



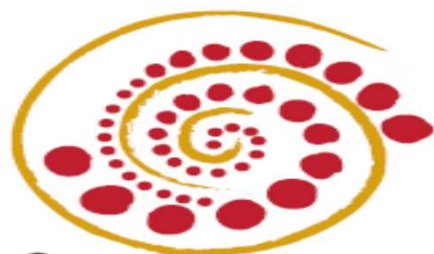
Murdi Paaki
MERI:
Learning about
complex
partnerships



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Murdi Paaki
DRUG & ALCOHOL NETWORK

interPART



Health
Western NSW
Local Health District



The Lyndon Community



Context



- Effective and appropriate address of Aboriginal community health needs remains a major task
- Drug and alcohol services are characterised by complex conditions: socially, medically, economically, politically



Murdi Paaki

Drug & Alcohol Network (MPDAN)



- Arose from the COAG trial in the Murdi Paaki ATSIC region
- 16 Aboriginal Community working parties
- Identified a need for a new model of service delivery suitable for rural and remote Aboriginal communities.
- Five key partners:
 - Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation
 - Walgett AMS
 - Bourke Aboriginal Health Service
 - The Lyndon Community
 - Western NSW Local Health District

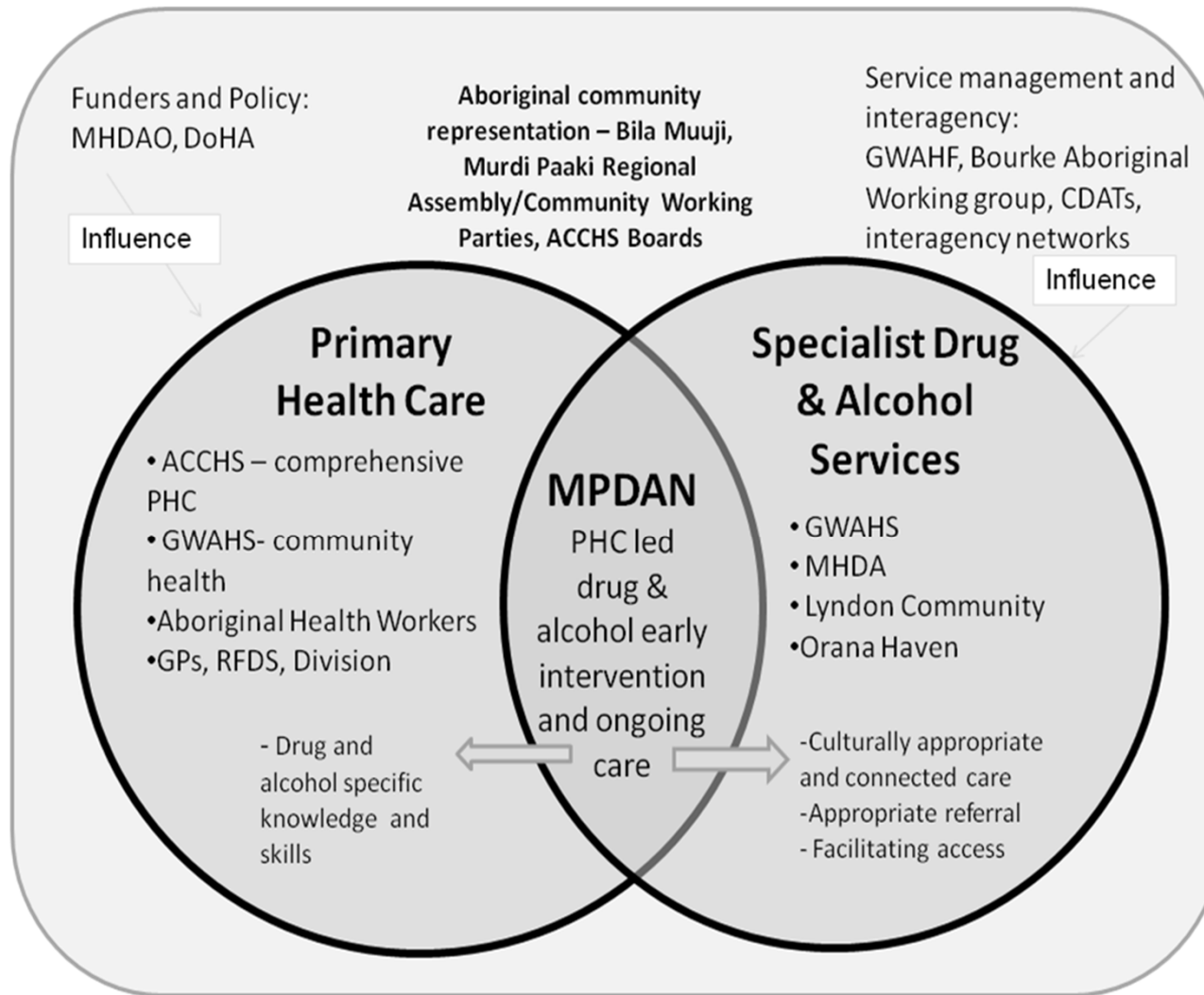


MPDAN Aim



- To improve access to appropriate specialist drug and alcohol treatment services and to support primary health care services in the region to provide evidence based and culturally appropriate community development and services

+ Partnership



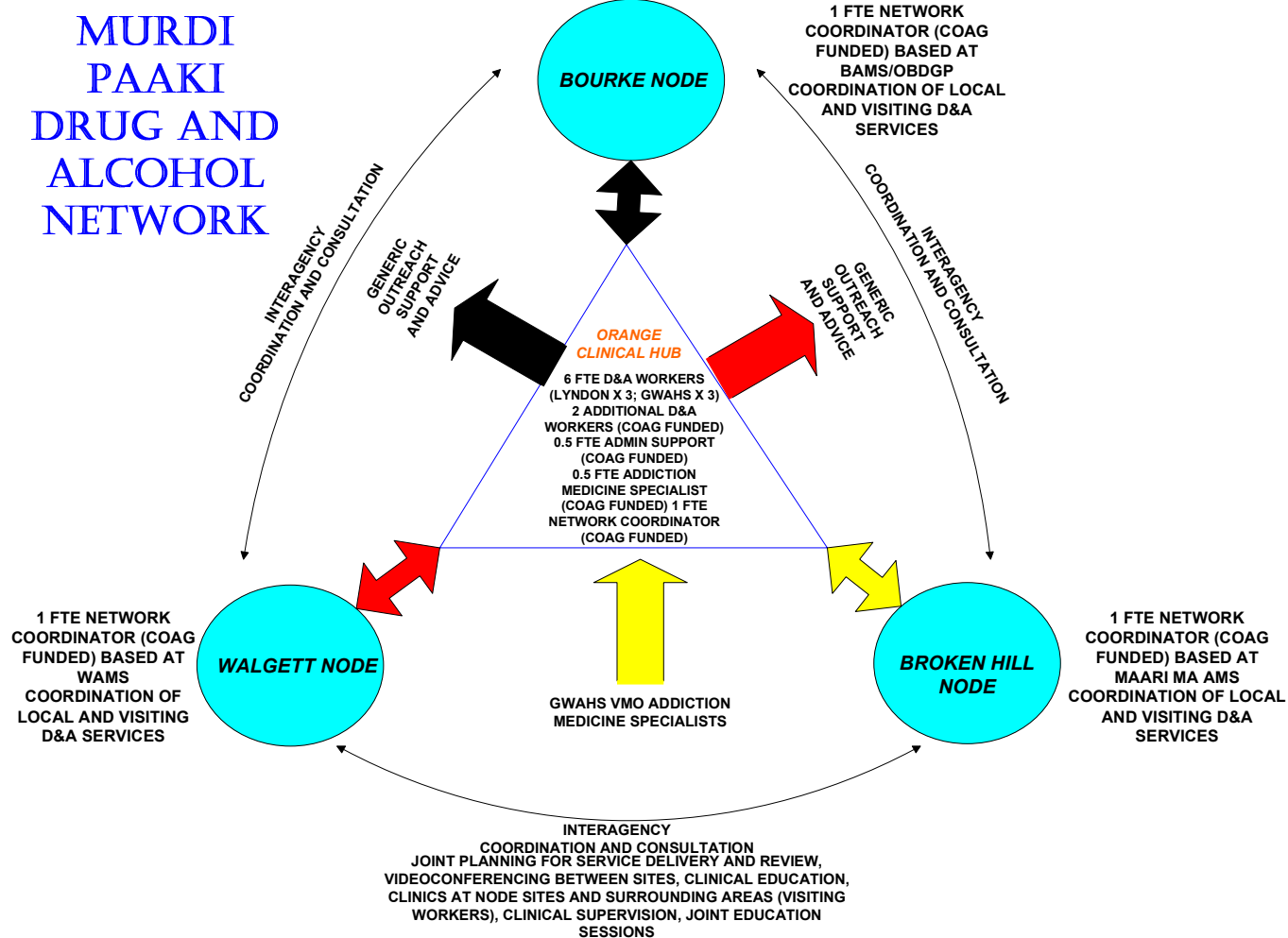
+ What is MPDAN trying to do?

