

Regional Land Partnerships: Goulburn Broken Sustainable Agriculture Project

Industry & Community Project Expression of Interest 2019-2022
Guidelines



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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 one-year sustainable agriculture project, 'From the Ground Up' which is currently delivering activities throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

The Goulburn Broken CMA expects the Australian Government may start negotiating a project for years two (2019-2020) to five (2022-23) with us during October-December 2018. As the Australian Government now uses a tender process to procure project services, the Goulburn Broken CMA needs to be prepared with project plans.

This Expression of Interest (EOI) process is seeking project ideas from agricultural industry and community groups/networks (e.g. Landcare, farming systems 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 and/or climate change adaptation.

Please note:

- Projects can build on existing projects being delivered through the From the Ground Up Year 1 project, however this is not essential. New project ideas are welcome.
- Projects can be of one, two, three or four-year duration (from 2019-2020 to 2022-23)
- Total funding sought must be between \$5,000 and \$20,000 (GST Exclusive) per financial year.
- Groups who deliver funded projects must be a pre-qualified supplier of the Goulburn Broken CMA. Please contact Ashley Rogers, Karen Brisbane or Helen Murdoch for further details on obtaining pre-qualification. You will not be required to do this if your EOI is unsuccessful.
- Funding will only be provided on the completion of project services (i.e. in arrears), in the financial year in which the project services are contracted.
- Evidence that project services 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 services and evidence required.

The EOI round opens 21 September 2018 and closes 5.00 pm Tuesday 23 October 2018.

Please see Section 6 'How to apply' on page 5 for details on next steps for submissions of EOIs, links to the EOI template and key contact information.

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 \$10M 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 Landcare Partnership 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 (but are not limited to):

- On-ground trials/demonstrations of new or innovative farming practices
- Training in sustainable farming practices
- 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 climate change adaptation.
- Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate wide community/industry involvement, including those involving traditional owners.
- Innovative project ideas addressing new or novel sustainable farming practices are encouraged.
- Projects that are primarily about increasing private gain (on-farm productivity) will not be funded.
- Proposals must be in line with the priorities in the [Regional Catchment Strategy](#) and the [Goulburn Broken Land Health Strategy 2017-20](#).
- The group is expected to contribute to the project, which may be cash or in-kind. The landholder is expected to contribute cost-share to the establishment of demonstration sites that will be applied to his/her property.
- Projects will be assessed against criteria that include value for money, feasibility and contribution to soil health and climate change adaptation outcomes.
- Total funding sought must be between a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$20,000 (GST Exclusive) per financial year
- All grant outputs must be spatially recorded on the designated Goulburn Broken CMA mapping tool.
- Grants are not to be used for purchase of capital items exceeding \$2,000.

4. What will not be funded

- Capital purchase in excess of \$2,000, e.g. farm equipment.
- Maintenance or repairs to farm equipment
- Projects that do not meet the above criteria.

If you are not sure if your project will be eligible under this program, please contact Ashley Rogers, Karen Brisbane Bullock or Helen Murdoch to discuss (see contact details on page 7).

5. Project Services

As the Goulburn Broken CMA is operating under a tender process with the Australian Government, successful applicants will enter a contract with the Goulburn Broken CMA to deliver a specific number of project services each financial year. The table below lists the compulsory and optional project services an applicant can deliver.

Please refer to this table when completing the EOI form.

Service	Output measure (<i>pick at least one</i>)	Description	Evidence needed	Proportion of project budget
Compulsory services:				
Establishing agreements	> Number of agreements	Signed agreement between the Goulburn Broken CMA and the community/industry group/network. This agreement must be finalised before commencement of the project.	Signed agreement.	Up to 10% of total project budget.
Developing farm/project/site management plan	> Number of farm/project/site plans developed	All projects must develop an annual plan describing project objectives, activities and communication strategies. This plan should be submitted in the first quarter of project delivery.	Farm/project/site plan.	Up to 10% of total project budget.
Project planning and delivery documents as required for the delivery of the Project Services and monitoring	> Number of planning and delivery documents for delivery of the project services and monitoring	All projects must submit a progress report in Quarter 2 and a Final Report in Quarter 4 (or at the completion of the project). Projects delivering community/stakeholder engagement activities must also submit an event report and/or demonstration site report in the Quarter the event/demonstration was delivered.	Progress Report (if applicable). Final Project Report. Event Report (if applicable). Demonstration Site Report (if applicable).	Up to 10% of total project budget.
Project-specific services (select at least one):				

Community/stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Number of field days > Number of training / workshop events > Number of one-on-one technical advice interactions > Number of on-ground trials / demonstrations 	<p><i>Only use if appropriate to your project.</i></p> <p>Community engagement activities such as field days, farm walks, short courses, technical advice and/or on-ground trials / demonstrations.</p>	<p>Event flyers and media releases.</p> <p>Photos of the event/demonstration on trial site.</p> <p>Spatial mapping of event or demonstration site location.</p> <p>Event Report (if applicable).</p> <p>Demonstration Site Report (if applicable).</p> <p>Record of one-on-one technical advice interactions – e.g. summary of discussion, farmer contact details (if applicable).</p>	No limit.
Erosion management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Area (Ha) of erosion control > Length (km) of stream/coastline treated for erosion 	<p><i>Only use if appropriate to your project.</i></p> <p>On-ground works to reduce the risk of soil and nutrient loss from hillslope erosion.</p>	Spatial mapping of area (Ha) of erosion control.	No limit.
Soil Testing	> Number of soil tests conducted in target areas.	<i>Only use if appropriate to your project.</i>	<p>Soil test results.</p> <p>Spatial mapping of soil test results.</p>	No limit.
Communication materials	> Number of communication materials published.	<i>Only use if appropriate to your project.</i>	Copy of communication material e.g. field guide, Video.	No limit.
Improving land management practices	> Area (ha) covered by practice change.	<i>Only use if appropriate to your project.</i>	<p>Spatial mapping of area (Ha) of improved land management practices.</p> <p>Details of the improve land management practice(s) implemented.</p>	No limit

Table 1 Project services, including outputs and evidence needed

6. How to apply

EOIs are to be made online through Survey Monkey, which can be accessed through the Goulburn Broken CMA website 'Funding Opportunities' page (www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/funding_opportunities).

Where it is not possible to complete an application online, a Word application form is also available and should be emailed to darelles@gbcma.vic.gov.au or posted to:

Darelle Siekman
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 eligible applicants and 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, mapping of outputs and communication.

8. What's next?

On submitting your EOI, you will receive notification that it has been received. Assessments will take place in during October-November 2018. Ineligible projects will be notified in November 2018.

Eligible projects will be notified as to whether they have been successful / unsuccessful once funding has been confirmed from the Australian Government. We expect this to occur between October and December 2018, however there are no guarantees of funding, this is strictly an EOI process.

9. Further information

For more information, questions and assistance on completing an EOI please contact;

- Ashley Rogers 5764 7507 ashleyr@gbcma.vic.gov.au or
- Karen Brisbane Bullock 5822 7734 karenb@gbcma.vic.gov.au or
- Helen Murdoch 58227744 helenm@gbcma.vic.gov.au

MAP: Goulburn Broken Catchment.

