown above as having been incurred and funded through PGSP in support of the approved Activity are true and correct, and that unexpended funds will be returned to AusAID.

Signed:

Chief Finance Officer
National Museum of Australia

Date:

¹ PGSP cannot meet any staff on-costs or administrative or overhead costs. Under the PGSP Guidelines on-costs and administrative overheads are regarded as a cost-sharing contribution by the applicant organisation.


² As defined in the "Eligible Activity Costs" section of the PGSP Guidelines

³ PGSP will meet the small-scale purchase (or hire) and freight costs of items essential for achieving activity objectives, but only where these (non-hired) items become the property of the counter-part organisation at Activity completion.

ATTACHMENT 5

PACIFIC GOVERNANCE SUPPORT PROGRAM (PGSP) ACTIVITY COMPLETION REPORT BY PARTNER COUNTRY OR REGIONAL COUNTERPART ORGANISATION
Name of completed PGSP Activity: Provision of Fiji Museum Staff Training and Collections Storage Assistance
Name of Partner Country Counterpart Organisation: Fiji Museum
Counterpart Organisation contact officer (name/title/telephone and fax number/email address): Ms Sagale Bradromo Director, Fiji Museum Thurston Gardens PO Box 2023 Suva, Fiji Islands tel 679 331 5944; fax 679 331 5143; e-mail sagale@hotmail.com & director@fijimuseum.org.fj
Australian Organisation: Museum Victoria
General description of Activity and its achievements: <p>The MOU between the Melbourne Museum and the Fiji Museum has led to this project coming to fruition and plans were initiated in February, 2008 and culminating on the 23rd of October, 2008, with the arrival of the container of storage facilities to our museum premises.</p> <p>Achievement:</p> <p>The Storage systems sent by the Melbourne Museum has done much to boost our confidence in taking care of our collections. Plans are underway to renovate our Prehistory gallery to take a large Polynesian canoe within the storage areas to the Prehistory gallery to be displayed - so that more space can be opened up for these storage systems to be implemented.</p> <p>We thank Dr. Ron Vanderwal, Dr. Mike Green and team for making this project possible.</p>
Results: Did the results of the activity meet your expectations - if not, why not? <p>The storage systems have more than met our expectations, they will go a long way to improving the storage of our artefacts to a higher level than was previously seen in the Fiji Museum.</p>
Follow-on activity: Please describe briefly any follow-on activity you now see resulting from the completed Activity. (Eggs: PGSP funding for any follow-on activity would require your Australian counterpart organisation to lodge a new Activity Concept Submission. PGSP funding Rounds are competitive and no commitment can be given that such funding would be available).

No follow on activity envisaged.	
Other information/comments: Please provide here any other information/comments you consider relevant in assessing the benefits of the completed Activity for your organisation or the likely benefits of any similar activity in the future.	

Signed: 

Name and title: Ms Sagale Buadromo
Director, Fiji Museum

Date: 23/10/08

Attachment 4.3

2007-3-1 Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit final report



IAMPP FINAL PROJECT REPORT

ATTACHMENT D / 1 *includes AusAID proformas

PART A (USE FOR PROJECT DETAILS & TO MAKE YOUR IAMPP DECLARATION)

1. Project Title / ID

Full title		Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit			
Short title		Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit			
Project ID (Issued by ICOM Australia)		2007-3-1	Source of IAMPP grant funds (tick one):	<input type="checkbox"/> AusAID	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
Version	1	Date	xx.xx.08	Status	submitted xx.xx.08
Author (project owner)	name	Dr Les Christidis			
	position	Assistant Director (Research and Collections) Australian Museum			
	tel no & e-mail address	+ 61 2 9320 6237 les.christidis@austmus.gov.au			
Supported by (project client)	name	Mr Lawrence Foana'ota			
	position	Director Solomon Islands National Museum			
	tel no & e-mail address	+ 677 24896 loafoa@yahoo.com			

2. Declaration

I hereby certify that the above project has been fully / partially (cross out as necessary) completed, in accordance with the purposes for which IAMPP project monies was awarded. The report following accurately reflects this position.

