The Future of Finances
An EPM Solution

The Client

Taronga Conservation Society is constituted under the Zoological Parks Board Act 1973 as a statutory authority owned by the people of NSW and administered by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Taronga operates across two sites; one in Taronga Zoo, Sydney, and the other at Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo.

Taronga has a clear vision to help secure a shared future of wildlife and people with activities that span the fields of animal care, recovery, education, community engagement, guest experience and science. They are leaders in conservation efforts and participate in regional and conservation breeding programs to establish insurance populations for species threatened in the wild.

Taronga also operates two wildlife hospitals that treat and rehabilitate injured native wildlife and provides best practice health care for animals across both zoos. The organisation has a deep commitment to conservation science. Taronga works with universities, governments, and conservation partners to respond to challenges impacting wildlife and people in Australia and internationally.

Taronga receives support from NSW Government and the Taronga Foundation. Established in 2000, the Taronga Foundation raises funds for conservation, education programs and wildlife in care.

Executive Summary

As part of the program to transform the management reporting and executive reporting initiative, Taronga Conservation Society ('Taronga') looked to digitally transform and integrate its investment planning, budgeting, and consolidation processes.

Techwave Australia ('Techwave'), a premier SAP Solution partner, collaborated with Taronga to reduce lengthy planning cycles in budgeting and investment planning and consolidation by leveraging SAP's next generation Analytics Cloud solution (SAC) following their migration to SAP S/4 HANA to:

•Increase auditing and traceability of relevant data,
•Reduce planning cycles in budgeting, planning, and consolidation.

Techwave's Strategy & Solution:

Taronga's strategic decision-making and visibility were limited due to a lack of integration and data availability, which impacted the efficiency of critical tasks such as budgeting, forecasts, and revenue planning. Efficiencies needed to be achieved in the planning process to reduce the time taken to complete the planning cycles, along with greater transparency and auditability of financial data. The budgeting team was suffering from a very long manual planning cycle, impacting further future investments. Functions associated with budgeting &planning had to be manually extracted from the S/4 HANA Cloud system and other legacy systems into Microsoft Excel for various. Processes and then again manually entered or loaded into the ECC system once the planning was completed. Both corporate cash flow and business plan generation were Excel-based manual processes with limited integration. To best optimise Taronga's processes, Techwave integrated critical reference data into SAP's Analytics Cloud. This initiative would also play an essential role in improving the data's traceability, resulting in a significant reduction in time to analyse and plan. By initiating a system approval in place, particularly for the diverse revenue budgeting stream and foundation planning, the consolidated data that previously required time to process can now be done in a more efficient way.

Why Techwave?

Business Process

• Dynamic Business Models keep changing with market conditions

•Non-Standardized Planning processes across different depart- ments, segments, and regions

• Lack of collaboration across functions and a huge manual task for Budget Consolidation
• No single platform that encapsulates the entire planning & Forecasting tasks in a se- cure and controlled
framework

Application

• No Standard platform to accept the data in different formats

• Siloed Reporting with no visibility to other key stakeholders

• Limitations with Scalability and Adapt- ability to business changes

• A huge part of the calculations and computations still Data done in Excel

Data

• Data Quality and consistency are com- promised due to manual processes and disintegrated source system.

•Disparate Data Sources with varied data elements. Time lost in cleansing the data before it can be used.

• Huge Data Volumes poses challenges for Integration, Budget Consolidation, and Process efficiency

• Fragmented and siloed data

The Transformation

As a result of Techwave's implementation of SAP's Analytics Cloud solution, Taronga has improved its overall productivity and efficiency across the board. It was also beneficial from a change management perspective, allowing staff to feel comfortable with the new system. Taronga's budgeting and consolidation cycle has seen a 30% overall reduction in preparation and execution efforts. The company's system-based approval process has also reduced the time taken for executive review approvals by approximately 60%. With the SAC solution, the Manpower Planning and Budget, along with capitalisation features, were automated, streamlining the HR team's process to review, approve, and submit to the finance department. Techwave helped the HR team reduce the time to consolidate workforce plans and staff budgets and improve efficiency in providing the budget elements to the finance team accurately and on time. The SAC solution provided by Techwave helped streamline the review, approval and submission of the Manpower Planning part of the budgeting process. There were efficiencies gained in the form of reduced manual consolidations and increased accessibility of employee costs and budget data to cost centre managers in an accurate and timely manner.

Why Techwave?

Taronga selected Techwave to implement SAC as we are well known for our track record in Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) implementations. We were also chosen for our experience in the planning & budgeting domains, especially driver-based planning and integration, having delivered numerous successful projects globally for more than a decade. Techwave Australia has achieved multiple SAP implementations with some very innovative accelerators in S/4 HANA, SAP BPC, BW4 HANA, and SAP Analytics Cloud. We believe in extending our learnings, best practices, and innovations to our customers in every possible way. Our dedication and commitment to delivering the best service to our customers have given us a competitive edge others envy. We are obsessed with quality and ensuring our services emphasise processes, proven practices and futuristic automation. Our flexible engagements, outcome-driven business models and a wide array of technology services, including Enterprise Resource Planning, Application Development, Analytics, Digital and the Internet of Things (IoT), ensure we meet every customer's unique set of requirements.

techwave

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