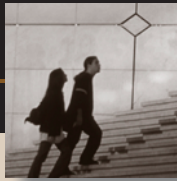


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SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PROJECT PERFORMANCE



SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PROJECT PERFORMANCE

The following pages present in tabular form a summary of research project performance across the Institute's research themes. For each research project, project aims, planned outputs, and outcomes are recorded.

THEME 1: FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse (Commissioned by FaCSIA; commenced 1 April 2006)</p> <p>To provide information and advice on family relationships to providers of family relationship and support services, policy makers and the research and broader community</p>	<p>Complete initial design of website and publications</p> <p>Publish a range of publications on AFRC website</p> <p>Develop and maintain a website that provides access to AFRC publications and other resources</p> <p>Establish a communication plan and promote the Clearinghouse at suitable venues</p>	<p>Initial design of website and publications completed. Website structure adapted throughout year to accommodate growing amount of information and added sections</p> <p>4 issues of <i>Family Relationships Quarterly</i> 5 briefing papers published 2 issues papers in progress</p> <p>Over 140,000 hits and 80,000 downloads, with more than 20,000 visits to AFRC publications online</p> <p><i>AFRC-alert</i> and <i>e-relating</i> established</p> <p>Subscribers increased, with 553 subscribers to <i>AFRC-alert</i> and 63 subscribers to <i>e-relating</i></p> <p>21 alerts and 45 messages posted on <i>e-relating</i></p> <p>Staff members involved in 4 promotional presentations, attended 8 forums and conferences, and sent out more than 1,200 brochures to FRSP and other service providers</p>	<p>The AFRC has provided readily accessible communication of both internal and external research and knowledge to key stakeholders, through its website</p> <p>AFRC team members established networks and promoted the work of the AFRC through appropriate channels</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Family Trends and Transitions (Institute-initiated; ongoing) To analyse and disseminate information on a broad range of family-related trends</p>	<p>Publish articles, present papers at conferences and seminars, and participate in media interviews on family trends issues</p> <p>Provide online database, <i>Family Facts and Figures</i> on Institute website</p>	<p>6 publications 6 paper presentations 45 media interviews Article on trends in couple dissolution on <i>Australian Policy Online</i></p> <p>About 7,000 downloads per month</p>	<p>Ongoing analysis and dissemination of findings have helped to inform government, policy makers and other stakeholders of broad family trends</p> <p>Continuing requests for media interviews and invitations to present at both national and overseas conferences</p> <p>Findings stimulated debates in media</p>
<p>Building Healthy Couple Relationships (Institute-initiated; ongoing) To monitor and evaluate research and policies on positive family relationships and relationship education and support, and disseminate information This is an extension of that encompassed by the AFRRC</p>	<p>Prepare articles Present papers</p> <p>Handle media queries Represent the Institute on relationship education bodies</p>	<p>1 article in <i>Family Matters</i></p> <p>Representation on 7 relationship education bodies</p>	<p>Requests for interviews and information from relationship professionals and the media</p> <p>Consultations with marriage and relationship education providers</p>
<p>Family Law Monitoring and Evaluation (Institute-initiated; ongoing) To monitor and evaluate family law-related research and policies, and disseminate relevant information</p>	<p>Regular updates on family law in <i>Family Matters</i></p> <p>Publication of conference proceedings</p> <p>Respond to calls for submissions to government reviews and to invitations to present papers</p>	<p>1 <i>Family Matters</i> article by staff 2 articles by external authors</p> <p>1 publication of conference proceedings, including 3 papers presented by staff members</p> <p>1 submission presented 4 presentations</p>	<p>Informed policy, research and practice regarding family law matters</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Magellan Project Evaluation (Commissioned by the Family Court of Australia) To examine the effectiveness of the Family Court of Australia's Magellan case management system for responding to allegations of serious sexual abuse or physical abuse of children</p>	<p>1 preliminary report 1 draft report (Final report planned for September 2007)</p>	<p>1 progress report 1 draft final report 1 conference abstract submitted 1 brief report on progress submitted to <i>Family Matters</i></p>	<p>Project not yet complete</p>
<p>Allegations of Violence in the Context of Family Law Proceedings (Commissioned by Attorney-General's Dept; commenced March 2006) To estimate how often allegations of violence are raised in family law proceedings, and how these allegations and any refutations are dealt with by the courts</p>	<p>Report to Attorney-General's Department</p>	<p>Report submitted 6 presentations to 4 Australian Government departments and other agencies Media interviews</p>	<p>The project has played an important role in informing the Australian Government's Family Violence Strategy Methodology (in which a quantitative dataset was developed based on court file information) being used for another Institute project and further research</p>
