

Case Study: Scotdesco Aboriginal Corporation

Scotdesco Aboriginal Corporation (SAC) is located on 25,000 acres of property called Tjikaba (meaning prickly) in Ceduna, South Australia. In 1922, Scotdesco community purchased the property on which they live and have since developed their own water catchment systems which services the houses and offices in the community, Bunyuru Saltbush Enterprises, the Scotdesco Art Gallery and Wardu Camps.

Wardu Camps have been a success. The immersive experience allows participants to connect with Scotdesco's culture, history, land and language, and have provided the community with a revenue raising opportunity. The experience includes activities such as Boomerang making, sourcing ancestral plants and bush medicines, learning the local Wirangu language, and touring the surrounding landmarks.



Goals: To achieve self-sufficiency for the Scotdesco community by actively working on their five underpinning priorities: Building cultural competence and confidence, success of Wardu Camps, Implementing community maintenance and services, Community wellbeing and Revenue raising opportunities.

66

"Marcus [CED Manager] now understands where I stand and where the community stands. He is now understanding of all the other things like family."

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"He [Marcus] brings everything together... mainly the Board stuff. He is the backbone of what I do."

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"We need the government to keep on going past [driving past our town]. Don't give us more money."

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"The ideas and decisions need to come from the people who live here [in Scotdesco]."

22

-Robert Larking

CEO of Scotdesco Aboriginal Corporation

1922

Scotdesco purchased Tjikaba in Ceduna, South Australia.

2016

Partnered with Greening the Earth to develop saltbush farming as a commercial venture.

2019

Joined the CED program with support needed in introducing governance and structure to the Board, and support in expanding existing activities.

2022

First Wardu Camp held for 21 children over 7 days. **Wardu** is the Wirangu language name for the Southern hairy-nosed wombat.

2024

Secured \$650,000 funding from the Commonwealth Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) as part of the Scotdesco Water Security Project.

2025

Expanded operations by partnering with Camps International and Intrepid to reach more international participants.

Many Rivers supported in developing the 2024-27 strategic plan for Scotdesco Aboriginal Corporation.

The future for Scotdesco Aboriginal Corporation

The Corporation aspires to build their financial independence through continued expansion of the offerings at Wardu Camp – including on Country camping (or 'glamping') and building out facilities to be able to accommodate larger and more groups.

