



Australian
National
University

The importance of Indigenous languages in development



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THE DYNAMICS OF LANGUAGE

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Language Alive!

Intro...

UNESCO has designated 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages, acknowledging that language is “pivotal in the areas of human rights protection, good governance, peace building, reconciliation, and sustainable development.”

(<https://en.iyil2019.org/>).



2019 | INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
Indigenous Languages

Our panel...

In this panel we will discuss the importance of Indigenous languages for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, illustrated through projects from Australian and international contexts.



Indigenous languages and Wellbeing

From:

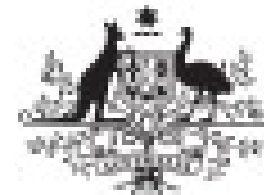
**National Indigenous
Languages Report**
(Draft, October 2018)

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Browne



AIATSIS

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL
AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES



Australian Government

Department of Communications and the Arts

Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Contexts of use

- Languages & livelihoods
- Languages for being
- Languages for engagement and access



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Language ecologies

L1 = first language

L2 = second language

- L1 traditional - L2 English
- L1 new language - L2 traditional - L2 English
- L1 English - L2 traditional



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual

“4-year old-sings in language to protect sacred site”

<https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/2017/05/17/4-year-old-sings-language-protect-sacred-site>



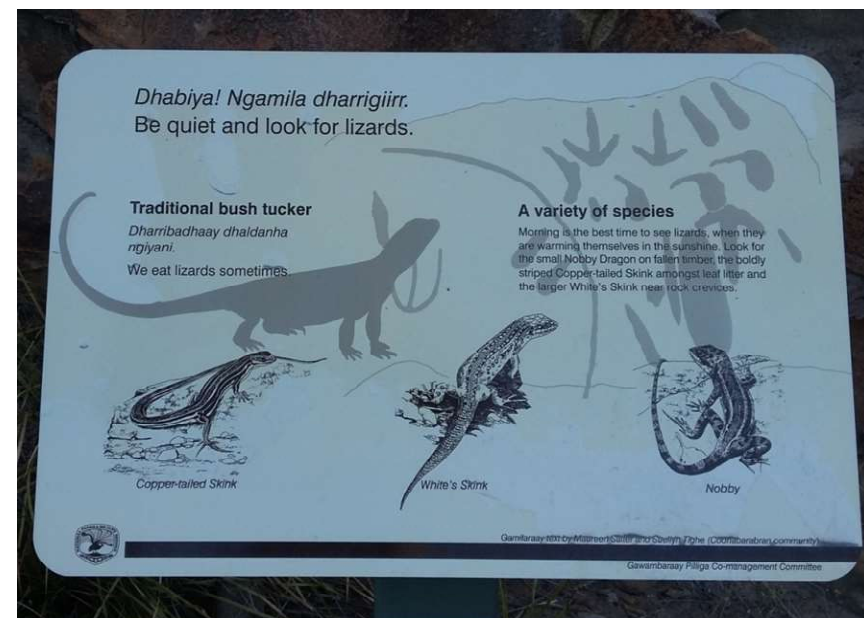
Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual
- Land-based

Rumsey 1993, p. 204)

Languages, or even mixtures of them, are directly placed in the landscape by the founding acts of Dreamtime heroes. From that point on, the relation between language and territory is a necessary rather than a contingent one. People too, or their immortal souls, are similarly grounded in the landscape, in the form of spirit children (or 'conception spirits') associated with specific sites, and via links through their parents to more extensive regions. But the languages were already placed in those regions before any people came on the scene.