<p>Understanding Contact Disputes (Commissioned by Attorney-General's Dept; commenced 2004; revised completion date 2007) To gain insight into the prevalence of post-separation parenting disputes about children, and understand the psycho-dynamics that lead to the escalation of these disputes</p>	<p>Completion of CAIT and face-to-face surveys</p>	<p>All data collected</p>	<p>Will inform a range of interventions and services in the new family law system</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Family Law Data Mapping Project (In collaboration with the Australian Social Science Data Archive at ANU; commenced 2004; completion date 2008) To map family law data</p>	<p>Preparation of metadata</p>	<p>Development of metadata almost complete awaiting stakeholder input</p>	<p>Will provide a summary of key baseline metadata available for evaluation of the family law reform system</p>
<p>The Experiences of Parents and Children after Family Court Decisions about Relocation (ARC Discovery Grant in collaboration with ANU Faculty of Law and the ANU Centre for Social and Demographic Research; commenced January 2006; scheduled completion 2007) To explore the experiences of parents and children who have been the subject of judicial determinations in relation to relocation</p>	<p>Finalise ethics approvals Secure cooperation for recruitment of participants from the Federal Magistrates Court and the Family Court of Australia Data collection</p>	<p>Ethics approvals finalised Cooperation secured Data collection more than half complete</p>	<p>Will improve understanding of relocation disputes</p>
<p>Caring for Children after Parental Separation (Institute-initiated; commenced 2002) To achieve a better understanding of the dimensions, predictors, and outcomes of contact between non-resident parents and their children</p>	<p>Prepare publications and paper presentations</p>	<p>2 publications 2 papers presented</p>	<p>Identified for the first time parent-child contact patterns after separation Research cited in Australian and international literature including ABS Invitations to present findings at conferences</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Family Law Reform Evaluation (Commissioned by FaCSIA and AGD; partly Institute-initiated)</p> <p>To develop a framework and methodology for evaluation of the family law reforms and to collect pre-reform data</p>	<p>Collect pre-reform qualitative information about views of some parents in selected ATSI and CALD communities; conduct a survey of the general population of parents and a survey of family lawyers; include relevant (baseline) questions in Wave 3 of the Caring for Children after Parental Separation survey; identify pre-existing relevant pre-reform data; analyse these various sets of data and prepare reports</p> <p>Develop evaluation framework</p> <p>Develop detailed methodology</p>	<p>Qualitative and baseline quantitative studies conducted</p> <p>Relevant data from pre-existing datasets compiled</p> <p>Analysis of datasets and preparation of reports in progress</p> <p>Evaluation framework developed</p> <p>Draft methodology for evaluation research developed</p>	<p>Will provide one of the important tools for future assessment of the success of the reforms</p> <p>Evaluation framework and draft methodology reports are steps in ensuring that the reforms are properly evaluated</p>
<p>Families in the Asian Region (Institute-initiated in collaboration with International Branch, FaCSIA)</p> <p>To establish or strengthen existing connections with Asian countries regarding family-related research</p>	<p>Develop and strengthen links with representatives of Asian countries involved in research on families</p> <p>Conduct consultations with overseas colleagues on family-related research</p>	<p>Invitations to present at international conferences/workshops</p> <p>4 visits from overseas delegations</p> <p>4 visits by Institute representatives to organisations in Asian countries</p> <p>1 invited paper published</p>	<p>Exchange of information with academics and policy makers in the region</p> <p>Provision of advice to Vietnam about research methodology, including development of a national longitudinal study of families</p>
<p>Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey (Ongoing)</p> <p>To develop the Family Dynamics module of the HILDA survey, and represent the Institute in the Project Management Group and External Reference Group meetings</p>	<p>Develop family dynamics section of forthcoming survey wave</p> <p>Participate in discussions of design and development of forthcoming waves</p>	<p>Development of the family dynamics section of survey is ongoing</p> <p>Participation in discussion of design and development of forthcoming waves is ongoing</p>	<p>HILDA dataset is now being used extensively by researchers in universities and the Institute and by Government departments</p> <p>Australian Government will provide funding to extend the collection of HILDA survey data for a further four years, guaranteeing the collection of 12 (annual) waves of data</p>

