WORLD INDIGENOUS NETWORK CONFERENCE COMES TO DARWIN

25 May 2013

The inaugural World Indigenous Network (WIN) conference will begin tomorrow with over 1200 delegates from more than 50 nations attending the Opening Ceremony at the Darwin Convention Centre.

The WIN brings together indigenous people and local communities land and sea managers to share stories, knowledge, cultural experiences to better manage ecosystems, protect the environment and support sustainable livelihoods.

Darwin has been chosen to host the WIN conference because of our strong connection to indigenous people, our unique environmental assets and our strategic location to the rest of the world.

The conference will take place from Sunday 26 May through to Wednesday 29 May with more than 75 sessions including presentations, interactive workshops and networking opportunities for the delegates and special guests.

Some of the key topics on the agenda are: peoples connections and cultural landscapes, protecting, maintaining and sharing traditional knowledge and the rights of indigenous people.

Minister for Regional Development, Alison Anderson, is very proud that the Northern Territory has been chosen to host the WIN Conference and hopes some great ideas can be shared.

“This convention will bring representatives from around the world to our great country and I welcome them with open arms,” Ms Anderson said.

“I am looking forward to meeting some of the delegates and hearing about their homelands and also talking to them about progress we’re making on issues in the Territory.

“I'm also proud that a number of traditional artists and performers will be on show throughout the conference at the community art space.

“I encourage all delegates to take part in the optional field trips to Litchfield and Kakadu National Parks, Arnhem Land and the Tiwi Islands to experience some of the beautiful landscapes the Territory has to offer.”

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