



The Indigenous Carbon Industry



ICIN Indigenous
Carbon
Industry
Network



What is the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network?



Initiated by Indigenous carbon businesses at 2018 Savanna Fire Forum



Filling a critical gap in industry coordination



Supported by an Interim Steering Committee of 9 member orgs



Including 34 member organisations across north Australia



Broader network including 200 people



Currently funded by Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy, Northern Territory Government and Queensland Government.



Employs part-time Coordinator hosted by Warddeken Land Management.



What is the Indigenous Carbon Industry?

- A major emerging industry rapidly expanded from the successful West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement (WALFA) project across north Australia
- Traditional Landowners and Indigenous ranger groups undertake early dry season burning to limit the extent of destructive late dry season wildfire
- Scientists worked together in partnership with Indigenous land managers to develop the methodology for measuring the savanna burning carbon abatement
- Registered Eligible Offsets Projects can earn and sell Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) through the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) Act
- Current buyers include the Australian Government via the Emissions Reduction Fund or to voluntary buyers seeking to offset their carbon emissions



Benefits

- Unique in that it generates multiple environmental, cultural and social benefits as well as significantly abating greenhouse gas emissions.
- Provides meaningful training and employment opportunities on country in very remote areas where jobs are scarce.
- Enhances opportunities to access country, intergenerational exchange of traditional knowledge and practices.
- Offsets the costs of fire management.
- Empowers land managers by providing an independent source of income.
- Improved biodiversity outcomes of global significance.