30-9-08

Date

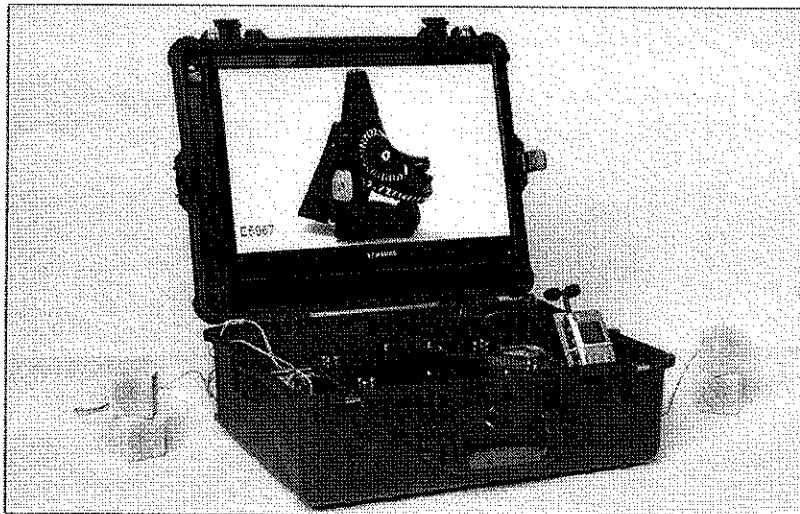
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Signature & position

Note: Completed reports should be forwarded and e-mailed concurrently to: The IAMPP Coordinator, ICOM Australia, PO Box 266, CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608; icomaustralia@mac.com.

PART B (USE THIS PROFORMA FOR A NON-AUSAID-FUNDED PROJECT)**Project Report**

Note: please attach project outputs such as education kits and copies of publicity generated & received (as appendices).



The Intangible Cultural Heritage Field Kit (Photo: Carl Bento)

Project report

In this report I provide a short summary of the project and a briefly discuss variations between the proposed **objectives**, **outcomes** and **outputs** of the project and the results generated. Relevant materials produced during the project, including press clippings, TV news footage, Radio Australia interview, field kit content DVD, hardcopy images of artefacts (pdf) and training materials (pdf) will be forwarded as DVDs and email attachments as appropriate.

Summary of activities in the Solomon Islands, 18-28 August 2008**1. Training**

Training focused on Rita Sahu, a young Ethnologist at the SINM, who was designated by Lawrence Foana'ota as the person responsible for the kit. John Tahinao, SINM Deputy-Director, also became familiarised with the operation of the kit and played an important role in negotiating field sites. Training focused on the operation of the kit, field techniques for data gathering, and archiving/data management methods. Training in the operation of the kit

included both gaining familiarity with both its physical operation and the kit's contents: 26 short videos in English and Pidgin (based around the themes of traditional currencies, fishing, and inlaid wooden bowls), 9 slideshows of artefacts, and 100 hard copy images and metadata (see DVD). Rita had never performed these types of ethnographic activities before, although she had interviewed people for a journalism topic at university (in New Zealand). Throughout training, the concept of *transportability* of recorded data was stressed. This was done in order to avoid the loss of data through shifts in technology – a problem that has plagued smaller, poorly funded institutions over the past few decades.

2. Field tests

Lawrence Foana'ota and staff took an active role in the preparations/planning of the field tests. Formal testing took place at three sites in Honiara: White River High School, the Lord Howe Settlement, and the Curriculum Development Centre (Ministry of Education). A number of informal test also occurred but they will not be reported here. The testing sites were selected to explore how well the particular form and content of the kit satisfied the needs of a range of users. The key points to emerge from each test can be summarised as follows:

White River High School

White River is an ethnically mixed district of Honiara, whose residents have links to islands across the Solomons and beyond. Rita Sahu (far left) presented the kit to 70-80 Form 6 history students.