1. **Improve the existing service delivery model**
2. **Provide an integrated service model**
3. **Provide greater, more culturally appropriate access**
4. **Address workforce development**
5. **Develop and implement strategies that maximise the use of local and visiting human resources**





Structure: Hub & Spoke



+ Things we worried about

- Governance/partnership
- Difficult jobs - recruitment, retention, support
- Service enhancement approach
- Health service reform
- Knowing if we were making a difference



MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Developing a Partnership MERI

(Monitoring, Evaluation,
+ Reporting and Improvement)

Framework

- Partnership model
- Health outcomes



Steps



- 2010 - Evaluation of the first year of the Partnership
- 2011 - MERI Framework & plan developed
- 2011 - MERI training & support
- 2012 - MERI follow-up



Approach



Approach

- multi-method
- participatory
- capacity building

Theoretical Underpinnings

- Realist evaluation
- Participatory action research
- Empowerment evaluation



Key Considerations



- Respects the diversity of partner contexts and interests
- Accommodates different and evolving levels of MERI understanding and capacity
- Is practical, builds evidence from frontline to policy levels, and considers the overburden in reporting

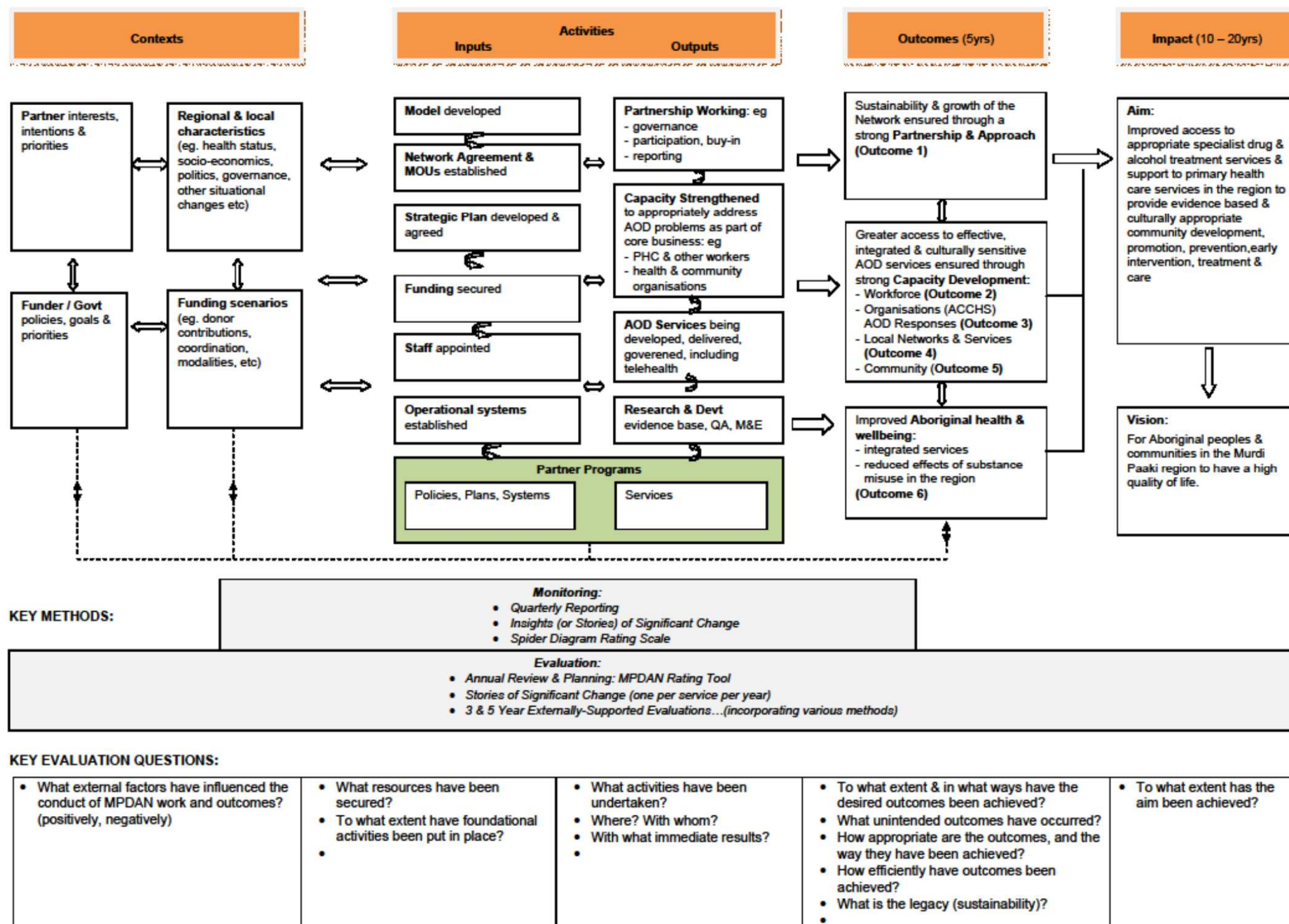


Key Elements



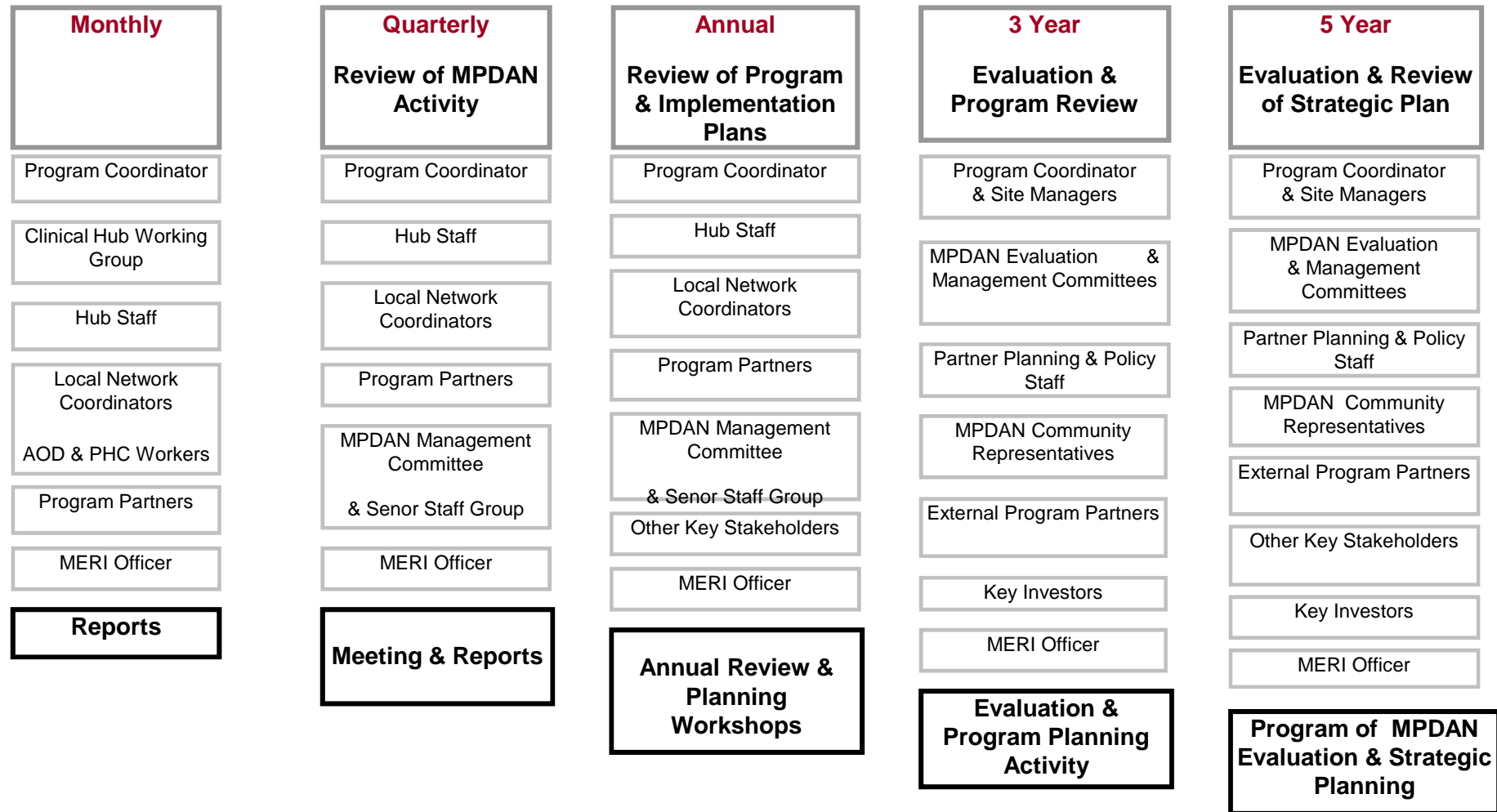
- Program Logic
- MERI Plan
- Review & Planning
Structural Process
- MERI Tools