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

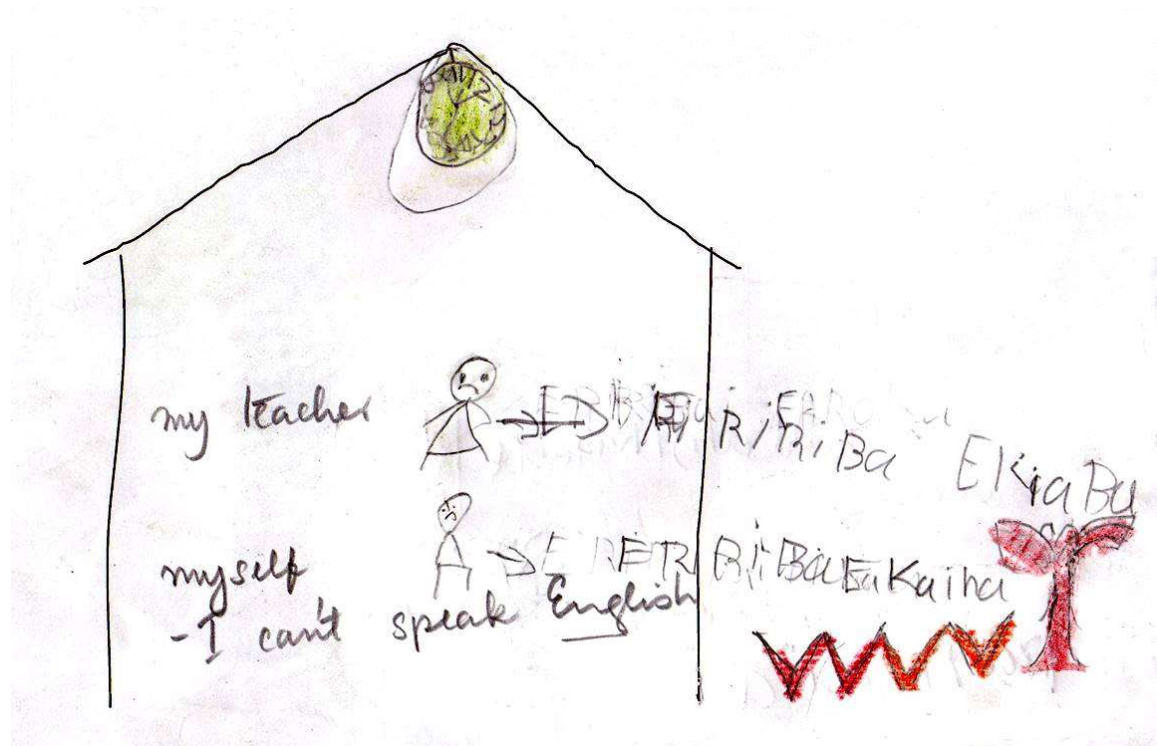
- Spiritual
- Land-based
- Cultural identity



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual
- Land-based
- Cultural identity
- Emotional health



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual
- Land-based
- Cultural identity
- Emotional health
- Physical health



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual
- Land-based
- Cultural identity
- Emotional health
- Physical health
- Educational



<https://www.taiguusiliuqtiit.ca/en/resources/publications>
<https://www.nativeteachingaids.com/indigenous-language-and-culture-games>

Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual
- Land-based
- Cultural identity
- Emotional health
- Physical health
- Educational
- Economic

My language is my awakening

My language is a window to my soul



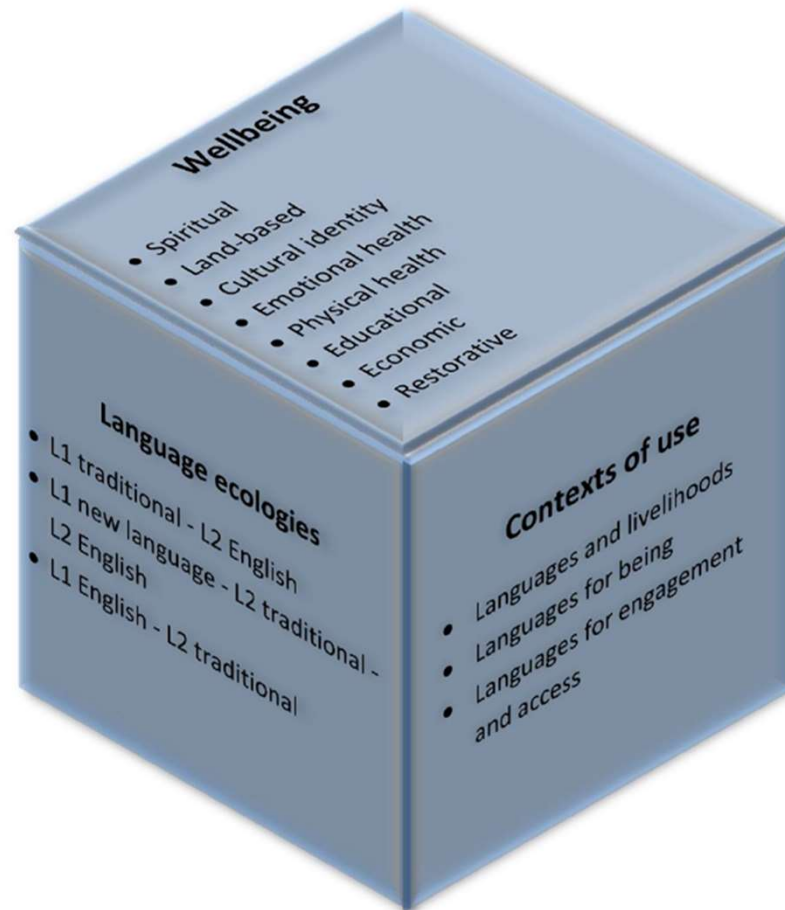
Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework

Wellbeing

- Spiritual
- Land-based
- Cultural identity
- Emotional health
- Physical health
- Educational
- Economic
- Restorative



Wellbeing and Indigenous Language Ecologies (WILE) framework



Kia ora! Thank you! Maarubaa!

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