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# Vague Clarity

## Designing an Evaluation Framework for the Western Australian Aboriginal Justice Agreement



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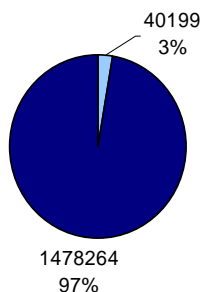


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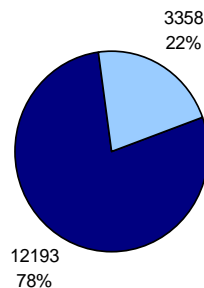
# Over-representation

## Aboriginal Over-Representation across the Justice System 18 and Over 2005

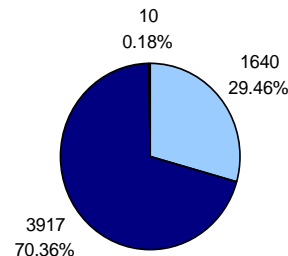
Aboriginal people as  
a proportion of  
population (WA)  
18 years and over  
2006  
(Source: ABS 4517)



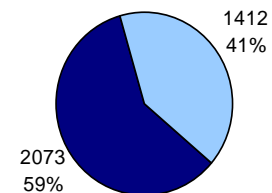
Aboriginal people as  
a proportion of  
population arrested  
18 years and over  
(WA) July - Sept  
2005  
(Source: Briefcase WAPS  
2005)



Aboriginal people as  
a proportion of  
population on adult  
community orders  
(WA) June 2005  
(Source: CBIS)



Aboriginal people as  
a proportion of  
population in adult  
custodial facilities  
(WA) June 2005  
(Source: TOMS)





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# Simple, Complicated, Complex

Following a Recipe
The recipe is essential;
Recipes are tested to assure easy replication
No particular expertise is required but cooking expertise increases success rate.
Recipes produce standardised products
The best recipes give good results every time
Optimistic approach to problem possible





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# Simple, Complicated, Complex

Following a Recipe	Sending a Rocket to the Moon
The recipe is essential;	Formulae are critical and necessary
Recipes are tested to assure easy replication	Sending one rocket increases assurance that the next will be OK
No particular expertise is required but cooking expertise increases success rate.	High levels of expertise in a variety of fields are necessary for success
Recipes produce standardised products	Rockets are similar in critical ways
The best recipes give good results every time	There is a high degree of certainty of outcome
Optimistic approach to problem possible	Optimistic approach to problem possible





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# Simple, Complicated, Complex

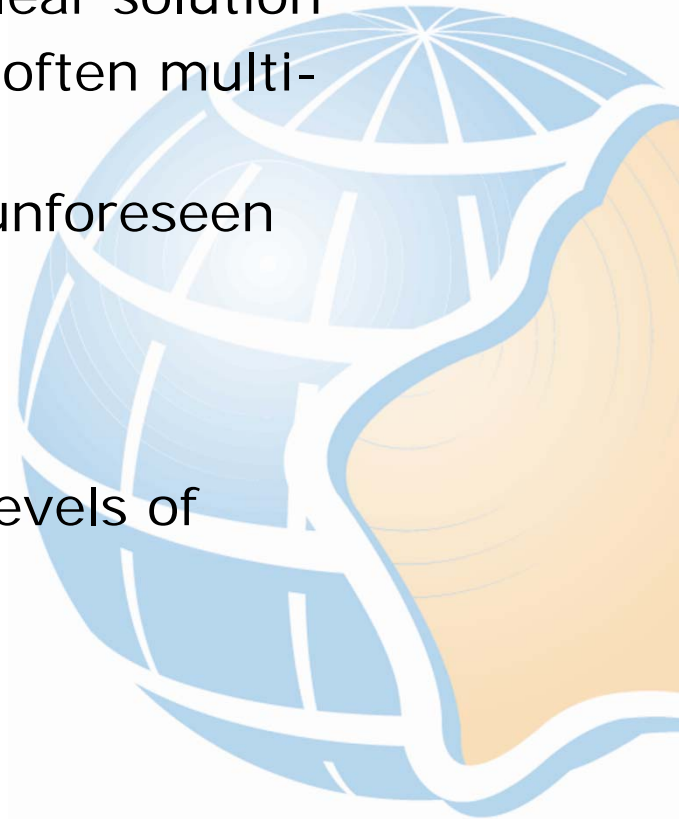
Following a Recipe	Sending a Rocket to the Moon	Raising a child
The recipe is essential;	Formulae are critical and necessary	Formulae have limited application
Recipes are tested to assure easy replication	Sending one rocket increases assurance that the next will be OK	Raising one child provides experience but no assurance of success with the next
No particular expertise is required but cooking expertise increases success rate.	High levels of expertise in a variety of fields are necessary for success	Expertise can contribute but is neither necessary nor sufficient to assure success
Recipes produce standardised products	Rockets are similar in critical ways	Every child is unique and must be understood as an individual
The best recipes give good results every time	There is a high degree of certainty of outcome	Uncertainty of outcome remains
Optimistic approach to problem possible	Optimistic approach to problem possible	Optimistic approach to problem possible



