



Investing in Rural Community Futures Program

Ulladulla Community Roadmap Review

Tuesday 14 June – Dunn Lewis Centre

Twenty-two participants representing 23 community groups across Ulladulla and the surrounding region came together to review their community roadmap created as part of the Investing in Rural Community Futures (IRCF) Program. People identified with 27 additional groups in addition to those they were representing. The workshop was hosted by Mel Geltch and Daryl Cook from Campfire Coop, with Monique Carson and Carolyn Ardler from FRRR.



Uncle Victor Chanell welcomed us to Country.

What brought you here today?

Here is a summary of responses to our check in:

- To see what's happened since last year and plan for the future
- Share a little of our journey and see where others are up to
- Always dedicated to the community. I want to participate in any way I can to support community



- Connect with others with a deep interest in community
- Supporting roadmapping – the IRCF grant has made a massive difference to our organisation
- We rely on community support, and we provide community support
- Build capacity for people to participate and create their own futures
- Looking forward to connecting with everyone. Loved this process last year and the people it brought together
- Learn how to connect our P&C with the other organisations in the community
- Learn about the exciting future ahead and the roadmap
- Support the community as much as possible. Healthy strong community.
- Insatiable sense of curiosity and my love for community
- 750 amazing children bring me here and we need to support the children
- I come with a blank slate to learn and give to community



Sharing stories

We heard stories of some of the learnings and successes of the projects from the Ulladulla start up and partnership grant recipients for Year 1:

Treading Lightly: Built a hub for meetings and gatherings - other community groups are using this space as intended as well. Organisations are helping support each other e.g. waste-free festival.

Also, we are partnering with cultural burning practices - producing a film of the kids camp. This came from learning from the IRCF program of need of succession - teach skills to young people to help which hopefully filters into NFPs. We are partnering with Banarang to offer a mini Permaculture Design Course and more generally using Permaculture principles with young people.

Community Resource Centre: Originally funded to do cultural training, which we completed. We did a further needs analysis with Conjola residents and as a result ran the Raft Race event, which was a huge success.

Independence Ulladulla: Opened a cafe (Cup and Cake Co) for disability workers with a strong focus on skill building. 11 people with disability have been employed so far.



Community Connect: We connect groups - NFPs and local volunteers. We have created a shared community calendar and directory and are running bi-monthly meetings. We have also been successful in securing other funding to ensure longevity.

Noah's Inclusion Services: Succession for staff and expanded services. We have developed a Recruitment and Retention Strategy. We have also completed Mental Health and Wellbeing training and a recruitment video (highlighting Ulladulla). We have recruited people and built lots of connections and linkages through involvement of the IRCF program.

Revisit Vision and Principles

We revisited the Vision and Principles and made changes where it felt necessary. The changes are reflected below (changes and additions in bold).

Vision

- Our community is enthusiastically and actively involved in our organisations
- We have effective, sustainable and resilient organisations
- Our organisations are inclusive to join and easy to leave
- Our organisations are closely connected and working together
- Our organisations reflect and serve the community's changing needs
- Our organisations are generously sharing our resources
- Our organisations attract skilled and talented people to them and from within our community
- **Our organisations have strong, respectful relationships with First Nations people and organisations** *(added)*

Principles

- We always support each other, and seek opportunities to work together and share resources
- We take time to celebrate the big and the small wins
- We really take care of the people in our organisations
- We embrace our diversity and seek to connect those who are disconnected
- We spend time building relationships, through listening and learning
- We work creatively and collaboratively across all sectors
- We commit to protect and preserve the natural beauty of our place
- We seek to balance tourism and growth with preserving what's special about our place
- **We commit to listening to, learning from, and walking alongside First Nations people in organisations** *(added)*



Review and refine goals

We refined goals - updating wording, moving them, dropping some and adding new ones, and matched existing projects to each goal. Then we quickly prioritised each goal within the IRCF priority areas. A summary of the prioritised goals, in each IRCF Priority Area is provided below:

People
1. Mentoring program for volunteers
2. Training in mental health and trauma
3. Induction of training of new members
4. Wellbeing program for our people
5. Recruitment pathways specifically for youth volunteers
6. Shared recruitment strategy & resources for qualified staff
7. Recruitment pathways for volunteers
Removing barriers to participation within organisations (<i>new</i>)