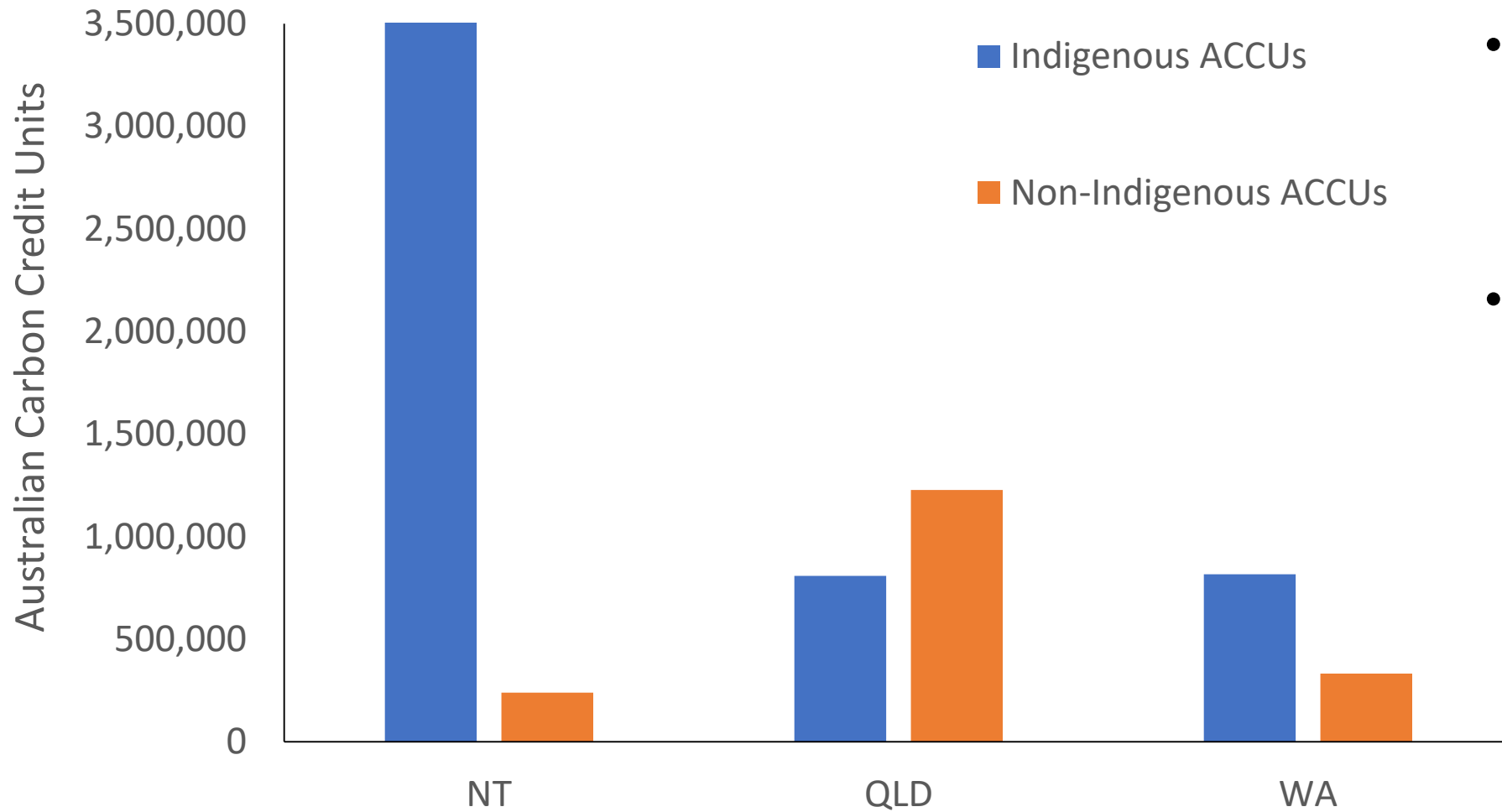


Current state of the Indigenous Carbon industry



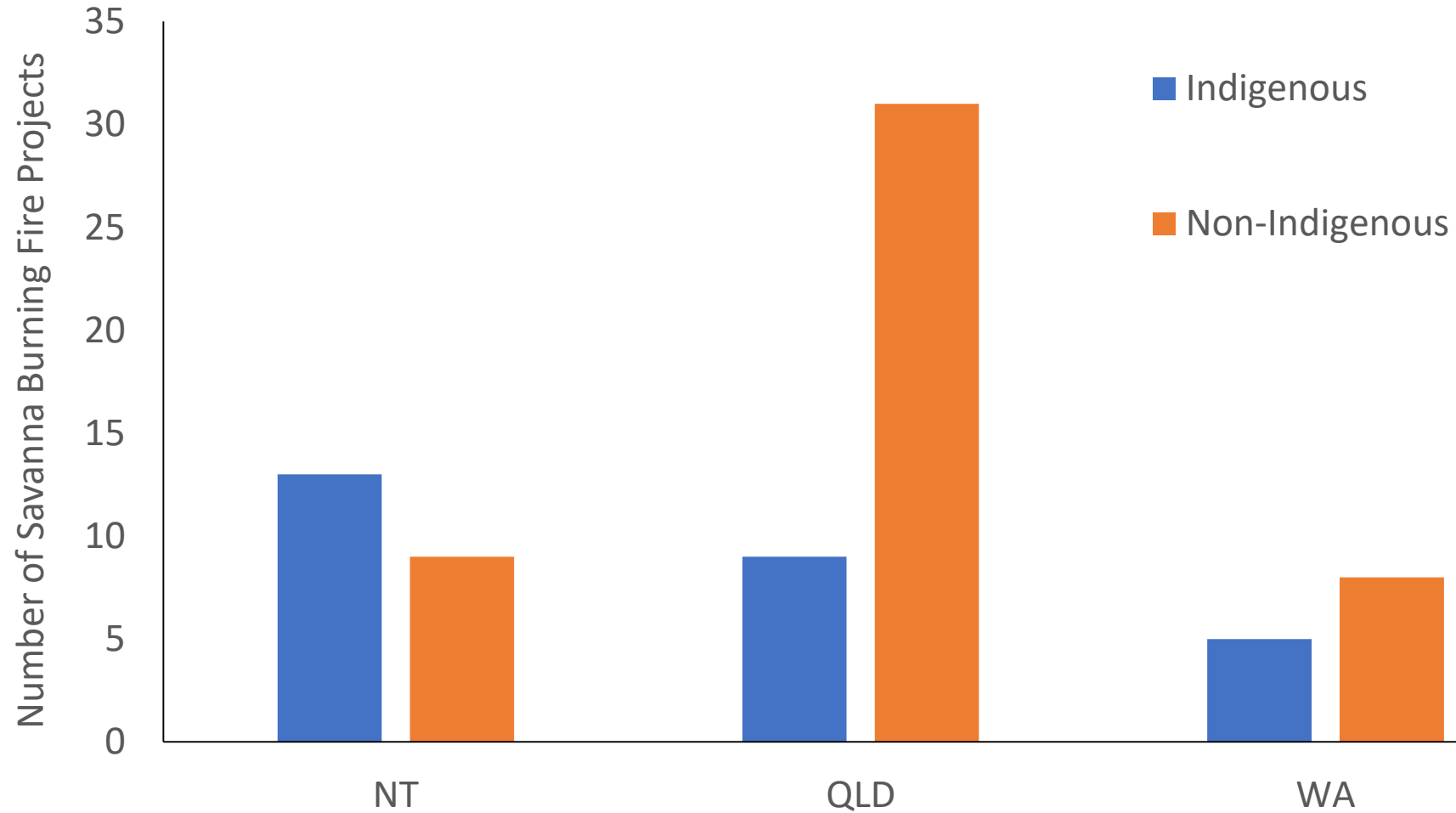
- Over 29 Indigenous-owned and operated savanna fire projects
- Enabling improved Indigenous fire management over 17.9 million hectares of north Australian savanna
- Abating over 1.2 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions in the 17/18 year
- Generating well over \$16mill worth of carbon credits each year, or around \$80mill since 2012
- Over 13% of Australia's total carbon credits are produced by Indigenous carbon businesses (across all methods)
- Around 3/4 of carbon credits produced by the savanna fire emissions avoidance method are generated by Indigenous carbon businesses.

