Robert Tanton, Itismita Mohanty and Anthony Hogan

**Statistical testing of community surveys in the Murray Darling Basin**

This presentation will show how a recent survey of wellbeing and sustainability conducted in a number of communities in the Murray Darling Basin has been benchmarked and tested. The survey was conducted in early 2012, and used a number of questions to derive summary indicators that summarised some underlying concepts that were important to our research. The testing of the summary indicators in the survey has included testing of scale reliability (Coefficient Alpha); and tests of internal consistency (using correlations). This presentation will cover the measurement of subjective wellbeing (a key component of the survey); the summary measures developed (which included measures of individual and community adaptive capacity, social cohesion, community participation, job satisfaction and natural capital); the testing of these summary measures for scale reliability; and the reweighting conducted to benchmark the survey to Census data.