MPDAN Program Logic Schematic



MPDAN Outcomes	Key Measures	Monitoring Methods	Key Evaluation Questions* and Purpose: eg. Impact, Effectiveness, Appropriateness, Efficiency, Legacy/Sustainability	Key Evaluation Methods
MPDAN Aim : Evaluate Years 3 and 5				
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Story Report (PSR) • Annual Rating Tool – aggregated annual results • Spider Diagram Rating Tool • MPDAN Program / Strategic Plan Review Workshop • Cost-benefit analysis • Comparative analysis
MPDAN Outcomes: Assess Annually				
Outcome 1 Outcome 2 etc		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly & Six Monthly Reports • Management Committee & Senior Staff Mtg Minutes • PC meetings with partners • Clinical Hub meetings • Clinical data records • Etc 		

MPDAN Program Review and Planning Process and Potential Participants



Increasing sophistication & resources required



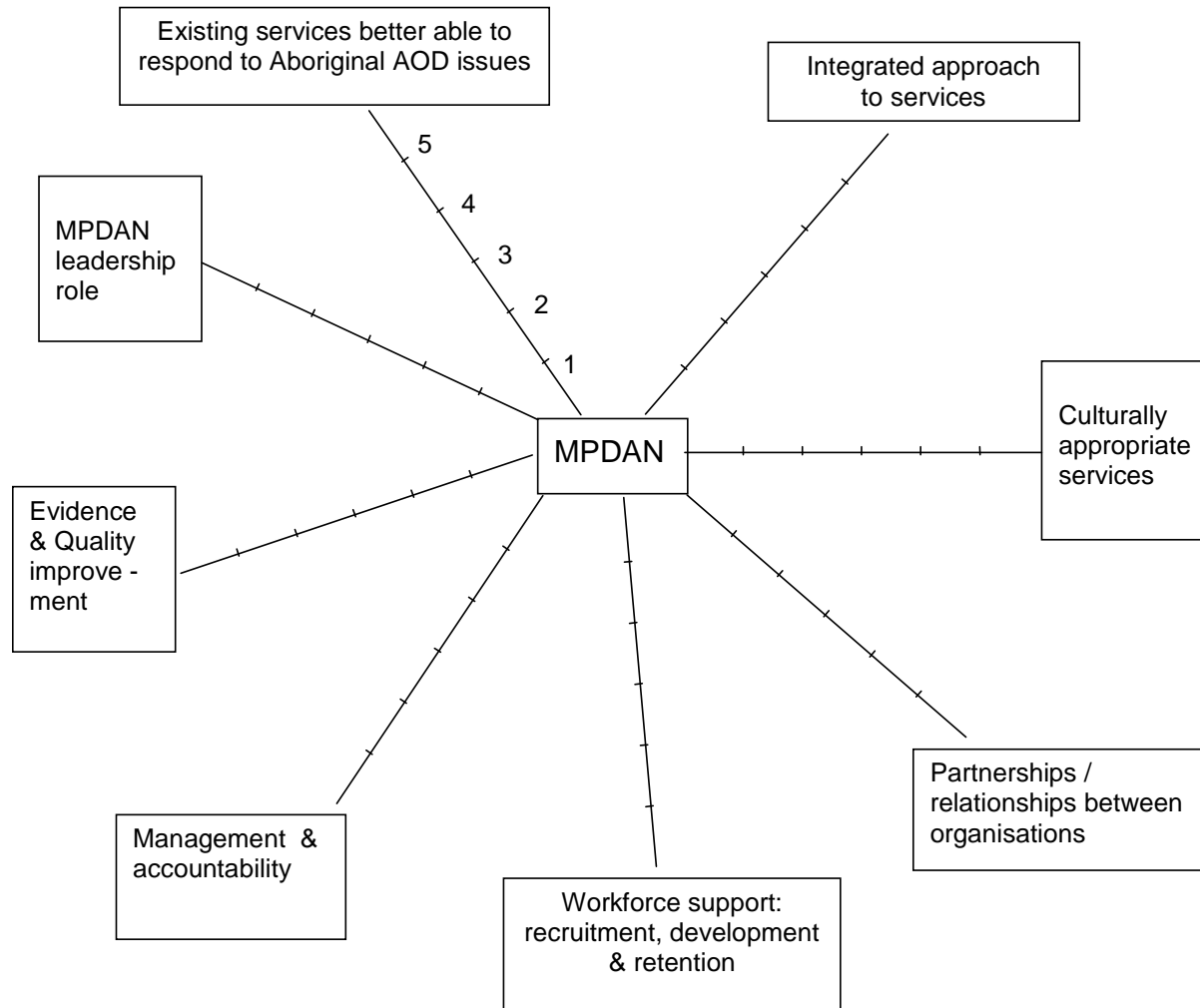


Quarterly Reports



- Summary of Client contacts and activities
- Progress against Site Action Plans
- Story of Significant Change

To what extent are these key MPDAN objectives occurring in an effective, appropriate way?



SCALE: 5 - very well
1 - very poorly

Name: (optional)

Location:

MPDAN Annual Rating Tool - YEAR 1

		1	2	3	4	5	Score
Outcome 1 : A Strong Partnership and Approach							
1a	All partners actively participate in the Management Committee and relevant sub-committees	Appropriate partners are identified and preliminary discussions held, including with satellite partners as appropriate	Partnership meetings regularly occurring, development of communications strategy undertaken	Communications strategy adopted, comprehensive reports regularly delivered prior to partnership meetings, at least 50% participation at all meetings	At least 75% of MPDAN partners are in attendance at all meetings	Annual review of the partnership and communications strategy conducted, reports disseminated and recommendations actioned	