Students were fascinated by the presentation of 'unseen artefacts ... not seen nowadays'. They felt pride in the kit being presented to them and in the way the content 'tells of the way of life of our ancestors in the past, their brilliant

knowledge and skills'. In terms of content, more than one student would like to 'witness the process of making the artefacts with my own two eyes', and to see how the objects are used (ie people actually using them) and by whom (ie people who still actually use them). Students commented on the important role that traditional skills and knowledges and their physical expressions can play in reinforcing Solomon Islands national identity. The Nguzu-nguzu (canoe prow ornament seen onscreen in top image above) was instantly recognised and its accompanying video in Pidgin was greeted with laughter; this artefact, although originating in the Western Province, has national iconic status in today's Solomon Islands.

The Lord Howe Settlement

The Lord Howe Settlement, bordered by the Mataniko River and Iron Bottom Sound, dates from the 1950s and includes families who have migrated to Honiara from Ontong Java. There is strong interest in intangible cultural heritage among these people and their home families as their atolls are under imminent threat from climate change. Rita Sahu demonstrated the kit to 30-40 people, including 6 community elders. It was found that many of the artefacts presented in the kit are still in use, although there have been modifications (such as the incorporation of metals and synthetics). All of the artefacts listed as Ontong Javan in the kit were recognised and intangible cultural heritage information was gathered in relation to them. Each object was greeted with a murmur of recognition among the elders, while the younger people looked on with interest. Elders stated that the kit's contents are needed back home for use in education – in particular, hard copy images of artefacts. An appeal for further documentation was also made: elders clearly expressed the view that if documentation did not occur, traditional skills and knowledge would be lost. Audio recordings were made and files were stored at SINM, with copies taken back to Sydney to be entered onto AM databases. The contents of these recordings add value to both the SINM and AM collections. It should be appreciated that this newly recorded information is shallow, a function of the two hours spent in the community. For more detailed documentation much more time and intensive work with each of the elders would be necessary.

Curriculum Development Centre (Ministry of Education)

The kit was demonstrated to a group of seven people, teachers and curriculum writers, at the CDC. Tim Omaso, Head of Arts, Crafts and Culture, stated that the kit could be useful in schools as a counter measure to the process of modern education taking children out of their traditional settings and contributing to cultural loss through breaks in cultural transmission. Positive feedback was offered by the group, which focused on the question of content. Many thought that the kit's content needs to be expanded to show the manufacture of objects and to include other cultural domains such as dance. It was also recognised that the kit's content could be broken down for use in particular subject areas.

3. Awareness raising

A crucial aspect of the project, as with documentation and revitalisation projects more generally, is to raise awareness at a number of levels (individual, communal, provincial, national and international) about the importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. As the scope of awareness raising is well documented (eg www.unesco.org/culture), I won't elaborate here. It is useful, however, to draw attention to the following list of media and other public events that, along with public field tests, have contributed to the awareness raising component of the project:

- print news stories (see attached)
 - Solomon Star* 26 Aug 2008
 - Island Sun* 27 Aug 2008
- TV news feature (see dvd)
 - One News broadcast 22 Aug 2008
- online news
 - A bright new concept for Solomon Islands National Museum* (22 Aug 2008)
<http://www.solomontimes.com/news.aspx?nwID=2375>
 - National Museum Receives Kit to Preserve Artifacts* (26 Aug 2008)
<http://www.solomontimes.com/news.aspx?nwID=2401>
- National radio
 - Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation story broadcast 23 Aug 2008
- International radio
 - Radio Australia feature story on Pacific Beat-On the Mat, 5 Sept 2008
- Public launch of the field kit
 - Event held at the SINM 25th Aug 2008. Attendees included representatives of the Ministry of Culture & Tourism and the Australian High Commission.

