

appendices

The Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC), in collaboration with the Murdi Paaki Steering Committee, has asked Urbis Keys Young to conduct research into the COAG Trial in the Murdi Paaki region of New South Wales. This research builds on Urbis Keys Young's consultation last year with communities in the region on behalf of the Trial's lead agencies (DEST and NSW DET), and was commissioned by the OIPC.

The focus of the current research is on the feedback of government agencies regarding the progress of the COAG Trial to date and priorities for the future. A number of non-government agencies will also be consulted, and the feedback of communities will be gathered through the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly. The findings of the research will be combined with the feedback of communities from last year's consultation, to constitute a 'first-stage' or preliminary evaluation of the Murdi Paaki COAG Trial.

To facilitate discussion, a list of general questions is provided below. The OIPC's terms of reference for the evaluation are also reproduced.

1. How familiar are you with the COAG Trial in the Murdi Paaki region? For example, have you had contact with any of the following:
 - the COAG Trial Action Team?
 - Community Working Parties?
 - the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly?
 - the COAG Trial Steering Committee?
 - the COAG Trial Regional Group?
2. What is the role of your agency in relation to the Murdi Paaki COAG Trial? What Trial-specific initiatives has it been a part of?
3. To your knowledge, what resources has your agency allocated to support the Murdi Paaki COAG Trial? (eg specific positions, interagency coordination structures, new funding)
4. How would you describe the degree of commitment within your agency to making the Murdi Paaki COAG Trial successful? How does this compare to the commitment of *other* agencies? Why do you say that?
5. Have you been involved in the development or the implementation of Community Action Plans or Shared Responsibility Agreements, at either regional or community level? How responsive has your agency been in this process? What about other agencies? What do you think are the factors which affect government's ability to act on community priorities?

6. From your perspective, what positive developments have there been in the Murdi Paaki region since the COAG Trial began? What has been achieved so far? Can you provide specific examples?
7. What aspects of the COAG Trial, if any, have presented problems? Which government agencies (either State or Commonwealth) have experienced difficulties in working towards the goals of the Trial?
8. To your knowledge, what involvement has local government had in the COAG Trial? How successful has this been?
9. What are the top priorities for the lead agencies in Murdi Paaki in the future? What do you think needs to be done to address those priorities?
10. From your involvement with the COAG Trial, what have you/your agency learned about how governments can work in more coordinated fashion to address the needs of Indigenous communities? In general terms, what factors contribute to the effectiveness of interagency coordination in the Indigenous context?
11. The new arrangements in Indigenous affairs have seen the OIPC (now part of the Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs) become involved in COAG Trials around Australia. In your opinion, in what ways has that affected the COAG Trial in the Murdi Paaki region and the role of the lead agencies?