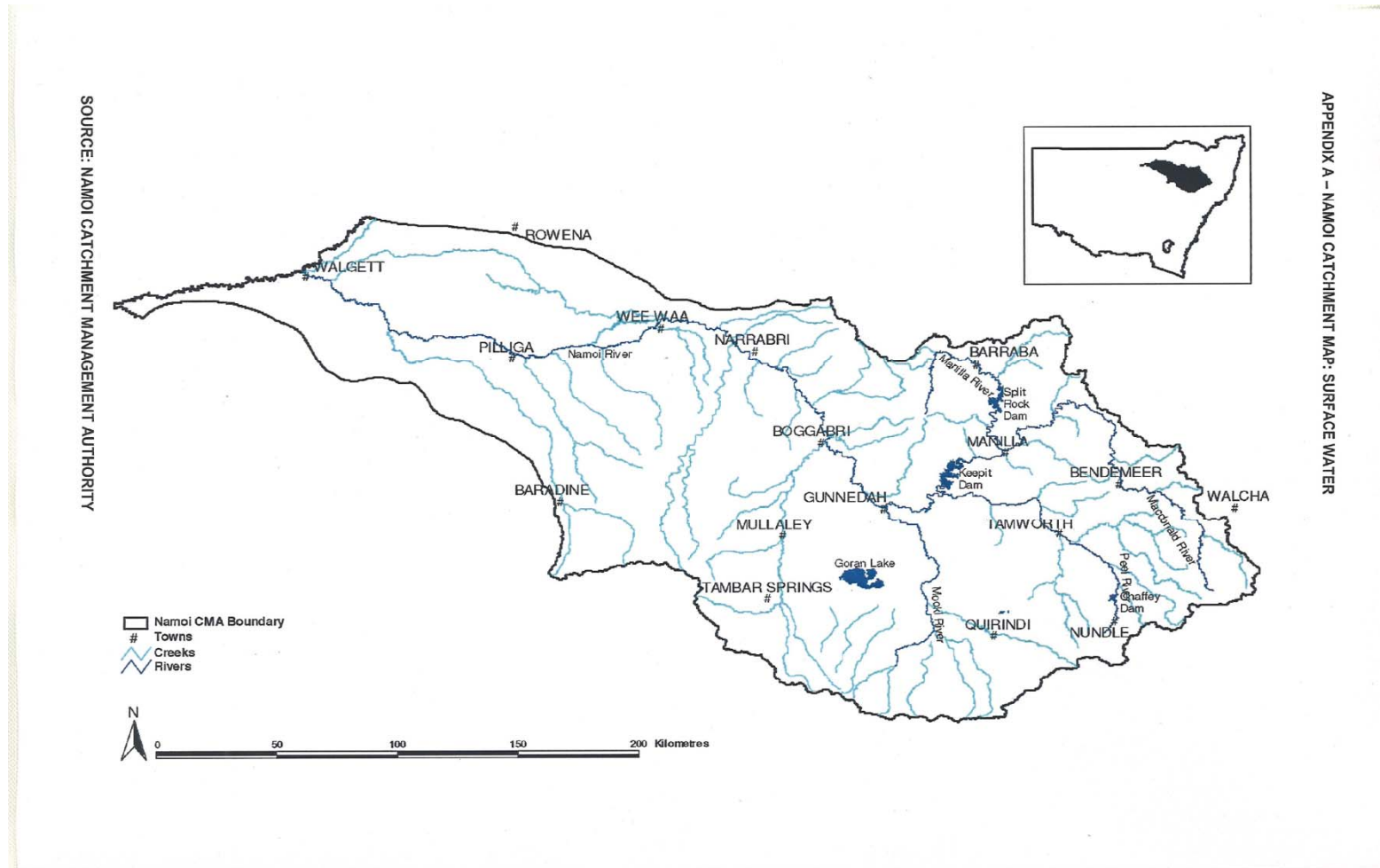


Namoi Catchment Water Study

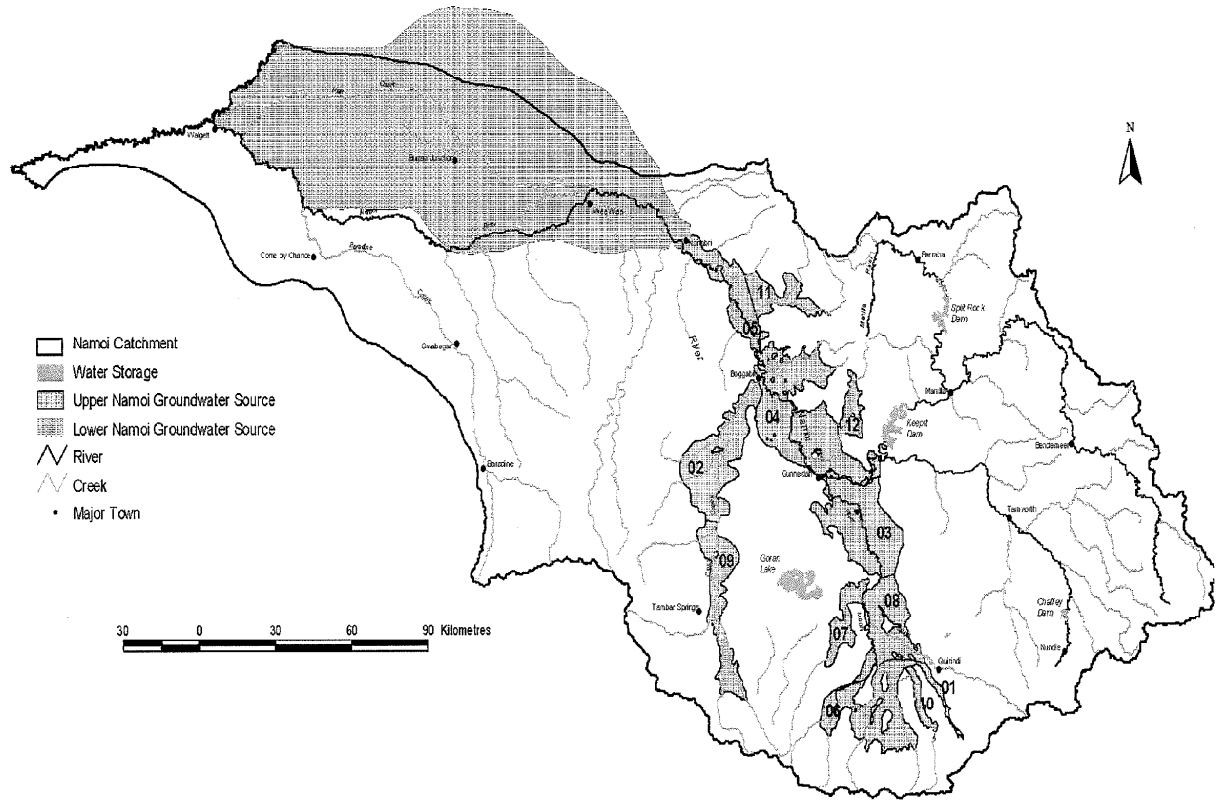
**Ministerial Oversight Committee
Stakeholder Advisory Group
September 2009**

Namoi Catchment Surface Water



Namoi Catchment Groundwater

SOURCE: NAMOI CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



APPENDIX A – NAMOI CATCHMENT MAP: GROUNDWATER

Objectives

- To develop an independent, Namoi Catchment wide (the “Catchment”) water study (the “Study”).
- The Study recognises the legitimacy of the activities of the agricultural industry, resources sector and broader community within the Catchment.
- The Study will provide a spatial understanding of the underground and surface water flows of the Catchment, through the most appropriate methodology (potentially a three dimensional understanding).
- The Study will seek to determine and quantify the likelihood of the potential impacts to these resources posed by coal and gas development.
- The Study will seek to contribute knowledge to ensure the ongoing economic, environmental and social sustainability of the Catchment.
- To develop a process to advance a comprehensive and independent Catchment Study that helps to:
 - protect the value, quality, quantity and integrity of the water resource in the region; and
 - provide certainty to all stakeholders and clarity of tenure

Principles

That all parties participate in the Study in accordance with the principles:

- That the NSW Government supports and facilitates the Study being undertaken.
- All parties recognise and support the existing legal rights and interests of each other under the Mining Act, the Water Management Act 2000 and all other relevant laws.
- That upon full commissioning and commencement the Study (as defined by the Objectives and Terms of Reference), CCAG will cease all blockade activities and support for any of these activities that currently prevent exploration occurring in accordance with the Mining Act.
- That the Ministerial Oversight Committee have the ability to request that the data can be collected in a particular manner so as to support the terms of reference of the Study.
- The Study outputs are to be made publicly available on a website in a timely manner including quarterly progress updates and interim and final reports for each major project.
- That the Study will be submitted to the Minister for Primary Industries and Mineral Resources for public release.
- That all parties maintain the ability to protect their commercially sensitive and confidential information.

