

Regional Land Partnerships: Goulburn Broken Sustainable Agriculture Project

Industry & Community Small Project Grant Application Guidelines,
December 2020

Applications close 5pm, 12th February 2021



This project is supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA through funding from the
Australian Government's National Landcare Program



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1. About

The Goulburn Broken CMA receives funding through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program – Regional Land Partnerships to deliver national priorities at a regional and local level. The Goulburn Broken CMA has received funding for a five-year sustainable agriculture project (July 2018 - June 2023), 'From the Ground Up' which is currently delivering activities throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

The Small Project Grants funding, this grant, is seeking projects from agricultural industry and community groups/networks (e.g. Landcare, farming system groups) to deliver sustainable agriculture capacity-building activities in the Goulburn Broken Catchment. Projects should increase awareness, understanding and adoption of management practices that improve soil health, vegetation extent and condition on farm, and/or climate change adaptation.

Please note:

- Projects can build on existing projects being delivered through From the Ground Up Year 1 or Years 2-5 projects, however this is not essential. New project ideas are welcome.
- Projects can be one or two-year duration (2021 - 2023). Projects must be completed by 7 June 2023.
- Total funding sought must be between \$1,000 and \$10,000 (GST exclusive). Total funding available is \$80,000.
- Groups who deliver funded projects must be a qualified supplier of the Goulburn Broken CMA, or utilise a host who is qualified. To find out if your group, network or organisation is qualified contact a project officer (details listed page 6).
- Payments are provided on the completion of project services (i.e. in arrears), in the financial quarter in which the project services are contracted and delivered.
- Evidence that project activities have been completed must be provided to the Goulburn Broken CMA before payment will be made. Please refer to Table 1 for further details on project activities and evidence required. Templates will be provided.
- The Small Project Grants open 8 December 2020 and **close 5.00 pm Friday 12 February 2021.**
- It is anticipated that successful project contracts will be prepared in May 2021, for commencement on signing.

2. Who can apply?

Applicants must:

- Be a 'not-for-profit' group/organisation with a focus on sustainable agriculture or natural resource management in the Goulburn Broken Catchment (or operate at a broader level (e.g. state) but deliver this project in the Goulburn Broken Catchment).
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a completed Australian Tax Office Statement by a Supplier form.
- Be incorporated or operate under the auspices of an incorporated organisation.
- Be insured for public liability of \$20M and have personal accident insurance (or operate under the auspices of an organisation that carries such insurance).
- Ensure outstanding project reports have been received by the Goulburn Broken CMA.

3. What types of projects might be funded?

Projects that contribute to the 5-year Regional Land Partnerships program agriculture outcomes:

- By 2023, there is an increase in the awareness and adoption of land management practices that improve and protect the condition of soil, biodiversity and vegetation.
- By 2023, there is an increase in the capacity of agriculture systems to adapt to significant changes in climate, markets and extreme weather.

Projects could include:

- On-ground demonstrations
- Training workshops
- Farm tours, bus trips and field days
- Communication materials (e.g. field guides, YouTube videos)

Criteria:

- Projects must contribute to increased awareness, understanding and adoption of management practices that improve soil health, and/or vegetation and biodiversity on-farm, and/or climate change adaptation.
- Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate wide community and/or industry involvement, including those involving traditional owners.
- Innovative project ideas addressing new or novel sustainable farming practices are encouraged.
- Projects must have public benefit.
- Projects must be in line with the priorities in the [Regional Catchment Strategy](#) and the Goulburn Broken Land Health Strategy [Goulburn Broken Land Health Strategy 2017-2020](#).
- The applicant group is expected to contribute to the project, which may be cash or in-kind. Landholders are expected to contribute cost-share to the establishment of demonstration sites that will be applied to their property.
- Projects will be assessed against criteria that include value for money, feasibility and contribution to soil health, or vegetation and biodiversity on-farm, and climate change adaptation outcomes.
- Total funding sought must be between \$1,000 and \$10,000 (GST exclusive).
- Grants are not to be used for purchase of capital items exceeding 20% of overall budget. Capital items must have accompanying justification for purchase together with ownership, storage and management details.

