Project summary

The e-Atlas is a website, mapping system and set of data visualisation tools for presenting research data in an accessible form that promotes greater use of this information. The e-Atlas will serve as the primary data and knowledge repository for all NERP Tropical Ecosystems Hub projects, which focus on the Great Barrier Reef, Wet Tropics rainforest and Torres Strait. The e-Atlas will capture and record research outcomes and make them available to research-users in a timely, readily accessible manner. It will host meta-data records and provide an enduring repository for raw data. It will also develop and host web visualisations to view information using a simple and intuitive interface. This will assist scientists with data discovery and allow environmental managers to access and investigate research data.

Why this research is needed

Existing research data is often underused. Much of it is not readily accessible or else not in a form useful for potential end-users, limiting the ability for science to inform environmental decision making and policy development, or inform the wider community. By providing a data catalogue and repository, the e-Atlas will ensure the knowledge gained is safely stored and made accessible, encouraging collaboration and knowledge sharing. In addition, by providing a web-accessible mapping system and a set of data visualisation tools, the e-Atlas is able to display a wide variety of spatial data, ensuring broad discoverability and easy comprehension.

Research-user focus

The e-Atlas will deliver timely, rich content that will communicate research outcomes from the NERP TE Hub to government, scientists, community groups and the general public.

Outcomes

- Develop new content from NERP TE Hub projects, to ensure projects are documented and the data safely stored.
- Provide a catalogue of NERP TE Hub projects to Research Data Australia (meta-data records).
- Develop a Torres Strait e-Atlas for NERP TE Hub research as well as Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) data holdings and priority historical Torres Strait research data.

Find this project at [www.nerptropical.edu.au](http://www.nerptropical.edu.au)
Program 13: Knowledge Brokering and Communications
Project: 13.1

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