



Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP)



Jobs and training a big success

31 July 2009

When Earth Connect Alliance began training for local community members at Angurugu and Umbakumba, team leader Jon Harris expected the first section of the training to run until the end of September this year.

“It blew me out of the water to find out we had one guy, Gregory Mamarika, who had already completed the first construction card of 14 units. He is a keen learner so I have now put more modules online for him to complete,” says Mr Harris.

The online training program was designed by online trainer EtrainU and allows participants to complete training in their own time. A personal career management plan is then created, which includes all relevant certificates for general construction and can be accessed from any computer by using a password.

“The program focuses on interaction so it makes learning on the computer fun. You press a button and it will speak to you about a particular unit and so each trainee can work at their own pace with their own headset,” says Mr Harris.

One of the trainees, Dyson Lalara, is also working as a mentor for other men in the program by answering questions in language. He enjoys the experience and sees it as a stepping stone to future opportunities.

“It’s good that I’m learning and this experience can also help me in the future,” says Mr Lalara.

There are currently seven men enrolled in training at Angurugu and eight at Umbakumba, but Mr Harris is hoping to attract more job and training program participants in the future.

Earth Connect Alliance has teamed up with GEBIE Job Shop and Yirrandiyama Warka Job Shop to coordinate the job and training program.

