

Dhelkunyangu Gatjin





This inaugural Gatjin Strategy Implementation Plan identifies the 1 and 3 year goals, initiatives and actions for 23/24 that the Dja Dja Wurrung Group and water managers will undertake to progress along the barings (pathways) to deliver the Dhelkunyangu Gatjin objectives.

Gatjin Strategy Implementation Program Logic

The Gatjin Strategy Implementation Program Logic provides an overview of how the pathway activities link water related management activities and initiatives to the broader Strategic and Country Plan outcomes. The Gatjin Strategy, this Implementation Plan and the proposed Water Agency Partnership Agreements provide a framework for water agencies to collaborate with DJANDAK (representing the Dja Dja Wurrung group) in fulfilling their commitments outlined in the State's 2013 Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA) and the associated natural resource agreement.

This inaugural Implementation Plan has been prepared by DJANDAK and endorsed by each of the partners and includes existing and planned partner projects that are aligned with and contributing to the progression along the Dhelkunyangu Gatjin barings (pathways).

The Partners Implementation Control Group will develop future annual implementation plans based on a review and learning process.

Vision | djaa ba gatjin dhelkunyangu, dhelk gatjini djuwenuwangu

	Djaara making decisions for Gatjin	Djaara making decisions for Gatjin
Strategic Outcomes	Djaara lore informs water management decisions	Djaara manages environmental water.
Programs	Water Management	Environmental Water
Baring	Djaara involvement in water management DEFINED Program for provision of advice AGREED Agreements with relevant Authorities FORMALISED	Djaara Input into Environmental Water Planning Djaara Lead Environmental Water Planning Djaara Manage Environmental Water
Djimbunang Indicators	 Partners engage Djaara on the agreed water decisions. Djaara Knowledge informs water management. 	 Djaara waterways assessments inform environmental watering decisions. Djaara determines the use of environmental water.

We are empowered as the Traditional custodians of this land to care for Country and apply Djaara knowledge to heal our waterways - returning good spirit to gatjin.

Secure a water rights and entitlements	Secure water rights and entitlements	A Djaara Gatjin Authority
Djaara have a legislated Cultural Water Right	Djaara have growing water entitlements	Gatjin Authority managing Djaara's water interests
Cultural Water	Water Entitlements	Gatjin Authority
Djaara Cultural Water Right DEFINED Cultural Water Right AGREED Cultural Water Right DEVELOPED	Djaara Water Prospectus DEVELOPED Water Entitlements SECURED Mechanism for securing Water Entitlements AGREED	Authority Model DEFINED Gatjin Authority ESTABLISHED Gatjin Authority GROWING
 Djaara watering county. Right Water, Right Place, Right Time. 	 Water flows and uses across Djandak understood. Djaara water entitlements are increasing. 	 The structures are in place for Djaara to make informed decisions about water use. A Gatjin Authority is part of Victoria's water management framework.



Governance and Oversight

Working together to heal water

23/24 Djimbunang indicators

- Governance arrangements in place.
- A 2024 / 2025 Implementation Plan approved.

- Annual reviews are informing implementation plan priorities
- Implementation Plan priorities are included in Agencies Business Plans

BARING	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	DATE
Launch and promote the Strategy	 Communications and Engagement plan. Launch and promotion activities, o initial distribution, o organisational briefings, o On Country Day. 	DJANDAK Comms Team	• June 2023 o June 2023 o Aug/Sep 2023 o Oct/Nov 2023
Convene Partners ICG	 Officer workshop Letter Invite Briefing (where required) Draft Terms of Reference Convene ICG 	DJANDAK	May 2023June 2023July 2023July 2023Aug 2023
Review and reconstitute internal governance arrangements.	 Kapa Gatjin – revise TOR, Review membership, reconvene Kapa Gatjin watarka Establish DJANDAK strategy oversight in line with Country Plan Governance. 	DJANDAK	Dec 2023March 2024
Develop a Strategy Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Plan	 Partner ICG to agree on how to track and assess Implementation Plan delivery Partners ICG to develop a Monitoring and Reporting plan 	DJANDAK	• Feb 2024 • Sep 2024

Make Decisions for Gatjin

Baring to involvement in water policy, planning and management decision making

23/24 Djimbunang indicators

 DJANDAK have identified and communicated, with water agencies, our preference for involvement in water mangement.