4. What will not be funded

- Capital purchase/s (e.g. farm equipment) that are more than 20% of overall project budget.
- Maintenance or repairs to farm equipment.
- Projects that are primarily about private gain (on-farm productivity).
- Projects that do not meet the above criteria.

If you are not sure if your project is eligible under this program, please contact a project officer to discuss. Contact details are on page 6.

5. Project Activities

Successful applicants will enter a contract with the Goulburn Broken CMA to deliver a specific number of project activities per financial year. The table below lists project activities an applicant can deliver.

Please refer to this table when completing the application form.

Table 1 Project activities, including outputs and evidence needed

Activity	Output measure (<i>pick at least one</i>)	Description	Evidence needed (templates provided)	Proportion of project budget
Developing farm/project/site management plan	> Number of farm/project/site plans developed	Projects may develop an activity plan describing activities, timelines, and communication strategies. This plan must be submitted in the first quarter of project delivery.	Farm/project/site plan.	Up to 10% of total project budget.
Community/stakeholder engagement	> Number of field days > Number of training / workshop events > Number of one-on-one technical advice interactions > Number of on-ground demonstrations	Community engagement activities such as field days, farm walks, short courses, technical advice and/or on-ground demonstrations.	<i>If applicable:</i> Event flyers and media releases. Photos of the event/demonstration on site. Event report. Demonstration site report Record of one-on-one technical advice interactions – e.g. summary of discussion, farmer contact details. Event survey.	No limit.
Soil testing	> Number of soil tests conducted in target areas	Soil testing should be related to a wider project, e.g. part of a demonstration site, or engagement tool for a soil	Soil test results. Spatial mapping of soil test results.	No limit.

		workshop, not routine farm soil testing.		
Communication materials	> Number of communication materials published	Communication and educational materials published.	Copy of communication material e.g. field guide, video.	No limit.
Improving land management practices	> Area (Ha) covered by practice change	Specify new or changed practice/s and demonstrate area in hectares of new or changed practice adoption by landholders.	Spatial mapping of area (Ha) of improved land management practices. Details of the improved land management practice(s) implemented.	No limit

6. How to apply

The Application form can be accessed [here](#) or via the Goulburn Broken CMA website 'Funding Opportunities' page (https://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/projects/funding-opportunities/funding_landholder-grants). Your completed form should be emailed to darelleb@gbcma.vic.gov.au or posted to:

Darelle Backway

GB CMA

PO Box 1752 Shepparton VIC 3632

7. How will applications be assessed?

Your project will be assessed against the level of achievement of the below criteria:

- **Is the project eligible, feasible and achievable with measurable targets?** Priority will be given to activities that are part of a well-planned and cost-effective project.
- **Public value:** What is the amount of public benefit, contribution to NRM outcomes and value for money?
- **Strategy, planning and methodology:** Does the project address the cause of the problem, rather than the symptom? Does it have well-developed planning? Is the methodology appropriate and effective?
- **Alignment and priority:** How well does the project address and align with the local, regional or state priorities?
- **Capacity building and community engagement:** How well does the project engage and build the capacity of the group and/or volunteers and/or land managers and/or the wider public?
- **Group track record:** Track record of your group or network in the delivery of projects including accurate and timely reporting of projects and communication.

8. What's next?

On submitting your application, you will receive notification that it has been received. Assessments will take place during February-March 2021. Eligible projects are expected to be notified as to whether they have been successful / unsuccessful in April 2021, with contracts prepared for signing in May 2021.

9. Further information

For more information, questions and assistance in completing an application please contact:

- Rhiannon Sandford 0429 964 609 or rhiannons@gbcma.vic.gov.au
- Karen Brisbane-Bullock 0409 955 396 or karenb@gbcma.vic.gov.au
- Kerstie Lee 0437 310 840 or kerstiel@gbcma.vic.gov.au
- Eamon Reeves 0429 589 295 or eamonr@gbcma.vic.gov.au

MAP: Goulburn
Broken Catchment