Sector efficiencies

1. Organisations share resources (equipment, space, group buy essentials)
 2. Organisations are well positioned & supported to apply for grants
 3. Organisations have a clear picture of skills & deficiencies
- Storytelling - capture and share stories of how organisations are getting stronger (*new*)

Investing in strategy

1. Support organisations to create strategic plans for growth
2. Build capacity for project leadership and co-design
3. Organisations that advocate for systemic challenges

Systems & Structure

1. NFPs that network and share
2. Raise awareness of local groups and services (*updated*)
3. Modernised IT & accounting systems to meet compliance
4. Committee development program (orgs have governance training & coaching support)
5. Well established NFPs helping smaller and new groups

What ideas and initiatives are bubbling up now to make our organisations even stronger?

- Learning by doing - strengthening committee skills (like toastmasters)
- Toolbox of templates e.g. budget, events, meetings
- Workshops and events around truth telling / storytelling success and challenges within NFPs and organisations
- Retention strategies and building capacity and supporting volunteers through the recovery post bushfires and pandemic
- Marketplace of good new ideas (auspice of great ideas)
- Digital mentoring for NFPs



- Social media management for NFPs
- Develop information continuity programs & succession planning for local organisations
- Structured training for volunteers i.e. IT, social media, financial
- Mentoring, training, and skill building for people with a disability and other barriers
- Workshops for NFPs (training) - digital banking (EFTPOS), digital safety for financial apps

Who is missing?

We identified the people or organisations who were missing and who it was felt should be part of these conversations. Which organisations are not here and need to be invited into this process? Here's a snapshot:

- Community Consultative Groups
- Arts & music organisations
- Artfest
- CWA
- Orgs representing youth concerns
- Milton Show Society
- Rural organisations
- Mental Health groups
- Aged care providers
- Sporting organisations (can take part in capacity building provided by other grantees)
- Dunn Lewis Centre
- Local Aboriginal Lands Council

Initiative & project design

[Using a co-design graphic template](#), we worked on potential initiatives and projects that may seek funding through IRCF.

- Raising Awareness of groups and services – Community Connect
Raise awareness of existing strategies. An invitation for everyone to register their organisation in the directory and sign up for the newsletter
- Strategic Plan for Clothes for the Disabled - Common Thread Studios
Next steps: set up meetings with community connect and project team
- Creating a shared database of suitable venues for events - StoryFest
Next step: brainstorm what we already know
- Develop capacity within P&Cs to support music programs at schools: Milton & Ulladulla Public Schools
Next steps: Map local tutors, link up with Music Count Us In
- Build digital capability of organisations - AI, needs auspicing body.
Next steps: talk to other NFPs around their need, develop an EOI
- Next stage of recruitment and retention strategy (marketing using the video we've produced) - Noah's Inclusion Services.
Next step: Take back to team and discuss further



Next steps

- We have 5 workshops reviewing the Community Roadmaps during June in Nowra, Bay & Basin, Kangaroo Valley, Ulladulla, and Batemans Bay.
- There is \$100,000 available to fund activities towards the goals in the Ulladulla Roadmap from the Snow Foundation.
- The next round of partnership grants opens 20th June, and closes 26th July, announced by end of October, for funding before Christmas. Evaluation will happen again around March next year.
- Carolyn and Monique from FRRR are available for support and help to write applications
- Toolbox funding is available for collaborative quick response grants



What gem are you carrying with you from today?

Here's a summary of your responses to our checkout from the day:

- Willingness to collaborate
- Passion in this room
- This engagement takes me back to the 1980s, things are going to be alright
- Engaged and committed community
- Appreciation for everyone taking time today
- Collaboration and uplift
- The amount of knowledge everyone brought
- Commitment to cooperate and new ideas
- Connection and discovering local groups
- The vibe!
- Engagement and the wish to be engaged
- The tough stuff and the ease of other stuff
- Enthusiasm and great ideas
- Reconnected, energised, the answer is always in community
- New connections
- Inspiration
- Collaboration and connection