Savanna ACCU issuance by state to date



- Almost 7 million ACCUs issued to savanna burning methodology
- 74 % of ACCUs have been produced by Indigenous savanna burning projects

Savanna fire projects by state to date

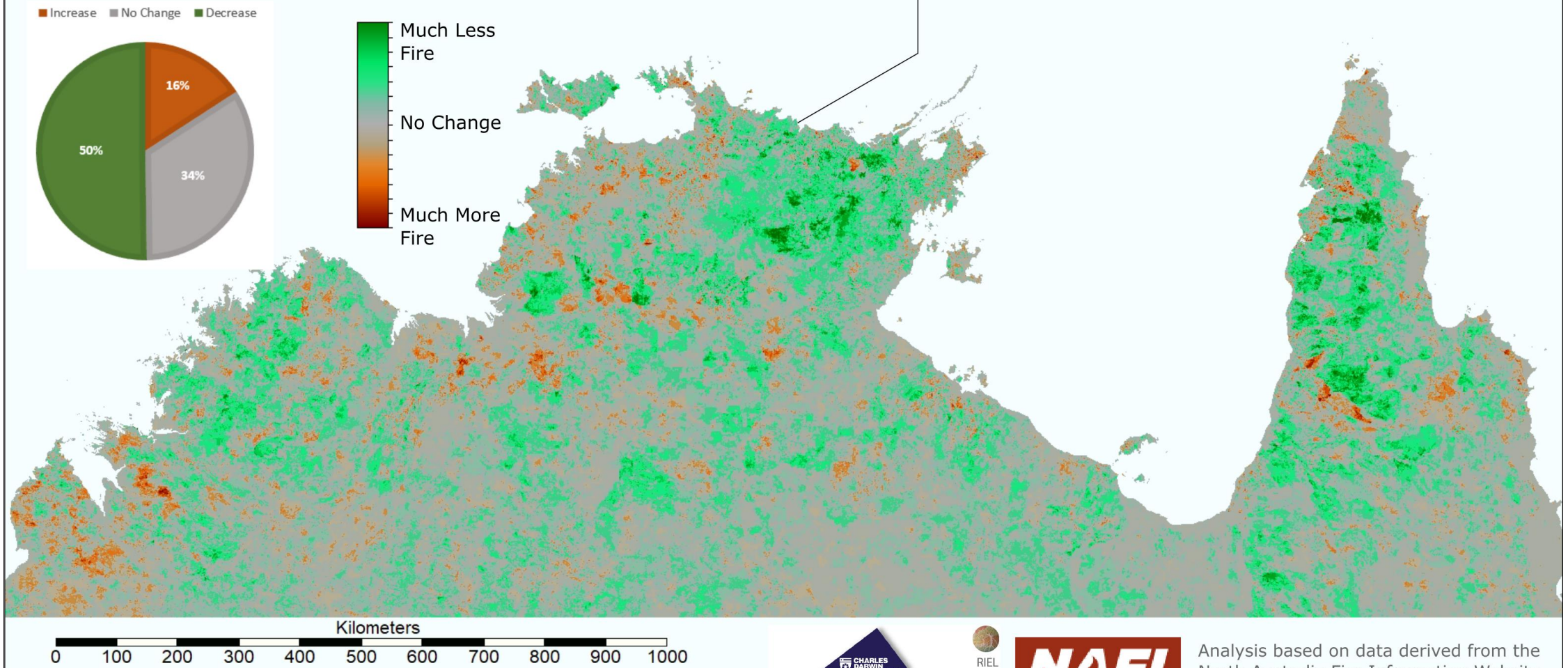


North Australia fire management

A comparison of average fire frequency between 2000-2006 and 2013-2019

361,400km² the area with a reduced number of late dry season fires.

340,400 km² the area with a reduced number of all fire.



Future outlook

This industry already delivers environmental benefits of global significance, for both the climate and biodiversity

Growing recognition of the numerous positive social, cultural and economic outcomes for Indigenous communities.

Carbon credits generated by Indigenous carbon businesses are highly sought after, so can attract a premium price.

Demand for Indigenous carbon credits is much greater than current supply.

Potential to increase supply of Indigenous carbon credits through removal of policy barriers and recognition of increased carbon benefit through new sequestration method (long-term commitment).

Potential for policy changes to support better prices in future (EU price is around \$44/ton).





New methodologies in development (standing dead wood, living biomass).



Better coordination and communication resources (ICIN).



Developing climate change policies delivering more certainty for the industry



Growing voluntary and compliance markets.



Growing 'willingness to pay' for carbon credits generated by Indigenous carbon businesses as recognition of co-benefits and demand increases.



Potential for trading mechanisms to deliver a price on carbon in response to emissions targets.



New training courses available to build capacity of fire managers and carbon farming practitioners (Aboriginal Carbon Foundation, Skills Impact and CDU).

Industry Growth

Growing the Indigenous Carbon Industry



Clear, consistent government policy to cut emissions and grow the carbon market

Support new carbon project development with start-up funding grants

Remove barriers to uptake of new carbon methods to increase supply ACCUs

Listen to advice from Indigenous carbon businesses, through ICIN

Support our homegrown marketing strategy

Increased long-term funding to support Indigenous ranger groups

Recognition of native title rights and interests in carbon.

Support for better control and management of fire weeds

Increased funding to support R&D of new methods and NAFI Fire North service

Engage our industry in broader policy discussions and industry engagements

Thank You



Warddeken Rangers (*Photos: David Hancock*)