1b	The partnership is supported by effective governance and reporting	Partnership documentation being developed, reporting mechanisms being developed	Major Partners have signed formal partnership agreements, ongoing recruitment of other partners, partners are regularly attending meetings, reporting mechanisms have been adopted by major partners	Most partners have signed formal agreements and are regularly attending meetings. Partner management actively promoting awareness of partnership and objectives within their organisations. Reporting mechanisms in place, staff have been trained in their use	All partners are fully engaged, attending and contributing in meetings, raising and resolving issues. Compromise and consensus are regularly achieved. Difficulties are discussed openly and addressed comprehensively. Partner members operational staff are aware of the partnership objectives	All partners are fully engaged and an Annual review of the partnership conducted, reports disseminated and recommendations actioned. Victorian Partnership Checklist used to review partnership effectiveness. Reporting mechanisms are used to guide partnership development	



Murdi Paaki Drug and Alcohol Network: Annual Rating Tool Record Sheet

Outcome 1 - A strong partnership and approach

Score		What <i>evidence</i> did you use to support your decision on the score?	What were the main <i>discussion points</i> you had in arriving at your score?	What factors <i>constrained</i> a higher score?	What <i>actions</i> are there for the coming year?
1a	All partners actively participate in the Management Committee and relevant sub-committees				
1b	The partnership is supported by effective governance and reporting				



Experience to date

- **Comprehensive and becoming more rigorous**
 - planned, formatted reporting; easy to facilitate annual review meetings; consistent over time
- **Building up evidence**
 - but this is stronger in Hub than at some Sites; and clinical aspects are stronger than community development and partnership elements
- **Shows the issues at each Site**
 - but not clearly what is being done to address them
- **It's testing & helping refine the partnership model**
 - but it is still more complicated than it needs to be





Emerging Lessons

for Evaluation in Complex Partnership Programs



- nurture partnership understanding and commitment;
- be flexible in serving both individual and collective interests;
- be underpinned with careful capacity building and support;
- ‘people’ are the most critical element.



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