WHAT IS PALRC?
The Protected Areas Learning and Research Collaboration is a tertiary and vocational education and research initiative dedicated to:
- natural and cultural heritage protection
- stewardship and conservation management
- capacity building for Australia, Asia and the Pacific.
OUR PURPOSE
The Protected Areas Learning and Research Collaboration’s purpose is to benefit professionals and community-based conservation practitioners working on protected areas and other area-based conservation activities. PALRC facilitates opportunities for learning and research in the “protected areas” and related fields in Australia, Asia and the Pacific.

PALRC provides focused learning opportunities for students and professionals in the region. It has been established in response to the overwhelming need for professionalised management and governance of the growing numbers of protected areas in this region.

Whether managing national parks, reserves or Traditional Lands in Australia or in a regional community village environment; whether a park agency head or manager of a non-government organisation; the PALRC courses offer students the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in a dynamic and international learning environment.

PALRC COURSES
PALRC provides short courses, Graduate Certificate and Masters courses through five Australian universities: Charles Darwin, Charles Sturt, James Cook and Murdoch universities, and the University of Tasmania, which was a founding partner of PALRC. The courses specifically address selected competences from the IUCN ‘A Global Register of Competences for Protected Area Practitioners’, a comprehensive directory of and user guide to the skills, knowledge and personal qualities required by managers, staff and stewards of protected and other conserved areas. This user guide underpins the consideration of courses and course content which is endorsed by the PALRC.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”
Nelson Mandela

PARTNERS
Development of the PALRC has been supported financially by the University of Tasmania, Tasmanian Land Conservancy, private donors and the Australian Government.

SCHOLARSHIPS
PALRC offers scholarships on a regular basis. These are awarded to a spread of recipients across Australia, Asia and the Pacific and seek to foster exchanges across the regions. They target capable, high-achieving students and/or emerging leaders in Australia, Asia and the Pacific who have a career ambition to advance the protection, sound governance and effective management of protected areas in their country/region, and especially those who would not otherwise have an opportunity to attend such a course.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
PALRC is working to establish an online Community of Practice to facilitate peer networking, ongoing learning and sharing between practitioners in protected areas management, with the aim of encouraging, supporting and accelerating effective conservation management.

WHAT YOU CAN DO
Enrol yourself in a course and recommend PALRC courses to others.

Encourage someone you know with the qualities above to apply for a PALRC scholarship.

Encourage government agencies and NGOs to enrol their staff and partners in PALRC courses, and support scholarships and mentoring opportunities.

Encourage governments, aid programs, business benefactors and other philanthropic sources to provide financial support for PALRC scholarships and the development of new training courses.

Provide us with suggestions of new partners and benefactors who could be interested in assisting PALRC to grow.

*Although Australia is part of the Pacific, we specifically refer to Australia as the PALRC was founded in Australia, which is well-placed to facilitate and support capacity building for protected areas management and governance for the Asia Pacific region.