- Djarra input and engagemant in water management understood and formally agreed and is being put into practice with existing and new projects/processes.
- DJANDAK have partneship agreements with all agencies



BARING	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	DATE
Djaara's involvement in water management defined	 Map each agencies water management decision processes Water team to detemine priorities for DJANDAK in water management. 	DJANDAK	March 2024April 2024
Framework for provision of advice agreed	 Discuss with Agencies/ DJANDAK preference for involvement in water management decisions Agree on the arrangements for DJANDAK involvement in 2024/25 Partners ICG develop partnership principles to underpin arrangements. 	DJANDAK/Agencies DJANDAK	May 2024June 2024June 2024
Agreements with relevant authorities formalised	 Through the development of a Whole of Country Partnership Policy agree with partners the process for developing a Partnership Agreement Develop an inugural Partnership Agreement with each agency. 	Partners ICG DJANDAK/Agencies	• August 2024 • Nov 2024

Make decisions for environmental Water

Baring to make decisions for environmental water

23/24 Djimbunang indicators

• DJANDAK develop and lead the Seasonal Watering Proposal trial.

- DJANDAK endorse all environmental watering on Djandak.
- Environmental watering prioritisation informed by Djarra waterways assessments.



BARING	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	DATE
Djaara's input into Environmental Water planning	 Input into CMA 23/24 Seasonal Water Proposals Map Djaara environmental water needs on Djandak. Develop a DJANDAK-led Seasonal Watering Proposal for a trial site on Djandak Submit DJANDAK-led Seasonal Watering Proposal and oversee delivery of pilot environmental watering. 	DJANDAK	 May 2023 Oct 2024 April 2024 May 2025 2025-26 in line with proposal
Djaara lead Environmental Water planning	 Agree with CMA the process for endorsing the 24/25 Seasonal Water Proposals Schedule review of EWMP's 	DJANDAK/NC CMA	• March 2024 • Aug 2024
Djaara manage Environmental Water planning	 Agree with the VEWH on process for DJANDAK co-approving of all watering on Djandak. 	DJANDAK/VEWH	• July2024

Secure Cultural Water Rights

Baring to securing a legislated cultural water right

23/24 Djimbunang indicators

• DJANDAK has defined what is a Djaara Cultural Water Right and developed principles for cultural water use.

25/26 Djimbunang indicators

• DJANDAK Cultural Water Management Plans guiding Water Management.



BARING	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	DATE
Djaara Cultural Water Right defined.	 Define a Djaara position on a cultural water right Consult with TOs and legal experts. 	DJANDAK	• June 2024 • Sep 2024
Involved in the management of Water that has cultural benefits	 Map water delivery on Djandak Develop an initial cultural water use position and guidelines. 	Develop an initial cultural water	
Cultural Water Knowledge Hub established	 Review AWA process Cultural Flows Assessment Pilot Commence mapping of Cultural water needs on Djandak and associated traditions, seasonal calendars and stories and water sources to meet needs Develop a pilot cultural flows management plan Develop a pro-active Cultural Flows and Waterways Cultural Health assessment (AWA) Program. 	DJANDAK	 Nov 2023 July 2024 July 2024 July 2024 Nov 2024
Cultural Water Right Agreed	 Develop an engagement/ lobbying plan for a Cultural Water Right Work with FVTOC on pursuing a Cultural Water Right. Engage directly with Ministers and DEECA on a Djaara Cultural Water Right. Agree a process with Government (DEECA & DOJ) on the development of a Cultural Water Right 	DJANDAK DJANDAK/FVTOC/ TOs DJANDAK/DEECA DJANDAK/DEECA/ DOJ	July 2024Dec 2024Feb 2025July 2025

