

## The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: Building Capacity On Implementation and Reporting Workshop 29 – 30 July 2019, Darwin, Australia

*“Training was awesome and very well delivered. It gave myself a very good insight and some skills I can use to further my work and advocacy.”<sup>1</sup>*

On 29-30 July, 2019, 15 participants came together from across Australia for an intensive training program on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The 2-day program enabled government officials and NGOs to build their knowledge and understanding of the CRC and its principles - including the influential interpretations of the UN Committee on the Rights of Child (the Committee) - and relate the CRC to relevant policy and practice in Australia.

2019 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of the landmark children’s treaty. With Australia due to appear before the Committee in September 2019, and the Committee’s current draft General Comment 24 on children’s rights in juvenile justice, DTP and its partners, [Danila Dilba Health Service](#) and [Australian Lawyers for Human Rights](#) agreed it would be timely to build knowledge and understanding of the CRC and the treaty reporting process.

Participants came from the Northern Territory, Queensland, NSW, South Australia and Western Australia. The participants represented state and territory government, NGOs and community organisations working/advocating with and for children, and the private sector. 80% of the workshop’s participants were women.

The workshop was led by international child right’s expert, [Dr Noam Peleg](#) (UNSW Law), with presentations by [Megan Mitchell](#) – National Children’s Commissioner, Colin Minihan – Director of the Human Rights Unit, Commonwealth Attorney-General’s Department, and Kristy Bloomfield – Law and Justice Officer, NAAJA.

*“My work in advocating for youth and working in remote communities will have improved with this information. It gives me a backbone to what I’ll be teaching and working towards.”*

*“We will apply information in our day to day work with girls. Using CRC language in all we do so that it reminds us girls and others of our UN obligations, no matter who the law states domestically.”*

There was a keen interest in having more workshops on CRC. Planning is currently underway in planning a second workshop following the release of the Committee’s Concluding Observations on Australia to be published late September/early October. Please contact Clare Sidoti at [dtp@unsw.edu.au](mailto:dtp@unsw.edu.au) to register your interest in this workshop.

*“Great content and open group discussion. This allowed for networking and bouncing off ideas from the content.”*



<sup>1</sup> This and other quotes are taken from the end of training anonymous participant evaluations