Principles

That all parties participate in the Study in accordance with the principles:

- To ensure the effective use of resources the Study does not duplicate any relevant existing work that is being undertaken.
- That the Study incorporates community input via consultation and communication at all stages of the work.
- That the Study is developed in a timely manner.
- The resources and agricultural sectors will, to the extent possible, interface with the MOC with the objective of ensuring that data collection that is currently being undertaken is done in a way so as to provide maximum benefit to the Study.
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- BHP Billiton will make data relating to completed hydrological studies carried out during the exploration feasibility stage available to the MOC.

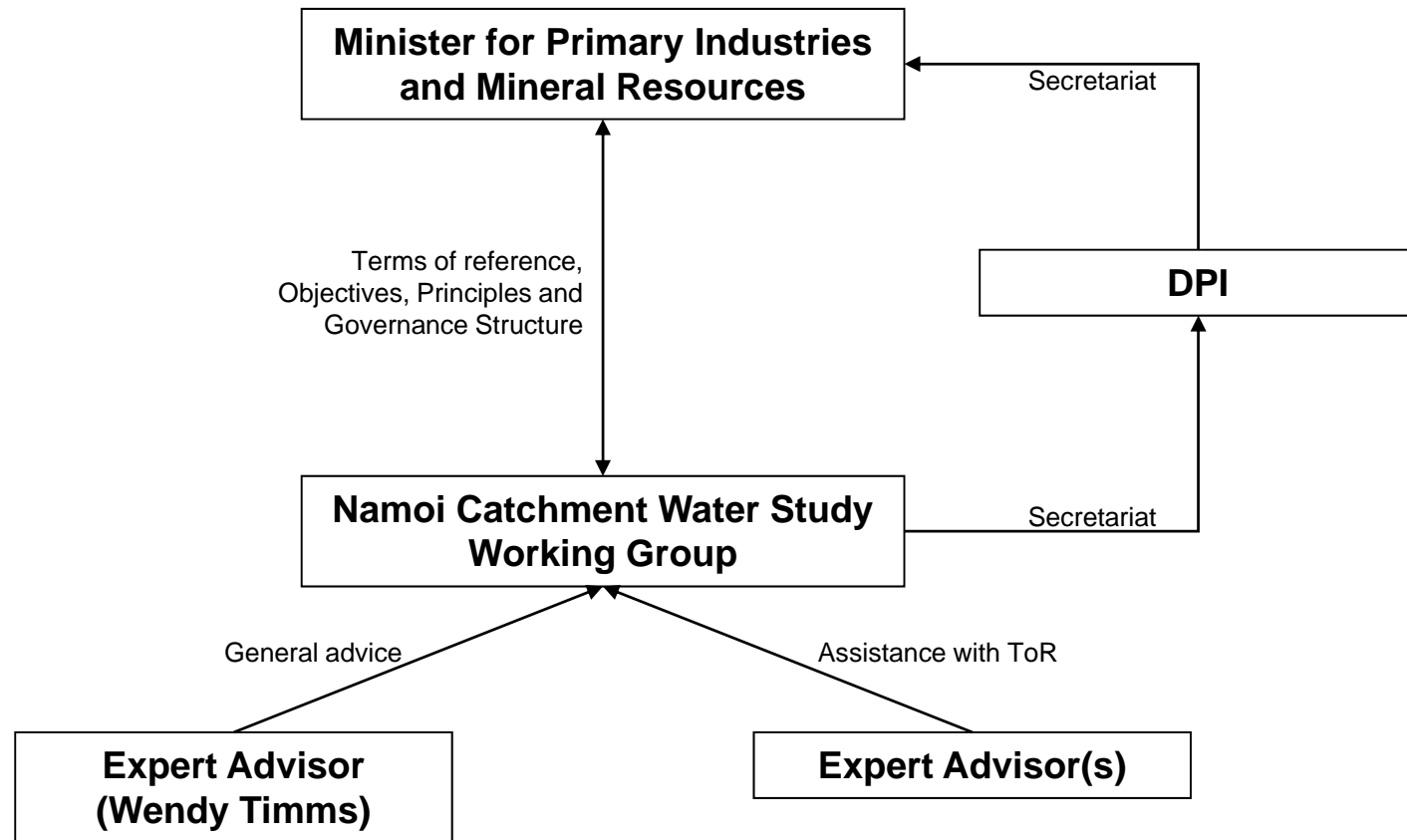
Governance – Stage 1

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support
Minister for Primary Industries & Mineral Resources	NA	General oversight of the project. Endorsement of report from the Working Group. Will receive the final report from the MOC (see below) for consideration and submission to Cabinet and public release.	NA
DPI	NA	To provide secretariat support to the Working Group and Ministerial Oversight Committee. To continue to provide advice to the Minister for Primary Industries and Mineral Resources in accordance with their legislative requirements	NA

