



Australian Government

**Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority**

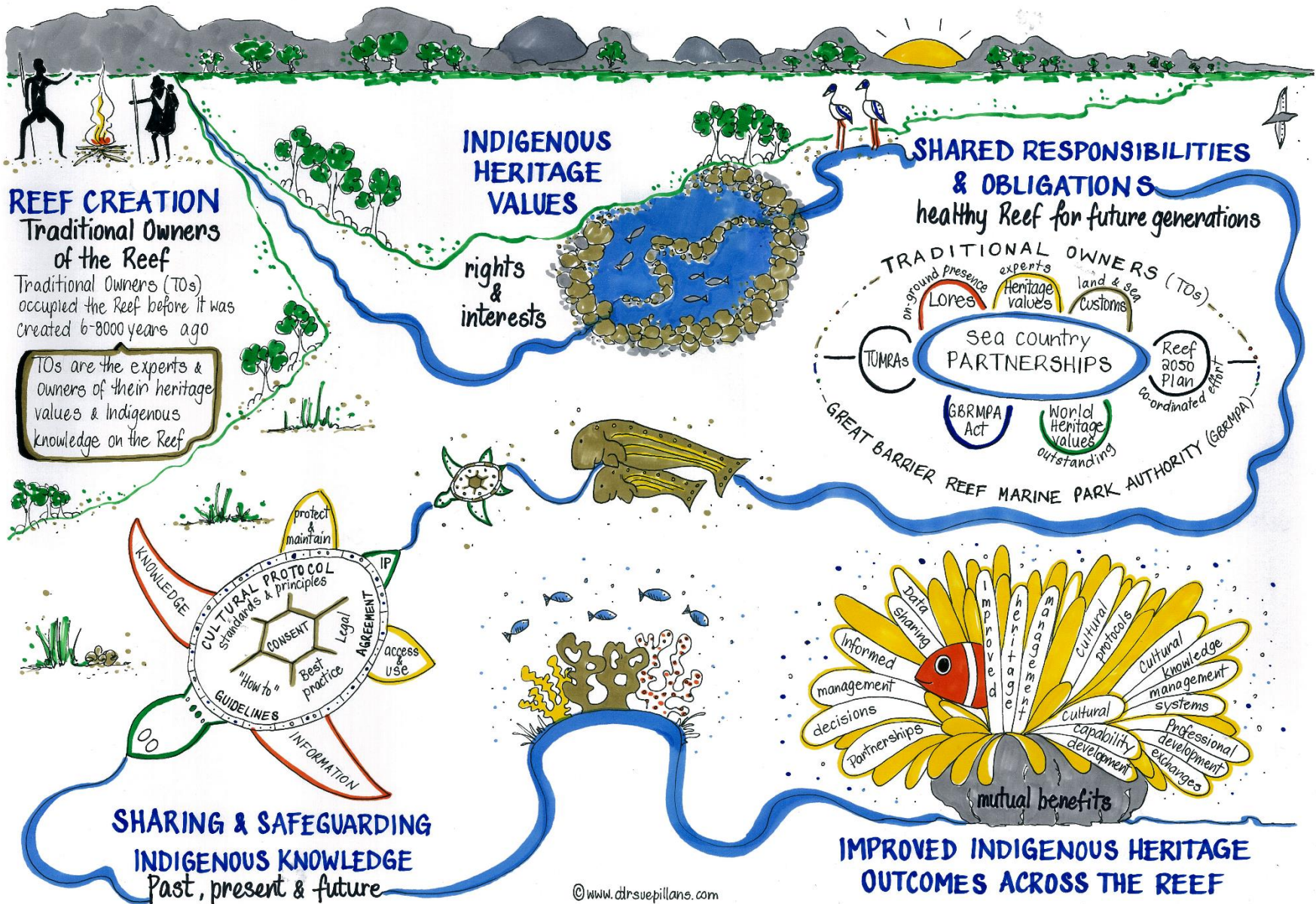
Traditional Owners and the Great Barrier Reef 'The Journey' ©Dr Sue Pillans

The journey takes the viewer through time, starting with the creation of the Great Barrier Reef. It begins with a family around a fire on the landscape before the Reef was created through natural causes between 6-8000 years ago. It depicts the Traditional Owners as the owners of their heritage values and knowledge of the Reef and therefore they should be recognised as the only experts on those heritage values. It asserts that they have rights and interests across the sea, reefs, islands, inland water and lands of the Great Barrier Reef Region.

The 'journey' moves to the present day where Traditional Owners and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority have shared responsibilities and obligations to maintain a healthy reef for future generations. Traditional Owners come to the table for Sea Country Partnerships with their Lore, customs and heritage values. The Authority comes to the table for Sea Country Partnerships with:

- Legal instruments through legislation and regulations at the national and international level; and
- Suite of tools for managing the Marine Park in accordance with their legal obligations.

The storyboard illustrates Traditional Owners expression of their rights and interests through people and places that hold special significance for them, as well as, their continued practice of their spirituality, beliefs, language, symbols, Lore and customs and all aspects of their heritage.



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