

Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPTool-Stage

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Title: Evaluation of inDigiMOB Years 4 to 6

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Template: Digital Curation Centre

Project abstract:

InDigiMOB was started in 2016 on the premise that First Nations people in the Northern Territory were not able to access the benefits of technologies that people elsewhere in Australia were taking advantage of. inDigiMOB set about improving digital inclusion for people in communities with a strategy to increase digital literacies using Digital Mentors and Digital Access Workers to address barriers of affordability, availability, awareness and appropriateness (Guenther 2020; Guenther et al., 2020). Further, it could be argued that what inDigiMOB was doing was about ameliorating digital inequalities (Guenther et al., 2022). inDigiMOB's impact in the communities it worked was considerable, though from a sustainability perspective, the ability to financially support the level of activities was a challenge.

The aim of the evaluation is to determine how inDigiMOB (in its current form) achieves its intended outcomes. Alongside this aim, the evaluation intends to consider the enablers and limitations that influence outcomes of increased knowledge, awareness and skills.

Start date: 10-31-2022

End date: 12-30-2024

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Evaluation of inDigiMOB Years 4 to 6

Data will be in the form of 1) transcribed audio-recorded semi-structured interviews, 2) de-identified program activity reports collated by staff on spreadsheets, 3) observations from three site visits, and 4) reports generated by inDigiMOB for the funder or for internal reporting purposes. Up to 35 interviews will be conducted, each about half an hour long. Spreadsheets will capture activity information (e.g. how many participants, what skills were learners, and what impact did the learning have for participants).

Data from interviews will be collected through face to face interviews or by phone or Zoom. Audio files will be named as per default settings of the audio recorder (date_time.mp3).

Spreadsheet data will be captured by inDigiMOB staff who are organising activities. The data will include a mix of quantitative and qualitative data about the program but not the individuals participating. Community and gender of participants will be captured.

Observations will be captured in the form of notes recorded in Word documents by the CI and community-based researcher.

Data from reports will be collated as provided (Word or PDF files).

All data-sets will be combined in a single NVivo project for analysis.

Once the data is incorporated into NVivo, the files will be assigned classifications and attributes as follows:

Source type: Audio, spreadsheet, observation notes, other reports.

Activity type: Workshop, mentoring, meeting, training session

Location of activity: In community, online, mixed mode

No identifying information will be used in public reports or dissemination products. Names of people, communities or organisations individuals represent, will also not be used. While we will record and retain consent forms this information will not be linked to the evidence we collect. Participants of focus groups will of course know who other participants in their Group are, by virtue of the sample being comprised of most people involved in activity delivery and management. As part of our information to focus groups we will emphasise that what is shared in the group is not to be made public.

A risk assessment strategy is developed and this includes ethical risk mitigation.

- Risks and benefits to interviewees

We see no foreseeable risks to interviewees and survey participants. The questions asked are not personal or sensitive in nature. The benefits of the project can be articulated in terms of giving voice to the experiences of program participants and Digital Mentors associated with inDigiMOB. The benefits may also be reflected in the sustainable development and future adaptation of the program.

- Risks to evaluation team

The CI does not anticipate any significant personal or professional risks arising from this project. It is constrained around a relatively small group of inDigiMOB activities.

- Indigenous involvement and capacity building

This project creates opportunities for additional Aboriginal community research that Batchelor Institute has supported and promoted in the last few months (particularly through the Suicide Story Evaluation and the ACU Wellbeing pilot). Further, the voices of program participants and Digital Mentors deserve to be heard as the premise of the program is that it benefits Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory.

- Generalisability

The evaluation is not designed to produce generalisable findings. However, the value of this project is in its ability to build on the findings of other work carried out in remote parts of Australia over recent years that also point to the need for digital inclusion, digital literacies and improved access (Disbray & Guenther 2017; Featherstone, 2015; Guenther et al., 2012; Kral, 2010, 2012; I. Kral & R. Schwab, 2012; Townsend, 2015a, 2015b, 2017; Townsend et al., 2016)

Intellectual property for the work will be retained by Telstra and First Nations Media Australia (FNMA) as the project funders/managers. Where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge is used, the IP from that knowledge will stay with those who offer it consistent with standard ethical practice and protocols (e.g. Ninti One Limited, 2015). Use of the IP for publication purposes is subject to approval from FNMA and Telstra. It is anticipated (as foreshadowed earlier) that there will be publications emerging from the project.

Data from interviews, spreadsheets, observations and reports will be stored in electronic form on a secure cloud-based server managed by Batchelor Institute and accessible only to the project team. Paper-based consent forms will be scanned and stored similarly.

During the project a mirror of the data will be maintained by the CI on devices he has access through (laptop, tablet and desktop computer).

Batchelor Institute's IT team are responsible for backup of information held by staff.

Only the CI has access to files generated through the evaluation. The community-based researcher may also access relevant files with appropriate permissions.

Cloud-based servers are password protected with two-factor protection to ensure only people with access rights are able to log onto the system.

Once the project is completed, original audio files, notes and transcripts will be deleted.

Any paper-based material such as consent forms will be shredded securely on completion of the project.

NVivo files will be kept by the CI for five years after the project is completed.

Files will only be kept by Batchelor Institute for five years beyond the project. There is no plan to preserve the data beyond that.

Raw data will not be shared. Summary analysis will be provided to inDigiMOB during the evaluation, through reports at the mid-way point and end of the evaluation.

The final report will be publicly available and it is likely that findings will be shared in journal articles, symposia, conferences and book chapters, as was the case for previous evaluations of inDigiMOB.

Data collected cannot be shared for ethical and privacy reasons.

The CI will be responsible for implementing and updating the DMP if required.

Information technology for the DMP, available through Batchelor Institute, is adequate for the task. Cloud server storage facilities are also available through Batchelor Institute, and they will suffice. We do not anticipate needing additional training or resources.

Planned Research Outputs

Data paper - "Final report of the Evaluation of inDigiMOB Years 4-6"

The report will include details of evaluation methodologies, findings, response to evaluation questions and recommendations.

Planned research output details

Title	Type	Anticipated release date	Initial access level	Intended repository(ies)	Anticipated file size	License	Metadata standard(s)	May contain sensitive data?	May contain PII?
Final report of the Evaluation of inDigiMOB Years ...	Data paper	Unspecified	Open	None specified		None specified	None specified	No	No