THEME 2: CHILDREN, YOUTH AND PATTERNS OF CARE

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Growing Up in Australia: the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (Commissioned by FaCSIA; expression of interest 2001; scheduled completion 2011)</p> <p>To retain as many families as possible in the study for future waves of data collection</p>	<p>Send birthday cards and season's greetings cards to children each year</p> <p>Update contact information after Wave 2</p> <p>In-between Waves 2 and 3 contact with families via a questionnaire and newsletter, with page to update contact details (Wave 2.5)</p> <p>Wave 1.5 Release of data in second half of 2006</p> <p>Wave 2 Conclusion of Wave 2 data collection Preparation of data for release</p> <p>Wave 3 Draft instruments Draft data collection strategy</p> <p>User support through training and email/telephone response to queries</p>	<p>Birthday cards and season's greetings calendar sent</p> <p>Increased amount of contact information: greater number of families with multiple sources of primary and secondary contacts</p> <p>Testing undertaken and reports on testing and planned data collection prepared</p> <p>Data released in November 2006</p> <p>Response data file produced that tracks status of all Wave 1 families Raw data file produced Draft study documentation available on secure web</p> <p>Mapping of measures from Wave 2 to Wave 3 Full suite of dress rehearsal instruments Full suite of other dress rehearsal documentation</p> <p>Teleconferences with data users Regular web updates on status of data file Computer code supplied to correct identified errors with dataset Telephone and email support provided</p>	<p>Returned mail allowed tracking of families who had moved to occur before Wave 2 fieldwork commenced Interview rate of 90 per cent achieved for Wave 2</p> <p>Greater number of sources to use in trying to locate families who move</p> <p>Content and processes agreed for mail-out</p> <p>Data from Wave 1.5 used in conference presentations and journal articles</p> <p>Data users preparing for release of Wave 2 data</p> <p>Wave 3 content extended from Wave 2</p> <p>About 140 requests for data access approved Data queries promptly dealt with</p>
<p>To obtain data that can be used to further understanding of early childhood development, inform social policy debate and to identify opportunities for early intervention and prevention strategies</p>			
<p>To warehouse data and provide user support to facilitate the use of the data</p>			