Governance – Stage 1

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support
Namoi Catchment Water Study Working Group	Hon Pam Allan MP (independent chair) NSW Minerals Council NSW Farmers Association CCAG Namoi Water BHP Billiton	Established August 2008. To complete Stage One of the Water Study Project ie development of a draft set of Objectives, Principles, Governance Arrangements, Terms of Reference and cost estimate/draft implementation budget and identify/secure funding sources for submission to the Minister for Primary Industries and Mineral Resources for consideration/endorsement. Meetings to be held as required to complete the above task. Consultation to occur with relevant groups in the community as required. Working Group to be disbanded following completion of the above task and establishment of the Ministerial Oversight Committee (see below)	Report to the Minister for Primary Industries and Mineral Resources following completion to the set task. Secretariat role provided by the DPI.
Expert Advisors	As determined necessary	To provide expert advice to the Working Group on the development of the ToR.	NA

Governance – Stage 1



Governance – Stage 2

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support
Minister for Primary Industries & Mineral Resources	NA	As per Stage 1	NA
DPI	NA	As per Stage 1	NA
Ministerial Water Study Oversight Committee	Independent Chair (to be appointed by the Minister) NSW Farmers Representative NSW Minerals Council Representative NSW Irrigators Council Representative APPEA Representative New England Regional Development Board Representative	Established by the Minister following the completion of Stage One of the project and formal endorsement/approval of the ToR. MOC to operate within the scope of the ToR set out by the Minister. Any change to the ToR will be on the basis of expert advice from the project managers and expert advisers and will require consultation with the SAG and approval by the Minister and all funding parties. Responsible for the tendering of the project and ongoing administrative oversight of the Water Study on behalf of the Minister.	Project Management / Secretariat to be provided by an external body on an as needs basis. Reports on a monthly basis (written and/or verbal) to the Minister for Primary Industries and Mineral Resources on progress against the timetable for the Water Study. Required to provide progress reports to the SAG on a monthly basis regarding progress on the Water Study.

Governance – Stage 2

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support
(MOC continued)		Conduct a review of the progress of the study at the commencement of each phase of the study in consultation with the SAG and the expert advisors. Undertake a Peer Review prior to the release of any information.	

Governance – Stage 2

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support
Stakeholder Advisory Group	Independent Chair (to be appointed by the Minister) Namoi Water (1) Namoi CMA (1) Local Government (1) Regional Development Board Rep (1) Local Indigenous Rep (1) Local Community Rep (2) Ag Industry Rep (2) Mining Industry Rep (2) Petroleum Industry Rep (2) <i>(Members can not be on the MOC)</i>	Approve and provide commitment to the ToR as developed by the Working Group and endorsed by the Minister. To provide input to the MOC (and directly to the Minister if requested) into the ongoing implementation of the study and feedback from the community to ensure that the Study continues to deliver on the ToR. To undertake any consultation with the broader community on an ongoing/as needed basis. To participate in an agreed Water Study communications strategy. Has the ability to request updates and further information regarding the progress of the study from the MOC as required by the community to ensure the SAG remains full informed.	Secretariat to be provided on an as needs basis. Monthly updates received from the MOC regarding progress of the Water Study with quarterly meetings (unless otherwise agreed). Can provide advice to the Minister for Primary Industries and Mineral Resources on feedback from the broader community when necessary.

