

## Project update : Improving the effectiveness of Kakadu /Gubinge Plum value chains

Native foods represent a major opportunity for premium Australian products in both domestic and export markets. They capitalise on consumer interest in the provenance and traditional heritage characteristics of foods and present a significant opportunity for the development of Traditional Owner-led enterprise.

On 15 November, a new ARC Training Centre was launched in Brisbane for [Uniquely Australian Foods](#). This five-year program aims to transform the native food and agribusiness sector through the development of selected crops, foods and ingredients. An Indigenous governance group will oversee the process of converting Traditional Knowledge into branded products. The launch event brought together enterprises and research teams from across Australia, including Indigenous Research Partners of the CRCNA Project “[Improving the Effectiveness of Kakadu /Gubinge Plum Value Chains](#)”.

Project Partner “Traditional Homeland Enterprises” took the opportunity of a common location to facilitate a day-long workshop with the Indigenous Research Partners to support knowledge sharing and relationship development, with a focus on the themes of enterprise planning, quality management, process certification and product innovation in native botanicals.

The workshop was hosted by lead Project Partner, The University of Queensland, at the research facilities of the [Queensland Alliance Agriculture and Food Innovation](#) (QAAFI) within the Health and Food Sciences Precinct at Coopers Plains, Brisbane. Workshop participants undertook a tour of the QAAFI food sciences laboratories, met the research team who are analysing native botanical samples for the Project and met CRCNA project manager Catherine Marriott. The laboratory tour was complemented by a food safety and hygiene workshop, which aligned with the broader workshop theme of quality management.

Over the lifetime of the project, the team at Traditional Homeland Enterprises will coordinate a range of events and training activities for Project Partners. Information on public events and resources will be promoted through the CRCNA’s website and a new QAAFI Project webpage (coming soon via the QAAFI website).



*Kakadu plum/ Gubinge Twin Lakes WA. Photos courtesy of Alex McDonald*