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Australian Temperament Project (Commenced at the Institute in 2000 but has been in existence since 1983, joint funding ARC and AIFS)</p> <p>Study psychosocial development from infancy to adulthood</p>	<p>Statistical analysis of longitudinal data set</p> <p>Preparation of journal articles, briefing papers, conference presentations and newsletters</p> <p>Implementation of the Year 2006 general data collection</p>	<p>Statistical analysis completed</p> <p>2 journal articles published 1 briefing paper published 1 report chapter published 3 conference presentations 1 workshop presentation 2 newsletters published Media interviews</p> <p>Data collection concluded Coding of qualitative data and data preparation and cleaning commenced</p>	<p>Findings cited in national and international publications</p> <p>Ongoing access to ATP website</p> <p>Strong interest in the findings from print and radio media</p> <p>Continuing requests for copies of reports, papers and measurement instruments used in the study</p> <p>Requests for advice from other national and international researchers</p>
<p>ATP/TAC/RACV collaboration (Contracted research commissioned by TAC and RACV; first phase commenced 2003, completed 2005; second phase commenced February 2006, scheduled completion 2008)</p> <p>Study risky or unsafe driving among young adults</p>	<p>Preparation of journal articles</p> <p>Implementation of data collection concluded</p> <p>Completion of final report and dissemination of findings</p>	<p>1 journal article published 1 journal article accepted for publication</p> <p>Media interviews</p> <p>Data collection concluded</p>	<p>Findings providing new Australian evidence to assist policy development</p> <p>Interest in findings from radio media</p> <p>Will provide information for child care policy on how Australian children who attend early childhood services develop</p>
<p>Child Care in Australia: Wave 1 thematic paper (Commissioned by FaCSIA; commenced June 2006; scheduled completion December 2006)</p> <p>To analyse the LSAC Wave 1 dataset</p>	<p>Completion of final report and dissemination of findings</p>	<p>Final report submitted</p>	<p>Will provide information for child care policy on how Australian children who attend early childhood services develop</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Child Care in Cultural Context (Institute-initiated; commenced February 2000; ongoing) To examine the nature and consequences of parenting discontinuity across home and child care settings for children from different cultural backgrounds</p>	<p>Dissemination of findings via papers and conference presentations</p>	<p>1 journal article published 1 paper published electronically 1 research paper published</p>	<p>Media interest Enquiries from researchers</p>
<p>Child Care Choices (ARC Linkage grant with Macquarie University and Charles Sturt University; commenced January 2001; ongoing) To study the prevalence and developmental impact of unstable child care arrangements on children, families and care providers</p>	<p>Dissemination of findings from first three waves of data collection via papers and conference presentations</p>	<p>Presentations at international conference on young children's social skills with peers Conference presentation on how government policy contributes to quality infant-toddler child care</p>	<p>Will provide important information for policy about the developmental significance of unstable child care arrangements</p>
<p>Children and Family Life (Institute-initiated; commenced July 2001; ongoing) To study the family environment, development and wellbeing of school-aged children growing up in different family structures and environments</p>	<p>Dissemination of findings via papers and conference presentations</p>	<p>2 conference presentations</p>	<p>Research findings will provide information for policies aimed at supporting vulnerable families with school-aged children</p>
<p>Follow-up of Children Conceived Through Donor Insemination (Commissioned by Monash Medical School, Box Hill Hospital; commenced July 2001; Scheduled completion July 2007)</p>	<p>Submission of final report</p>	<p>Preparation of final report in progress with analysis of data completed</p>	<p>Will provide information about previously unresearched population to enhance information and support services</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Families Caring for a Person with a Disability (Commissioned by FaCSIA; commenced May 2006) To investigate the perceived impact on carers and their family of caring for a relative with a disability</p>	<p>Collection of data Data cleaning Analysis of data Preparation of report based on data analysis</p>	<p>Data collected Data cleaned for analysis Analysis of data complete Final report submitted prior to publication 1 <i>Family Matters</i> article published</p>	<p>This project is already being drawn on by policy makers responsible for shaping and improving the way supports and services are provided to families caring for someone with a disability</p>