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# Wicked Problems

- Are difficult to clearly define
- Cannot be easily resolved or have no clear solution
- Have many interdependencies and are often multi-causal
- Attempts to address will often lead to unforeseen consequences
- Are often not stable
- Are socially complex
- Sit across organisations/departments/levels of government
- Often require behavioural change





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# The Aboriginal Justice Agreement

## **SIGNATORY AGENCIES 2004**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

Department of Justice

Department of Indigenous Affairs

Department for Community Development

WA Police

Aboriginal Legal Service of WA





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# The Aboriginal Justice Agreement

## **SIGNATORY AGENCIES 2008**

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Department of Corrective Services

Department for Child Protection

Department of Communities

Department of Indigenous Affairs

WA Police

Aboriginal Legal Service of WA

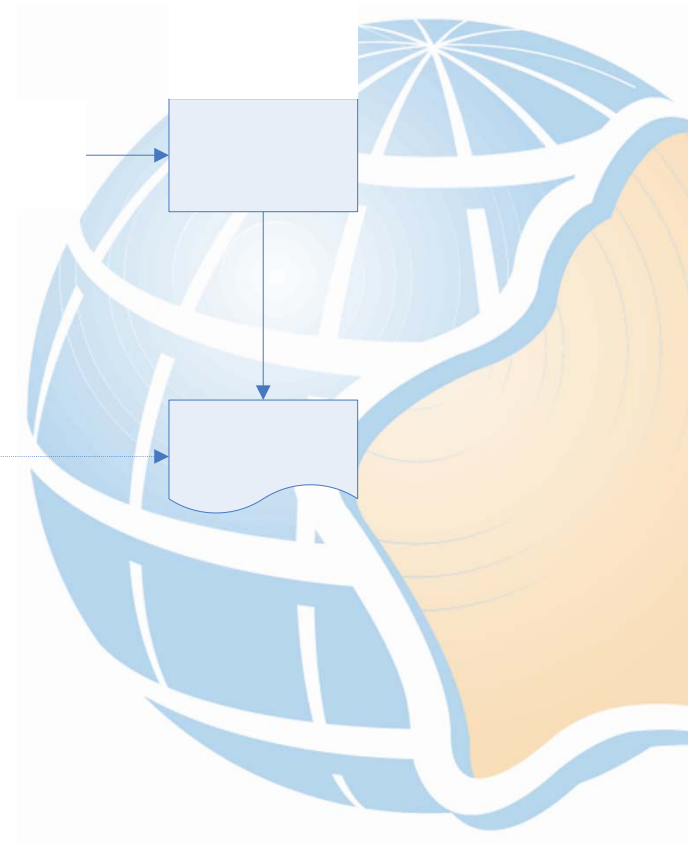
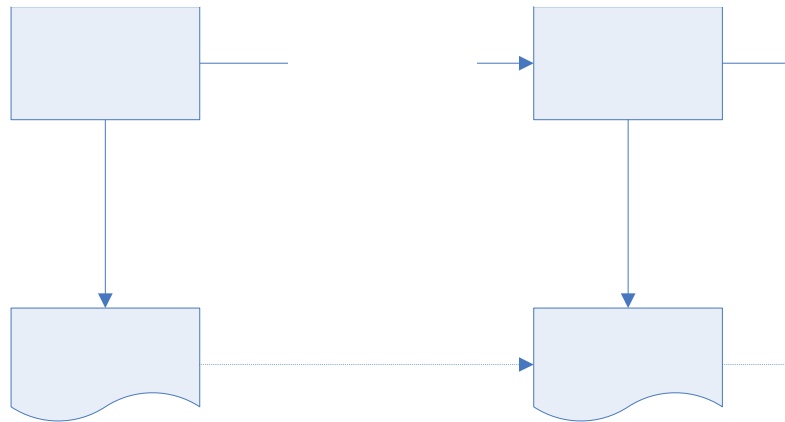