4. Evaluation

On evaluating the field kit I will begin with the general point that during my time in the Solomon Islands most emphasis was placed on training and testing rather than gathering 'new' data. That is, testing the reception of the kit, reactions to it, and exploring its strengths and limitations in service to the question of how it can best be used. Unfortunately, there was insufficient time to take the kit to other provinces.

Turning to the hardware, the kit proved to be well designed and well built. It can be operated simply (See One News DVD interview with Rita Sahu) and can be operated for a relatively large audience or by an individual. In terms of limitations, at 24 kg some operators will find it heavy and a visual recording

capacity would increase its functionality. For the SINM there are two main contexts of use for the kit: (1) set up in the library for visitors, students and researchers to use and (2) taken out to field sites around Honiara and in the provinces. It is too early to evaluate (2) fully. Particularly with the limits of funds in mind, the partners have decided to evaluate the kit's operation in the provinces at the end of the current calendar year.

While the hardware has proven successful, it is clear from the evaluation of the kit by participants that the kit's content offers most opportunity for development. Evaluation suggests that historical photographs would be a useful addition as would video demonstrating the skills of production or culture in action. This finding is not unexpected as it is in fact a function of pilot testing to place limits upon the material presented.

Rita Sahu commented that the hard copy images were particularly useful and on this point I concur. Rita also enjoyed the training, which covered a wide range of useful topics, and is keen to get out to the provinces when the opportunity arises. In the mean time, the kit will be available for use in the SINM library.

Listed below are the proposed **objectives, outcomes** and **outputs** of the project.

1. Project objectives

- I. Develop ICH Field Kit to better enable SINM to safeguard intangible cultural heritage.
- II. Train staff at SINM in new technologies used in sustainable intangible cultural heritage practices.
- III. Train staff at SINM in strategies and methods for documentation and revitalisation of cultural heritage.
- IV. Promote SINM as a key organisation for raising awareness of intangible cultural heritage.
- V. Strengthen relations between the two museums through the development of a digital cultural exchange program.

2. Project outcomes

- I. Increase awareness of cultural practices in the Solomon Islands (both past and present, tangible and intangible).
- II. ICH Field Kit tested: use, effectiveness and limitations.
- III. SINM staff equipped and trained to document, record and promote intangible cultural heritage in the field.
- IV. Value-added to SINM collections (with contextual information and documentation).

3. Project outputs

- I. 50 objects and related intangible cultural heritage information documented and recorded.
- II. Viable ICH Field Kit, including a digital field tool that is purpose-built and tested for the Solomon Islands.
- III. 2 educational/awareness DVDs produced at the AM.
- IV. 100 digital images of AM collections repatriated to the SINM (electronic and hard copy).
- V. Training, educational and awareness materials (hard copy).
- VI. Refereed research paper in conjunction with the SINM analysing the process and outcomes.

It should be apparent from the preceding discussion that all of the objectives and outcomes have been met, and for the sake of brevity I won't comment further on them here. Clarification is required with regard to the **project outputs**,

however, as some minor variation occurred. Firstly, with regard to (3.iii) all content was produced onto one DVD rather than two. Secondly, with regard to (3.vi) the refereed research paper in conjunction with the SINM is yet to be written. It was agreed in August to extend the field testing for four months to the end of 2008 to enable fuller evaluation, particularly in terms of resources, training, and sustainability. The paper will be written early in 2009.

5. Moving forward

At this stage it is clear that the area most in need of development is content. It is useful to draw a distinction between (i) minimal development and (ii) optimal development. The minimal position is to incorporate objects held at SINM into the content DVD; to be more representative and include objects from all provinces; and to develop content showing skills/culture in action. The optimal position is to develop content specifically geared to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage including at least one detailed case study of documentation and revitalisation (eg red feather money of Santa Cruz). The latter would provide instruction and direction to disparate communities on how to approach the most pressing of their own cultural management issues.

PART C (USE THIS PROFORMA FOR AN AUSAID-FUNDED PROJECT)

PART C IS NOT APPLICABLE for this project & has been removed