<p>National Child Protection Clearinghouse (NCPC) (Commenced at the Institute in 1995. Three-year agreement for continued provision of Clearinghouse services to June 2010 finalised in June 2007) The NCPC serves as an interchange point for information supporting work in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention</p>	<p>Publish 2 issues papers and 2 newsletters Research enquiry service <i>Childprotect</i> e-discussion list Networking/outreach</p>	<p>1 issues paper 2 newsletters 1 journal article 1 practice brief 5 conference presentations Responded to 315 enquiries, including 2 interviews with the media 309 messages posted on the <i>Childprotect</i> e-discussion list, and 649 members 2 submissions 17 invited addresses 16 attendances at meetings, conferences and events 10 consultations Representative/member of 4 external committees Membership on 4 editorial boards</p>	<p>NCPC is a key Australian research information and advisory body in the areas of child abuse prevention, child protection and out-of-home care. The work of NCPC and information about child abuse prevention, child protection and out-of-home care is readily accessible to researchers, policy makers and practitioners</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
	<p>Compilation of latest research and practice literature and resources relevant to child abuse prevention and child protection</p> <p>Develop and maintain a website that provides electronic access to NCPCC's publications and other resources</p>	<p>13,722 records in library repositories, up from 13,125 records in 2005–2006</p> <p>767,735 hits on website 1,532,373 downloads on website 287,265 downloads of NCPCC publications</p>	
<p>Indigenous Out-of-home Care (Commissioned by ACCAP) To encourage the 'diffusion of innovation' in Indigenous out-of-home care services through the culturally appropriate dissemination of findings from Stage 1 and the in-depth profiling promising practices</p>	<p>7 summary papers</p> <p>12 promising practice profiles compiled in one booklet</p> <p>6 workshops co-facilitated by staff from the Institute and SNAICC</p> <p>7 workshops facilitated by SNAICC</p>	<p>7 summary papers (in press)</p> <p>4 booklets profiling 11 promising practices (in press)</p> <p>13 workshops delayed to 2007–2008 (awaiting publication of summary papers and booklets)</p> <p>Project will be completed early in the 2007–2008 financial year</p>	<p>This project has the potential to enhance outcomes for Indigenous children in out-of-home care by enhancing practice</p>
<p>Comparability of Child Protection Data (Commissioned by CDSMAC through NCPASS) To analyse the differences in key child protection indicators <i>between</i> jurisdiction, and, over time, <i>within</i> jurisdictions; and to identify and assess factors that may explain these differences. The project is being conducted in collaboration with the AIHW</p>	<p>1 project report 1 presentation</p>	<p>Project commenced June 2007</p>	<p>This project will clarify reasons for variations over time and between jurisdictions in child protection activity data</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Research Utilisation A two-stage survey to examine the barriers and facilitators of research utilisation by policy makers and practitioners (funded by the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia)</p>	<p>1 project report</p>	<p>1 project report (in press) 2 presentations 1 symposium at an international conference (proposed) ARC Discovery Grant application</p>	<p>This project has the potential for informing clearinghouses about effective means of dissemination to enhance research utilisation by policy makers and practitioners, and externally to inform researchers and research funders about maximising the impact of research on policy and practice</p>
<p>National Approach for Child Protection To identify commonalities and differences at a high level across Australian jurisdictions in child protection policy and practice and to develop a set of common terminology and definitions or a common descriptive framework to facilitate a national approach to child protection</p>	<p>2 reports 2 presentations to the working group</p>	<p>2 presentations on project methodology Data collection completed Project to be completed in the 2007–2008 financial year</p>	<p>This project has the potential to enhance child and family wellbeing and to prevent differential responses on the basis of geography alone by facilitating the adoption (or recognition) by Australian states and territories of a national approach to child protection policy and practice</p>
<p>Evaluation of the National Child Protection Clearinghouse To undertake an independent evaluation of NCPCC</p>	<p>1 project report</p>	<p>1 project report 1 paper</p>	<p>Will enhance the effective operation of the NCPCC by identifying those services that are being well-provided and areas for improvement and possible expansion</p>

