

## **UN-REDD Programme – Civil Society Representative Nomination Form**

*Please limit response length to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to [csoselection@un-redd.org](mailto:csoselection@un-redd.org) by Friday, 11 September 2009. Self-nominations are accepted.*

1. Name of the candidate:  
BRIAN WYATT
2. Name of organization or network:  
NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE COUNCIL
3. Title (if applicable):  
CHAIRPERSON
4. Country:  
AUSTRALIA
5. Language(s) spoken:  
ENGLISH
7. Please describe the primary interests and functions of the organization and community/constituency that the candidate represents and what countries the organization is active in.

The National Native Title Council (NNTC) is an alliance of Native Title Representative Bodies and Native Title Services Providers from around Australia. Each member organisation represents a constituency of Traditional Owners within their jurisdiction, each representing Indigenous families and communities. Traditional Owners are concerned about maintaining culture and traditional practices as well as maintaining a connection to traditional lands. The NNTC provides a voice on matters of national significance for Traditional Owners, particularly in areas of land, environment and the native title system.

The NNTC operates in Australia.

8. Describe briefly the organization's experience gathering and representing the diverse viewpoints of a range of communities or organizations, and disseminating and coordinating information and communications among a network of communities or organizations.

As a representative voice for native title organisations around Australia, the NNTC has to balance diverse viewpoints of traditional owners and their communities in order to provide a national response to develop policy positions and advocate on behalf of as many indigenous communities as possible. The NNTC is a peak body organisation with membership made up of native title organisations, each representing traditional owner families and communities and each organisation having day to day contact with their constituents. This structure provides the NNTC with the views of a broad and diverse range of communities across Australia. The NNTC uses technology and national forums to disseminate and coordinate information to organisations and communities.

9. Describe briefly your organization's background and experience with multilateral agency programs, social and environmental issues related to forests, and the role of forests in response to climate change, including REDD.

The NNTC's membership is made up of native title organisations that represent traditional owners throughout Australia. Australia's Indigenous peoples face the loss of their lands or territories due to submersion or inundation through climate change. Any resulting relocation of peoples living in these areas will have a dramatic impact on their health and wellbeing. Indigenous peoples have strong connections to country and caring for that country comes with a high cultural responsibility. As such, communities are deeply concerned about degradation to the natural environment whether it is from regional development, extractive industries, particularly mining sector projects, or climate change. Traditional owners therefore wish to be seriously engaged and involved in any initiatives or programmes that are implemented by the Governments of Australia in response to climate change.

10. Describe the financial, technical and/or advisory arrangements your organization has with the UN-REDD Programme, as well as the governments of the UN-REDD pilot countries, NGOs, or private sector organizations as they pertain to the UN-REDD process.

The NNTC has developed collaborative relationships with various organisations involved in UN processes generally as well as the UNFCCC, CBD and UN-REDD, including the Australian Environmental Defenders Office, Tebtebba, FAIRA, and more recently Australia's Climate Action Network. The NNTC often receives financial assistance from other organisations to attend international meetings such as Oxfam Australia, the Australian Conservation Foundation and the Australian Human Rights Council. The NNTC also has strong cooperative arrangements with the Australian Indigenous Water Forum, New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council and the North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance. All these organisations have participated to some degree in United Nations fora relating to water, climate change and land management.

This nomination has received the support of the IPO network throughout Australia.

*Please send completed form to [csoselection@un-redd.org](mailto:csoselection@un-redd.org)*