Response to feedback on LDaCA HASS RDC Project Plan

We received feedback on the LDaCA project plan from:
- ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society (CoE ADM+S)
- VOSON Lab (ANU) and RAPID project (Melbourne)
- Digital Observatory, QUT
- University of Tasmania
- Marcus Wigan

We are grateful for the supportive comments about the LDaCA draft project plan from these groups, as well as their views on potential issues or gaps with respect to the broader HASS RDC and Indigenous Research Capability Program.

A submission from Professor Julian Thomas on behalf of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society (RMIT) outlined the relevance of the LDaCA initiative for the CoE ADM+S. We thank Professor Thomas for his positive comments about the draft project plan

A submission from Professor Rob Ackland on behalf of the VOSON Lab (ANU) and the RAPID project (Melbourne) identified social media and social network analysis (SNA) research infrastructure as a gap in the current HASS RDC and Indigenous Research Capability Program. We recognise this gap and recommend the Advisory Panel and ARDC engage with relevant stakeholders on how to address that gap.

A submission from Dr Marissa Takahashi on behalf of the Digital Observatory (QUT) noted the strong connections of LDaCA and ATAP with that ARDC-supported Digital Observatory Platform project in relation to social media data, and recommended that a more explicit statement around intended collaborations be made. We recognise the strong synergies between these projects and have included the Digital Observatory as a named Project Partner in the revised LDaCA HASS RDC draft project plan. We will consult with them on Work Packages 3.2 and 4.4 to identify points for joint collaboration.

A submission from the University of Tasmania focused on the LDaCA draft project plan provided a number of points for consideration.
1. WP2.1 appears to be Queensland centric: While this was intended as a pilot for other state jurisdictions, feedback from other stakeholders suggests that putting additional resource into developing a roadmap for nationally-coordinated approach to engagement between LDaCA and GLAM organisations focused on long-term preservation and discoverability of language data would be prudent. We have therefore stepped back from that work package in the revised project plan and have put additional resource into supporting the activities in WP4.2.
2. Detail how existing platforms are being leveraged in LDaCA: The set of activities outlined in the LDaCA HASS RDC project plan involves directly leveraging current investments (ARDC-supported Australian Text Analytics Platform; ARDC-supported LDaCA Data Partnerships project; ARC LIEF-supported Nyingyarn Platform; UQ-supported Indigenous-led research on Indigenous languages strategic project), as well as migrating language data collections from previously funded platforms/investments (e.g. NeCTAR-supported Alveo; ANDS-supported Australian National Corpus).
3. Community rights should come before researcher rights: Specific activities in the work packages focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and researchers will be

shaped by community-consultations led by First Languages Australia in consultation with AIATSIS. We will also seek guidance from IDN on the implementation of WP1.1 and WP4.3.

4. Development of cultural access protocols: We have clarified in WP1.1 that this will involve adapting and refining existing systems and protocols.
5. Incorporating language collections in communities and GLAM organisations: This will be addressed through systematic engagement with Australian GLAM organisations focused on how to ensure long-term preservation and discoverability of language collections.
6. Long-term sustainability of tools: all tools developed in the LDaCA project will be open source; there was no suggestion made by us that the LDaCA service will be discontinued at the conclusion of the initial investment.
7. Impact and engagement strategies: we have developed engagement and impact criteria and assessment mechanisms through the existing ATAP and LDaCA DP projects, which include the types of evidence noted in the feedback.
8. Buy-in by stakeholders in HASS RDC: we are developing a series of engagement activities (e.g. WP4.3, 4.4) for our target user base; we are also engaging with other ARDC-supported platforms, including Digital Observatory and TLCMap, to extend our user base.
9. Articulation of deliverables: these are being specified in the deliverables/detailed budget spreadsheet which we will submit to ARDC following review of the revised draft project plan by the Advisory Panel.

A submission from Dr Marcus Wigan identified arts and performance-based research as a gap in the current HASS RDC and Indigenous Research Capability Program. We recognise this gap and recommend the Advisory Panel and ARDC engage with relevant stakeholders on how to address that gap.