THEME 3: FAMILIES AND WORK

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Family and Work Decisions (Institute-initiated, conducted in partnership with FaCSIA) To analyse people's knowledge and understanding of the income support system, the way it interacts with paid employment, and decisions about labour-force participation, living arrangements, and family formation</p>	<p>Publications</p>	<p>2 publications Media interviews</p>	<p>Conducted high-quality research on policy-relevant issues regarding families Opportunities maximised for media coverage of research</p>
<p>Parents on Low Income Study (ARC project with FaCSIA and ANU) To build a 10-year longitudinal database from FaCSIA administrative records and supplementary surveys, for low-income parents with dependent children</p>	<p>Analysis of data, leading to publications</p>	<p>Preliminary analysis</p>	<p>The Institute's contribution to the project has been completed</p>
<p>Work and Family Interactions (Institute-initiated, ongoing) This project contains research into families and their relationship with the labour market, including family-friendly workplace issues and transitions into and out of the labour market</p>	<p>At least 4 publications and 1 conference paper, plus several other papers, especially using LSAC data</p>	<p>5 publications 3 conference papers Several media interviews</p>	<p>Conducted high-quality research on policy-relevant issues regarding families Invitations received to present research findings Opportunities maximised for media coverage of research</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Mothers, Fathers, Children and Work (Commissioned by FaCSIA December 2005)</p> <p>To provide new information about, and improve our understanding of, issues relating to work and family balance for parents of infants and children aged 4–5 years using Wave 1 of LSAC</p>	<p>Final report</p>	<p>Final report to be released July 2007</p>	<p>Conducted high-quality research on policy-relevant issues regarding families</p>
<p>Negotiating the Life Course (NLC) (Involvement as ARC Partner Investigator with ANU and UQ)</p> <p>To contribute to the development and analysis of the NLC survey</p>	<p>Development of fourth wave of survey, and fieldwork</p> <p>Draft book chapter based on analysis of first three waves</p>	<p>Fourth wave of survey developed and fieldwork completed</p> <p>1 draft book chapter</p> <p>Contribution to newsletter</p>	<p>Conducted high-quality research on policy-relevant issues regarding families</p> <p>Maintained and strengthened research networks</p>