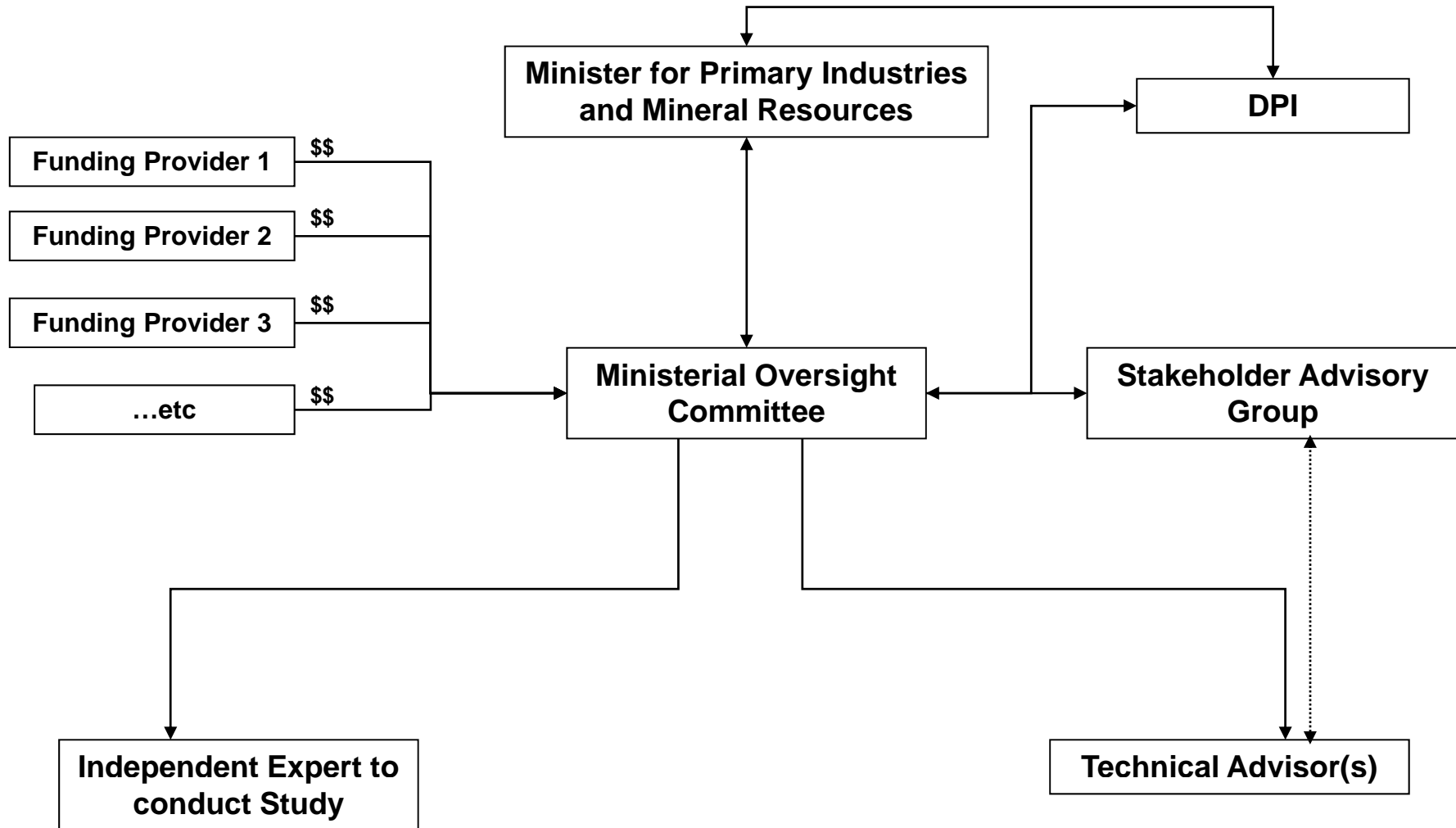
Governance – Stage 2

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support/Reporting
Expert Advisor(s)	As determined necessary	<p>To provide expert scientific and technical advice as required to the MOC and SAG (on the approval by the MOC) on the progress of the Water Study ie implementation of the Terms of Reference, advice to the MOC re the contractor selection process, ongoing technical advice to the MOC in their oversight role of the Study.</p> <p>Receive copies of the monthly SAG report from the MOC (and will contribute to these as requested by the MOC).</p> <p>Participate in the Peer Review conducted by the MOC.</p>	Report to the MOC and as required SAG on tasks specified within their scope of work.
Contractor		Appointed by the MOC via a public tender process to undertake the Water Study in accordance with the ToR.	Reports to the MOC

Governance – Stage 2

Group	Membership	Role/responsibility	Support/Reporting
Funding Providers	As determined following consultation with the industry and Government (state and federal) and willingness/ability to contribute.	Provision of funding to the Ministerial Oversight Committee. Funding to be provided in accordance with terms and conditions to be agreed with the relevant funding providers.	

Governance – Stage 2



Relationships