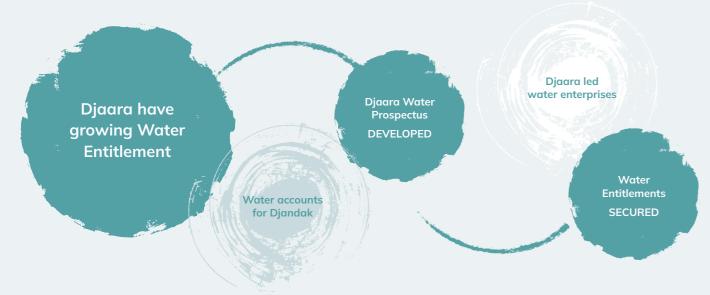
Secure Water Rights

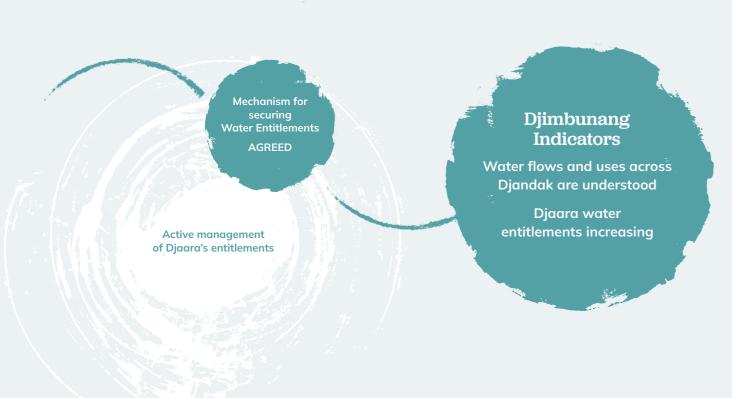
Baring to owning a growing water entitlement

23/24 Djimbunang indicators

- Water accounts developed
- Water prospectus developed.

- Djandak Water accounts published as part of Victoria's annual water accounts.
- Djaara has secured water entitlements.
- Mechanism for securing Djaara Water entitlements agreed.





BARING	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	DATE
Djaara Water Prospectus developed	 Map water sources and availabilities on Djandak (Water accounts) Develop a DJANDAK recycled water policy. Develop a Djaara water policy framework for water use on Djandak. Identify existing or likely water related opportunities. Develop a Djaara Water Prospectus 	DJANDAK	 Oct 2023 Feb 2024 Aug 2024 May 2024 Oct 2024
Water Entitlements secured	 Identify existing available water entitlements opportunities - 1.36GL and \$100M etc Water entities/ businesses established as appropriate 	DJANDAK/MLDRIN/ Water Agencies	Dec 2023As opportunities present
Mechanism for securing water entitlements agreed	 Scope a DJANDAK Position paper on options for securing water entitlements Consult with TOs and lawyers on options Engage Ministers (DEECA/DOJ) on mechanisms to secure water – Use State Strategies (Waterways Strategy & Northern SWS) and/or RSA 	DJANDAK DJANDAK/DEECA/ DOJ	• Oct 2024 • Nov 2024 • Feb 2025

Establish a Gatjin Authority

Baring to establish the Djaara Gatjin Authority

23/24 Djimbunang indicators

• Gatjin Water Authority Model Agreed

25/26 Djimbunang indicators

• Gatjin Water Authority established



BARING	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	DATE
Authority Model defined	 Define the Djaara Gatjin Authority Scope components of a detailed business case. 	DJANDAK	• Feb 2024 • July 2024
Authority Established	 Work with DEECA on a bid for a pilot Gatjin authority Develop a business case for a Gatjin Authority. 	DJANDAK	• April 2024 • Aug 2025

Ngaldurrong Working together in partnership

Water Forums

NETWORK	LEAD	DJAARA ROLE	MEETING SCHEDULE
Aboriginal Water Officer Network	DEECA	Member	Quarterly
Murray Lower Darling Aboriginal Nations	MLDRIN	Member	Annual or as required
IWM Forums	DEECA	Member	As required (normally twice a year)
Water sensitive Bendigo	CoGB	Member	As required (normally bi-monthly)
Natural Resource Forums	DJANDAK	Lead	Annually

Partnership Projects

The State's 2013 Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA) acknowledged the Dja Dja Wurrung are the Traditional Owners of Djandak. The associated Natural Resource Agreement (NRA) commits State Agencies to include Dja Dja Wurrung in the management of natural resources, including water.

The NRA Procurement Strategy sets an annual target of 10% of each State Agency's 'total spend' on procuring NRM in the Agreement Area, to be sourced from the Corporation's suppliers.

The Gatjin Strategy, this Implementation Plan and the proposed Water Agency Partnership Agreements provide a framework for water agencies to collaborate with the Dja Dja Wurrung in fulfilling their commitments outlined in the State's 2013 Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA) and the associated Natural Resource Management. The Implementation Plan establishes a planning approach where partners can work with DJANDAK.