THEME 4: FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY LIFE

The Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault
(Commenced in 2003, funded by the Office for Women, FaCSIA until December 2007 with the possibility of an 18-month extension)

ACSSA functions as the sole national centre for current information and research on sexual assault in order to assist service providers, policy makers and others working in the field to improve responses to, and ultimately reduce the incidence of, sexual assault in the community

Publish on key topics in the field, reaching a wide audience and influencing debate

2 Issues Papers

3 Newsletters
2 issues of *ACSSA Wrap*
3–4 media requests per month
1 newspaper opinion piece

Publications widely requested post-release

Requests for multiple copies of particular publications to assist with training and education

Information from publications used in policy documents, consultation papers and media articles

Publications the most popular pages downloaded on the website.

Work published in new external forums for the first time, including Opinion pages and *Family Matters*

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Communities and Families Clearinghouse Australia (Established July 2005)</p> <p>CAFCA aims to improve access to current information and resources to inform policy, practice and research in the fields of early intervention and child development</p>	<p>Run a highly informative website and e-mail alert service providing up-to-date and in-depth information on sexual assault</p> <p>Provide national enquiry services on sexual assault</p> <p>Networking and outreach</p> <p>Establish an evidence-base of best practice response to and prevention of sexual assault</p> <p>Host and moderate e-discussion list</p> <p>To establish a catalogue and help desk service for clients who wish to access information from the library collection and databases</p> <p>To provide a website that supports the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy</p>	<p>Continued increase of visits to the website More than 258,900 pages/documents accessed (up from 218,900 last year)</p> <p>More than 93,770 downloads of ACCSSA publications (up from 79,596 last year)</p> <p>Responded to more than 200 research and media enquiries</p> <p>628 subscribers to fortnightly newsletter (up from 475 last year)</p> <p>4 committee memberships</p> <p>6 conference and seminar presentations</p> <p>Representation at more than 20 external events</p> <p>40 projects profiled</p> <p>Database reviewed</p> <p>CAFCA-chat e-discussion list hosted with 197 members as at 30 June 2007</p> <p>52,402 downloads of pages</p> <p>Resources pages: 6,789</p> <p>Stronger Families Strategy projects page: 1,809</p> <p>Stronger Families in Australia (SFIA) respondent website: 4,215</p> <p>Site map developed</p>	<p>The work of ACCSSA and information about sexual assault readily accessible to a national audience</p> <p>Increase in subscribers</p> <p>e-discussion lists used by SFCS Network and early childhood and community development sectors</p> <p>Provides relevant information about early intervention and child development to service providers, SFCS Network, researchers and policy makers</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Communication and Support for Local Evaluators</p> <p>To provide advice to projects funded under the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy (SFCS) and to policy makers, researchers and practitioners in the field of early intervention and child development</p>	<p>Preparation of two Communication Strategy documents and communication plans</p> <p>Host and moderate e-discussion list</p> <p>Establish <i>Evaluators' National Newsletter</i> and disseminate to SFCS Network</p> <p>To provide resources for local evaluators</p> <p>Coordination of workshops, conferences and related activities</p>	<p><i>Communication Strategy and plans</i> approved by FaCSIA</p> <p><i>E-valuate</i> e-discussion list hosted with 130 members as at 30 June 2007.</p> <p>2 issues of <i>Evaluators' National Newsletter</i> published</p> <p>Local evaluators extranet</p> <p>List of Indigenous early childhood research and services</p> <p>Links to databases</p>	<p>e-discussion lists used by SFCS Network for sharing information</p> <p>Newsletters generated enquiries and discussion on e-discussion lists</p> <p>Sharing of information and resources among local evaluators</p>
<p>Evaluation of the FUN for Kids Program, Relationships Australia Victoria (RAV)</p> <p>(Commissioned by RAV)</p> <p>To assess the impact of the program on participating fathers and their families and provide evidence of good practice in parent education with fathers</p>	<p>Research report</p>	<p>Fieldwork completed</p> <p>Draft report prepared</p>	<p>Will contribute to the evidence-base on father programs</p> <p>To contribute to ongoing improvement of RAV FUN for Kids program</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Stronger Families and Communities Strategy National Evaluation (Commissioned by FaCSIA) To capture the extent to which the Stronger Families and Communities strategy (2004–2009) helps to build the capacities of children, families and communities and to build a strong evidence-base for the development of effective programs and services in the early childhood sector</p>	<p>At the Institute, CAFCA has prime carriage for the following National Evaluation activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct of the Stronger Families in Australia (SFIA) study (see below) • Identification of Promising Practices (see below) • Contribution to Themed Studies (see below) 	<p>CAFCA team invited to present on SFIA at various federal government meetings and workshops</p>	
<p>Stronger Families in Australia (SFIA) The study will be the primary mechanism for collecting data on outcomes for children, families and communities</p>	<p>Wave 2 ethics approval</p> <p>Wave 2 instrument testing</p> <p>Preparation of report on instrument testing</p> <p>Training of interviewers</p> <p>Track down and interview study participants</p>	<p>Ethics approval obtained from AIFS and SPRC Ethics Committees</p> <p>Instruments and data collection processes refined in preparation for fieldwork</p> <p>Report submitted</p> <p>Interviewer manual developed and training completed</p> <p>Interviews completed</p>	<p>Information is publicly available via the CAFCA website</p> <p>CAFCA team invited to present on SFIA at federal government meetings</p> <p>Will provide important information for policy about the success of the Communities for Children initiative funded under the Stronger Families and Community Strategy (2004–2009).</p>
<p>Promising Practice Profiles This aspect of the evaluation will identify, validate and disseminate promising practice arising from the SFCS</p>	<p>Commence call for submissions</p>	<p>Round 1 (August 2006) and Round 2 (June 2007) call for submissions conducted</p>	<p>Will provide stakeholders in the early childhood sector with the opportunity to access valuable information about effective practices and ideas for adaptation in their local communities</p>

Project aims	Planned outputs	Actual outputs	Outcomes
<p>Themed Studies The themed studies will explore particular topics in depth and will be concerned with why and how the initiatives/strategies work</p> <p>Evaluation of Every Child is Important Program (Commissioned by Australian Childhood Foundation) To evaluate the Australian Childhood Foundation Every Child is Important Program. The program is funded by the Australian Government under the Invest to Grow strategy</p>	<p>Provide SFCS projects with assistance in the preparation of their submissions</p> <p>Develop validation process to ensure that promising practices are of high quality</p> <p>Round 1 PPPs published on the CAFCA website</p>	<p>Half-day interactive workshops conducted in 5 capital cities Staff response to PPP queries received during submission period Resources page set up on CAFCA website Research assistance provided to project managers</p> <p>PPP Reference Group established External peer review panel appointed Validation template based on the UK Quality Framework was prepared and used by the Peer Review Panel for assessing each of the submissions</p> <p>Profiles being prepared</p>	
	<p>Identification of themes Planning for each study</p> <p>1 project report</p>	<p>Consultation with FaCSIA regarding identification of themes 2 study plans complete</p> <p>Data collection has commenced This project will be completed in the 2007–2008 financial year</p>	<p>Will provide specific findings on the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy for policy makers, community workers and service providers</p> <p>Will contribute to the national evidence-base regarding the effectiveness of programs designed to enhance parenting, and thus improve outcomes for children</p>