

Group 4 - Workshop ATC320 - from 10.30 to 12.30

ACTIVITY 1

Yuendumu (Northern Territory)

Unsolved problem: Fresh Water shortage

Evidences:

- According to a 2018 report by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), access to safe and reliable sources of water remains a significant challenge for many Indigenous Australians living in remote communities. The report found that around 12% of Indigenous Australians living in remote areas did not have access to a reliable source of water, compared to just 1% of non-Indigenous Australians living in remote areas. The report also highlighted the impact of water quality issues, such as contamination from mining and other industrial activities, on the health and wellbeing of Indigenous communities.
- A 2020 report by the Northern Territory Department of Health identified several water quality issues in Yuendumu, including high levels of fluoride, nitrate, and total dissolved solids in the groundwater. The report also noted that the community's water supply was vulnerable to contamination from sources such as mining activities and unauthorized dumping.

References:

- Yuendumu in Central Australia at 'severe risk' of running out of water. Retrieved from <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-13/remote-community-yuendumu-running-out-of-drinking-water/11405024>
- Not enough water for Yuendumu to grow. Retrieved from <https://alicespringsnews.com.au/2018/09/21/not-enough-water-for-yuendumu-to-grow/>
- Aboriginal community in NT at 'severe risk' of running out of water. Retrieved from <https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/aboriginal-community-in-nt-at-severe-risk-of-running-out-of-water/lgfp1q6z1>

Use of technology in-scope to solve the problem: Solar water purification/filtration:

Solar-powered water purification and filtration systems can be a viable solution to the water-related. These systems use solar energy to power water treatment processes such as filtration, reverse osmosis, and disinfection, making them an environmentally friendly and sustainable solution for communities with limited access to electricity and other resources.