Collaborative Projects

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	PARTNERS	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
A Djaara Recycled water policy and prospectus – that informs Djaara's position and advice on how recycled water produced by water corporations on Djaara Country should be managed.	Execution	Cultural Water/Water Management	GWW, Coliban Water and CHW	Empower	Feb 2024
Upper Coliban integrated catchment plan implementation	Execution	Water Management	NCCMA, Coliban water.	Empower	June 2024
Tullaroop Catchment Restoration Project	Planning	Water & Environmental Water Management	NCCMA Lead, CHW.	Collaborate	2024/25
Djaara AWA Review	Execution	Cultural Water	VEWH, DEECA, MLDRIN.	Empower (Lead)	March 2024

DEECA

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
AWP 2023/24 Program – Gatjin Strategy implementation	Execution	All	Empower	2023/24
Integrated Water Management (IWM): IWM Forum and IWM Forum activities.' (\$138k)	Execution	All	Involve	2023/24
Victorian Waterway Management Strategy (VWMS) renewal: Djaara involvement in VWMS renewal. (\$95k)	Planning	Environmental Water Management.	Involve	2024/25
Recreation and Community Values: Djaara review of regulations (\$1600 committed & \$3000 anticipated)	Execution	Water Management.	Consult	2023/24
Flood Recovery: Djaara flood response plan. (\$539k {\$305k FPSDD, & \$234k WCG})	Execution	Water Management.	Empower	2024/25
Ground Water Management 2030	Planning	Water Management.	TBC	TBC
Vic Water Register	Planning	Water Management.	TBC	TBC
Water is life Implementation	Initiation	All	Empower/ collaborate	Various

Victorian Environmental Water Holder

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
Aboriginal Waterway Assessment at Thunder Swamp (\$30,000)	Execution	Environmental Water Management.	Empower	March 2024
Seasonal watering proposal (SWP) guidelines trial site –Thunder Swamp (\$70,000)	Execution	Partnerships, two-way knowledge building	Collaborate	May 2025

North Central CMA

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
Upper catchment drought pools (Regional Waterway Strategy sub project)	Execution	Environmental Water Management.	Consult	2023/24
Avoca Healthy Country Catchment Management Plan (incl. AWA)	Execution	Water Management	Empower	2023/24
Regional monitoring	Execution	Water Management	Involve	Ongoing

Water Corporations

Central Highlands Water

PROJECT	PROJECT	STRATEGIC	DJAARA ROLE	DELIVERY
	STAGE	OUTCOME	(IAP2)	DATE
Revegetation program on CHW Land	Execution	Country Plan	Inform (engaged as contractor)	As required

Coliban Water

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
Full business case for modernisation of Coliban rural channel network	Initiation	Water Management & Entitlement	Involve/ Collaborate	Mid 2025
Recycled water strategy	Planning	Water Management	Consult	Mid 2024

Goulburn Murray Water

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
Ground water Management Plans	Initiation	Water Management & Entitlement	Consult/Involve	8 yr program Campaspe West 1st
LUAA for water licenses	Execution (process improvements)	Water Management	Consult/involve/ collaborate	Ongoing

GWM Water

PROJECT	PROJECT	STRATEGIC	DJAARA ROLE	DELIVERY
	STAGE	OUTCOME	(IAP2)	DATE
Southern Wimmera – North East Pyrenees Pipeline – Business Case	Planning	Water Management & Cultural Water	Involve	Mid 2024

Greater Western Water

PROJECT	PROJECT STAGE	STRATEGIC OUTCOME	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)	DELIVERY DATE
Woodend Aboriginal Waterway Assessment implementation – Woodend Recycled Water Plant upgrade	Planning	Water Management	Collaborate	Mid 2025
Exploration of future opportunities to return water to Djaara from recycled water and/or substitution arrangements	Initiation	Water Entitlement	Collaborate	Ongoing. Early 2024 to confirm scope.



Other Partners

Develop working arrangements and identify current projects with Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder; Murray Darling Basin Authority; and Local Governments

TABLE CATEGORY GUIDE

PROJECT STAGE	BARING	DJAARA ROLE (IAP2)
Initiation: This phase involves defining the project's purpose, objectives, and feasibility.	Water Management	Empower: We will implement what you decide.
Planning: In this phase, project managers and teams create a detailed project plan, which includes tasks, schedules, budgets, and resource allocation.	Environmental Water	Collaborate: We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.
Execution: This is where the actual work of the project is carried out.	Cultural Water	Involve: We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.
	Water Entitlements	Consult: We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.
	Gatjin Authority	Inform: We will keep you informed.





Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation ICN: 4421