IS IT HELPFUL TO COMPARE?

Dean Carson

(and colleagues who accept no responsibility unless it turns out to be an OK presentation)



THE QUESTION FOR THIS PRESENTATION

- (how) can we usefully inform policy and practice through such diverse 'case studies'?
- Comparisons within one project may already be too difficult... not very helpful...
 - "Northern communities, provincial governments, and the mining life cycle"
 - Mix of cases and policy analysis
 - About half way through meaning each team member has done a lot of what they are doing, but the 'bringing together' is still at a surface level
 - $\circ~$ So this presentation is to help us with that process



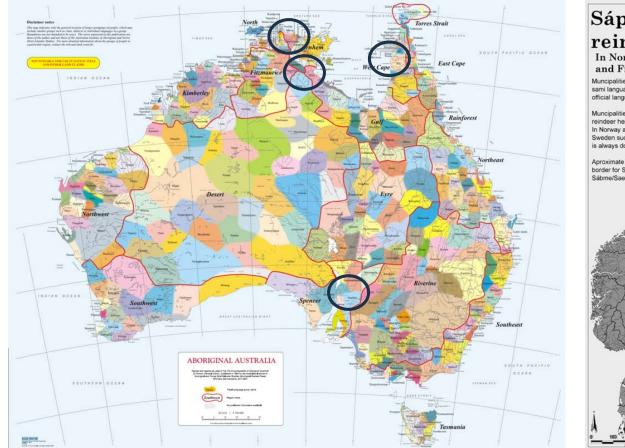
TEAM AND CASES

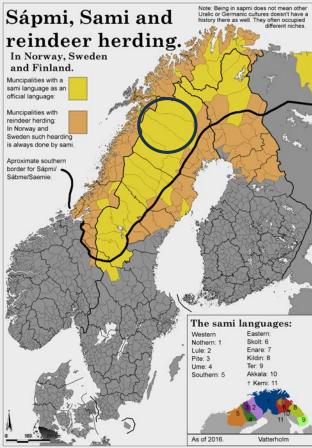
- Sharon Harwood (Aus)
- +*Jesse Marnock (Aus)
- +*Jeanie Govan (Aus)
- *Linus Lundström (Swe)
- *Rob Porter (Aus)
- *Doris Carson (Swe and Aus)
- Peter Sköld (Swe)
- *James Endean (Swe)
- Paul Peters (Aus and Can)
- +*Lena Maria Nilsson (Swe)
- *Kristina Sehlin O'Neil (Swe)
- *Patch Clapp (Aus)

- Sweden
 - Storuman municipality
 - Rönnbäcken
 - Svartliden
 - Barsele
 - Blaiken
 - o Mala/ Lycksele municipality
 - Kristineberg
 - Adakgruvan
 - o Jokkmokk Municipality
 - Kalak
- Australia
 - o Queensland
 - (Western Cape)
 - o Northern Territory
 - Nhulunbuy
 - Ngukurr
 - (fracking)
 - South Australia
 - Leigh Creek/ Copley



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WHAT ARE WE COMPARING?

- Scale of development **small** vs big
- Structure of actor networks **local** vs distant
- Life cycles legal vs actual
- Construction of 'Indigenous' legal vs **actual**
- Indigenous role legal vs **appropriate**
- And...?



SCALE

Big	Small	
Nhulunbuy	Ngukurr	
Kalak	Barsele	
Rönnbäcken	Svartliden	
Leigh Creek	Leigh Creek	



ACTOR NETWORKS

- Local (meaning what?) : strong role for local (municipal) government in Sweden, less so in Australia
- Regional : 'cities of the north' as political centres, or not (Nhulunbuy not, Ngukurr more so; Umeå not much, Luleå quite a bit) (Linus)
- Jurisdictional (can also be regional) : what happens in Cairns?
- National
- Beyond (Jesse)



LIFE CYCLES



	improvemente to roudo	ocampiana	bereioping siting for
development	and other infrastructure		complex negotiations and
			knowledge of legal and
			regulatory processes
Early period	Construction jobs	Increased traffic and	Developing local (often
		disruptions to daily life	contracting) businesses
Middle	Royalties	Restrictions on access	Maturation of community
period		to sacred sites	leadership organisations
Decline	Company-community	Uncertainty about	Opportunity for
	partnerships for	economic future	constructive planning
	community and economic		
	development projects		
Transition	Hand-over of (some)	Loss of jobs and	Establishing desired
	infrastructure	royalties	conditions for future
			projects

Burden

Ceding land

Bridge

Developing skills for

Benefit

Improvements to roads

Pre-



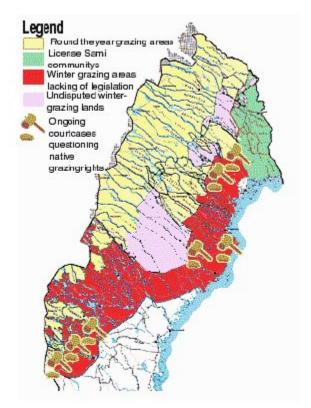
RECOGNISING 'INDIGENOUS'

- Traditional owners, others with a local interest?
- Reindeer herders, voters, others?
- Complex colonisation histories how do we avoid neocolonialism (forced settlement, forced resettlement)?
- Representative bodies, unheard voices
- Legal 'owners', hidden populations



INDIGENOUS ROLES AND RIGHTS

- Formally have some sort of land tenure (Western Cape, Ngukurr)
- Devolved land owners (Nhulunbuy)
- Contested rights (Sweden)
- Rights not recognised (Sweden, Leigh Creek)



Current Court Cases Against Native Grazing Rights



OUR INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS

- Mine (ha ha) is big, yours is not
- Mine is on native title, yours is not
- Mine has clear 'local' Indigenous stakeholders, yours does not
- Mine is a legal question, yours is not
- Mine is focused locally, mine takes place a long way away...
- In what contexts should you advocate for big rather than small scale development?
- Should Indigenous people be engaging locally, or bypassing local systems?...



SO – IS COMPARISON WORTH IT?

- Documenting the differences in context is critical (and Sweden in particular adds value to this)
 - MDSD what stays 'true' even under the most different of circumstances?
- These differences also provide 'quasi-experiment' conditions
- But recognise the limits it is not about 'mine mine is better than yours', but about 'universally, Indigenous people have this in common and this not in common in experiences with mining'
- All be thinking about this for WP1 it's valuable to have rogue cases!



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