



# Ceremony marks completion of new housing at Wurrumiyanga

A ceremony was held on Monday 19 December 2011 to celebrate the completion of the Australian and Territory governments' construction program for remote public housing in Wurrumiyanga.

As part of the celebration there was traditional dancing and singing to thank Territory Alliance for their work in the community.

More than 140 local people have been employed across the Tiwi Islands since August 2009 which is a significant achievement for the program.

Sixty-one employees achieved their Certificate I and eight of these employees achieved their Certificate II in Construction.

Local employees Michael Fairweather and Giuseppe Tipiloura have also been offered

further employment with Laing O'Rourke and Sitzler in Darwin where they will complete their carpentry apprenticeships.

"Working on the construction program has given me the opportunity to build on my experience and get formal training," Giuseppe said. "I'm grateful for my time with Territory Alliance and thank Phil Clark the project manager for taking me on board, the supervisors and everyone who provided me with mentoring, guidance and support along the way."

Territory Housing also thanked the traditional owners, Housing Reference Group and Territory Alliance for their hard work and dedication to the program at Wurrumiyanga.



Giuseppe Tipiloura (left) receiving his certificate from Karl Gunderson (right), Employment and Workforce Development Coordinator

The program has delivered 90 new houses, 62 rebuilds and 91 refurbishments in the community and the final rebuild, refurbishments and minor infrastructure works will be finalised in early 2012.

## Construction snapshot

As at 23 December 2011, work was complete in 46 communities and underway in 13 communities and a number of town camps across the Territory. More than 200 Indigenous people were employed in the delivery of the Australian and Northern Territory governments' construction program for remote public housing.

Across the Territory 1926 refurbishments and rebuilds were complete and 20 were underway.

A total of 475 new houses had been built and work was continuing on the construction of another 186.

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The eNews provides a monthly update on the construction program for remote public housing across the Territory.



Timmy Galalingu in his front yard where he has a bed of lemongrass growing

## Helping people with their gardens

**Timmy Galalingu, an elder at Galiwin'ku, believes that with the building of new public housing, the time is right for the remote Arnhem Land community to head into an era of self-sufficiency.**

"A garden can show you how to walk the good road," Timmy said. "I grow lemongrass to flavour fish, oysters, turtles and mussels. I also grow yams, banana, pawpaw, runner beans, watermelon and pumpkin that I share with my family and community.

"Everyone can see how my garden grows and I am showing them through my eyes. Gardens give us a lot of energy to work so our kids will grow up good and healthy."

Timmy's enthusiasm for gardening has increased since he moved into a house that was refurbished under the National Partnership Agreement for Remote Indigenous Housing.

"It is too crowded here and the new houses are a good way to get people out from these crowded places," Timmy said. "My project I am pushing for my people is to help them with their gardens.

"I have had a garden since 2001. I started out in a very small house with chooks – my rooster liked to watch TV but I learned from the chooks how to mulch. When my house was being refurbished I was planting trees even when the workers were here.

"When my family comes around I give them all my fresh food. If you drive around Galiwin'ku you will see a lot of gardens now. They make the yard clean and keep it clean, which is very important.

"I am making a good life and believe I am a good example for my people."

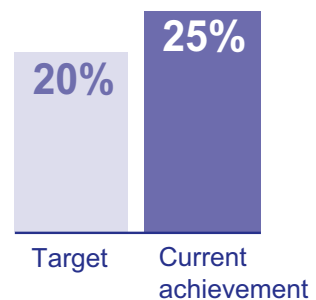
## Creating jobs

There are more than 200 Indigenous people employed across the Territory in the delivery of the Australian and Northern Territory governments' construction program for remote public housing.

Sustainable employment and training outcomes for Indigenous people are a key priority of this program.

A target of 20 per cent Indigenous employment has been set and this is being exceeded with a current achievement of 25 per cent across the program.

### Indigenous Employment



## Housing Reference Groups

Housing Reference Groups (HRGs) have been established across the Territory, including 16 for Alice Springs town camps.