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# Reporting Structures



Safe secure and just communities

Lowering the incarceration rate of Aboriginal people

Increasing the capacity of government and Aboriginal people to work in partnership

Ensuring government meets its obligation to provide equitable access to justice-related services across the state

Reducing contact with the justice system

Defining and committing to processes that ensure Aboriginal people are [partners in policy development, planning, provision and monitoring of justice-related programs and services that impact on them

Providing a means of increasing Aboriginal communities capacity to determine their own justice outcomes

Ensuring a state-wide structure that supports cross-agency cooperation and coordination of policy development, planning, provision and monitoring of justice-related programs and services that impact upon Aboriginal people

Aboriginal people are entitled to live in safe communities

Developing short, medium and long-term benchmarks and other accountability mechanisms (including COAG benchmarks)

Full partnership between government (Commonwealth, State and Local) and Aboriginal people at all stages of planning, service delivery and monitoring to enable negotiated outcomes

Women and young people are involved in broadly based inclusive processes for regional and local planning

## Safe and Sustainable Communities

Aboriginal people are entitled to exercise the same rights and experience equivalent justice outcomes as other Australians including the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness

Reduction in the number of victims of crime

Community safety, security and well-being

Reduction in the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the criminal justice system

Public sector reform and resource flexibility

Individual and family well-being

Programs and service delivery

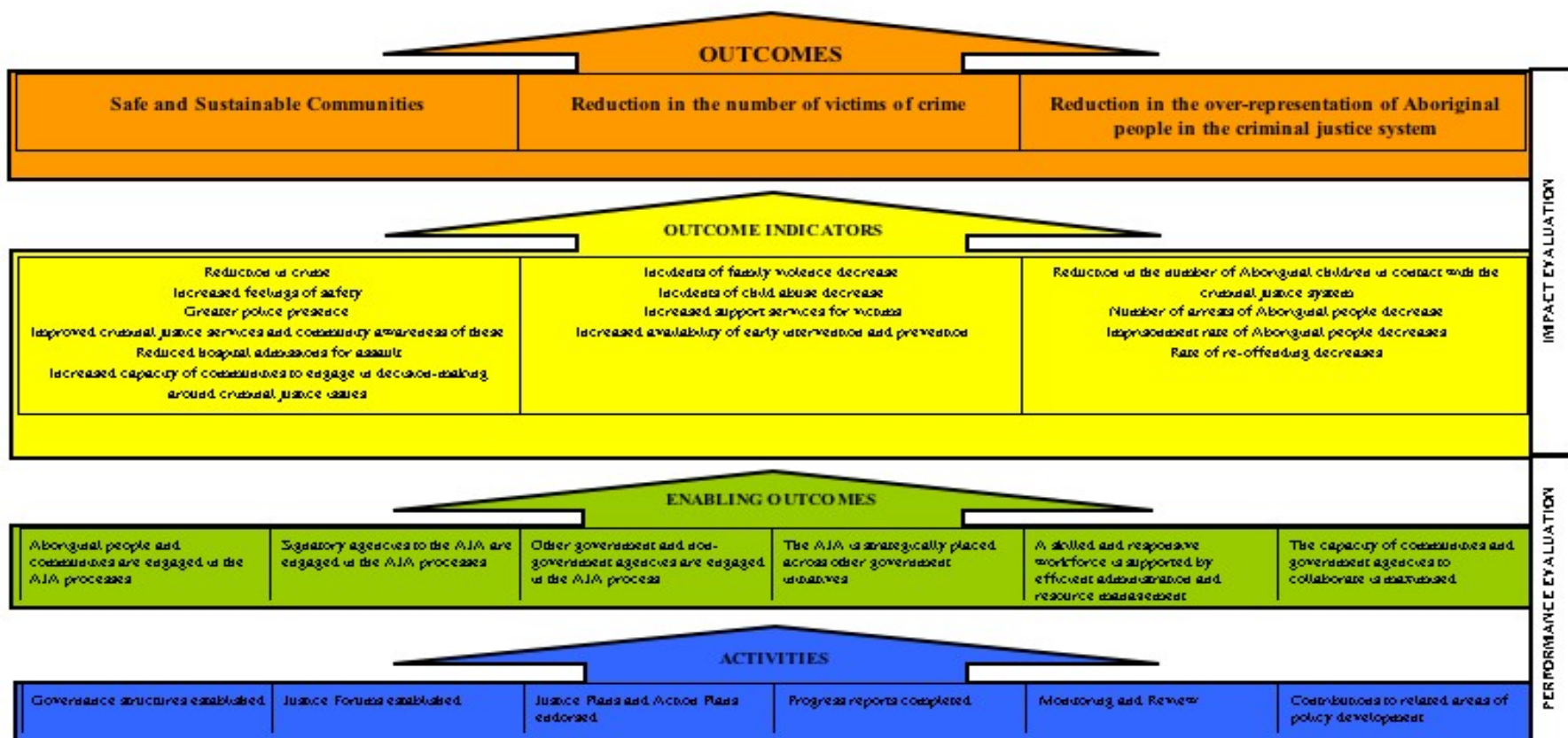
Criminal justice system



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# An Emergent Logic Model

TO IMPROVE JUSTICE RELATED OUTCOMES FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA



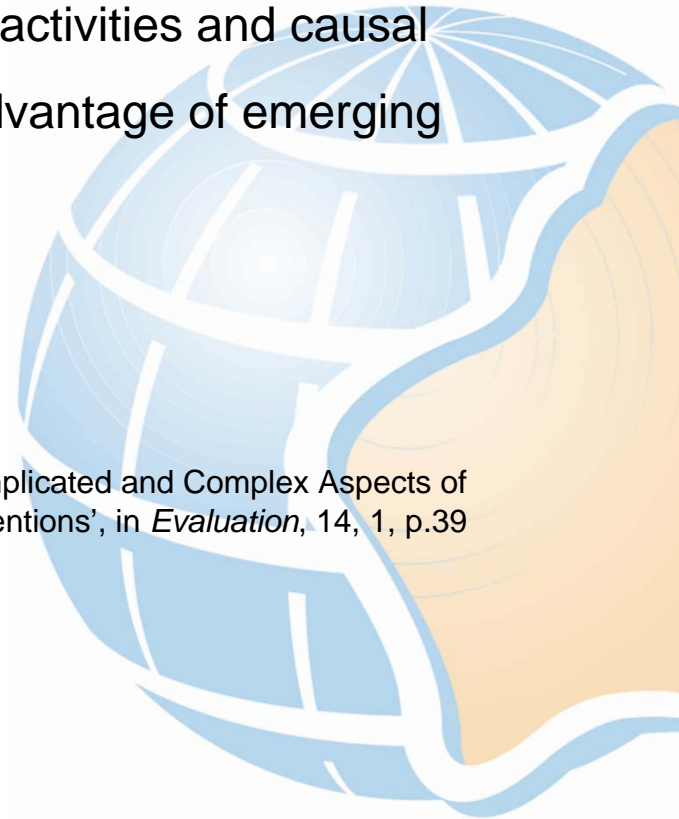


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# Emergence

“While the overall goals may be clear the specific activities and causal paths will evolve during implementation to take advantage of emerging opportunities and to learn from difficulties.”

Rogers, p., 2008, , ‘Using Programme Theory to Evaluate Complicated and Complex Aspects of Interventions’, in *Evaluation*, 14, 1, p.39





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## References

# Thank you



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# References

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Glouberman, S. and B. Zimmerman, 2002, *Complicated and Complex Systems: What Would Successful Reform of Medicare look Like? Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada*, Discussion Paper 8, Available online at [http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/pdf/romanow/pdfs/8\\_Glouberman\\_E.pdf](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/pdf/romanow/pdfs/8_Glouberman_E.pdf)

Rogers, P.J., 2008, 'Using Programme Theory to Evaluate Complicated and Complex Aspects of Interventions', in *Evaluation*, 14, 1, pp.29-48