The HRGs work with residents and government to ensure communities have input into decisions about housing in their community.

They also provide advice to government on cultural and family-related matters that affect decisions about housing and infrastructure.

For more information about HRGs call 1800 104 076 or visit [www.nt.gov.au/remotehousing](http://www.nt.gov.au/remotehousing)



New houses built in the Banyan subdivision at Gunbalanya

## Works update

Works are now complete in 46 communities while work continues in 13 Territory communities and a number of town camps. Housing works are also complete in five Tennant Creek community living areas and 17 Alice Springs town camps. As at 23 December 2011, 475 new houses had been built and 1926 refurbishments and rebuilds were complete across the Territory.

### Alice Springs town camps

A total of 86 new houses will be built in the Alice Springs town camps. Seventy-nine new houses are complete and another seven are underway across Anthepe.

In addition to the new houses, there has also been refurbishments to existing houses and significant improvements in infrastructure.

The infrastructure in Hidden Valley, Larapinta Valley and Trucking Yards will include roads, street lighting and drainage works, as well as new water supply, electricity and sewerage services.

Additional works will also be completed in other town camps to ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place to support new housing.

A total of 135 rebuilds and refurbishments have been completed as part of the package for Alice Springs town camps.

### Southern Region refurbishments

A total of 708 refurbishments have been completed in 27 communities as part of the Southern Region refurbishments package.

### Wadeye, Nganmariyanga and Peppimenarti

A total of 105 new houses have been built at Wadeye.

A total of 150 rebuilds and refurbishments are complete at Nganmariyanga (Palumpa), Wadeye and Peppimenarti.

### Tennant Creek

Seventy houses have been rebuilt in Tennant Creek community living areas. Major upgrade works have also been carried out on infrastructure and this work is nearing completion.

### Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island

A total of 80 new houses will be built across Angurugu, Milyakburra and Umbakumba and 57 houses are complete while a further 23 are underway at Angurugu.

Seventy-four rebuilds and refurbishments are complete at Angurugu, Milyakburra and Umbakumba while a further nine are underway at Angurugu and Milyakburra.



New duplex built at Umbakumba



Construction in progress in the new Arrkuluk subdivision at Gunbalanya

## Works update cont'd

**Amanbidji, Barunga, Beswick, Binjari, Bulla, Bulman, Daguragu, Eva Valley, Kybrook Farm, Jilkminggan, Minyerri, Pigeon Hole, Rittarangu, Weemol and Yarralin**

A total of 273 refurbishments have been completed in these communities.

### Ngukurr, Lajamanu and Kalkarindji

A total of 70 new houses will be built across Ngukurr and Lajamanu and 38 are underway.

Eighty-three rebuilds and refurbishments are complete at Ngukurr and Kalkarindji.

### Galiwin'ku

A total of 90 new houses will be built at Galiwin'ku. Thirty-nine new houses are complete and a further 51 are underway.

Thirty-four rebuilds and refurbishments are complete.

### Gunbalanya, Acacia Larrakia and Belyuen

A total of 62 new houses will be built at Gunbalanya and 37 houses are complete while a further 25 are underway.

Works continue in Banyan and Arrkuluk, the two new subdivisions in Gunbalanya.

Ninety-eight rebuilds and refurbishments are complete at Gunbalanya, Acacia Larrakia and Belyuen while further refurbishments are underway at Gunbalanya.

### Tiwi Islands

A total of 90 new houses have been built at Wurrumiyanga (Nguiu).

Sixty rebuilds are complete at Milikapiti and Pirlangimpi. Six rebuilds and refurbishments are underway at Wurrumiyanga and 153 are complete.

### Manningrida, Minjilang and Warruwi

A total of 110 new houses will be built at Manningrida and 68 houses are complete while a further 42 are underway.

Eighty rebuilds and refurbishments have been completed at Manningrida and Warruwi while further rebuilds and refurbishments are underway.

Scoping and planning for refurbishments at Minjilang is also underway.

*The data contained in this update is current as at 23 December 2011.*